Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/28/2022 9:28:12 PM

First name: Ryan Last name: Beam Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thanks for taking my comment into account. I grew up visiting the landscapes this project will affect. In recent years I moved back to the area and am looking forward to getting to know these places again as I and they evolve. First of all, I want to thank the Service for conducting a full environmental analysis of this project. I believe the agency has an opportunity here to take a fresh look at its approach to roads and to ensure that vital resources such as drinking water and salmon habitat are protected. The Mt. Hood National Forest did not have adequate funding to maintain its bloated road network before the fires, and now especially will not afterwards. This is an opportunity for the agency to pair down the roads, which would help the agency make progress on economic and environmental challenges. The agency should not conduct tree removal under the guise of public safety for roads that were already, were planned to be, or were to be analyzed for closure or decommissioning. Guidelines for determining the "striking distance" that will inform how many trees are cut should be informed by data and safety and clearly laid out so that they cannot be taken advantage of or manipulated by logging companies so that they can cut more trees. The protection of the area's wild and scenic river and northern spotted owl resources must be taken fully into account during the analysis of the project's potential impacts. The agency must also consult with area Tribes in order to ensure access to cultural resources. And access for the wider public should be re-established as possible, especially along Highway 224, even as the Service is working to complete roadside work deeper in the forest. Thanks again for fully analyzing this project's potential impacts in order to best ensure protection of these and other vital resources.