Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/2/2020 2:07:03 AM First name: Michael & Joan Last name: Airoldi Organization:

Title:

Comments: Living just six miles from the Nooksack River we have frequented the River's North Fork on numerous occasions and have found it to be a glorious part of the North Cascades' ecosystem. The variations in the flanking terrains and riparian zones make its forests a key element in sustaining and protecting the complex aquatic, riparian, sub alpine and alpine forests that blanket an equally complex geologic sub structure. Clearly the impact of clearcutting and/or commercial thinning is reason enough to require an Environmental Impact Statement, not to mention the steep potentially unstable slopes. Riparian zones closely associated with logging operations are counter to the publicly supported endeavors of the Whatcom Land Trust's purchase of lands adjoining key reaches of the North Fork as well as the work of the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement's stream restoration projects. Think also of Carbon Sequestration loss, stand regeneration and what tree species and types of plant communities will emerge in the wake of clearcutting and thinning. You fully know that best Forest Management Practices warrant an EIS. Please do so in the interest of our forests and our future.