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Last name: Woodsong

Organization:

Title:

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

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'm asking you to act locally to mitigating the global climate crisis. Not only are old growth parts of the project area in direct risk due to climate predictions they also provide the highest rates of carbon sequestration. I'm asking you to consider how the Mt. Hood National Forest could account for carbon conservation at the forest level and the project level.

I urge you to abandon all efforts to log old growth trees, to build additional roads, or to engage in any sort of clear cutting. Instead, focus on maximizing the long-term carbon sequestration of our forests. Protect all of the large trees, and focus on thinning smaller trees so that sufficient small trees remain to provide the next generation of large trees. Also, consider installing pumped storage hydro tanks on ridge tops, and use them to power high-pressure sprinkler systems along ridge lines to slow and contain fires in the a single valley rather than allowing it to spread.

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

Signed, your name here