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Comments: First, the impact assessment does not adequately address the potential for pipeline leaks or similar failures. Leaks and other incidents are quite common. According to the US Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration the 5-year average for yearly pipeline incident counts is 629. The impact assessment states that precautions to avoid leaks will be followed, but data shows that incidents WILL occur, and the impact assessment does not adequately address the impact of a leak or similar incident on the environment.

Second, the environmental impacts to endangered species and old growth forest described by the impact statement is not what I would deem as minimal or acceptable. If we allow industry to come before endangered species and old growth preservation, we will continue to see species become extinct and the eventual loss of what little old growth remains.