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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please Don't Log the Taylor/Carter LSR

Dear District Ranger Luis Palacios,

I am writing to oppose the post-fire "salvage" logging and timber plantation establishment in the Taylor/Carter Late Successional Reserve.

Wildfire is an important part of forest ecology in the Klamath Mountains and it is unwise to log Late Successional Reserves in remote wildlands for a number of reasons. Landscapes that have been affected by fire have been shown to have the 2nd highest amount of biodiversity after a fire.

The significant negative impacts of salvage logging and timber plantation establishment on wildlife, watersheds, and soils are well documented and known to the Forest Service. From the erosional impact of logging roads to streams/creeks to the introduction of annual invasives such as cheatgrass to the removal of snags that provide habitats for many species of birds and mammals to the removal of downed logs that return nutrients to the soil and provide habitat for many species of invertebrates, a post-fire landscape needs to be left alone to regenerate and take up carbon as it rebuilds.

Instead of pushing yet another controversial LSR logging project, please work with communities and stakeholders to focus post-fire restoration on removing hazard trees near roads and trails, addressing existing timber plantations, and utilizing prescribed fire and traditional ecological knowledge?

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mr. Eric Smith

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