

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/5/2016 11:18:31 PM

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Comments: Comments on proposed changes to Forest Management

I really appreciate this opportunity to weigh in on the proposed changes to the land management of our beautiful Colville National Forest. I am thankful for the ways that our lands have been cared for and protected by the Forest Service and I support all efforts to improve and maintain this care and protection.

Having looked through the options listed online, I would like to add my support for Alternative P. I believe that this plan does the most to wisely manage the vegetation through the tree harvest/thinning while protecting and encouraging wildlife habitat.

I live up on Mingo Mountain, quite near the borders of the CNF. Having seen the results of terrible land management of mountain timber by Forest Capital and others which left a whole side of the mountain we look at every day devastated for well over 10 years, I feel adamant that these lands be maintained responsibly and carefully to avoid the loss of wildlife habitat, erosion issues and the terribly long time that it takes for a forest to recover from this kind of clear cutting. We have many forest birds that need healthy forests as well as the wildlife that thrive in these forests.

I also do not support any privatization of these forest land, especially to self interest groups who would use these lands for their own profit. Please keep these beautiful forests in the hands of our Federal government for the benefit of all the people, not just some.

Again, thank you for all that you do.

Patricia Ediger