Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/17/2023 7:20:14 PM
First name: Ric
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: My family (wife and 3yro daughter)and I live on the upper Chumstick Hwy in Leavenworth, WA. We are first care takers (private owners) of 21+ acres with a small farm and animals. We have good neighbors and friends to the north and south of the property boundary. The back of the property borders U.S. National Forest Land which I believe is land locked.

Our geographical location is said to be the center of the HIGH risk for wildfires for the entire state of WA. During the past 3yrs we have reopened an old road that leads to the back of the property to where the U.S. National Forest sits. The road serves as a fire break, access road for emergency service vehicles and as an opportunity to provide heavy equipment to the U.S. National Forest Land to do their part in Firewise/ fuels reduction activity.

As we continue our (2024)wildfire reduction activity, we are very concerned the U.S. National Forest Land bordering (unmanaged with extensive fuels) our home will be untouched with no Firewise work done, consequently leaving our family, neighbors and the entire area at risk for a rapid wildfire destroying this beautiful canyon and its inhabitants.

I'm requesting leadership:
1. Developed a system at the federal, state and local level to identify the Firewise/ fuels reduction applications (grants) submitted by residents moving forward on Firewise/ fuels reduction activity. 2. Applicants shall give priority for U.S National Forest to conduct Firewise activity on unmanaged land in proximity to private citizens/ care takers of managed land.
3.Collaboratively work with land owners/ care takers, local organizations and contractors to prioritize Firewise/ Fuels reduction in the Upper Chumstick HWY Canyon.

Please reach out to me for any questions. Thank you