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Comments: I appreciate the commitment by the Forest Service to conduct a full environmental analysis of the road system and roadside abatement being considered in the Mt Hood National Forest. It's critical to health of the forest to examine the ecological impacts of forest roads exacerbated by recent fires, especially the effects on salmon and drinking water. This project also encompasses Late Successional Reserves and Critical Habitat for the northern spotted owl. A full analysis on current and proposed impacts to wildlife and available habitat should be completed before this project is approved.

Also, all management activities within the congressionally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers river corridors must protect and/or enhance the identified outstanding remarkable values for those segments.

Meaningful collaboration with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs and the Confederated Tribes of the Grande Ronde is required to maintain appropriate access to cultural resources. Mt. Hood's management plan provides direction on honoring treaty rights, and traditional areas that are covered by the American Indian Religious Freedom Act.

Reducing the road network can address economic and ecological challenges the agency faces in carrying out proper forest management. Among other things, resources can be conserved by eliminating the need for removal of trees deemed a danger on roads that are closed or decommissioned.

Thank you for your responsible stewardship of our treasured natural resources.