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Organization:

Title:

Comments: This is my letter to you, from me as an individual.

I object to the plans to log the spruce. I think that the Black Hills National Forest has been the servant of the timber industry for ages and has terribly over-logged the pine on the forest. Now you have to find timber to keep the logging industry going, so you are going after the spruce.

I find mixed stands with mixed types of trees within the stand and also a variety of stands of different cover types very beautiful in the landscape and I want to see variety in cover types and lots of mixed tree stands on the landscape when I visit the forest. This variety of tree types will provide for a variety of habitat for species, that I can watch. I object to the loss of the large old trees of any tree species.

I object to a Forest Plan that maximizes ponderosa pine areas for the timber industry, at the expense of spruce, aspen, birch and oak areas. If we want to fight fire, we should transition from pine to aspen near residences when possible. We need a new Forest Plan with much larger percent of the forest allocated to these other tree types, that don't generate revenue for the timber industry.. We can't have that if you cut down most of the spruce before the Plan Revision happens.

Tourism is a much greater economic impact to the local area than the timber industry. Focus on the beauty and protect the scenery and recreation and dial back the FS's huge focus on timber production. I do thank the forest for reducing the annual timber cut objectives, after the lack of pine trees demonstrated in the GTR sank in to FS leaderships minds.

Thanks,

Nancy Hilding