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Comments: Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue would like to offer general support for alternative B with commentary. None of the alternatives allow enough on the ground fuels management action to address the true crisis nature of our forests. The plans all rely on an old paradigm of stable legacy forests. The landscape forests of today do not match that of the preservation and hands-off thought process. The plan collectively presented still place communities, habitat, and species at great risk.

Specific concerns.

Plan D appears impractical for implementation based on the work history of the USFS, as it requires further study and planning. It would likely fail.

The 1 mile treatment zone around WUI communities is inadequate for community protection. It may be sufficient to protect the unmanaged forest lands from community-started fires. Based on the extreme fire activity we have seen in recent years on overstocked and diseased landscapes, it is inadequate to protect communities from unmanaged forest fires. I would ask to increase that zone to two miles to protect communities from these unmanaged forest lands. Cougar fire, Irving, and Pioneer fires are just some recent examples of fire conditions that created ember and debris cast in excess of 1 mile

David Walker

Fire Chief

Lake Wenatchee Fire and Rescue