

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/18/2025 2:24:25 AM

First name: Jeffrey

Last name: Mocniak

Organization: Cascadia Education Project

Title: President

Comments: I, along with most of my colleagues, employees, community members, friends and family, are in favor of Proposal A, that of taking no action to revise or alter the NW Forest Plan. In my official capacity as President of a regional non-profit, as member of the Gifford Pinchot Forest Collaborative, and as the owner of a local business, I implore you to stick with Proposal A, or the current NW Forest Plan as it exists. Though far from perfect, the other alternatives proposed do not reflect our priorities or values. We have not seen nearly enough public input, scientific consensus, or forest monitoring to feel confident that current restrictions to timber harvesting can be loosened without severely hampering the decades of progress made in forest restoration and species protection gained via the guardrails put in place by the NW Forest Plan. We are not in favor of changing the definition of a mature forest - if they are mature enough to be harvested en masse at 80 years of age or younger, they are mature enough to maintain the designation of being mature forests. We certainly do not want to have more logging in protected areas - they are protected for a reason and modern logging practices do not maintain ecological integrity. We do support tribal participation and salvage logging in appropriate contexts, as well as prescribed burning and thinning projects in appropriate stands. We do not however believe that any alternative proposals encapsulate all of these concerns and perspectives to any sufficient degree and so urge the Forest Service to continue to explore appropriate alternatives to the NW Forest Plan, or perhaps more appropriately, revisions to the plan, while keeping the integrity of the plan intact. Thank you.