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First name: Brian Last name: Parks Organization:

Title:

Comments: I'm a Swan Valley resident and have lived here for 25 years now. I'm learning about the Mid Swan Project and I have concerns I'd like to address. I think it's important to carefully and thoughtfully manage our forests especially on the valley bottom close to human habitation. Some of the forests near residents should be thinned and low intensity fire should be employed as a management tool in those areas as well as throughout the forest. My biggest concerns, in summary is that this project needs to follow and obey environmental laws such as NEPA. The public, me included, should be kept in the loop and able to help guide this project. More specifically, I don't want any new roads built in the Swan Valley. Rather, I'd like to see more roads removed and the land restored to more roadless conditions, especially on the slopes of the mountain ranges. Also I don't want to see anything done in the Wilderness that is in violation of the Wilderness Act. If any laws are broken, I'm sure the watchdogs will be watching and this project will be stalled in litigation. Follow the laws and don't let that happen. Restore fire to the ecosystem and do thinning projects, starting in the so-called WUI, improve wildlife habitat for endangered species and species of concern, preserve and promote old growth, and keep the public involved! Thanks.