James Duran, Carson National Forest Supervisor
c/o Paul Schilke, Carson National Forest Winter Sports Coordinator P.O. Box 110
Questa, NM 87556

Dear Mr. Duran and Mr. Schilke –

My name is Brian Long and I live in Des Montes. I have lived, worked, hiked, foraged and fished in Northern New Mexico for 43 years. I am a Naturalist and Wildlife Researcher, with a BS in Conservation of Natural Resources, 1978. I have been studying the Pacific marten for the last 25 years, spending much of that time within the Upper Rio Hondo watershed. Before the current surge of development (pre- Bacon ownership), there was a fairly healthy population of martens in the area. I have witnessed the decline in their numbers (via snow-tracking, and trail camera surveys) and a shrinkage of occupied habitat since that time. The destruction in the name of “improvements” has been devastating to watch.

**All of the proposals on the TSV’s list will have major impacts on the habitat, which is already badly compromised. I oppose them all. The No-Action option is the only environmentally responsible option to take.**

The current proposals look like more of the same kind of thoughtless expansion in the name “improvements” (and profits). The Draft EIS is sorely lacking in details. **Each of the proposals should be considered separately in order to allow a complete discussion between the TSV and the public, instead of this effort to railroad all of these projects through at once.**

The draft DEA does not include any analysis of the impacts of all of these proposed projects on the Pacific marten, a State listed Threatened Species, and a USFS Region 3 Sensitive Species.

The likely impacts to other sensitive species such as the Northern Goshawk, Boreal owl, American Pika, and Rio Grande Cutthroat trout are also not addressed in the DEA.

**A full environmental assessment, including field surveys, needs to be done in order for any informed decisions to be made on each of these projects.**

**I request that there be a full environmental assessment on the possible impacts of each of the proposed developments on the State Threatened Pacific marten.**

Respectfully,

Brian Long

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