

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/29/2021 9:22:32 PM

First name: SUMMER

Last name: STARR

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear District Ranger Uloth,

My name is Summer Starr. I was born and raised in Whatcom County and feel incredibly connected to this land. I feel we, as residents, have a responsibility to this bioregion. Because we can so dramatically affect all of life here, we must do what is best not only for ourselves, but for the greater region as a whole. In the Environment Assessment of the North Fork Nooksack Vegetation Management Project I feel strongly that between the 2 Alternatives proposed, Alternative 1 is an unacceptable choice since it is the Alternative that implements clearcutting, a.k.a. "stand regeneration." I urge the refusal of Alternative 1 as it is my belief that the Forest Service should not be clearcutting in the 21st century. Mount Baker Ranger District should advance selective thinning rather than clearcutting to meet its ecological goals and responsibilities. This opinion is based on the reality that the practice of clearcutting disregards known issues of degrading water quality and destroying salmon habitats. It also augments water conservation issues as water moves faster through the hydrologic system, which means there is too much water in the winters and too little water in the summers.

This decision will affect our bioregion for years to come and so I urge you to refuse Alternative 1 and protect our watershed.

Sincerely,

Summer Starr