Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/12/2020 5:44:42 PM First name: Beth Last name: DeWitt Organization:

Title:

Comments: I absolutely oppose all logging in the North Cascades, especially clear-cutting and/or the logging of old-growth trees. I oppose the building of roads, including temporary roads, in the area because we know what that leads to. Clear-cutting is a travesty and a crime against the planet and against humanity. With unprecedented climate change, we are leaving a poisoned planet for the next generation - all for obscene profits for lumber and oil. Right now, we need MORE trees & amp; MATURE trees -- and not little, monoculture saplings all in a row - to sequester carbon, give off oxygen, provide habitat for wildlife, create shade/moisture/cooling in the understory, to provide the diversity required for a healthy forest - and to provide peace and tranquility for visiting humans. I moved to this region SPECIFICALLY for the wilderness beauty, and no one has the right to destroy what little remains of wilderness. Claiming that planting little seedlings replaces the majestic old trees slaughtered en masse to make PULP! - is the biggest lie ever. Old growth provides HUNDREDS of times more benefits than the scrawny, monoculture saplings planted in their place: the resulting "forest" below all those same-size & amp; species trees is dead and ugly - unnatural. It's creepy to be in them. Healthy forests are DIVERSE, and must include trees of all types and ages. Thinning should be rare and strategic - for the benefit of the forest, NOT to line millionaires' pockets. These are public lands, intended to be protected in perpetuity for the enjoyment and HEALTH of future generations; we need the oxygen, stop selling us out to the highest bidder! Why do lumber companies have ANY right to out trees? Like the rainforests of South America, intact Northwest forests are critical to the health of the planet. Any and all remaining diverse & amp; old-growth forests are national treasures that must be protected - not logged! Save the trees/save the humans. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.