

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/30/2020 7:00:00 AM

First name: Fanter

Last name: Lane

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments on North Fork Nooksack Project #58218.

Dear Mt. Baker District Ranger Uloth,

I would like to follow up and send another email, this one not so much generic science but personal and heart felt of my love of the area proposed for clear cutting. I grew up in the south fork valley and have explored the canyon creek watershed many times with dear friends and family. I have hiked up to canyon lake in the winter to see what little old growth conifer forest we have left in this area blanketed in snow. I have taken a dear friend who is from Italy to this lake and watershed to show him the incredible forests of the PNW. I once ended one of the most physically demanding days of my life biking down canyon creek after completing a loop that took us to incredible parts of this watershed. I have a deep connection to this part of the nooksack river watershed and feel it incredibly wrong to clear cut such a large section of it.

I recently completed my BS in Wildlife conservation and management, and know how vital and important healthy watersheds are for fish, birds, plants, fungi, and animals, but also humans. Clear cutting is not a sustainable or healthy way to harvest timber especially in areas with steep slopes and in headwaters of vital tributaries to major river systems.

Look at the pandemic that is currently affecting the entire world. It is especially dangerous to people that have respiratory illness/problems. Trees clean the air and transform what humans constantly breath out and turn it into what we need to breath in. Trees and forests can help decrease air pollution that affects people and makes viruses like the one that is affecting us now less harsh. So why should we create a relationship in harvesting forests in which we completely destroy the ecosystem and deplete all the trees in that area? Beyond the detrimental impacts this clear cut would have on the fish and wildlife in this watershed, it creates health risks for humans.

I hope you consider my voice alongside many others in this community that appose this clear cut, and hope this watershed can stay healthy and intact so we can continue to enjoy it, wildlife can continue to thrive, and future generations can continue to experience it.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Fanter Lane

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comments,