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First name: Jorie

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: My name is Jorie and I grew up and currently live in Whatcom County. I care deeply about the health of the natural habitat in the area and hope for the preservation of the land. I urge the USFS to not adopt Alternative 1, or any other Alternative that involves clearcutting. Instead, I hope that USFS first conducts an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), due to the magnitude of environmental impact this project would have on the watershed, salmon, and climate change. Clearcut-plantation forestry degrades water quality and destroys salmon habitat by increasing the rate of erosion and landslides. Clearcutting makes water move faster through the hydrologic system, which means there is too much water in the winters and too little water in the summers. Mount Baker Ranger District should advance selective thinning rather than clearcutting to meet its ecological goals and responsibilities.