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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It Should Concern,

I'm a WA State resident and an enthusiastic hiker and camper. I spend many weekends in the gorgeous forests near Mount Baker each season. A few years ago, I moved all the way across the country to live in this stunning place and to advocate for its preservation.

I am deeply disturbed to hear of the US Forest Service's plans to "manage" vegetation by clear-cutting along the Nooksack River. As you well know, clear-cutting inevitably will damage water quality, interfere with seasonal water flow, and escalate problems with erosion and avalanching. Damaging the water also further threatens habitat for salmon, an already-collapsing species in this region.

If the Forest Service does insist on tampering with Nature, it must share a proper Environmental Impact Statement with the public. The current assessment is incomplete and therefore inadequate.

In the meantime, please choose alternatives that do not involve ANY clear-cutting in the watershed. I cannot resist stating that cutting down trees is an absurd strategy for a forest service to use anywhere on this mostly-deforested planet.

Thank you in advance for listening to those who love this place.

Sarah Gardam