

Clackamas Stewardship Partners

*Restoring the Watershed,
-Putting people to work*

March 31, 2014

From: Clackamas Stewardship Partners
c/o Russ Plaeger
Bark
PO Box 12065
Portland, OR 97212

To: Michael Chaveas, District Ranger
Clackamas River Ranger District
595 NW Industrial Way
Estacada, OR 97023

Re: Clackamas Stewardship Partners' comment letter on the Grove Thinning Preliminary Assessment

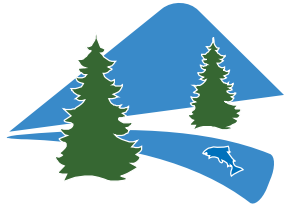
Dear Mike,

As an early, long time, member of the Clackamas Stewardship Partners (CSP) Bark is submitting this letter as a minority opinion. We do not support the Proposed Action (Alternative B) in the Grove Thinning Preliminary Assessment.

Our staff and more than 100 volunteers spent hundreds of hours ground-truthing all of the units included in the Grove PA. The data we collected provided the foundation for the detailed comments that Bark submitted directly to the Forest Service on March 28, 2014. The complete text of Bark's comments are here - <http://www.bark-out.org/sites/default/files/bark-docs/GROVE%20PA%20Comments%20-%20Bark.pdf>

Bark would like to see more decommissioning, of Level 1 roads, done in the project area. We have identified that there are an additional 13.33 miles of these roads which could be decommissioned rather than being placed in storage. Increasing the amount of road decommissioning in the project area would help the agency make progress toward its own national direction to "right size" its current road system to one that can be sustained, from both a

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fiscal and ecological standpoint, over time. Each project analysis and NEPA decision represents an opportunity to move in that direction.

We are also inherently at odds with thinning for restoration on such a large scale because we feel the impacts from the roads and other infrastructure will have more adverse impacts than any positive gains that would result from thinning these stands.

Sincerely,
/s/ Russ Plaeger

Russ Plaeger, Program Director
Bark

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