

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/20/2022 1:33:46 AM

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Last name: Swanson

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

To the U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing to oppose the Forest Service's proposed active restoration plan using heavy equipment and cutting trees and using heavy equipment. Instead, I urge you not to intervene in the natural process of the healing of Cube Cove.

Cube Cove is healing from past damage from logging, roads, and associated impacts. However, the Forest Service's massive "restoration" program using heavy equipment is inappropriate for the Kootznoowoo Wilderness.

The Forest Service plan for extensive use of chainsaws, helicopters, and motor vehicles and extensive tree cutting and other interventions violates the letter and spirit of the Wilderness Act.

Ideally, 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 your consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Greta Swanson