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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

I am a resident of Whatcom County and hike in the vicinity of Mt. Baker.

I strongly oppose the USFS proposed logging of the North Fork Nooksack area.

I believe that the negative environmental impact of this project is grossly understated in the Draft Environmental Assessment. Among the likely results of the commercial logging envisaged in the USFS plan:

- Loss of critical habitat for threatened species.
- Substantial erosion in the watershed, causing increased flooding downstream and harming the fish population.
- Harmful effects associated with road building in a wilderness area.
- Destruction of area's value, for many years, as a site for recreation.
- Loss of important carbon capturing capacity.

In my view, these damaging consequences substantially outweigh the suggested benefits of the proposal.

At a minimum, the USFS should prepare a full Environmental Impact Statement for this project. A finding of no significant impact in this case would not be credible.