Comments re: Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

I do not believe the current project as planned is going to be effective, safe, or wise. “Resiliency Project” is quite misleading. Removing the proposed amount of trees using the methods proposed, the thinning and prescribed burning as planned, is excessive and ill advised. Fire and forest ecologists question this strategy. Thinned and open forests dry out and increase fire danger. The proposal to use herbicides on the weeds that will grow in open areas is also ill advised and a risk to the health of most citizens, not to mention wildlife. Please include the EIS (Environmental Impact Statement) rather than the abbreviated and ineffective statement that was recently developed. Smoke from the burns is a health risk to all- there is a poor air quality alert out presently due to the prescribed burn happening now. As a person who suffers from chemical sensitivity, the smoke is unbearable causing severe fatigue, migraines, and respiratory distress. I am not alone in this to be sure, my observation is that “normal” people also suffer ill effects. The fine particulate released from the smoke is a risk to all, especially those who are more vulnerable (elderly, children, those with other health concerns).

I am a retired educator in the field of Special Education and an active and involved (to the extent possible) citizen of this state. I have lived in NM since I was a 5 year old in 1956 and the mountains are a treasure to me. Please consider and accept the alternatives for wildfire control and the EIS proposed by advocates involved with this issue.