



CASCADE FISHERIES

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November 1, 2022

Zachary Ziska
12401 SE 320th St
Auburn, WA 98092

Zachary,

Thank you for your comment on the Determination of Non Significance for the Twisp River Wood Amendment: Poorman and Little Bridge Creeks. We appreciate your note of support for the project and the acknowledgement of the ecological benefits of the proposed work. We wholeheartedly agree with your desire to protect our native fish populations! Our organization works to improve native fish habitat throughout North Central Washington, where we work with three ESA-listed species (spring chinook salmon, summer steelhead, and bull trout) and many other native species (such as pacific lamprey, resident rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, coho salmon, mountain whitefish, etc.).

Thanks for sharing your ideas for coupling this project with a revegetation effort. We appreciate the concept, though in this case don't believe that work is warranted. We are very thoughtful about which trees we select for felling, preferentially selecting trees from a stand with multiple trees and not selecting species, such as cottonwood, that may be less numerous and provide important wildlife habitat. The project sawyer also has extensive experienced with thinning trees for forest health, which is one of the goals of the larger USFS Mission Restoration Project. Naturally-recruited seedlings and young trees are not limiting along these project creeks, but as an organization we often work further downstream in the watershed to implement riparian planting projects to restore function to riparian areas that have been affected by a legacy of clearing.

I'd be happy to answer any questions you have about this specific project or the other work we do in our region. Thank you again for taking the time to review this project and provide your thoughts.

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