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Comments: Thanks for the opportunity to comment on the midnight restoration project.

I've had the good fortune to live and work in the Twisp River for 40 + years

I would expect the north central Washington forest health collaborative to have as their primary objective to minimize adverse actions that are detrimental or contribute to climate change when reviewing this project.

Most forests in the Twisp river drainage. have been harvested multiple times, burned in wildfires, clearcut and burned. Old, large trees are the ones that hold the most carbon, and harvesting forests and fire are the main driver of forest carbon loss. I object to cutting of trees >21" diameter

I've heard at operational briefings during recent wildfires Crescent and Cedar fires. The IMTeam " we will herd or shove the fire into the Wilderness". Managing IMTeams should be part of this restoration proposal.

"Elsewhere, fuels would be piled and burned". There must be a better way of retaining carbon.

I object to any mechanical treatment in inventoried Roadless areas, and hand cutting and piling in IRA "material may be used instead or in preparation for broadcast burning in IRA".

This is an quote from the proposal "it would be possible to mechanically treat in stands in designated Inventoried Roadless

Areas where roads already exists, without constructing or reconstructing roads or violating other components of the Roadless Rule."

For those of us who have experience the Carlton complex. I saw that the Carlton complex fires burned through recently thinned and left them mostly dead, and burn through clearcuts through prescribed burns and jump two lanes of highway. I believe sequestering carbon in our national forest should be the number one priority. WUI areas treatments are where the most benefit is realized in protecting life and property. The majority of the homes west of elbow coulee have been treated once or more during the recent wildfires.

The Popular flats campground is in need of restoration. The river continues to remove campsites from this historic campground. Popular flats CG should be added to the Midnight restoration project.

For all things Wild and free

Richard Murray

Twisp river