

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/26/2021 8:00:00 AM

First name: Laura

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello, my name is Laura. I am a retired logging systems forester from the Umpqua National Forest in Oregon. Please pass along my heartfelt endorsement of the Character fire salvage project. As a forester on the Umpqua I witnessed and got to "hear" the bugs chewing on the recently burned trees in a small burn area on our forest several years ago. It was eerie and it was then I realized the urgency of harvest! I am retired, but now work on emergency fire management team in the summer as a food unit leader. My experience as a forester cringes when I see the smoke plume on every fire my team gets assigned to. We NEED to harvest and make these GAPS and re-plant with species that are more disease resistant. Management of our forests is the only way to stop these catastrophic fires. Gaps also can provide breaks in fuel load of a wild fire. They also benefit wildlife. If I can be of any assistance please let me know. Sincerely, Laura Miller