

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/4/2026 8:39:20 AM

First name: Ambre

Last name: Arneodau

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Acting Forest Supervisor,

I am writing to express my concern about the North Trinity County Community Risk Reduction Project and to ask that the proposed logging activities be substantially revised.

As someone who spends a great deal of time in Northern California's forests, I understand the importance of reducing wildfire risk and protecting communities. However, I am deeply troubled by the scale and location of the proposed treatments. The project includes commercial logging within Northern Spotted Owl critical habitat, Late Successional Reserves, and extensive areas of Riparian Reserves, some of the most ecologically important forests remaining in the region.

The forests between Trinity Lake and the Trinity Alps Wilderness are not simply stands of trees. They provide habitat for wildlife, protect watersheds, store carbon, and offer refuge for species that have already lost much of their historic range. I understand that more than 30 Northern Spotted Owl territories occur within these watersheds, making this landscape particularly important for the future of the species.

My concern is that the proposed treatments go far beyond what many people would reasonably consider community protection. Reducing canopy cover, removing larger trees, constructing temporary roads and skid trails, and creating extensive logging infrastructure risks permanently changing the character and function of these forests. In my view, forests become more resilient when their complex structure is maintained, not when that structure is significantly reduced.

I support efforts to reduce wildfire risk, but I believe those efforts should focus on measures that are more targeted and supported by current fire science. Prioritizing the removal of small-diameter fuels, retaining large trees, limiting new road construction, and maintaining high levels of canopy cover would help protect nearby communities while preserving the habitat and ecological integrity that make this landscape so valuable.

I respectfully ask the Forest Service to revise the Environmental Assessment to better balance wildfire mitigation with the protection of mature forest ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and watershed health. Community safety and conservation do not have to be competing goals, and I believe this project can be redesigned to achieve both.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Ambre Arneodau