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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Comments on North Fork Nooksack Project #58218.

Dear Mt. Baker District Ranger Uloth,

This is a scoping comment for the North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project #58218.

Old-growth forests take thousands of years to develop. Any old growth forest we destroy, we take from our great great great (ad nauseam) grandchildren. How long will the resources obtained from a clear cut last? This is like destroying a diamond to make pencil lead.

I strongly oppose the massive 1,900-acre clearcut around Canyon Creek that was recently proposed. Anyone who plans their future beyond the next five minutes would. Canyon Creek is an important North Fork Nooksack tributary. Endangered species rely on this area. This area is also high risk for landslides and erosion, and is a Riparian Reserve where timber harvest is prohibited.

Preserving Canyon Creek will benefit everyone and should be a priority, not a massive clearcut that will benefit very few.

Please reduce the forest road density in deer and elk winter range to two miles of road per square mile of area or less to improve habitat security, and look for other opportunities to reduce the road network in the North Fork Nooksack watershed while responsibly and sustainably supporting outdoor recreation accommodations. There are nearly 60 miles of roads that threaten aquatic ecosystem health that should be considered for removal through this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comments,

Alissa French