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Comments: I am writing to oppose the preferred alternative in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and to ask that the final plan include strong, mandatory, measurable standards rather than voluntary guidelines. The current plans' protections have safeguarded these forests for roughly 30 years, and they should be kept and strengthened, not removed. Specifically, please keep the prohibition on logging trees over 20 inches in diameter, keep the Riparian Management Objectives and no-cut stream buffers that protect bull trout, steelhead, and Chinook salmon, and keep the road density standards. Please also close loopholes such as unlimited site-specific amendments, which would let individual projects bypass the plan's own rules.

I also urge you to protect all Inventoried Roadless Areas and recommend eligible lands for Wilderness designation instead of moving them into the timber base. Please analyze a reserve-based alternative for core habitat and connectivity, as described in Law et al. (2022), and reduce livestock grazing impacts rather than reopening closed allotments. Tripling logging in the name of fire risk is not restoration. Large trees and mature forests are fire-resistant, store a disproportionate share of carbon, and provide clean water and irreplaceable wildlife habitat. Community safety is better served by home hardening and work near communities than by backcountry logging. These forests will be managed under this plan for decades, and they need more protection, not less.