

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/20/2022 3:52:33 AM

First name: Christine

Last name: Drea

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Cube Cove is healing from the damage caused by past logging, roads, and other anthropogenic disturbance, and the Forest Service's massive "restoration" program using heavy equipment 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 that places woody debris in riparian areas.

Ideally, the area should be allowed to naturally recover from past damage. At the least, if the Forest Service chooses active restoration, it needs to analyze a wilderness-compatible plan 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.