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Comments: As a longtime resident of western Washington state, I place the highest value on the integrity of the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, where my family and I have often visited to hike and camp. But the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest has much greater value than my own personal activities. The Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is essential for guarding our climate against global warming and for protecting ecosystems from further degradation. The damage done by extensive logging in the past century cannot be fully recovered from, and the losses cannot be made up for. We must safeguard our remaining forests for future generations.

This proposed logging is out of proportion to recent forest management and will adversely impact local communities, ecosystems, and our climate. For these reasons, the Forest Service must first complete an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The Forest Service must fully weigh the importance of this National Forest for reducing the existential dangers of climate change to both our regional ecosystems and human communities. Logging these forests defeats their carbon sequestration potential for decades to come.

The Forest Service must take into account the extensive and ongoing clearcutting operations on private and state timberlands nearby. Our National Forest needs to mature naturally for carbon capture, clean water, sensitive wildlife habitat, and compatible recreation.

No new logging roads should be built, including so-called "temporary" roads, which are vectors for invasive weeds and human-caused abuses (including fires), while fragmenting habitat. Instead, the Forest Service should permanently close unneeded decaying roads.