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First name: Tamara

Last name: Stuebing

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please modify the Shasta Agness Project

Dear Shasta Agness Objections,

I am saddened and shocked by your draft decision to log 2,199 acres of Late Successional/Old Growth Reserve Lands (LSR) under the guise of "oak restoration." Anyone who is familiar with the mature/old growth forests such as those adjacent to Oak Flat road can plainly see these forests are no place for unit wide thinning of trees up to 28" in diameter. In this area, no oaks exist on at least 95% of the forested landscape. Please take heart and time to walk through these old growth beauties yourself. See with your own eyes and feel the canopy that can NEVER, NEVER be replaced in three generations (your great-great-great-grandchild by age comparison) due to the over-logging methods to remove and leave nothing but raw dirt where once beautiful groves of natural forest. Please, please, please leave the old growth areas in tact!!! These beautiful stands are becoming a rare place for anyone to witness and treasure for themselves. Once gone, they can not be recreated in our lifetime and will likely never be in any generation to follow due to the tragic forestry practices now used.

I do support a gentle and kind treatment of 1,635 acres of plantations. The NFP clearly states that plantations within LSR designations are the priority for management and not older forests that harbor at-risk wildlife. I agree there are some oak restoration units that would benefit from logging on southern exposures on 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 earnestly implore you drop 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 be appropriate in these units. All treatments within a mile of Humboldt marten and Northern Spotted Owl sightings must be dropped since the treatments would likely harm these animals contrary to Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) directives. The Draft Decision fails to demonstrate significant benefit from treatments in pine habitats that would offset possible significant adverse impacts to Humboldt marten, Northern Spotted Owl, or red tree voles.

Mature/old growth forests stands such as this one in oak restoration unit 78 is no place for unit wide thinning of trees up to 28"DBH where there are no oaks to restore. Let's work together to implement real restoration rather than cutting corners and ignoring Forest Plan protections that should be honored and treasured for this LSR.

Thank you for incorporating my concerns into your project planning effort.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Tamara Stuebing