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Organization: WildLands Defense
Title: member
Comments:
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Dear Supervisor Lannom and Ranger Pierson,

I offer you my scoping comments on the proposed Huckleberry Landscape Restoration Project below.

Your P&N contains some actions that will benefit the ecosystem, unfortunately logging 37 square miles will negate the positive effects.

Please prepare an action alternative that really restores the resources in the project area. Of course this would not include logging. This project already proposes many such actions.

I expect timber sales like Huckleberry to be proposed by certain USFS line-officers. They know if they 1) don't spend their NFTM allocation each FY and 2) don't meet their supervisor's volume expectations their promotion opportunities will end. They claim to want a healthy forest. They really want healthy, fast growing, vigorous conifer trees that will have a high value at the mill when they are logged. These types of USFS line-officers won't face the reality that a forest contains countless other important natural resources besides trees. Most other resource specialists know this and act accordingly. As is the case here, some biologists, soils scientists, hydrologists, recreation specialists, and archaeologists will do and say anything to fit in and be a "team player" regardless of the resource damage they conveniently overlook.

Some national forests still have caring, responsible, professional natural resource specialists who would not be associated with a timber sale like Huckleberry. They have ethics and land values that reflect what kids born in the future will want. These kids will be living in a United States where a place to escape the insanity will be precious. If the public land isn't privatized, these kids will want to visit national forests seeking quietness and solitude

I invite you all to examine the Opposing Views Attachments. They contain statements by many independent scientists with no interest in volume accumulation. These scientists describe the resource damage that will occur when someone or some government agency allows skidders and tractors weighing 35,000 pounds with spinning wheels and tracks to operate in the fragile forest environment.

Opposing Views Attachment #27 contains end result pictures of past national forest "restoration" projects. Ask yourself what these "restoration" projects restored. This member of the public believes they restored the profit for the timber corporation that purchased the sale and nothing else. Do you agree? Please be honest with yourself.

I hope you all have the courage to significantly modify this timber sale so the resources you are responsible for protecting are functioning properly after the project as they are now.

The people living in Bear and Cuprum don't deserve to die do they? Volume isn't worth lives and burned homes.

Please include Dr. Cohen's fine fuels removal actions in your alternatives.

Thanks on behalf of millions of kids born in the future.  Please don't give them reason to utter the post World War II phrase "They knew what was happening and did nothing."

Sincerely,

Dick Artley (USFS retired and grandfather)
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CC via email to selected specialists, other line-officers and forest staff

Note: I am filing these comments etc. in my own individual capacity, as well as on behalf of WildLands Defense, of which I am a member.