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First name: Bryan

Last name: Farley

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in opposition to the North Trinity County Community Risk Reduction Project.

As someone who deeply values the forests between Trinity Lake and the Trinity Alps Wilderness, I am concerned that this project goes far beyond what is necessary for community wildfire protection. The proposal includes commercial logging across thousands of acres of Northern Spotted Owl habitat, Late Successional Reserves, and more than 2,000 acres of Riparian Reserves in one of the most ecologically important landscapes in the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

These watersheds support more than 30 documented Northern Spotted Owl territories and provide critical refuge for wildlife. Reducing canopy cover, removing large trees, and constructing miles of temporary roads and skid trails would permanently alter the character and ecological function of these forests.

I support science-based wildfire risk reduction, but it should focus on small-diameter vegetation, use existing roads, protect large trees, and maintain healthy canopy cover. Protecting communities and protecting wildlife can and should be accomplished together.

I urge the Forest Service to revise the Environmental Assessment and adopt a more targeted approach that reduces fire risk while preserving the mature forests and wildlife habitat that make this area so valuable.