

*Pend Oreille County*

# *Board of Commissioners*

*Karen Skoog*  
District #1

*Mike Manus*  
District #2

*Stephen Kiss*  
District #3

*Rhonda Cary*  
Clerk of the Board

Phone: 509-447-4119  
FAX: 509 447-0595

PO Box 5025  
Newport, WA 99156-5025

E-mail: [commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org](mailto:commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org)

March 7, 2017

Gayne Sears, District Ranger  
Kate Day, Hydropower Coordinator  
U.S. Forest Service  
Newport Ranger Station  
315 North Warren  
Newport, WA 99156

RE: Harvey Creek Subwatershed Restoration Project

Dear Ms. Sears and Ms. Day:

The Pend Oreille County Board of Commissioners do not support any road decommissioning as proposed in the Harvey Creek Subwatershed Restoration Project. These roads were established many years ago to support vegetation management and mining in this area. These roads can be hydrologically stabilized and left in place for possible use in future projects and for possible access in wildfire.


Most of these roads were constructed with proceeds from timber sales and that investment should not be thrown away. Once decommissioned, funds may need to be spent again in the future to re-establish access. Stabilization of these roads can come close enough to accomplishing the goals of the habitat restoration.

The potential cost of the culvert replacements on Paupac Creek will have very little benefit for habitat. This funding source is very limited and should be spent wisely.


Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

PEND OREILLE COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Skoog, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Manus, Member