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Comments: It is the tragedy of our era to have squandered our once vast forest resources for profit and development. Too often logging has used expediency to clearcut for profit at the expense of the resource and its inhabitants. The value of old growth trees, more capable of surviving fires than younger ones, is a value that outweighs the economic.

The recognition of the value of wildlife, our fellow creatures, many on the Endangered Species list, must be supported as a major value, and care for their survival as well as ours, must be reflected in any future plan. Careful monitoring must be required to insure the plan's success.

The threats we face now, exacerbated by the intensity of fires through global warming, demand that priorities of protection be paramount in a successful Northwest Forest Plan. It must recognize the enduring value of biodiversity and the value of forests as a spiritual reservoir for Indigenous Americans as well as the general public that is reflected in the millions of visitors each year. Tribal interests must be represented.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment.