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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service administration,

The forest is very important to me, and my top priorities are 1) climate change mitigation, 2) preservation of aquatic ecosystems, riparian areas, and clean water, 3) wildfire and smoke prevention near urban areas, 3) biodiversity, and 4) non-motorized outdoor recreation opportunities.

There is no excuse for logging old growth or clear cutting on public lands. This reduces climate change mitigation, destroys fire-resistant trees, and increases winds that make wildfires bigger. Thinning should also be done only with the goal of fire mitigation near residential areas. Additionally, the Forest Service should consider incorporating Indigenous cultural burning practices and Wildland Fire Use as available fire management tools. In general, consultation with local Tribal Nations and incorporation of Indigenous Knowledge will be critical steps for the Forest Service to take in amending the Northwest Forest Plan.

I would also like more hiking trails and camping near Eugene and especially in the Coast Range. As more people get outside and recreation becomes a bigger industry, it is getting harder to find the peace and seclusion many of us seek in the wilderness. I've seen more and more toilet paper and other trash left by uneducated people in increasingly-crowded areas.

Finally, please protect our riparian areas, creeks, and rivers, as these are vital not only to our water supply but to biodiversity. This means restricting logging and motor boats near these crucial areas.

Thank you for your crucial work!