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First name: Joe

Last name: Jowdy

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I call on the National Forest Service to deny all logging in the proposed zone. The damage to the ecosystem as well as the damage to the local economy is unacceptable. Whatcom county depends too much on recreation and tourist dollars and would bear an unjustifiable economic burden if logging goes forward. Impact to local business will be felt for decades beyond any economic benefit derived from logging. Those few who would benefit are far outweighed by those who would suffer. Real estate values in the county are rising precisely because families are moving in attracted by the natural ecosystem along Mount Baker Highway. Logging will damage that value and therefore property values will be impacted. I'll call on the Whatcom County Council to levy a transportation tax on all logged timber at the rate of \$50.00 per pound to compensate local businesses and homeowners for their losses due to logging.

I further call on the National Forest Service to do everything in their power to preserve the natural habit of salmon and all wildlife in then the proposed zone.