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Organization:

Title:

Comments: North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project

Friends,

I write to urge the reconsideration of proposed "stand regeneration" cuts on 1881 acres within this management area.

Since 1974 I have been an owner of forested land in Western Washington, and have stewarded this land through several

[admittedly small scale] forest practice harvest entries. While I am well aware that the perspective and legitimate range of interests

of a small landowner and a National forest are somewhat different, I feel that my personal efforts to practice responsible forestry

should now extend to a comment regarding this Project the Forest Service has recently detailed.

I suggest that the negative impacts of "stand regeneration" cuts, even when pursued in a technically proficient way,

outweigh their efficiency and immediate economic contribution. These harvest methods contribute heavily to stream

sedimentation problems and increase the likelihood of slope and roadcut failures. Additionally, they retard the development

of structural complexity within the harvest area, limiting the range of species that can make effective use of the land.

Please consider how the agency's management goals may be met through a variety of "thinning" harvests within the

"Matrix" lands of the national forest. I believe that by doing so, a better balance of our ecological, social, and economic

goals for our public forest land can be achieved.