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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a resident living near Olympic National Forest, I visit this forest frequently to enjoy being in nature. There is nothing like hiking in the majesty of an old-growth forest, although they are hard to find. The next best thing is to hike in forest that was last logged between 1850 and 1925, before the use of chainsaws, and has been allowed to regrow and mature naturally since that time. These forests are on the verge of becoming old-growth again, if we just leave them alone. It is unconscionable to cut forests that have been recovering for 100 years or more from the initial logging. The reasons given, such as thinning for forest health, fire prevention, etc. are completely false for mature, structurally complex forests. This type of forest doesn't need our "help" to prosper, it only needs the absence of logging. Calling this proposal "forest restoration" is extremely misleading.

I urge you (and plead with you) to remove all tracts containing trees over 100 years old from this sale. This proposed sale also contains younger, plantation tracts that are unnatural and unsustainable. Those landscapes are already ruined, so further logging there does not concern me. Please separate this proposed sale into tracts that are over 100 years old, which should be removed from this sale, and tracts that are under 100 years old, for which the sale can proceed. Please remember that when you cut down trees that are over 100 years old, the damage that you do lasts far beyond your lifetimes.

Thank you for your consideration.