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First name: Kathleen
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Title:
Comments: We have had property on the Twisp River since 1994. We have some very serious concerns about the Midnight Project as it will greatly affect the quality of our lives here. First of all are not happy that the plan was kept secret from the community until the last minute, allowing only a three-week comment period.
Secondly, we chose to buy property here because the Twisp River Valley was almost entirely forested with very little development. We have been here through several devastating forest fires but we do not believe that this forest plan is the right answer. We agree with prescribed burning, which is not unlike what naturally occurs in the forest. We are adamantly opposed to thinning, as proposed, because it allows too many trees, including large trees, to be thinned. And we are vehemently opposed to building new roads and logging these forests, which will not recover to a natural state for generations. A managed forest is not a forest. It is a tree farm. Even a burned forest will recover fairly quickly to a natural state. Yes, part of the problem that led to these mega fires was poor forest management but more poor forest management is definitely not the answer.
Finally, the sheer size of this project is unconscionable... 83 square miles!?! The Twisp River Valley will be unrecognizable if this is done.
We think the USFS should stick to thinning a small perimeter around development and leave the rest of the forests in its natural state. These forests belong to all of us.
Thank you,
Kathy and Frank Fisher
Twisp