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Comments: HIGH CASCADE, INC.

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August 12th, 2025

Gar Abbas

Acting Forest Supervisor

Mt. Hood National Forest

16400 Champion Way

Sandy, OR 97055

Subject: Lost Lake Late Successional Reserve Acreage Swap Comments

Mr. Abbas

We would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Lost Lake Late Successional Reserve Acreage Swap. High Cascade, Inc. and our affiliates are a small family-owned community minded business located in the heart of the Cascades, producing family wage jobs, as well as high quality wood products shipped locally, regionally, and worldwide.

Our company and affiliates employ approximately 400 full time employees, and we are one of the largest purchasers of Region 6 timber. Our mills and contractors rely on a sustainable flow of USFS timber for day-to-day operations.

High Cascade, Inc. does not support the acreage swap as currently proposed. Removing C-1 Matrix land and incorporating an LSR overlay only restricts further management opportunities that may need to be implemented in the future.

Within the 14 pages, it describes the restriction that LSR has on the management of fuels and development of the recreation in the area, but yet the USFS wants to impose the same management restrictions on the Matrix land surrounding it that mills depend on for their raw material flow. The logging systems may be difficult, but it is possible to implement management activities on this acreage.

Taking productive timber land out of Matrix and further restricting it seems contradictory to the Presidents executive order requiring the USFS to prioritize timber productions and a 25% increase in the sale of timbersales.

We are also not supportive of the 5.13 to 1 acreage swap, especially when the current LSR around Lost Lake borders essentially a Wilderness area that is labeled "Bull Run Watershed".

We are supportive of either a 1 to 1 acre swap or just a change in the allocation of the 299 acres.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (509)-427-4223.

Sincerely,

