

Feb. 9, 2017

Hello Bob,

Thank you for sharing with me your proposal.

It should be well-received by the State Land Board and be carefully considered.

It would be welcomed by individuals who are open to scientifically based plans, thoughtfully presented.

It especially appeals to those of us who are drawn to the concept of a working forest, as are you and I.

The problem, Bob, is that the decision, will almost certainly, will be based much more on emotion and populist thinking than on science or education or economics.
Sad but, I'm afraid, true.

would I support it? yes,

Does it make good sense in the lights of practicality, science, education, & economics? Definitely, yes.

I've attended a number of meetings of people who are very emotionally attached to this issue, and what I seem to hear - overwhelmingly - is their desire that the Willitt be kept in state ownership, but "managed" as Siuslaw Nat'l Forest currently is.

As a deeply committed public forest retrieval manager, I wish I had a more upbeat view of your plan's successful acceptance.

Good luck on this!

Your friend - Jerry Phillips