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Comments: The past damage to Cube Cove includes logging and road construction. I am writing to comment on the Forest Service's (FS) proposed "restoration" program to mitigate the damages. The FS currently plans to utilize heavy equipment for the restoration project. I disagree with this plan because using heavy equipment violates the Wilderness Act, which is applicable to the Kootznoowoo Wilderness area.

I oppose the proposed plan to use chainsaws, helicopters, motor vehicles, and other motorized equipment. This goes against the natural process that will eventually heal the damage. Furthermore, additional actions proposed, such as tree cutting and placing woody debris in riparian areas, are not compatible with wilderness areas.

Ideally, the area should be allowed to fully recover on its own by allowing time and natural processes to heal past damage.

However, if the FS cannot leave the area to nature alone, it must scrap the current plan in favor of developing a wilderness-compatible plan for restoration. A compatible plan would use non-motorized hand tools for the restoration activities.

In closing, I opine that reclaimed road conversion to trails is incompatible with the Wilderness Act. However, if the FS does convert them, it must mitigate the impacts on wildlife from increased human use.