

College of Forest Resources
Box 325100
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington 98195
November 20, 2003

Senator Ron Wyden
Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC

Dear Senator Wyden:

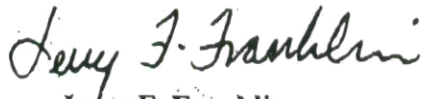
I am writing to state my strong support for the compromise on Title 1 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 that was developed yesterday. I hope that you will share my support of this compromise with the conferees as the bill is considered today.

As I indicated in my letter to you dated November 7, the Senate amendments Title 1 to H.R. 1904, as past by the House of Representatives were essential to creating a bill that would be the basis of doing good, rather than harm, to our forest lands. The provision of language directing the restoration of characteristic old-growth forest structure and retention of large, old trees was one of those essential additions that the Senate amendments provide.

In reviewing the compromise language developed yesterday, I find that the version of the bill that is currently being considered retains those essential elements of the Senate version of the bill. I support the compromise and would hope that further changes that might confuse the intent of the Senate amendments to Title 1 will not be made during the conference.

I again appreciate your considerable efforts to develop an ecologically credible bill. Perhaps it will be possible to develop a bill in the next session that goes even further in developing science-based federal policies on forest fire and fuels.

Sincerely yours,



Jerry F. Franklin
Professor of Ecosystem Analysis