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First name: Heather Last name: Gordon Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to urge that the Northwest Forest Plan be updated to reflect more current science and understanding about the significance of old growth and older growth forests for helping with carbon sequestration and mitigating the problems arriving in our region due to climate change. I want this updated plan to reflect the different needs of the forests on the west side versus the east side of the Cascades. These forests get differing amounts of rainfall and therefore thinning practices should reflect this and be addressed in an updated plan. I've spent time volunteering on Mt. Adams the last two summers and replanting an area affected by three major burns between 2008 and 2015. We need to make plans that help us to restore these areas and the wildlife that depend on them. Our streams and rivers need to be healthy so that our salmon can return and this means protecting forests from too much harvest. Finally, our native tribes have much to offer us in terms of knowledge of stewardship of these lands and should be officially made partners as our forest plans are updated. Thank you!