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Organization:

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Comments: Dear Project Official,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed amendments to the Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP), or the Stolen Lands Forest Project, which would significantly weaken protections for mature and old-growth forests across National Forests. These changes prioritize increased logging over ecological integrity, undermining the very foundation of the NWFP's conservation objectives.

The Forest Service's proposed action (Alternative B), as well as Alternatives C and D, dismantle core safeguards by:

Redefining "mature" and "old-growth" forests in ways that facilitate logging rather than conservation.

Eliminating protections for unlogged mature forests in Late-Successional Reserves (LSRs), opening up over 800,000 acres to clearcutting.

Doubling logging levels from 2023 rates to over one billion board feet per year-intensifying deforestation at a time when forests are critical carbon sinks for mitigating climate change, as a Millennial I fear dying from the very real threat of climate change.

Allowing expansive loopholes for logging under the guise of "restoration" and "fire risk reduction," which fail to account for the science showing that intact forests are more fire-resilient than the barren clearcut landscapes or monoculture matchstick timber plantations.

The original NWFP was a groundbreaking conservation strategy that helped recover endangered species habitats, safeguarded drinking water, and protected some of the last remaining stands of mature and old-growth forests. It was designed as an ecosystem recovery plan-not a timber production scheme. Gutting the NWFP to prioritize logging disregards the intent of the plan and threatens biodiversity, climate stability, and the long-term health of our public lands.

I urge the Forest Service to uphold the original protections of the NWFP by rejecting all alternatives than A, and instead prioritizing conservation-focused alternatives that strengthen-not weaken-environmental protections. Our forests belong to the Indigenous people of the land from whom they were stolen, not the timber industry, and their value extends far beyond board feet.