

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/13/2025 4:00:00 AM

First name: Asa

Last name: Leckie

Organization: Skamania County

Title:

Comments: March 11th, 2025

RE: Endorsement of Northwest Forest Plan Amendment, Option D

Dear Forest Service Leadership,

The Skamania County Board of County Commissioners is writing to express our strong endorsement for Option D of the proposed Northwest Forest Plan Amendment. This option aligns with the critical needs of our community and the long-term health of our surrounding forests.

We commend Option D's emphasis on restoring fire-resilient forests and reducing wildfire risk. As a community surrounded by forests prone to wildfires, we recognize the importance of proactive forest management in protecting our residents, businesses, and infrastructure. Option D's focus on fuel breaks and forest restoration around communities is particularly noteworthy, as it addresses the unique needs and challenges of our community.

We also support Option D's prioritization of timber production and forest management in areas closest to communities. This approach recognizes the importance of local economic development and job creation, while also promoting healthier, more resilient forests.

Furthermore, we appreciate Option D's recognition of the importance of local collaboration and community engagement. As a community, we value the opportunity to work closely with the Forest Service and other stakeholders to develop and implement forest management strategies that meet our unique needs and priorities.

We believe that Option D strikes a necessary balance between ecological stewardship and the economic and safety needs of local communities. We urge the Forest Service to adopt Option D and work closely with Skamania County to implement its provisions effectively.

Thank you for considering our endorsement.

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Sincerely,

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Chair   Commissioner

[]

Commissioner

ATTACHMENT-LETTER TEXT: NW Forest Plan Amendment Comment Letter Final.pdf; this is the same content that is coded in text box; it was also included as an attachment