

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/17/2024 1:30:50 AM

First name: Richard

Last name: Murray

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thanks for the opportunity to comment about this project. I'm a 45 year resident of Twisp river and this area is our home, provides recreation, watershed and outstanding vistas and irrigation. The area is home to the wildlife and fish we share it with.

I object to cutting trees over 20.9" DBH. I quote from the Twisp RD 1994 Twisp river analysis. "Since the 1940's when harvest began, about 295 million board feet have been removed from approximately 34,00 acres". "In the 1960's in that decade, 103 million board feet of timber was removed from the Twisp River watershed". In the 70's about 50 MBF and the 80's another 40 MBF.

The Lake Chelan Sawtooth Wilderness was established in 1984. In the years that followed. The Scatter timber sale which initiated helicopter logging to the Wilderness boundary. A portion of the area in the Little Bridge Creek drainage and on the north side of Twisp River was helicopter logged in the 1980s. Then came the Slim Timber sale, which used clearcuts to remove mature and old growth forests. If you also consider including the old growth and mature trees that have been impacted by wildfires in the last hundred years in the Little bridge creek drainage, that would include the following.

1935 little bridge creek fire

1992 little bridge creek fire

2014 little bridge creek fire

2021 cedar creek fire

The cumulative effects of timber harvest and wildfire have resulted in <10 % and probably significant less of mature and large trees over 22" dbh on the landscape.

That is why I object to changing the standards to allow cutting of mature and old growth trees up to 25".

Large and old trees are already deficient in this landscape and should be kept standing except for safety issues. These forests provide carbon storage and biodiversity.

My friends east of Little bridge ck. drainage have had fire crews remove and reduce the fuels where they live, during the Crescent Mt, Cedar creek and other fires.

I object to any treatment in the inventoried roadless areas in little bridge creek drainage.

There have been many thousand of acres burned in this drainage and adjacent areas by the cedar ck fire. I

question the need for treatments in the IRA. Wildlife such as lynx and mule deer need a variety of habitat.

A question does it really pencil out to helicopter log?

For all things wild and free

Sincerely

RM

Twisp