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Comments: To Whom It May Concern Regarding Environmental Analysis #61659:

The proposal to increase the size of the logs harvested from 20" dba to 26" dba will increase the economic value of the harvest; however, some of these logs should be left on the ground in areas where no large logs currently exist. Large logs are a primary, and very important, characteristic of old-growth forests. Leaving some of these logs on the ground is also consistent with the goals of this project to restore old-growth forest within the project area.

A robust plan for monitoring, both short and long-term, is essential. How do you know if the project has been successful, if listed species have been negatively (or positively) impacted by the project, if social, economic and ecological goals have been met, without a robust monitoring program? The reference on Page 67 to monitoring is inadequate for a project of this size and scope.

Throughout this Environmental Analysis, adverse impacts to the Northern Spotted Owl and the Marbled Murrelet are downplayed for the reason that the habitat included in this project represents a small amount of acreage compared to their overall range. This approach is flawed because any project of any size contributes to the total cumulative adverse impacts across the whole range of these two ESA-listed species. A robust monitoring program needs to be in place to thoroughly evaluate all adverse impacts (as well as any positive impacts) to these species due to this project.

The opportunity to comment on this project is appreciated.

Mary Sinker

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