From: sroubik@cybernet1.com
To: FS-appeals-northern-regional-office
Subject: [External Email]OBJECTION TO GOLD BUTERFLY PROJECT
Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2022 17:44:21

[External Email]
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Dear Sirs and Madams.

I am very concerned about the new definition of Old Growth as proposed with leaving 8 trees per acre. There is no reason to cut old growth trees and I am shocked that it is being considered. It sounds like it must be a money issue but you must know how important these old growth trees are in this age of climate change. Please change this to cutting NO old growth trees.

I am also very concerned about the new roads that are proposed in this wild area. It sounds like a lot of degradation will happen with building new roads. We need wild areas for our wildlife. That is simple and important. No new roads should be built.

We now know that grizzly bears are in the Sapphires. They need this wild area to survive. It is the duty of my Forest Service to maintain their habitat.

The coarse woody debris is an important aspect of this project. We must feed the soils, not remove their food source. Our soils are thin and need all the trees need all the food and moisture they can get.

I am very worried about this project. I understand that you may be trying to protect homes in the WUI but this is extreme. There are not many homes in the area that you are proposing to treat.

I hope that you have eliminated the clear cutting that was proposed. On the field trip for this project, we noted large swaths of previously clear cut areas that are prime for burning, much more so than the natural areas because all the trees grew to the same age and are very fire prone.

Please consider this project with the wildlife and wild ecosystems in mind. The wild forest lands are being lost all around the world. We have the power to protect what we have and remain a special place.

I am so afraid that you will put this to a bid and walk away. The logging companies will take all the big trees and leave behind weeds (a HUGE problem), roads polluting the streams and the habitat will be degraded.

Please do the right thing. Thank you. Feel free to call me if you want to discuss anything. Please let me know that you received this as I have written letters in the past that have not been posted. Thank you again.

Sarah Roubik
[redacted]