

Default Question Block

Please enter your name in the box below. Your participation in this process will be known only to me (Chelsea Batavia) and my advisor (Michael P. Nelson). All responses will be kept confidential according to IRB protocol, and your identity will not be reported in my thesis, at my defense, or in any publications that may come out of this work. I am keeping track of individual responses only so that I can contact you for clarification purposes.

According to the rules of logic, arguments are constructed out of premises (P) and conclusions (C). By laying out the premises and conclusion(s) of an argument, the line of reasoning behind it becomes transparent, facilitating examination and critical evaluation.

Over the past two months I have been formulating arguments for and against the implementation of ecological forestry on the O&C lands in western Oregon. I would now like to ask for your feedback on my work. In this questionnaire I have sent you three arguments for review. Some of them will support the use of ecological forestry on O&C lands, and some will oppose the use of ecological forestry on O&C lands. I will ask you to assess each argument by answering a series of questions. To be clear, my hope in this exercise is to receive your feedback about whether these arguments accurately reflect debates in the public media and scholarly literature. Although you may not agree with some of the premises or conclusions that you read, please try to evaluate each argument objectively, based not on whether you personally agree or disagree, but rather on whether my formulation of the argument lays out the line of reasoning as you have seen or heard it advanced.

Below is my formulation of an argument in favor of using ecological forestry (EF) on O&C lands:

The "increased timber production" argument

P1: The O&C Act of 1937 mandates that O&C lands be managed for a sustained yield of timber.

P2: We ought to follow the law.

C1: Therefore, O&C lands should be managed for a sustained yield of timber.

P3: Social opposition to currently established harvesting practices has prevented management of O&C lands for a sustained yield of timber.

P4: EF is a socially acceptable way to harvest on O&C lands for a sustained yield of timber.

C2: Therefore, O&C lands should be managed using ecological forestry.

Do you believe that I have accurately represented this argument? (If you think there are some adjustments to be made, but the overall line of reasoning is more or less correct, please answer "yes." You will still have the opportunity to make revisions later. If you think that the argument is generally misrepresented, please answer "no.")

☐ Yes

☐ No

For reference, here again is the argument under consideration:

The "increased timber production" argument

P1: The O&C Act of 1937 mandates that O&C lands be managed for a sustained yield of timber.

P2: We ought to follow the law.

C1: Therefore, O&C lands should be managed for a sustained yield of timber.

P3: Social opposition to currently established harvesting practices has prevented management of O&C lands for a sustained yield of timber.

P4: EF is a socially acceptable way to harvest on O&C lands for a sustained yield of timber.

C2: Therefore, O&C lands should be managed using ecological forestry.

Please describe how I have mischaracterized this argument in the box below. Feel free to make suggestions, or even lay out a basic sketch of how you think the argument should be formulated as a series of premises (P) leading to a conclusion (C).

For reference, here again is the argument under consideration:

The “increased timber production” argument

P1: The O&C Act of 1937 mandates that O&C lands be managed for a sustained yield of timber.

P2: We ought to follow the law.

C1: Therefore, O&C lands should be managed for a sustained yield of timber.

P3: Social opposition to currently established harvesting practices has prevented management of O&C lands for a sustained yield of timber.

P4: EF is a socially acceptable way to harvest on O&C lands for a sustained yield of timber.

C2: Therefore, O&C lands should be managed using ecological forestry.

Would any part(s) of this argument be better represented with different wording? Please make suggestions in the boxes below.

P1

P2

C1

P3

P4

C2

Now I would like you to assess the premises. First, please describe whether and/or to what extent you think each premise is true. Please consider each premise individually, both as I formulated it and as you may have revised it above. (If you did not revise a given premise, simply leave that box blank.)

P1

P1 (revised)

P2

P2 (revised)

P3

P3 (revised)

P4

P4 (revised)

Now please describe whether and/or to what extent you think each premise is controversial.

P1

P1 (revised)

P2

P2 (revised)

P3

P3 (revised)

P4

P4 (revised)

Do you have any additional feedback about this argument? Please use the box below for comments.

Block 1

Below is my formulation of another argument in favor of using ecological forestry (EF) on O&C lands:

The “public lands public” argument

P1: Management objectives on public lands should reflect public values.

P2: In the PNW, people want management of public lands to prioritize conservation objectives over economic objectives, unless there is good reason to do otherwise.

C1: Therefore, on public lands in the PNW, economic objectives should not be prioritized without good reason.

P3: Given our current trajectory, timber production from public lands in the PNW will halt in 15-20 years.

P4: When the flow of timber reaches a certain minimal level, there will be a societal backlash, putting public lands at risk of privatization.

P5: It is better for currently public lands to remain public than for them to be privatized.

P6: Averting the risk of privatization is a good reason to prioritize economic objectives on public lands.

C2: Therefore, management of public lands in the PNW should prioritize producing a continuous flow of enough timber to avoid societal backlash.

P7: Managing public lands using EF will ensure a continuous flow of enough timber to avoid societal backlash.

C3: Therefore, public lands in the PNW should be managed using EF.

Do you believe that I have accurately represented this argument? (If you think there are some adjustments to be made, but the argument is more or less correct, please answer "yes." You will still have the opportunity to make revisions later. If you think that the argument is generally misrepresented, please answer "no.")

☐ Yes

☐ No

For reference, here again is the argument under consideration:

The "public lands public" argument

P1: Management objectives on public lands should reflect public values.

P2: In the PNW, people want management of public lands to prioritize conservation objectives over economic objectives, unless there is good reason to do otherwise.

C1: Therefore, on public lands in the PNW, economic objectives should not be prioritized without good reason.

