

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/27/2022 6:46:20 PM

First name: Benton

Last name: Elliott

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Forest Service has dealt with many obstacles in reopening Mt. Hood National Forest. I applaud your commitment to do a full environmental analysis of the current road system and proposed roadside logging. The Forest Service has an opportunity to reexamine the ecological impacts of forest roads that are increased by recent fires, especially with regards to salmon and drinking water. The forest road system is oversized, and the Forest Service currently does not have funding to maintain even a quarter of this system annually. Reducing this road network while maintaining access to beloved public places could address economic and ecological challenges the agency faces. Thank you for taking a scientific approach to forest management that recognizes the importance of intact forests for biodiversity.