

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/5/2023 7:00:00 AM
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Title:
Comments:

Mr. Christopher Furr, District Ranger
Methow Valley Ranger District
Via Email to: christopher.furr@usda.gov

September 5, 2023

Dear Ranger Furr:

Attached is the updated Methow Community Alternative (MCA), prepared by North Cascades Conservation Council. It is designed to accomplish wildfire risk reduction in the Methow River Watershed while maintaining critical fish and wildlife habitats, biodiversity, carbon storage, pure water, and high-quality recreation. This replaces the draft we provided with our scoping comments on the Midnight Restoration Project. Please omit the previous draft.

This improved version includes changes based on input from scientists and many people who reside in the Methow Valley. It is designed to address the entire watershed and applies to all of the projects planned by the Forest Service there which have as their objectives to change the ecological characteristics of the forest and reduce wildfire risk.

We request your acknowledgement of receipt of the MCA, and either your assurance that it will be included in the Draft EAs for Midnight and the Upper Methow Project and analyzed alongside other alternatives, or the reasons why it will not.

We are grateful for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Phil Fenner, President
North Cascades Conservation Council
philf@northcascades.org