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Organization:

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My name is Robert Stout. I live in Embudo NM 87531.

I am sending this message about

The Encino Vista Landscape Restoration Project

The agency's assumptions that reducing tree densities and fuel loadings will result in less intense fire behavior is controversial.

Fuel treatments may not tend to reduce the occurrence of high severity fire in a changing climate with extreme fire weather overriding on-the-ground treatments.

The reduction of all combustion on the planet is necessary to slow down and hopefully stop the planet's climate catastrophe.

In the past decade (2014-2023) three Forest Service prescribed burns resulted in a total of 387,076 acres of the Santa Fe National Forest burning, in three separate wildfires. During the same decade, 27,016 acres burned due to all other causes, including all other human-caused fires.

Despite these fires, and the severe impacts the fires had on communities, including several hundred homes burned and lives and livelihood severely affected, the Forest Service did not analyze the potential for escaped prescribed burns in the Preliminary Environmental Assessment, nor provide mitigations specific to the project. In fact the potential for escaped prescribed burns was not mentioned in the entire Preliminary Environmental Assessment.

Could it be that part of the motivation for this proposed project is to supply timber for the lumber company?
respectfully, Rob stout