From: To:

FS-comments-pacificnorthwest-siuslaw-hebo

Subject:

Sand Lake Siuslaw NF comments

Date:

Thursday, November 26, 2020 4:22:53 AM

Thank you for sending out a heads up on the forest service's plans for Sand Lake. I know that soliciting comments is mandated but a lot of things that are mandated by the government right now are simply being ignored so thank you.

I'm impressed with the culvert that was built at North Creek. I hiked there last week and saw five Chinook salmon; three were monsters of the deep. If that's the kind of thing (only smaller) that you are looking to build at Sand Lake then great.

This past summer I was involved in a couple of watered down snowy plover surveys at Sitka Sedge and saw the bulldozers working on dune habitat restoration. The people from Fish and Wildlife described the restoration process to me. Keep up the good work.

Finally, I'm all for thinning same aged stands of monoculture trees but I fear that the drive to make money often supersedes the goal of restoration. From the maps I noticed that some of the Sand Lake area is within the LSR but most of it is not.

According to a recent study from OSU, the Siuslaw NF is not only a great place for spotted owls, murrelets and salmon, it's also (despite its small size) one of the most effective forests in the nation at storing carbon. You are overseeing some very important natural real estate. Enough of the Coast forests have been sacrificed to the likes of Bank of America and JP Morgan Chase. We need the federal forests to return to the self sustaining system that they once were. It's good when local folks can work in restoring the forest (thinning, culvert construction and dune restoration) but the intensive cutting that goes on in the hills outside the National Forest has no place on our federal lands.

Please tread lightly on our local federal forest.

Michael Edwards

Sent from my iPhone