

July 14, 2017

Lake George Area Vegetation Management Project
C/O Deanna Engelmann
Pikes Peak Ranger District
601 S. Weber Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Dear Ms. Engelmann:

We are submitting our comments today in regards to the Lake George Area Vegetation Management Project. We are property owners in the Wagon Tongue subdivision which is in close proximity to the Praise Mountain area and as a result we will be directly impacted by this proposed project. In reading the proposal we have numerous concerns which we would like to bring to your attention for consideration in the Lake George Area Vegetation Management Scoping proposal.

Our first concern is in regards to any controlled burn procedure in the Praise Mountain area. We are worried whether a controlled burn procedure is a prudent course of action when our summer cabins and homes could be threatened if anything goes wrong with the controlled burn. One can see the results of an "uncontrolled" controlled burn on the road that leads from Wagon Tongue to Lake George.

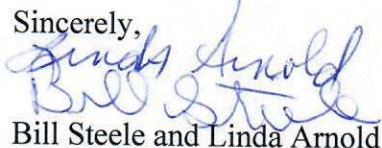
Our second concern of the proposal is in regards to forest thinning. It takes a long time for trees to grow in Colorado and it makes one question how wise it is to thin our forests and reduce the supply of trees especially the young trees that will replace the old growth.

Our third concern of the proposal is the desire to make the Praise Mountain area more accessible to ATVs by vegetative management. Currently, there are always ATVs present in this area as well as in the Wagon Tongue subdivision. Making Praise Mountain more accessible to ATVs would ruin what is currently an area over crowded with ATVs.

Our fourth and final concern is for the wildlife that make this area their home. These inhabitants will be negatively impacted by having their home disrupted by controlled burns and forest thinning. Please leave their homes alone. Keep Colorado wild!

We wish to thank you and the Forest Service for the opportunity to submit our comments on this proposal.

Sincerely,



Bill Steele and Linda Arnold
9554 Brentford Drive
Highlands Ranch, CO 80130