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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a resident of Portland, Mount Hood and its surrounding forests are like an extension of my home. I visit Mt. Hood National Forest nearly every week for hiking, swimming, and just generally enjoying the beauty these forests have to offer. I've spent time within the Anvil Project area and within some of the proposed units, and am using these visits, along with the project's Preliminary Assessment, to inform my following comment.

I would like to begin by stating that I reject the need for an Emergency Action Determination for the Anvil Project. In visiting this project area and after reading through the project's Preliminary Assessment, it is unclear to me what about this project is being seen as an 'emergency'. What is the "imminent risk to public health, infrastructure, and safety" that this project seeks to address? Even if that question was answered, how does the proposition to log 2000+ acres and to construct 7 miles of temporary roads work to help reduce these risks? I am concerned that this Emergency Action Determination is not being deployed out of true emergency, but rather as a way to cut corners and speed up the progression of this project.

Lastly, commercial thinning of plantations is not one of the authorized emergency actions to respond to emergency situations. Yet, it is stated in the Preliminary Assessment that commercial thinning is included in this project. If this project is to continue as an EAD then any areas where commercial thinning has been prescribed should be removed from the project scope.

Concerns within Specific Units

Unit 6:

Along the western border of this unit, which follows Shellrock Creek, there were several large Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar trees with diameter at breast height measurements between 50"-70". The Preliminary Assessment states that "large diameter trees in riparian areas [are] consistently underrepresented" within the project area. If that is the case, then why is this area included within the unit's boundaries? The project's map also notes that a temporary road is projected to be built within this unit just uphill from Shellrock Creek and many of these mature trees. The construction of these temporary roads and logging along Shellrock Creek in general will greatly disturb this area of forest and go against this project's goal to "improve forest health and diversity." I would like to see a larger buffer around Shellrock Creek and these large and mature trees and would urge the Forest Service to rethink the location of these proposed temporary roads in order to better care for this area of forest and for Shellrock Creek, which is a known habitat of Coastal Cutthroat Trout.

Unit 70:

The southern portion of this unit that borders FS Road 5731 is quite steep, with a measured slope of 65% facing west towards the road. When I visited this area on 10/13/2025 there was already an issue of rock fall onto the road below. If the trees along this steep area of the unit were to be removed, the hillside will no longer have the support of their root system which would greatly increase rockfall and the potential for mudslides. It is noted in the Preliminary Assessment that this project aims to enhance roadside conditions to provide safer access for firefighters. How does reducing the stability of a hillside above a road help this goal?

Thank you for receiving and considering these comments.