

WASHINGTON, DC—Today, Congressman Blumenauer issued the following statement on the announcement of the cancellation of the Eagle Creek timber sale in Oregon:

“This is a terrific victory for a special place. The sale was clearly troublesome to the buyer, to the community and for the environment. I am sorry it took this long to cancel the sale and I hope we can keep the momentum going for the protection of our wild forest lands,” said Blumenauer.

According to reports, the Forest Service has proposed to Vanport Manufacturing a “mutual cancellation” of the proposed timber sale in the Eagle Creek area. Under the proposal, the Forest Service would refund Vanport close to \$1.3 million. Vanport says the recommended modifications to the sale were too difficult to implement and they have agreed to the mutual cancellation.

Concerns about the environmental effects of carrying out the Eagle Creek sale led Congressman Blumenauer and others to call for an independent review of the timber sale. In 2001, the study concluded that the sale required modifications to reduce the risk of environmental damage. Blumenauer has a long history of calling on the Forest Service to reconsider the Eagle Creek Timber sale. During the 106th Congress, Blumenauer sent letters to the Mt. Hood Forest Supervisor and Regional Forester requesting a suspension or cancellation of the sale because of concerns about the effects on community and forest health.

Congressman Blumenauer is available for comment on this issue.