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First name: Linda Last name: Whipple Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service:

I'm writing this letter to express my strong support for Alternative B as an approach to amending the Northwest Forest Plan. This option strikes a good balance between preserving old-growth forests and improving fire resilience. Along with other members of the Mountaineers, I support new protections for previously unprotected old-growth forests and changes to improve the management of dry, east-side forests.

Also, I support Tribal inclusion in the planning process. Integrating Tribal knowledge into the process is essential, regardless of what course of action the Forest Service chooses.

Finally, as someone who regularly hikes the forests of Washington state, I support language in the proposed amendment to minimize the impact of climate change on recreation; however, recreation needs to be more thoroughly incorporated into the final plan. Recreation and climate-smart management can go hand in hand.

Thank you for considering public input on this important amendment to the plan.