Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/15/2025 11:55:25 PM First name: Malika Last name: Fitch Organization:

Title:

Comments: I have lived in the PNW for 50 years and spent much time in our national forests, camping, hiking, snowshoeing and rejuvenating in the nurturing and vibrant forests. I implore you to consider ways to strengthen the protections for these forests; not weaken them. I encourage you to consider long range impacts, well beyond our lifetimes, not short-term commercial gains. These forests are critically important carbon-storing champions, providers of wildlife habitat, and important for water health as well. We cannot replace the benefits of centuries old trees that get destroyed. We cannot replace species lost, nor recover from lost the climate change mitigation without healthy forests. For the sake of our salmon, marbeled murrelets, clean water, clean air and the future for my grandchildren; I encourage you to act to protect our forests. Thank you for considering my plea.