

Andrew Wardle

Mr. Hoetker

greg.hoetker@boiseschools.org

7th grade, South Junior High, Boise, ID

Going Green

As an English proverb stated, "Some men walk through the forest and see no firewood." It means that some people love nature so much that they wouldn't want to harm it. Everyday trees are cut down. Some with reasonable purposes, other purposes are dumb. If I was in charge of Idaho forests, I would focus on maintaining and conserving the forests.

First, I'd enforce a 1:3 logging rule were if you cut down 30 trees, you'd have to plant 90 new trees. Trees are being cut with no purpose just to expand residential areas. Also, the more trees, the more oxygen they give off into the air.

Second, I'd enforce a rule that states that for certain trees, they have to be a certain height and a certain width to be cut down. This rule is important so logging companies don't cut small trees. If the small trees are cut, and then when the large trees die, there will be a long period of time were there won't be enough trees in a certain area.

Third, I'd make people more aware of forest fires. In Idaho, forests fires are a huge problem during the summer. The fires release tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, destroys animals' environment, and destroys vast amounts of trees. Even though fires are bad for the environment, fires are necessary for pinecones to release their seeds. Finally, we need to go "green" and not use as much paper. In my English class at South Jr. High, my teacher has passed out less than 10 papers so far. Also, the English

room is computer lab, so ALL of our pieces of writing are written on computers. Some people treat paper like it grows on trees. Paper is *made* out of trees.

If we don't take care of the forests, we might end up with not enough trees and have a hard time replenishing it. We need to be the men who walk through the forest and see no firewood. Everyone needs to do something for the forests.