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The San Bernardino Forest has entered into multiple agreements to manage the public's watershed. The land exchange includes many of these protected San Bernardino National Forest watersheds, streams and headwaters noted in Forest lands (F-1 and F-2). Beyond the San Bernardino National Forest primary founding purpose to protect these watersheds, there are many agreements which have been entered into with various local and state agencies to protect the water supply, streams, including headwaters which are part of the Santa Ana Watershed, Bunker Hill Basin and the Forest headwaters (FRLX 33-37). The Forest lands included in this proposed land exchange are essential to California and the public's water supply, Santa Ana River watershed and Bunker Hill Basin water supply which includes springs, streams and the headwaters streams.

The primary purpose of the San Bernardino Forest founded February 25, 1893 was to protect the watershed for the local communities (FRLX 9-10).

"The Forest land was set aside by section 24 of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1891, entitled "An act to repeal timber culture laws, and for other purposes..."- "That the President of the United States may from time to time set apart and reserve in any State or Territory having public land bearing forests, in any part of the public lands wholly or in part covered with timber or undergrowth, whether of commercial value or not, as public reservations; and the President shall by public proclamation declare the establishment of such reservations and the limits thereof. And whereas the public lands in the State of California within the limits hereinafter described are in part covered with timber, and it appears that the public good would be promoted by setting apart and reserving said lands as a public reservation....."

The San Bernardino National Forest's water supply protection role is still for the public benefit; perhaps this role is even more important today and in the future than upon on the founding in 1893.

The Land Exchange proposal 63386 has not considered the CFR36 § 251.9 Management of Watersheds nor the agreements that the United States Forest Service has entered with various agencies that are impacted by these agreements. None of these water agencies which have agreements with the San Bernardino National Forest were noticed of the land exchange.

The proposed land exchange harms the public and their water supply. This public harm impacts many disadvantaged communities indicated on the map in FRLX 34. Water is a scarce natural resource especially Southern California; the value of the water involved in this land exchange may exceed the appraised value of the land itself. The public holds the United States Forest Service accountable to protect our watershed and water supply as it is the primary purpose of the San Bernardino Forest founding.