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Comments: I strongly object to road closure plans in all of their alternatives. Having done work that has involved walking Forest Service roads that have been decommissioned, I know how strongly they seed in and how impassible they become after the hillside has been pulled back down over them. They grow back in a way that the surrounding, natural terrain does not, because so much soil has been tilled up in the decommissioning process. I can understand the need to pull pipes on some of the crumbling roads that are already impassible to vehicles, but decommissioning to the degree that other roads on Forest Service land have been decommissioned is essentially closing them off to even foot travel.

I also object to plans to shut down roads that are currently drivable. Access to forest lands here in Grays Harbor has taken a massive hit over the last decade with the implementing of permit systems on private lands, and even city and county forests are being locked up now. State and Federal lands have quickly become the only option for those wishing to spend time out in nature, and now this project proposes to reduce access even more so on Federal lands. Many of the roads being marked for closure or decommissioning in this project are roads that are still frequently used by the public for outdoor recreation. Reducing the amount of roads by a third will further concentrate people down into small areas and make them even more crowded than they already are.

Surely some other alternative can be proposed that involves simply removing culverts and stream blockages on presently-closed roads (while leaving the rest of the grade as a trail), while maintaining the few drivable roads that nature has yet to reclaim on its own. Many people are not paying attention to news of these plans, and once they are carried out, they will only worsen public opinion of the Forest Service here in Grays Harbor. Take a drive around the surrounding communities and have a look at all the anti-Wild Olympics signs. This plan does a lot of what people opposed to that plan think it's going to do, with the only trade-off being some limited creation of jobs through small thinning contracts.