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Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I wholeheartedly oppose this logging project.

We must protect and maintain healthy forests to avoid dangerous climate change and to ensure the world's forests continue to provide services critical for the well-being of the planet and ourselves!

Forests actually store more carbon than all of gas, oil, and coal reserves in the ground. And, forests heal our planet by storing carbon.

The world's forests contain more carbon than all the exploitable oil, gas, and coal deposits - so, stopping deforestation is just as urgent as halting fossil fuel use! Even if a tree is used for construction, only a small portion of the tree's carbon gets stored in the soil, and most is lost due to logging.

Forests currently remove around 25% of the CO<sub>2</sub> that humans add to the atmosphere. By destroying forests, we emit CO<sub>2</sub> and lose the critical role of forests in drawing CO<sub>2</sub> out of the atmosphere.

Reforestation and reducing forest management together are "natural climate solutions" that could provide 18% of cost effective mitigation through 2030!

Tropical forests cool the air around them and the entire planet, as well as create the rainfall essential for growing food in their regions and beyond. Standing forests pull moisture out of the ground and release water vapor to the atmosphere, regulating local, regional and global precipitation patterns and acting as a natural air conditioner.

Forests create healthy soil, which absorbs rainwater and fills our underground reservoirs.

Most of earth's wild species on land live in and depend on intact, healthy, mature forests. Forests do not need to be managed by humans for biodiversity or forest health!

Forests are vital for our survival and we **MUST** protect them. Do not allow this project to go forward.

Sincerely,

Christene DeJong