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Title:

Comments: (See the separate pdf for better legibility.....)

\* ESG "Comments on the so called Draft Environmental Assessment.

"Vegetative Management" appear to mean lumbering lumbering lumbering and little else. Is this a commercial lumbering program at the expense of the public interest?

Any honest assessment must take into account the environment impacts, the social fabric of the communities, and governance. We know this as ESG."

\* SUMMARY "This is a failed EIA[hellip]

A failure to protect the environment

A failure to respect social and economic traditions, and present community markets

A failure in governance. "

\* ENVIRONMENT - CLIMATE CHANGE "Climate Change seems to not exist for the USFS.

Climate change is real. It means droughts, flooding, increased and more sever forest fires, smoke and air pollution. It is bringing more extremes of drought and precipitation different times, different years.

Oh and never mind the lumbering slash drying in clearcuts waiting to explode in flames."

\* ENVIRONMENT WATER "WATER: How does this lumbering enhance and conserve water? What is the impact on the entire watershed AND ON THE COMMUNITIES DOWNSTREAM? How does it address increased temperatures and dryness that we are now experiencing every other year it seems.

Skid tracks, all that machinery means Erosion and Polluted Runoff: especially in clearcut areas.

Healthy forests conserve water, capture carbon, moderate temperatures. Communities around the world are planting forests not cutting them down."

\* ENVIRONMENT HABITAT BIODIVERSITY. Endangered Species. Hello?

\* ENVIRONMENT WILDERNESS WILDERNESS is a designation in the area[hellip] all this lumbering and traffic will have an impact[hellip][hellip]NO?

\* RECREATION "The EIA includes this broad finding of "no significant impact" - "The proposed action will \*not have significant impacts on the quality of life or recreation experiences of forest users in either the short or long term." (32)\*. Really?

The Assessment states that the Ferncroft and Liberty trailheads will be partially closed, with the Ferncroft Trailhead partially closed in "all seasons" with no days off from hauling operations provided. - \*not have significant impacts on the quality of life or recreation" REALLY?"

\* RECREATION Noise from the project alone will likely affect all trails in the range.

- \* RECREATION VIEWSHEDS? (If you prefer clearcuts and slash.)
- \* COMMUNITY ECONOMIES For over one hundred years this the Sandwich Range has supported a growing economy based upon recreation (all season) and upon the attractiveness of this beautiful environment. The economic future of these communities depend upon the preservation of these environmental values.
- \* GOVERNANCE July 31, 30 days for public review[hellip][hellip]REALLY?
- \* GOVERNANCE Where're the alternatives - especially the LOW IMPACT ALTERNATIVE?
- \* GOVERNANCE POLICY: In 2022, President Biden issued an Executive Order directing the Forest Service to conserve mature forests[hellip][hellip]

All this missing data invites long and aggressive court suits and a deep need for a change of management. At best this EIA is professionally incompetent - or perhaps a conflict of interest? Or worse[hellip][hellip][hellip] These must be the same folks who encourage motorized vehicles into the Wilderness via roads into Flat Mountain Pond and the Sandwich Range Wilderness.

Submitted in the nick of time thanks to this absurd deadline!