Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/9/2023 9:08:35 PM First name: Sarah Last name: Heller Organization: Title:

Comments: I generally support the efforts of the forest service and believe the department has the forest ecosystems and the valley community best interests in mind. With that said, I have some concerns with the Midnight Forest Restoration Project.

I would like to see the following changes:

- To restore old forests on the Midnight Project, all large trees over 20" in diameter should be kept. The definition of a large tree should be consistent with the OWNF Restoration Strategy which defines large trees as over 20" and very large trees as over 25". The Midnight Restoration Plan currently defines medium trees as 16"-24.9" and large trees as over 25"

- The Methow Valley Ranger District should consider how to implement this project with no new road construction including the 2.7 miles of ridgetop road in the Little Bridge Creek drainage

- All currently closed roads should be decommissioned post-project(right now about half of them are being decommissioned)

I agree with and echo the concerns and recommendations put out by the Methow Valley Citizens Council. Their write up is here: https://mvcitizens.org/midnight-forest-restoration-comment-guide/

Thank you for your efforts and consideration of valley voices.

Sarah