Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/5/2025 2:11:25 PM
First name: Merry
Last name: Maxwell
Organization:
Title:
Comments: I write to you this morning asking you to address concerns of many citizens of the Methow Valley, one of the most popular outdoor recreation areas of our state.
We are very concerned about the Forest Services' action to "restore" our forests. While everyone who lives here supports the decommissioning of roads in Forest Service lands, the thinning projects are at odds with our understanding of forest health and prevention of catastrophic fire. The Midnight Restoration Project, in particular does not adequately address concerns about removal of greater than 20" trees, the use of mechanized equipment in post fire landscapes, the protection of habitat for wildlife, and wind breaks of natural, complex stands of trees that will allow fires to burn more slowly.

We are also very opposed to the US Fish and Wildlife Service proposed destruction of Barred Owls in the state and request that the midnight project and all future tree removal projects of any kind, address the protection of habitat for Spotted Owls. Please support the Methow Valley Citizens Council comments on each of the Forest Service restoration plans for the Methow Valley.