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Title:

Comments: Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the Twisp Forest Restoration Project environmental

analysis #56554.

I'm writing to support sound forest restoration, with careful understory thinning, removing unnecessary roads, improving conditions for fish and wildlife habitat, and allowing periodic fires.

The Twisp River is a special place. I have friends who live along it, often hike the basin, and boat the river. Consequently, I strongly oppose plans to cut large fire resilient trees and trees over 10" in roadless areas, bulldozing trees in old-growth areas, salvage logging in Reserves and roadless areas, Riparian logging especially along the valley bottom, excessive shaded fuelbreaks, new ATV routes, and logging in the ecologically functional Upper Twisp sub-watershed, including quality spotted owl habitat.

Please remove these elements from the Twisp Forest Restoration Project; they are not supported by either science or the local community. Protect all old trees (>150 years old) regardless of size and species.

Given the Project's massive scale, scope and complexity, I request you provide appropriate limits and monitoring where "condition-based management" is proposed, and prepare an Environmental Impact Statement to assess whether an ecological need exists for careful restoration actions in roadless areas, Reserves, and elsewhere.

Please show how the proposed actions adhere to the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest's restoration strategy, and exactly where logging and other activities will be located and why. Environmental review must address site-specific impacts. Fire threats from extensive logging slash will be addressed in the analysis as well as impacts to outdoor recreation interests and neighboring communities and residents from logging-related traffic and other disruptions over the next 30 years.

The Twisp Project has some good elements. I support the aquatic restoration actions including significant road decommissioning, placement of large wood in streams, beaver dam analogs, and culvert and stream crossing improvements. The plans for large prescribed fires and maintenance burns are commendable. With the changes proposed above, the Project could improve wildlife habitat and landscape conditions, and gain public support.