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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am opposed to geothermal leasing for the following reasons

- ¼ of the proposed area is designated as Late-Successional Reserve (LSR). These areas are supposed to be managed to "protect and enhance conditions of late-successional and old-growth forest ecosystems."

Exploration and development of these parcels, even with stipulations, would have negative impacts on late-successional ecosystems and species.

- 95% of parcel OROR-70802 contains designated northern spotted owl critical habitat, 41% of parcel OROR-70803. One stipulation states: "There should be no surface occupancy in designated or proposed critical habitat for species listed under the Endangered Species Act". Why are they offering consent on parcel 70802 if 95% of the parcel contains listed critical habitat?

- High potential to spread invasive plant species through increased vehicle traffic and ground disturbance.

- Much of the surrounding area (including portions of the parcels) burned in the 2020 Lionshead Fire. Exploration and development on these parcels could negatively impact these sensitive post-fire ecosystems.

- There is designated critical habitat for coho salmon and steelhead trout within the project area, and just downstream of the project area there is designated critical habitat for Chinook salmon.

Thank you,

John Barger