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First name: Sharon/Steve

Last name: Lamar

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Mid-Swan comments from Steve Lamar

I have attached my comments about the Mid-Swan project...

Dear Mr. Kruger,

I have several comments concerning the Mid-Swan Project. I tentatively support Alternative C although I think it would be a better plan to take various components from all 3 alternatives that would make a more beneficial plan for the entire landscape.

I support looking at the landscape as a whole instead of piece meal projects.

I support prescribed fire. Alternative C didn't have this management tool [ndash] it should be added.

I fully support Whitebark Pine Restoration. This species is in jeopardy of becoming extinct from numerous factors including climate change, insects, and disease. I fully support prescribed burning while attempting to protect existing healthy Whitebark pine trees. I would prefer to see the [lsquo]minimum tool[rsquo] concept used in the Wilderness Areas and roadless areas versus a lot of helicopter use but am fine with aerial ignition.

I think there are too many new permanent roads proposed in the various alternatives. The Swan Valley has too many roads as it is and through years of restoration efforts has started getting some of the water quality issues back to an acceptable level. New roads would only put the situation back to unacceptable levels. Plus, the continuing problem of weed infestations spreading throughout the landscape would only get worse with more permanent roads. Plus, more roads reduce the quality of security for wildlife.

On the topic of Canada lynx habitat, I support some small-scale treatments that promote a variety of age class stands with mixed tree species. I feel this speaks to the present and future habitat for lynx.

I prefer to see the roadless areas remain roadless and added to the existing Wilderness Areas.

Some of the management prescriptions are not very detailed and are vague. I support sustainable logging practices and the work it provides to local contractors as well as the wood products it provides to local mills and businesses. I request that the USFS utilize Stewardship Contracting whenever possible.