

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/25/2020 7:00:00 AM

First name: Kasey

Last name: Schweickert

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please modify the Shasta Agness Project

Dear Shasta Agness Objections,

When are we going to stop and ask ourselves in a world where we are struggling to thrive and survive must we continue to destroy the lungs of the planet and habitats that have existed before us and will go on to exist after we all die. There is absolutely no reason to log any old growth on this entire planet period. In Oregon with the amount of fires we have had over the last several years and the amount of fires in California, OVER 1.2 MILLION ACRES ARE GONE!! Why in anyone's right mind would they choose to destroy any forest. For what reason. Monetary? If you really understood the consequences of destruction the microrise that sustains all life, then you need to ask yourself do you choose life in your actions? If you choose to destroy this piece of forest or any piece of forest for that matter then you are not choosing life and should be removed from your office and left to hang out in a clear cut piece of land, for a few days then tell me to what end.

I am 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.

I do support the 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 recommend that 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 for this LSR.

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

Sincerely,

Ms. Kasey Schweickert