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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF OREGON

CASCADIA WILDLANDS PROJECT,
LEAGUE OF WILDERNESS DEFENDERS -
BLUE MOUNTAINS BIODIVERSITY
PROJECT, OREGON CHAPTER OF THE
SIERRA CLUB,

Civ. Case No. 07-6147-AA

FIRST DECLARATION OF MONICA
BOND

Plaintiffs,

vs.

WILLIAM ANTHONY, in his capacity as
District Ranger of the Sisters Ranger District
of the Deschutes National Forest; UNITED
STATES FOREST SERVICE, an
administrative agency of the United States
Department of Agriculture,

Defendants.

I, Monica Bond, do hereby declare and say:

1. I received a B.A. in biology from Duke University and a M.S. in wildlife science from Oregon State University. From April 1999 through December 2001, I worked on a demography study of California spotted owls in the central Sierra Nevada. I am the lead author of a study of spotted owls that was peer reviewed and published in the Wildlife Society Bulletin in 2002. This study investigated post-fire site fidelity, mate fidelity, and reproductive rates of all three spotted owl subspecies, including the northern spotted owl. I am aware that this study was cited by the Forest Service in the Decision Memo for the Black Crater Project.

2. The study involved a collection of data from more than 2,000 spotted owls, more than 300 owl territories, and 7 wildfires. The data represented 38 observation years. In the areas studied, fires occurred in 11 spotted owl territories, affecting 21 owls (10 pairs and 1 single owl.) We found that 18 (86%) of the 21 spotted owls affected by fires were sighted again at least one year after the fires. Half of the sites we studied experienced high severity fires in 36-88% of the owls' territories. We found that relatively large wildfires that burned nest and roost areas appeared to have little short-term effect on survival, site fidelity, mate fidelity, and reproductive success of spotted owls, as rates were similar to estimates independent of fire.

3. I am aware that the Forest Service has attributed the following statement to the 2002 study:

While there is evidence that spotted owls are able to withstand the short-term effects of fire occurring at low to moderate severities (0-70% canopy kill) without displacement, those in high severity (71-100% canopy kill) were displaced to the nearest available habitat, if they survived the fire.

5. This is an inaccurate and misleading representation of our results. We found, and the study illustrates, that spotted owls did in fact remain in territories that experienced significant

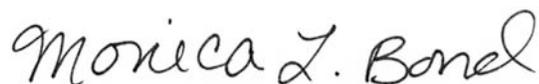
amounts of high severity fire and continued to reproduce in those areas. In 2 of 3 cases where more than 50% of the territory was burned by high severity fire, we found that both members of the owl pairs returned the following year. While the statement attributed to me in the DM for the Black Crater Project implies that spotted owls either die or move from high severity fire areas, we found that the majority of owls remained and successfully reproduced in areas that experienced fire, including high severity fire.

6. In the past year, I have conducted radio telemetry research on California spotted owls in the McNally Fire within the Sequoia National Forest. Radio telemetry allows us to track the exact location of spotted owls and where the spotted owls are nesting, roosting, and foraging. Using telemetry, we have documented spotted owls utilizing severely burned forests.

7. My research shows that areas that experience high severity fire still function as critical habitat for spotted owls. I believe that logging in this critical habitat would be harmful to spotted owls.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 26th day of June, 2007.



Monica Bond