

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/14/2025 4:00:00 AM

First name: Lia

Last name: Brewster

Organization: Sierra Club

Title: Campaign Organizer

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

Please find within the attached file the names of 8,142 people from across the country who signed onto the following comment regarding the Forest Plan Amendment for Planning and Management of Northwest Forests Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl Project 64745, and their additional comments:

As you know, the Northwest Forest Plan centered ecosystem health as a primary goal. It remains unique in its vision, and uniquely successful as a model for forest management. In the decades since unchecked logging across national forests in the northwest, the Plan has largely preserved remaining old-growth forests. It thereby has preserved: critical habitat for endangered old-growth dependent species such as the spotted owl and marbled murrelet; cold and clean streams for species including salmon and bull trout, as well as for downstream communities' drinking water supplies; and an irreplaceable store of carbon.

The central pillars of the NW Forest Plan were put in place to ensure this ecosystem can be sustained. Those pillars include land use allocations such as the Late Successional Reserves which have helped ensure distribution and abundance of old-growth forests in perpetuity, and measures like the Aquatic Conservation Strategy to protect river corridors from degradation. Any amendment that undermines the foundation of the NW Forest Plan should not be considered -- full stop. There are valid reasons to update the Northwest Forest Plan. We must include indigenous communities in the creation and implementation of a plan. We do need to ensure appropriate management in an era of wildfire, and that must be directed by the restoration of ecosystem health, not by timber profits. It is beyond time we recognize the enormous climatic benefits we get from oldest forests. And, we can fix what is broken without undermining what works.

The highest values of our oldest forests can only come from keeping them standing. The NW Forest Plan recognized this in 1994. We cannot go back now.

Attachment Sierra Club Member & Constituent Sign-On Comments RE_ FS_FRDOC_0001-3908 - As of 3_13_25.pdf includes copies of the letter text above, 8,142 names/signors and contact information as well as the following Form Plus text.