

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/15/2020 2:11:11 AM

First name: Val

Last name: Herman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I strongly disagree with the proposal to begin logging near or in the Nooksack region. The impacts we've seen from logging are extensively concerning as it not only reduces the amount of carbon produced in our area but destroys hundreds of ecosystems that play vital roles in life as we know it. This forest provides irreplaceable homes for ecosystems while remaining one of the most beautiful places to visit for hikers, backpackers and climbers and the damage caused by logging perpetuates an imbalance that will only grow in years to come. I strongly disagree with this proposal. I demand an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) first be completed before even considering taking this any further than it already is.

To put it simply, trees produce carbon and if logging occurs here this will drastically effect the carbon sequestration potential for decades to come, again perpetuating environmental hazards many of us don't wish to see upon these ecosystems or our local communities. In the face of extensive and ongoing clearcutting operations on private and state timberlands nearby, the Forest Service must prioritize allowing our National Forest to mature naturally for carbon capture, clean water, sensitive wildlife habitat, and compatible recreation. Lastly, logging here perpetuates the risk of wildfires in our area. As temperatures rise so does the risk of national disaster, this is not okay.