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First name: Kimber

Last name: Nelson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am commenting to advocate for ecologically driven land management on Mt. Hood National Forest and to address my concerns with the Grasshopper Project.

Shelterwood logging (alternative two) of old growth high elevation forests is not appropriate to meet the purpose and need of this project and the long-term health of the area. The draft Environmental Assessment fails to consider the exceptional threat posed to high elevation units under current climate predictions. Future climate predictions put these stands at particular risk and if logged to this extent these areas will likely be gone permanently. The Forest Service must act locally to a global crisis by considering the value of conserving old growth stands for climate resiliency.

I disagree with any portion of this project that would result in long term detrimental effects to Northern Spotted Owl. Past timber harvest on federal land has reduced the amount of suitable habitat on the landscape and this project contributes to this trend with the removal of 267 acres of suitable northern spotted owl habitat under alternative two. Additionally, the affected stand is already under threat due to climate change and may be lost indefinitely if alternative two is chosen.

I am concerned that the Draft proposes to build 17 miles of roads into the forest as part of this project without disclosing any details about their location or type, despite public inquiry. Without this information, an impacts analysis cannot be meaningfully completed. Please use this opportunity to build trust with the interested public and include this information in the Environmental Assessment for this project, and in all projects in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Grasshopper Project. I urge you to continue to have meaningful public engagement on this project.