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First name: Bob

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Bitterroot Front EA. I strongly support the objectives of this project. It is long overdue. There is a great need for fuel reduction and forest restoration on the Bitterroot Front. I encourage the Bitterroot Forest to utilize all methods available to achieve the goals of this project in a cost efficient manner. The more efficiently you work the more acres you can treat. I also encourage the Forest to use mechanical methods when they are the best tool for the job. This would include mechanical methods that remove commercial material as a product to reduce fuels and also lower treatment cost. Much of the area is on steep slopes that can be challenging to operate equipment on. I have attached a PDF that summarizes the various mechanical methods that are feasible today with new technologies. It is my hope that the Forest will consider the full range of mechanical options available to achieve the goals of this project. I will be happy to discuss these options with the Forest in greater detail if so desired. Again, thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. Bob Rich Missoula, MT