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Comments: Hello there. I recently subscribed to Conservation Northwest and received the email notification about the Northwest Forest Plan update.

I admit, I am not knowledgeable about the scope of responsibility and role of the US Forest Service. That being said, I believe it is critical to include the urban areas in our analysis and protection of forests if we are going to address climate change and biodiversity.

Today, in Sammamish where I live, we are experiencing massive degradation of our urban forest, and thus the related wildlife species. Sammamish is what is called an "edge city", meaning that we are on the outside boundary of the Urban Growth Area (UGA) defined for regional planning. There is no way to draw a bright line between our UGA and the adjacent rural areas. Wildlife routinely travel across this line between rural and urban.

Does our Northwest Forest Plan address ALL of the forests in the northwest?

Is there an expectation that simply protecting forests outside the urban areas will yield the kind of ecosystem that will support all species?

Is there data available to support the need for cross-jurisdictional coordination to meet the goals of the Northwest Forest Plan amendment?

I would love to learn more about this, as I wholly support the Conservation Northwest goal of Keeping the Northwest Wild. Please include me in any updates and events related to this plan.