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First name: T

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please modify the Shasta Agness Project

Dear Shasta Agness Objections,

I am displeased by your draft decision to log 2,199 acres of Late Successional Old Growth Reserve Lands (LSR) under the thin guise of "oak restoration." Anyone who is familiar with the mature old growth forests adjacent to Oak Flat road can plainly see that these forests are no place for unit wide thinning of trees up to 28" in diameter. No oaks exist in this area on at least 95% of the forested landscapes so oak restoration here is faulty and adverse planning.

I do support the treatment of 1,635 acres of plantations as the NFP clearly states that plantations within LSR designations are the priority for management, but, not older forests that harbor at-risk wildlife.

I agree there are some oak restoration units that would benefit from logging on southern exposures with poor soils in the Shasta Creek watershed (such as unit 72) however, the units along Oak Flat road are clearly in no need of unit wide thinning. I ask that you drop the plan for unit wide commercial thinning in Oak Restoration units 8, 9, 10, 54, 73, 74, 75, 76, 78, and 79. Radial treatment around existing oaks >8" DBH would clearly be appropriate in these units.

In summary, all plans for treatments within a mile of the Humboldt marten and Northern Spotted Owl sightings need to be dropped since the treatments will most likely harm these at-risk animals which is contrary to the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) directives. The Draft Decision fails to demonstrate significant benefit from treatments in pine habitats that would offset the significant adverse impacts to the Humboldt marten, Northern Spotted Owl, and red tree voles.

This mature/old growth forest stand in oak restoration unit 78 is no place for the unit wide thinning of trees up to 28"DBH where there are no oaks to restore. I ask that we work together as a team to implement the best forest restoration plan and subsequent actions rather than clearly ignoring the Forest Plan protections for this LSR.

Thank you for incorporating the concerns of thousands of citizens into your project plans and actions.

Sincerely,

M. T Odell