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First name: Gary

Last name: Dickman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project

Dear District Ranger Uloth,

Hi Erin, I've worked for 40 years for the DNR for forty years as a Forest Engineer putting up timber sales as well as road design, construction and maintenance. After retirement from the State I bid on and was awarded several USFS contracts to assess roads for environmental potential damage on forest lands in Darrington, Skykomish and North Bend Districts and have seen plenty of poor to no road maintenance. I wholeheartedly support managing the forest in a sustainable manner for multiple use.

This comment is to support the North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project and the plan to use various forest management tools to ensure a healthier and more resilient forest. In addition to providing timber to support our communities, this project will also make these public lands more accessible to all forest users. Vegetation management will support native plant and animal species who will benefit from the creation of both early-seral habitat and older mixed age and species forests.

Timber harvest and commercial thinning will help achieve the objectives of this project. Commercial activities will provide the funding necessary to fix deteriorating forest roads as well as to support non-commercial restoration work on the national forest. Generating revenue, improving access, and enhancing huckleberry production are positive steps the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest can take in meeting its management goals.

Please move forward with this project, using the various forest management tools that are available to the Forest. This project will benefit all the various uses of our forests, benefit local communities and the various wildlife using the Forest.

Sincerely,

Gary Dickman