

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/16/2025 7:17:52 PM

First name: Alex

Last name: MacLean

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear U.S. Forest Service,

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the proposed amendments to the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP). For over three decades, the NWFP has served as a science-based framework to protect and restore our forests, safeguarding biodiversity and ensuring the health of our ecosystems.

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The current proposal to increase commercial and salvage logging poses significant threats to these fragile ecosystems. Such activities could undermine the Plan's original vision and compromise the integrity of old-growth forests that play a crucial role in carbon sequestration and climate mitigation.

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I urge the Forest Service to:

Strengthen Protections for Old-Growth Forests: Enhance safeguards for old-growth forests, recognizing their critical role in carbon storage and climate resilience.

Incorporate Indigenous Knowledge: Actively involve Indigenous communities in the planning process, integrating traditional ecological knowledge that was previously overlooked.

Prioritize Science-Based Management: Ensure that any amendments are grounded in the best available science, particularly concerning wildfire risk management and ecological sustainability.

Maintaining and strengthening the NWFP's protections is essential for preserving the ecological, cultural, and economic values of our forests for future generations.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Alex MacLean