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Organization: Julie Carpenter Real Estate, Inc.

Title: President

Comments: I'm writing to request that you remaining dedicated employees of the Forest Service please act in your original capacity as stewards of the health of forests to the benefit of the ecosystems they are a fundamental part of. For-profit business concerns should never take precedence over both short and long term ecosystem protection as the highest and best public priority. Management of access to forest products should always and only be ancillary function of the forest service.

Please do NOT permit massive clear cutting as proposed along the headwaters of the North Fork of the Nooksack river. These steep slopes are best protected by intact mature forests. The cool temperature and cleanliness of the water they filter and shade are crucial habitat requirements of endangered salmon, a keystone species important to Pacific Northwest ecology.

Nearly the entire North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project area is classified by scientists as high risk for landslides and erosion, and is therefore designated as a Riparian Reserve where timber harvest is supposed to be prohibited. Please reject this proposal.