From: To:

FS-objections-southwestern-regional-office

**Subject:** Objection to the Forest Restoration Project in the SFNF

**Date:** Thursday, April 28, 2022 10:13:17 AM

Regional Forester,

I strongly object to the proposed Forest Restoration Project in the Santa Fe National Forest. Thinning and burning over 90% of the trees in a 38,000 acre section of the forest to reduce fire danger is a naive approach. To reduce fire danger by eliminating the forest itself is foolhardy and could ultimately lead to increased rather than decreased fire danger, not to mention all of the other detrimental effects such an action would have.

World Resources Institute's senior fellow Frances Seymour recently said, "When deforestation happens, when forests are lost, it not only contributes carbon to the atmosphere, but also disrupts rainfall patterns and increases local temperatures in ways that, for example, make remaining forests more vulnerable to fire, and the warmer, drier conditions that come with climate change."

It is imperative that the USFS conduct an Environmental Impact Study and not just the onesided and superficial Environmental Assessment. Look at all the science, and do not cherry pick what suits your preconceived theories.

We need those trees!

Thank you,

Mark Wingard