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August 31, 2019

Mr. Robert Potts Natural Resources & Planning Staff Officer United States Forest Service 2221 North
Raguet Street Lufkin, Texas 75904

Dear Mr. Potts:

I am writing to comment on the federal oil and gas leasing environmental impact statement for the National Forests and Grasslands in the state of Texas. I am a long-time non-consumptive user of the National Forests in Texas, and believe that the most important aspect of these forests is for wildlife habitat, and also as wild spaces in which humans can explore and regenerate.

These needs are especially acute as global warming continues, pressuring wild areas and stressing human communities. There is no valid rationale to further compromise National Forests and Grasslands for fossil fuel exploration. It was disheartening, therefore, to learn that the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management have sought to lease federal lands in our National Forests for still more oil and gas exploration.

Let's instead act to protect our water, grasslands, forests, and the few remaining areas for human interaction with natural areas. I ask that you adopt the No Leasing Alternative.

Many thanks for your consideration of my comments.

Yours Truly

Mary A Van Kerrebrook