

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/18/2022 6:59:26 PM

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Comments: The proposed "restoration" project in the Cube Cove area of the Kootznoo Wilderness does not seem reasonable at all to me.

If anything, there is no opportunity for this area to recover at all. This seems to be an extension of what had already taken place in the last several years with the logging and other extreme disturbances of Wilderness.

Twenty-three thousand acres of logging was significant.

Here are my greatest concerns:

The use of heavy equipment during a "restoration" period is inappropriate for the Kootznoowoo Wilderness.

The FS's plan violates the letter and spirit of the Wilderness Act through its extensive use of chainsaws, helicopters, motor vehicles, and other motorized equipment, plus tree cutting, placing woody debris in riparian areas, and other proposed actions.

The area should be allowed to fully recover on its own by allowing time and natural processes to heal past damage. At the least, the Forest Service needs to analyze a wilderness-compatible plan if it chooses active restoration, such as one that uses non-motorized hand tools rather than chainsaws and heavy equipment.

Reclaimed roads should not be converted to trails. If the agency does convert them, though, it must mitigate the impacts on wildlife from increased human use.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my comments.

Sincerely,

Gloria Shen