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Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing with regard to the proposed forest restoration project on the Twisp River drainage. While I support restoration projects designed to reduce fire risk in these drainages and to optimize forest health, I believe that the proposed project does not provide for optimal treatment. The proposal is unreasonably large in scope and scale. I am concerned about the proposed logging of large trees up to 30 inches. In addition, I believe that the ATV access would prove to increase risk of forest fire in the forest through increasing use of combustion engines in tinder dry country and also increasing significantly human activity in these environments. In the setting of demonstrable climate change, I believe that we should be optimizing foot travel and minimizing fossil fuel usage. I am also opposed to salvage logging of these areas, as the soil and native regrowth are highly sensitive to the mechanical extraction impacts related to salvage logging. I personally lost a home in the Woods canyon fire five years ago, and we have taken pains to ensure soil stability and native regrowth on our property by preserving the standing timber. We have been able to witness regrowth of aspen, alder and pine on our property, whereas, we have witnessed significantly stunted recovery on neighboring properties where the standing timber was cleared. There is an obvious need to selectively log and manage understory in western forests including the Okanogan, but this need must not be interpreted as a license to brutally log and commercially develop these lands. I would favor an extended period of public comment and deliberation related to these proposals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Steven K Taylor, MD