

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/17/2021 7:02:54 AM

First name: Philip

Last name: Ratcliff

Organization:

Title:

Comments: he QMS project has some legitimate and needed restoration components. The northern portion of the project area is designated as "late-successional reserve" (LSR) - where management must restore habitat and structures of old forests. The forests proposed for logging here were once clearcut and replanted as tree farms, not forests. Thinning is meant to reintroduce diversity in these plantations and set them on a trajectory to become high quality old-growth habitat - something we generally support, though thinning still requires roads and has impacts.

Unfortunately, other parts of the project target some of the last old forests left that haven't been logged. The southern portion of the project area is designated as "matrix" - where management is supposed to balance producing timber volume along with habitat, clean water, and other values. Much of the proposal does similar thinning as in the LSR, but about 140 acres of old forest is targeted for aggressive logging (leaving fewer trees and bigger openings than thinning). This is unacceptable.