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Comments: I am writing to advocate for an ecological and climate change mitigation-centered approach to the land management on Mt. Hood National Forest, and to express my concerns with the Grasshopper project.

The most pressing concern I have about this project is the impact that logging, particularly of mature forest, will have on furthering the impacts of climate change -- specifically in terms of carbon sequestration and storage, carbon emissions, and affecting the forest's adaptability to future climate shifts. The Oregon Global Warming Commission and a study by Oregon State and the University of Idaho found that, between 2011-2015, the wood products industry was the largest carbon emitter of all industries in Oregon. Not only is there a need to consider the carbon released into the atmosphere when trees are logged (from both the industrial process and the logged trees themselves), but this needs to be considered alongside the additional loss of a tree's further carbon-storing potential, in the context of our rapidly changing global climate crisis. We have the potential here in Oregon to manage our forests in a way that promotes climate resilience (e.g. retaining stands of old growth trees and following the wisdom of indigenous leadership in tending to forest health), while mitigating some of the more devastating threats of climate change. The health of people depends on the health of our forests, and when we log old growth, we destroy the very ecological web that holds us together and which can sustain us through difficult shifts in our climate.

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