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Comments: On reviewing the Midnight Draft EA, my first response is that the actions suggested are so extreme in regards to commercial logging that the Finding of No Significant Impact Statement is ludicrous and irresponsible, just as it is for the Mission Commercial Logging Project.

There is nothing that talks about the mistakes and mishaps on Mission or suggests any plan to insure that the mistakes of the past will not be repeated.

The emphasis on commercial timber harvest will destroy the primitive ambiance of the Twisp River Corridor, a treasure not only to myself and generations of my family but to our community, our State and our ancestors. The beauty of Twisp River is irreplaceable.

I live adjacent to the Mission Project and I have watched the best groves of Elderberry Canyon be decimated. Many, many trees measuring 26" at the cut end were removed and there are stumps larger than 3 feet across, ancient trees with roots the size of trees themselves that sprawl above ground. The most fire resistant trees in our vicinity have been all but removed entirely. The leave trees are few and far between and are disrespected with giant mechanical scarring. The leave trees should be counted as what will survive in the future, not what mangled remnants they leave behind.

We need more leave trees per unit, and it should be the best trees, not mangled ones. The District Ranger claims that everything is within their specs and going great so you all know what to expect going forward if these failures are touted as success.

These projects do nothing to address the skidded roads of the past that have grown in as doghair, and in fact only make more, with nothing but empty promises for unfunded clean up. Just like the last time they logged here in the 80's, I expect their promises of cleaning up their messes are empty. Without commercial incentives, all will be forgotten again as the staff turns over on our local district.

On a personal level, we are woken throughout the night by extremely loud trucks, one particular truck belonging to the local contractor is so crazy loud it wakes up the entire neighborhood at 4 in the morning every time it comes here. Sometimes the drivers use compression brakes with no regard for the residences of the area. We need sleep to be happy, healthy and productive in our lives. The noise level of the trucks has been completely unregulated.

I know of three instances where my neighbors have been nearly run off the road. The dust levels are extreme and we have been directly lied to in response to our complaints and requests for road watering. The contractors have citied that it is a labor issue, but they make that our problem when it is theirs. If they are going to drive countless trucks filled with trees down our road, they need to water in accordance with that volume.

On Mission, we observed work that was planned to happen during winter being done in 40 plus degree temps and rain. Once again, we were gaslighted by the district ranger and told that what we observed with our own eyes did not happen. These issues are certain to occur on the Midnight Logging as well.

The contractors on Mission have left their equipment on our private property adjacent to the forest service road and essentially stolen twelve feet of land that was previously covered with balsam and native plants, now it is a parking area with an oil spill on it but I am told the oil is biodegradable. All of this is unacceptable.

We hold out hope that plans that truly benefit our ecosystem can happen in the future but if Mission is such a mess, how can we expect different results with Midnight? This is the question we keep asking again and again.

These diameter limits need to be lowered. Take it down to 18" and I might support you. Thos job could look like a park and not an industrial nightmare if the focus on making money is removed from the project. Thanks for your time.