

USDA Forest Service
Region 2, Rocky Mnt Region
Attn: Objection Reviewing Officer
P.O. Box 18980,
Golden, CO 80402

Arthur Anderson

May 8, 2020

RE: Medicine Bow National Forest Landscape Vegetation Analysis
Project (LAVA) Modified Final Environmental Impact Statement

I have major concerns with the LAVA plan to increase Timber harvest on the Medicine Bow Forest from 40,000 cubic feet of logs (ccf) currently to 325,000 ccf in the first 6.5 years of the LAVA and dropping back to 190,000 ccf in the final 8.5 years. This level of timber harvest would require construction of additional 600 miles of temporary roads. The plan does not indicate where the 95,000 acres of clear-cutting will occur or the 600 miles roads will be constructed.

Comprehensiveness and long term analysis are lacking or only superficially addressed in the LAVA. Since the LAVA is an Adaptable Management Plan, NEPA will no longer be applied to projects of LAVA over the duration of the plan's 15 years. In order to comply with Federal standards, a full NEPA analysis must be completed whenever an action, i.e. roads, timber cuts, "Significantly affects the quality of the human environment." Reviewing a planning area for potentially 95,000 acres of timber cuts or 600 miles of roads clearly falls into this category. Full NEPA compliance is necessary to provide the public with adequate time and information to make comments regarding future management of our Public lands. Something lacking in the LAVA.

Therefore, I strongly object to the level of timber cuts and road construction planned for the Medicine Bow Forest in the LAVA and recommend the Forest Service scale back timber harvest to current levels. In addition, an adequate NEPA should be prepared for all roads and Timber cuts planned for the Medicine Bow Forest

Arthur Anderson