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Comments:

To Whom it May Concern,

This entire region of NE Oregon and SE Washington has been home to our families since time immemorial. Many times offers have been made that sounded good up front, but contained many opportunities for change that would devastate indigenous ecosystems and continue the genocide of our land, people, and lifeways. It is hard for us to imagine this to be any different.

I honor and respect the intention of preserving habitat and balancing with thinning of dense stands of small trees, and regulated burning. This proposal seems to have too many opportunities for the old trees to be "Opened" if needed. I do not see any reason to remove these old trees that have developed fire resilience and provide habitat. Too many times these old trees have been cut in the name of restoration. Parts of the proposal say they will not be cut, but even more parts say they will be "opened" if needed and this draws red flags for me. I am also doubtful that many small roads will not be added during this project that will never be fully closed back up. All of these small roads become invasive plant habitat and contribute to the erosion of soil into the waterways which we all know is bad news for Forest and Fish. I agree that some practices must be implemented to ensure healthy ecosystems, and I want to be hopeful, but I do not condone the cutting of any old growth trees or stands of trees, the addition of any more roads, removal of habitat snags which harbor the animals that help to reduce pest problems, or masking another logging venture with an eco-friendly title to smooth us over.

Sincerely,

Bobby Fossek