

Dear Mr. Nishek,

I am providing comments on the subject project.

I understand the risk of forest fire. My parents bought our property near the base of Black Mountain in 1962. I remember packing up when fire was heading our way during the Brown Creek fire. I can see the benefit of the fuel break area. I also see the benefit of removing diseased and dead trees. However, I am concerned about the extent of logging in the regeneration areas. I do not want project areas designated for regeneration (in particular areas viewable from the Bonners side of the mountain) to look barren like the mountainside areas west of project area 137 do today. Is the intent only to remove stands suffering from root diseases and bark beetle attacks within those regeneration areas? I would like mapping showing better delineation of the extent of diseased stands in regeneration areas on the north side of the mountain and confirmation of the project's intent to avoid clear cutting and retain healthy trees whenever reasonably possible. The photographs provided of "desired conditions" in regeneration areas look pretty bare to me.

Thank you,

Angela Ghigleri Zeigler