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First name: Mia

Last name: Sundstrom

Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a resident of Twisp and a frequent recreational user of forest service lands, I am writing to express concern over the proposed Twisp Restoration Project. A healthy forest ecosystem is essential to the way we live here in the Methow. The ecosystem services provided by forests include recreational opportunities, healthy water, and carbon sequestration, to name a few. The proposal allows for cutting of trees up to 30' in diameter, well beyond the 20' that the Forest Service recommends be the largest trees cut in their own Restoration Strategy. Due to the scale of this proposed project, the consequence of harvesting the larger trees would be significant. In recent years, forest ecologists have come to understand that the trees in a forest are connected underground by networks of mycorrhizal fungi. In these networks, the older and larger trees are "hubs" of underground connections. The health of the forest relies on keeping the large trees. Large trees are the stores of beneficial fungal connections and also act as "mother trees" to reseed a forest after disturbance. Healthy forests are better able to respond to changes in climate, potential drought and disease. Large trees are also better able to survive wildfire, thereby helping to preserve the genetic diversity of the forest and its natural capacity for regeneration. I ask that more time is taken to make a proper plan that will prioritize the resiliency of the forest that is such a integral part of all life here in the Methow Valley.