

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/16/2024 7:00:00 AM

First name: Malcoml

Last name: Cumming

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hello Margaret,

Please include my comments to the Public Comments to USFS project #63933 "Midnight Restoration"

I have concerns about proposed "treatments" of Old Growth, Late Successional Reserves, Riparian Reserves, and Roadless Areas.

The proposal declares overstory (commercial) and understory (noncommercial) vegetation will be "treated". (I believe this means burned or removed.)

The NWFP should be honored - tree stands in Old Growth or Late Successional Reserve (LSR) older than 80 years must not be cut. In addition trees should not be cut for their commercial value.

No entries of any kind should occur within Inventoried Roadless Areas, construction of new roads must be avoided, and any unneeded roads be obliterated after the sale is complete.

No heavy diesel machinery which damages forest floor ecology should be used in any forest interiors. Heavy equipment should only be used to clear space around homes and buildings in order to "harden" community structures from catching fire from airborne embers and fire-creep across dry ground.

Latest science suggests that forest lands that have been severely stripped become sites of the most explosive and fastest moving wildfires.

Malcolm Cumming