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Comments: As a local resident and Suquamish tribal member, I vehemently oppose the proposed amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan. I support the involvement of and collaboration with local tribes, but believe that the proposed changes would be excessively extractive and damaging. Preserved wild spaces are priceless and must be protected at all costs, especially in the face of climate change.

We have evidence to support that the current plan has resulted in some slow but positive changes, many of which would almost certainly be undone should the proposed amendment take effect:

<https://www.usgs.gov/news/featured-story/slow-steady-improvement-25-years-monitoring-reveals-impacts-northwest-forest>

There is evidence to support the fact that logging and forestry affects Salmon populations, another crucial resource to this area. The following links discuss the effect of logging on salmon and watersheds more broadly. More research must be done to assess the ecological impact before making such a sweeping decision that has the possibility to do irrevocable damage.

<https://wildsalmoncenter.org/2024/09/17/how-logging-impacts-salmon-rivers/>

<https://besjournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/2688-8319.12328>

https://www.dnr.wa.gov/publications/fp_cmer_wetla_ls_dec_2014.pdf

There is evidence to support the fact that forest degradation and deforestation are causing increased environmental extremes, like heat waves and droughts, the consequences of which are obvious:

<https://irp.cdn-website.com/0358d1eb/files/uploaded/Deforestation-and-heat-waves-FINAL.pdf>

There is evidence to support the immense benefits of preserving our forests, like biodiversity and carbon sequestration:

<https://www.cascadepbs.org/2020/01/pacific-northwest-forests-fit-trifecta-curbing-climate-change-if-we-stop-logging-them>

<https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/eap.2039>

<https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.1720064115>

This is just a fraction of the innumerable pieces of well-researched evidence that run opposed to the proposed amendment, and an example of the many benefits yielded to the region by preserving, rather than pillaging for capital, our forests and wild spaces.