

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/16/2023 10:05:20 PM

First name: Mark

Last name: Takaro

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Please Avoid Clearcutting and Road Construction at River Complex

Dear Daniel Fenstermacher,

I am deeply concerned about the post-fire logging plans for the Taylor Creek area in the River Complex fire salvage proposal.

Many of the proposed logging units near the Trinity-Alps Wilderness are located on steep slopes in a Late Successional Reserve in which clearcutting, road construction and conifer plantation establishment are inappropriate. It's time to stop sacrificing these lands and streams and manage them in a sustainable and stable manner. As USFS planners, surely you know the distinct hazards associated with streamside and steep slope cutting and also have an appreciation for the importance of late-successional reserves--they should be reserved in perpetuity, obviously, and left untrammelled and unharvested.

Instead of salvage logging backcountry wildlands in the headwaters of the Salmon River, please consider focusing project activities on roadside hazard treatments and on the Wildland Urban Interface zone for the Scott Valley. These areas are in much greater need of treatment and do not threaten otherwise pristine areas. The payback for treatments in the Wildland Urban Interfaces will always be greater than harvesting in backcountry areas.

The Taylor Creek Late Successional Reserve is an inappropriate place for post-fire clearcut logging, new logging road construction, machine slash piling, and conifer plantation establishment.

I appreciate your consideration of my concerns and I urge you to rework the current proposal to incorporate better forest management practices.

Sincerely,

Mark Takaro

3026 Stanton St Berkeley, CA 94702-2730

mctakaro@gmail.com