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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

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To the Cle Elum Ranger District:

I would like to comment on the draft environmental assessment for the Upper Swauk Restoration Project. I have championed state investment in proper management of the Teanaway Community Forest. I am excited to see a similar investment being done for the Upper Swauk.

My Legislative District, particularly, has been very heavily impacted by wildfire in the last few years. Any investment in wildfire resilience is welcome. I'm also very encouraged to see the plan for commercial thinning. So many plans treat the timber industry as an enemy of environmental health, but the industry is well-suited to aid in pursuing a resilient forest. I also approve of the use of prescribed fire to increase fire resilience in the forest. This has been proven to be an effective tool to prevent catastrophic wildfire. I am also encouraged with the concern and consideration given to the private property within the Upper Swauk.

The Upper Swauk Restoration plan, upon further examination, is thorough and well-timed. It is time for this type of work to be done and it is encouraging to see the United States Forest Service taking responsibility for its property. I appreciate the effort and offer my full support.

Senator Judy Warnick

13th Legislative District