P3: Given our current trajectory, timber production from public lands in the PNW will halt in 15-20 years.

P4: When the flow of timber reaches a certain minimal level, there will be a societal backlash, putting public lands at risk of privatization.

P5: It is better for currently public lands to remain public than for them to be privatized.

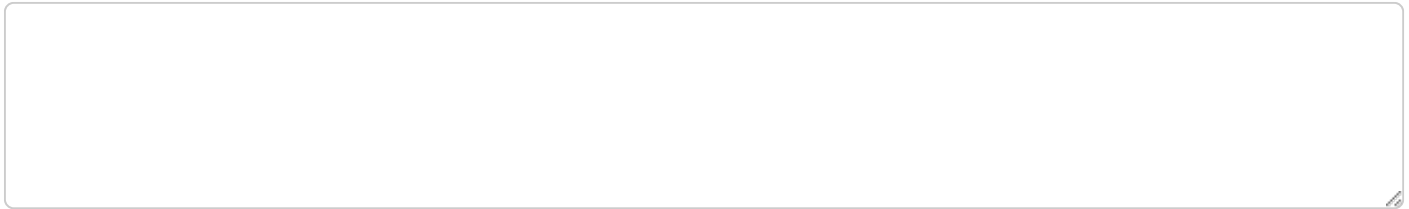
P6: Averting the risk of privatization is a good reason to prioritize economic objectives on public lands.

C2: Therefore, management of public lands in the PNW should prioritize producing a continuous flow of enough timber to avoid societal backlash.

P7: Managing public lands using EF will ensure a continuous flow of enough timber to avoid societal backlash.

C3: Therefore, public lands in the PNW should be managed using EF.

Please describe how I have mischaracterized this argument in the box below. Feel free to make suggestions, or even lay out a basic sketch of how you think the argument should be formulated as a series of premises (P) leading to a conclusion (C).



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P4: When the flow of timber reaches a certain minimal level, there will be a societal backlash, putting public lands at risk of privatization.

P5: It is better for currently public lands to remain public than for them to be privatized.

P6: Averting the risk of privatization is a good reason to prioritize economic objectives on public lands.

C2: Therefore, management of public lands in the PNW should prioritize producing a continuous flow of enough timber to avoid societal backlash.

P7: Managing public lands using EF will ensure a continuous flow of enough timber to avoid societal backlash.

C3: Therefore, public lands in the PNW should be managed using EF.

Would any part(s) of this argument be better represented with different wording? Please make suggestions in the boxes below.

P1	<input type="text"/>
P2	<input type="text"/>
C1	<input type="text"/>
P3	<input type="text"/>
P4	<input type="text"/>
P5	<input type="text"/>
P6	<input type="text"/>
C2	<input type="text"/>
P7	<input type="text"/>
C3	<input type="text"/>

Now I would like you to assess the premises. First, please describe whether and/or to what extent you think each premise is true. Please consider each premise individually, both as I formulated it and as you may have revised it above. (If you did not revise a given premise, simply leave that box blank.)

P1	<input type="text"/>
P1 (revised)	<input type="text"/>
P2	<input type="text"/>
P2 (revised)	<input type="text"/>
P3	<input type="text"/>
P3 (revised)	<input type="text"/>
P4	<input type="text"/>
P4 (revised)	<input type="text"/>
P5	<input type="text"/>
P5 (revised)	<input type="text"/>
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P6	<div></div>
P6 (revised)	<div></div>
P7	<div></div>
P7 (revised)	<div></div>

Now please describe whether and/or to what extent you think each premise is controversial.

P1	<div></div>
P1 (revised)	<div></div>
P2	<div></div>
P2 (revised)	<div></div>
P3	<div></div>
P3 (revised)	<div></div>
P4	<div></div>
P4 (revised)	<div></div>
P5	<div></div>
P5 (revised)	<div></div>
P6	<div></div>
P6 (revised)	<div></div>
P7	<div></div>
P7 (revised)	<div></div>

Do you have any additional feedback about this argument? Please use the box below for comments.



Below is my formulation of an argument opposed to using ecological forestry (EF) on O&C lands:

The "future old-growth" argument

P1: Under current policy, old-growth (OG) will be preserved and younger forests will be accelerated toward OG conditions.

P2: EF would actively manage young forests for timber production, thereby taking them off the OG track.

P3: Management of federal forests in the PNW should prioritize OG conservation, unless there is an adequate reason to de-prioritize it.

P4: Increasing timber production on federal lands is not an adequate reason to de-prioritize OG conservation.

C: Therefore, federal forests should not be managed using EF.

Do you believe that I have accurately represented this argument? (If you think there are some adjustments to be made, but the argument is more or less correct, please answer "yes." You will still have the opportunity to make revisions later. If you think that the argument is generally misrepresented, please answer "no.")

☐ Yes

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C: Therefore, federal forests should not be managed using EF.

Please describe how I have mischaracterized this argument in the box below. Feel free to make suggestions, or even lay out a basic sketch of how you think the argument should be formulated as a series of premises (P) leading to a conclusion (C).

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C: Therefore, federal forests should not be managed using EF.

Would any part(s) of this argument be better represented with different wording? Please make suggestions in the boxes below.

P1

P2

P3

P4

C

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P1 (revised)

P2

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P3

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P4

P4 (revised)

Now please describe whether and/or to what extent you think each premise is controversial.

P1

P1 (revised)

P2

P2 (revised)

P3

P3 (revised)

P4

P4 (revised)

Do you have any additional feedback about this argument? Please use the box below for comments.

Block 2