Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/12/2020 3:01:51 AM First name: Rebecca Last name: Brownlie Organization:

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Comments: My question is always... follow the money. Where is the money for clear cutting and thinning going? Who benefits? What company is involved? It makes me think of the coal extraction in Montana being done on public land which was sold at auction with closed doors to the publicat a ridiculous price... to an Australian multinational company who was selling to China. Again follow the money. It will tell the story and it's usually about greed. The north fork of the Nooksack is a beautiful stretch of land and river on the way to Mt Baker, a place loved by all who visit, but this sums it up perfectly:

"The Nooksack River puts the great in the Great Northwest. Its spectacular North Fork is the northernmost river in Washington, running wild with icy glacial snowmelt from the snowfields of 10,778-foot Mount Baker and 9,127-foot Mount Shuksan in North Cascades National Park, before being joined by the Middle and South forks as it weaves through forests and farmlands on its way to the Salish Sea in Puget Sound north of Bellingham.... Whether it's whitewater paddling beneath (or skiing atop) towering snowcapped summits; fishing in ancient forests for five species of native salmon, steelhead, resident rainbows, and cutthroat trout; hiking past waterfalls on the nearby network of trails; or scoping out abundant bald eagles, black bears, mountain goats, elk, spotted owls and even the rare bull trout, the Nooksack does not disappoint....If there is a downside, it is found in lack of permanent protection for this great Northwestern treasure. Such high-quality habitat is increasingly rare and valued by millions for the clean water it provides for drinking, farming, outdoor recreation, and tourism.... Yet the majority of this vital river system remains deprived of even the most fundamental protection."

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