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Title:

Comments: I am writing to ask for the thoughtful reconsideration of clear cutting and thinning of forest, that has been proposed in North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project #58218.

This regions acts as a solace and escape for myself, and countless other people, who seek the beauty of the outdoors for our physical and mental health. Damaging this forest is damaging to people - through taking away recreation opportunities, visual beauty, and creating harm to our natural environment.

My additional concerns include the scale of proposed logging in this proposal, its departure from previous Forest Service management direction, and its negative impacts on local communities. I believe an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) should be completed before any further action is taken.

The Forest Service should fully weigh the importance of this National Forest for reducing the dangers of climate change to both our regional ecosystems and human communities. Logging these forests defeats their carbon sequestration potential for decades to come.

In the face of extensive and ongoing clearcutting operations on private and state timberlands nearby, I believe the Forest Service should prioritize allowing our National Forest to mature naturally for carbon capture, clean water, sensitive wildlife habitat, and compatible recreation.

I also have concerns regarding the Forest Service constructing new logging roads, including so-called "temporary" roads, which act as vectors for invasive weeds and human-caused abuses (including fires), while fragmenting habitat. It would be good for the Forest Service to permanently close unneeded decaying roads.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.