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Organization:

Title:

Comments: See attached document.

April 3, 2026

Jennifer L. Abernathy and IDT Team;

After a brief review of this project, I have the following comments for you and your IDT consideration;

1. Proposed Action

* the proposed action has a lot of excellent proposed actions, regarding a landscape having a sizeable amount of dead trees and small pole trees. I assume a lot of this public land is on north and east slopes, generally having more moisture.

* On slopes facing west and south, care should be taken when harvesting or doing other treatments, that these actions won't result in vegetative change not desirable. (An example of this would be to look at south facing slopes where trees once grew, but are now juniper and other non-pine species. I'm referring to the area on the way up to the old USFS ranger station by the junction that goes to Walton lake).

1. Travel Management; The proposed action is excellent in using existing roads and only creating new routes after a Best Practices review is done by Fish and Hydro. Specialists. I suggest the IDT also invite a Soils and Vegetation specialists, Travel management person, a person who is part of your road maintenance crew and also a Recreation Planner.

2. This team would be better prepared to look at temporary new roads, look at past USFS roads once on your travel management system, but were closed and rehabilitated.

In addition, this is an excellent time to also look at the forest motorized and non-motorized trail systems.

This review process should not be short changed. Forest harvest of trees using the final road system is also an excellent tool for eventually closing, or retaining roads, depending on this IDT review of each road used as part of this proposed project. Time spent doing this review will result in long-term benefits to resource and recreation mgt.

4., Fire access to public lands should also be considered, so a fire staff person focused on fire access should also be invited to review and be involved in this IDT road use analysis.

Last, any prescribed fire actions need to review the After Action Review of the Maxwell fire, that burned thousands of private land acres adjacent to USFS lands. I have friends that were on this wildfire and remember its effects well.

5. Private & BLM land adjacent to USFS land also need to be part of this planning effort, especially adjacent private land owners. Thanks for the opportunity to comment. B. Ward.