



Montrose Forest Products, LLC

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September 16, 2022

White River National Forest
Attn: Reviewing Officer
PO Box 948
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601

SUBMITTED VIA ONLINE:

<https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=57654>

SUBJECT: Yellowjacket Project

Dear Reviewing Officer:

The following comments are submitted on behalf of Montrose Forest Products including our 93 direct employees and 99 indirect contract loggers/log truckers. We rely heavily on timber output from National Forests in Region 2 of the U.S. Forest Service and specifically from the Whiteriver National Forest. Therefore, we are very supportive of the Yellowjacket Project on the Blanco District. Recognizing the importance of being involved with the process, Montrose Forest Products submitted comments on the scoping and Draft Environmental Analysis. Therefore, having standing as outlined in 36 CFR Part 218, subparts A and B, we submit the following objections to the final Environmental Assessment and the draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact:

Environmental Assessment

Project Design Features

- Safety/Recreation
 - #7 – we object to this feature as written as we feel it could severely limit operations and increase implementation costs. We request the language be modified to state that a snowplowing schedule will be developed collaboratively between the Forest Service and contractor/purchaser.
- Engineering
 - #4 – we object to this feature as written as it could cause damage to log hauling equipment. We request this language be modified to allow more flexibility, depending on the site. It has been our experience that long-term

drainage and sediment control measures are over-engineered and make passage for commercial hauling equipment unfeasible.

- #6 – we object to this feature as written and request language be added that details, if needed, any road decommissioning will be the responsibility of the Forest Service or will be included within the project appraisal process.

Draft Decision Notice

We fully support the decision to implement Alternative 2, including clear cuts up to 40 acres. We feel it is critical to be able to utilize the full silviculture system designated by the Land and Resource Management Plan to achieve the objectives of the project.

We look forward to working with you to resolve the issues discussed above as you move forward with the Yellowjacket Project.

Sincerely,

Tim Kylo

Tim Kylo
Resource Forester