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Comments: I am writing to strongly object to the Divide project for several reasons:

- 1: the Divide project management suggestions ignore science and cater to commercial interests of Big Timber. Money is better spent going to scientists and forest ecologists than to the commercial forest products industry.
2. the data has been clear for decades that commercial thinning promotes fires.
3. commercial thinning often needs roads built to access the timber; costs are born onto the taxpayers and profit is granted to the timber industry. it is a fiscally irresponsible practice. the heavy equipment also leads to quicker degradation of the States local highways, also paid for by the taxpayers.
4. commercial thinning promotes mega fires. which are fought by taxpayer dollars. again, wasteful and irresponsible, and CORRUPT.
5. Survey and Manage protocols have been ignored in past projects (ignored or neglected in lieu of a paltry fine). Current Survey and Manage protocols have been seriously hamstrung in recent years. Weakened protections for endangered species, and the watersheds that provide water to Salem residents and others.
6. it is widely known that commercial thinning operations lower water quality and adversely effect salmon. the same offices proposing the Divide project have in recent years spent millions and millions of taxpayer dollars to study and attempt to protect this precious resource. Seems like an idiot move to enable a project that goes against everything we have gained.
7. It is the consensus of the scientific community that regen harvesting of Doug Fir cultures destroys the soil microbiome, and is the #1 cause of forest fires, and particularly, the #1 cause of large forest fires. again....fires that consume taxpayer dollars.
8. I strongly support a Forest Service that provides a "service" to the public: clean water to drink and recreate in; maintaining healthy forests and soils for all to enjoy and benefit from. Handing out contracts to commercial industries is ridiculous. Sure, it creates some jobs, but for the same money, it would be cheaper to pay the loggers' salaries to stay home than to spend the money on trying to fix the damage the industry caused, and to spend money on building and maintaining the infrastructure that the loggers need to access the timber.

Thank you for your consideration.

Andrew Pilarski