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Comments: [External Email]Protect Taylor/Carter Late Successional Reserve in River Complex Project

[External Email]

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Dear,

Please protect the Taylor/Carter Late Successional Reserve and habitat connectivity by dropping the commercial logging in this old-growth reserve. These post-fire ecosystems are just beginning to recover. "Salvage" logging and the establishment of plantations represent the failed management of the past and should not be part of our future.

In this climate and biodiversity emergency -clean water, wildlife, and mature forests need to be retained and allowed to recover naturally rather than harmed by bulldozers and the agency's quest for timber volume. Standing snags are biological legacies that will hold and store carbon for decades, creating shade, cooler microclimates, and important wildlife habitat and future soil nutrients as they decompose over time. These fire-affected reserves, part of the world's globally significant temperate rainforests, provide vital ecological services that we all depend on.

The South Fork Salmon and Scott Rivers headwaters are critical habitat and connectivity corridors for fishers, martens and many other species struggling for survival. Please put wildlife, water quality, and mature forests before short-term and shortsighted ill-conceived timber sales. I urge you to focus post-fire treatments in WUI areas, existing plantations, and along main ingress/egress routes while retaining old-growth and mature snag forest habitat in the Taylor/Carter LSR.

Sincerely,

Heidi ahlstrand

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