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Comments: I am deeply concerned about the logging schemes proposed in the Midnight Restoration Project. Although this project may sound sensible and well thought out when you read the proposal, the proof is in the pudding. Just look at the District's other experimental "restoration" project, Mission. It looks like clearcutting with cows immediately shifted on to it, certainly not like any form of stewardship. The so called "prescription" was deviated from, more trees were removed from units than allowed and NEPA was not carried forward into the contract management. The forest service failed to supervise or mitigate infractions, they let Hampton Logging take whatever they wanted and failed to leave the best trees in their switch to contract based management where the Forest Service doesn't even mark the trees themselves. These commercial sales were intended to pay for ladder fuels reduction but all I see is a failed unfinished project, piles sitting like bombs in the forest with no clear agenda for when they will burn them, no efforts made while snow was still on the ground. Logging is not equivalent to fire in our landscapes and it never will be. At meetings of the North Central Washington Forest Health Collaborative, I have heard representatives of the logging company claim that we need to harvest this timber before it gets burned up, and get time consuming environmental assessments out of the way. I am not ashamed to say that I value the Twisp River Ecosystem for what it is and not what we can extract from it. Those who believe that this place exists solely for its benefits to the timber industry are sorely misguided. We all live in this Valley for the magic and power we feel here. I am concerned that we have devolved into a wild west resource grab where all the previous rules, carefully assembled in the wake of the former centuries worst logging, have been thrown on the cutting room floor in a state of forgetfulness. Seems like we can expect a fiasco of destruction and shame if this goes forward. Please prove me wrong but so far you all have been busy proving me right.
- An EIS is in order for a project of this magnitude, yet once again I predict that you will not do one, the Forest Service has no intention or desire no matter how much we ask for this.
- Economic incentives need to be removed from this plan so that real environmental needs can take priority.
- There should be no "Condition Based Management" where timber interests select the trees themselves, selection needs to be implemented based on ecological, not economic motivations
-Large fire resistant trees should not be "harvested", their role in the greater ecosystem should be respected and not reduced to a flash in the pan dollar amount
-No new logging roads.
-No logging in Late Successional Reserves, stick to the Matrix designation presented in the Northwest Forest Plan
-Go figure out where mistakes were made on the Mission Restoration Plan and prevent them from repeating. Collect data and analysis proving that "Restoration" works instead of implementing plans that have no evidence
-Consider other alternatives to this current plan
-Tell us, what will be different here than in Mission? Are you ready to guarantee that the previous mistakes will not be repeated? I have more than three decades in this Valley now and when my neighbors have asked and been promised that it will not turn into a fiasco, it always leads to broken promises, disappointment and despair. What will be different now?

I understand how hard it is to get things done when criticism comes from every side. Please take the concerns of local residents seriously instead of favoring the timber industry.

Thank you for reading my comments and having this opportunity for the community to express how they feel. My sincerest prayer is for a positive outcome here.