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Comments: I am an 11 year resident of the PNW and I love the outdoor spaces that the Mt Hood region provides us to explore from ski touring in the winter to hiking, camping and backpacking in the summer. The beauty draws visitors and tourism to our region and any destruction of the resource limits our communities ability to generate job and incomes as well as personal mental health escapes into BLM and Forest Service lands. Keep public lands in public hands.

I demand that the USFS fulfill their trust responsibilities by conducting meaningful consultation with relevant Tribes, specifically the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. 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? I recommend that the USFS NOT lease parcel OROR 070802 because of critical habitat for spotted owl and the high percentage of older forest.

There is a 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.

Environmental impacts spread to humans as this forest is part of our watershed and removal of trees and ecosystems will alter our drinking water and clean air that these outdoor spaces provide. This does not even touch on outdoor recreation and all the seasonal activities the forest provides for visitors and commerce to the region.

Do not open up this land to Geothermal . Thank you.