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First name: Rick

Last name: Fanning

Organization:

Title:

Comments: North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project

Dear District Ranger Uloth,

I believe you are on the right track .We need to keep our forest healthy for younger generations to come so they will be able to enjoy what some of us have . I have lived on the West side of the Cascades my whole life and worked in the timber industry my whole working career . Some of us that live on the West side of Cascades biggest fear is that when fire season hits we may not have the personnel or equipment to fight the fire because wild fires have already started through out the US . A healthier forest and better road access will help reduce the damage that could happen . It is our land and everyone needs to take care of it what ever that looks like for the sake of the beauty of our back yard . Rick Fanning

This comment is to support the North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project and the plan to use various forest management tools to ensure a healthier and more resilient forest. In addition to providing timber to support our communities, this project will also make these public lands more accessible to all forest users. Vegetation management will support native plant and animal species who will benefit from the creation of both early-seral habitat and older mixed age and species forests.

Timber harvest and commercial thinning will help achieve the objectives of this project. Commercial activities will provide the funding necessary to fix deteriorating forest roads as well as to support non-commercial restoration work on the national forest. Generating revenue, improving access, and enhancing huckleberry production are positive steps the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest can take in meeting its management goals.

Please move forward with this project, using the various forest management tools that are available to the Forest. This project will benefit all the various uses of our forests, benefit local communities and the various wildlife using the Forest.

Sincerely,

Rick Fanning