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Comments: The northwest forest plan was an immensely important decision to protect old growth forest and habitats 30 years ago, and it's even more important today as ever increasing pressure is put on our planet and its natural resources.

Alternatives B and D propose to extend the logging threshold from 80 year stands to 120 (wet) and 150 (dry). This is an unacceptable proposal. This puts the threshold squarely within the old growth region and undermines the foundational objective of the forest plan at its most basic level. This would strip protections from the wildlife that need it for their very survival; the reason this forest plan was instituted in the first place.

The logging of old growth forests provide no benefit for sequestration nor do they provide any fire suppression benefits. This is often argued in bad faith. Replacing old growth forests (the most fire resistant type that exists) with homogeneous swaths of replanted monoculture (kindling) prevents forest fires in no reality.

There will always exist a need to balance resources between the timber industry and the benefits forests provide. Timber lobbyists will present their revenue numbers as an argument, but there are no such numbers to accurately represent the benefits of clean water, recreation, and ecological/aquatic stability. These factors must be thoroughly investigated and fairly represented.

Legislation should not be made that treats forests like a piggy bank waiting to be cracked open. Old growth forests are, and will continue to be, one of our state's most precious natural resources. They should be treated accordingly.