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Comments: As an Oregonian who has been interested in forest conservation for many years, I am writing to share my concern about the Forest Service's proposed amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan. The Northwest Forest Plan has been invaluable in maintaining and restoring our forests that were lost over decades of shortsighted logging for as long as I can remember. The Forest Service has a mandate to manage forests for recreation and watersheds in addition to logging, yet this amendment could massively increase logging, including mature and old-growth forests, at the expense of other forest values. I do not think any of the proposed Alternatives meet the mark for habitat, water management, and climate, however I do support the Tribal inclusion plan. The Northwest is known for valuing recreation, wildlife, and ecosystems, and this proposed plan would backslide us as a region. Finally, I am concerned about the excuse of fire management to cut mature and old-growth trees, which are not only carbon sinks but more fire-resistant. I live in a rural forested community and personally want to see government efforts directed toward home hardening and reducing fuels in the direct home ignition zone only, not logging disguised as fuels reduction, which is a distraction from the real work that needs to be done to protect my home and others in and around Northwest forests.

Thank you for considering my comments.