Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/2/2020 5:39:51 AM First name: DANA Last name: JACK Organization:

Title:

Comments: I own 40 acres by the North Fork Nooksack River and am writing to REGISTER MY OPPOSITION to the proposed logging by the U.S. Forest Service. The proposed up to 1881 acres subject to clearcutting and another 1798 acres to be commercially (and unnaturally) thinned would be a disaster for wildlife, the ecology, the river, and humans - not only along the Nooksack but in the whole watershed and the life it supports. This is a significant and frightening departure from previous Forest Service management practice in the area and will cause huge controversy and opposition. Because of the negative impacts on local communities, including all of the aspects mentioned above, an Environmental Impact Statement must be completed BEFORE this disastrous project can proceed.

At a time when climate change is a critical issue locally and globally, why in the world would the Forest Service destroy the carbon sequestration that these forests provide? There can only be one answer - the current administration's anti-environmental policies. Please do not let this misguided and short-sighted logging proceed. Especially since there are clearcutting operations on private and DNR timberlands all along the North Fork of the Nooksack, as well as along the South and Middle Forks of the Nooksack, the Forest Service must prioritize our National Forest maturation. A mature forest provides clean water, wildlife habitat, trails and recreation, and carbon capture.

In addition, the Forest Service must not construct new logging roads because they serve as vectors for invasive weeds, human-caused fires, fragmentation of habitat for our wildlife and cause landslides. Instead, the Forest Service should permanently close unneeded decaying roads.

I want to make it clear that this logging plan is misguided, destructive, short-sighted, and should not be implemented. I register my strong opposition.