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Organization:

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Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I am writing today after reviewing the Northwest Forest Plan Amendment Draft Environmental Impact Statement. As a former northern spotted owl biologist, outdoor educator, and environmental advocate, I hope you will consider my concerns with the alternatives listed in the draft.

Firstly, I believe tribal inclusion in alternatives B, C, and D is an essential and critical part of forest health and stewardship. Indigenous traditional and ecological knowledge can provide insights into sustainable practices that may not be recognized in modern management strategies.

Alternatively, several components of alternatives B, C, and D threaten the integrity of our forest ecosystems. The draft amendment indicates a significant rise in timber harvest sales, removes protections for mature and old-growth forests, and dismisses the plans' focus on wildlife and habitat conservation (Table 2-1. Select Plan Components by Action Alternatives). Increased logging not only disrupts the habitat of countless species but also lessens the amount of carbon storage that forests provide. We must prioritize sustainable practices that protect our natural resources rather than exploit them for short-term gain.

I urge the Forest Service to reconsider the proposed amendments to the Northwest Forest Plan. We must protect our mature and old growth forests, prioritize wildlife conservation, and adopt sustainable logging practices that preserve the ecological integrity of our forests.

Thank you for considering my comment.

Sincerely,

Jane Holiday