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Comments: I support forest thinning and controlled burns. Much of the forest around the Methow Valley has already burned and therefore a large and intensive commercial logging project like that proposed by the Midnight project in the Twisp River valley is unnecessary and will negatively impact the largest source of income for this region - tourism - for generations. The Midnight project will only be successful to the economic well-being of this valley if it maintains forest health and esthetic and wildlife value. I urge you to incorporate the following:

*Increase the number of trees left per acre. Instead of a sparsely treed landscape over a large area (as you've done on Loup Loup) leave islands of more densely scattered trees interspersed with open meadows. This will have the same effect to mitigate fires.

*Leave a mixture of large diameter trees (dominant in the mixture) with some smaller trees. The larger, older trees are important to the health of nearby trees.