

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/15/2020 12:51:43 AM

First name: Aidan

Last name: Poteet

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is an important natural area in Washington State. Any capitalistic scheme by the Trump Administration to log this, and any other piece of land, demonstrates a heinous lack of awareness around sustaining this beautiful and absolutely necessary planet we live on and are a part of.

Don't undo all the hard work we have been doing to protect this land!

Logging at this scale is a leap backwards in our progress. It destroys important watersheds which in turn destroys our access and right to clean, safe water. Logging like this will increase erosion and the severity and frequency of landslides in the area. It destroys the important and irreplaceable habitats of wild animals, driving them closer and into areas where humans live. This increases the chance of dangerous run ins between humans and wildlife, danger for both sides.

This proposal flies in the face of what the Real US Forest Service stands for- such a 180° is suspect to suspicion on all fronts. Before anything else an Environmental Impact Statement must be completed so that the negative impacts of this plan will be fully understood, and hopefully waylay this irresponsible proposal.

Ask this: If this National Forest is logged as proposed, how will this impact climate change and how will our communities suffer from less clean air, land erosion, etc. Are we, the people who live here, prepared to take that cost? NO. We are not.

Also, the Forest Service should not build new logging roads, including 'temporary roads' because this increases the spread of invasive plant species which take over land very quickly and choke out our native species. These roads fragment habitat, and increase the chances of fires started by humans.

If this National Forest is not protected, it will also no longer be safe and accessible for recreation. People from all over the US and the World come to Washington to experience this National Forest. Logging will take that opportunity away from people in the present, and in the future. This will impact the economies of small local towns and cities who are privileged to be near this forest.

Again, do not undo all the work, all the years we have spent protecting this land for future generations and the health and well-being our human communities as well as our wildlife communities.