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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Forest Service's purpose for proposing this large-scale forest intervention is to lower uncharacteristic high severity fire risk, restore overall forest health, improve watershed health, and protect wildlife habitat. It is highly questionable that any of these purposes will be well enough addressed by this project to justify the severe adverse impacts and risks.

Previously treated areas appear very unhealthy and unnatural, often with little to no natural understory, as if the understory was clearcut. In many areas, grazing cows have prevented the understory from returning. Most of the forest canopy has already been opened up from prior cutting and burning, drying out the soils and the little remaining vegetation. It's unknown what will be the long-term effects of such major alterations of forest ecosystems in a warming climate.

Please plan a long-term study to look at the environmental impact of clearcutting and prescribed burns. The impact on out of control "controlled burn" is devastating to our community. Clear cutting forest is devastating to the wildlife, whose natural habitat it is. Humans do not have the right to just take and take and take. And even if the planners think humans can just do anything they want, it's not really good for humans in the long run, either. Forests are an important part of our immune and ecosystem. So aside your belief in yourself, set aside your ego, and look at the real picture. Look at the forest, and the trees. Please.