Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/9/2023 8:20:01 PM
First name: Su
Last name: Lin
Organization:
Title:
Comments: I lived many years in the Grande Ronde Valley and Halfway/Pine Valley, and with friends used the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest for recreation and peace of mind. I continue to visit the area and write the following because I believe it is of utmost importance.

In consideration of the Clarks Vegetation Management Project its is a critical priority to preserve big/old trees and protect high quality wildlife habitat and wildlife corridor connectivity.

In regard to logging in Old Growth Management Areas, there is an unmitigated need to maintain multi-layered canopies, standing dead trees, and trees of varying species (including shade-tolerant firs) in the areas specially designated to provide old-growth habitat for wildlife in the Old Growth Management Areas. Anything that interfere with this should be dropped and a comprehensive analysis of existing and projected impacts to wildlife habitat must be completed. This will require specific attention to the impact of adding to the density of existing open roads, and threats to the quality of secure wildlife habitat.
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In regard to taking trees over 21", it is outrageous that the Forest Service violated three bedrock environmental laws when they amended the Eastside Screens. Persons responsible for this should be publicly reprimanded and perhaps demoted.