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Comments: As a student and lifelong citizen of the Methow Valley, I share certain concerns regarding the impacts of this commercial thinning proposal on the Twisp River wilderness that is so intrinsic to the valley. Restoration processes including controlled thinning and burning can be crucial to maintaining the health and protection of our forests and wildlife. However, such proposals should be implemented with detailed public review and the chief priority of preserving the ecosystem and endangered species of the Twisp River.

It is clear that the execution of this proposal will have a drastic and lasting impact on the forest, river, animals, and community of the Twisp River area. With its divergence from the recommended Restoration Strategy of the US Forest Service, the proposal prioritizes neither forest health nor sustainability. Processes that fail to qualify as restoration should be evaluated and considered for removal from the proposal. These include new road construction, salvage logging, harvesting trees over 20" in diameter, and immediate ATV usage in the Twisp River corridor.