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First name: Donald

Last name: Starr

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a long-time (45 years) resident of Whatcom County who is opposed tot the clear cutting Alternative 1 proposal in the Nooksack Valley region. Besides the effects of clearcutting are numerous and immediate. Clearcutting destabilizes the soil, affecting water quality and run-off rates. Clearcutting destroys salmon habitat by increasing the rate of erosion and landslides negatively degrading salmon habitat and the forest environment. Clearcutting effects biodiversity for a very long time. I believe that the Alternative 2, selective logging, is a more reasonable alternative for healthy forest management.

I have a small forested acreage that does border a creek. I had selective logging done over 20 years ago and since then have observed the subsequent healthy growth, as well as maintaining general biodiversity. I also have had a number of proposals to clearcut, but have turned them down because I feel a stewardship obligation to the maintenance of the forest. I also am in the CREP program for protection of the Dakota Creek because I strongly believe the need for its survival as a spawning habitat.

Thank you for consideration of my concerns.