

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/18/2025 12:23:23 AM

First name: Ben

Last name: Larson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Northwest Forest Plan produced landmark protections, but lacked some important context when it approached forest management from a Eurocentric perspective. Tribal Nations have been sustainably stewarding this landscape since time immemorial and have boundless wisdom to offer. We have been subjected to devastating wildfire because of the centuries long repression of the natural fire cycle and indigenous management. As a farmer, I am forced to work outside regardless of the smoke level which topped 500 AQI for some time for us recently, the worst in the world at the time. I do not wish to continue to be poisoned, and it is my right. I have had the opportunity to learn about indigenous land and forest management and I have been ceaselessly inspired and amazed by the holistic and long term management strategies from Indigenous Nations that sustainably secure clean water, air, soil, and sustainable harvests through fire. Please ensure the Northwest Forest Plan amendment centers the perspectives of First Nations.