

April 22, 2023

This is Earth Day. Every Day should be Earth Day for the USFS in this corner of our woods.

My initial concerns with the Draft Supplemental EIS for Hungry Ridge:

- 1.) The comment period deadline should be extended until at least July 1 (or later, depending on conditions). Obviously, no one without webbed feet or a powerful snow machine will be able to access this vast area to do an on-site review using the "new" information any time soon.
- 2.) It is unfortunate that, ONCE AGAIN!!!, it took litigation and a federal judge for the USFS to comply with its old growth standards. Since 2000 more acres of old growth were "discovered" during the 2nd round of cruising. I guess those big trees must have been hiding ~~themselves~~ during the original survey.
- 3.) The compliance survey was done during the winter months of 2022-23 — with substantial snow on the ground making the ground-level, sub-ground vegetation/conditions difficult or impossible to analyze as part of the important big picture.
- 4.) The whole Hungry Ridge/ End of the World project is based on the supposition that 1.) wild fires will occur 2.) non-wilderness timber needs to be "managed" ... to death. Fire/fuel predictions are not always accurate. Cutting and thinning as a hyped mitigation measure is irresponsible because until fire occurs those trees are doing us a huge favor with the storage capacity for carbon dioxide.
- 5.) Regardless of USFS "science" and preferred timber-oriented "treatments", natural progression/ processes are still the best.
- 6.) Cutting the vast swaths of timber within the HR/ EOW boundaries is not "restoration". It is destruction. I am not opposed to logging but the Hungry Ridge - End of World plans are

TOO BIG to be HEALTHY?

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