

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/30/2016 6:56:03 AM

First name: James

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: USFS Forsythe II Project

Dear Sirs,

I strongly object to the Forsythe II proposal because:

It will increase erosion. It will reduce old growth species dependent on mature trees. It will decrease species diversity.

I have camped and hiked in the area. It has some of the wildest areas that I have visited. I have been thrilled by a stampeding elk herd. The curves of trees from wind and sun surprise me. I have biked on the old roads, and broken a spoke. I have biked up Magnolia and then down to camp above Gross, and then continued down to Boulder. The rocky outcroppings afford stunning vistas. The older larger trees are more resistant to fires. They provide habitat for many species. With Colorado's population expected to grow another 3 million and with Global Warming, we need to protect wild places for wildlife, for biodiversity, for resilience, and for holding onto water like a sponge, instead of letting it all run off- we need wild places to relearn our senses and our interdependence with natural ecosystems.

1. It will increase, not mitigate fire danger.
2. It will destroy currently well functioning ecosystems and negatively impact local wildlife.
3. It will degrade, not improve forest health and resilience
4. It will increase downslope flooding danger, including flooding in Boulder City and County.
5. It will negatively and unfairly impact housing values for local residents and reduce recreational opportunities for both local residents and the general public.

Scrap the US Forest Service Forsythe II Project. Replace it with a minimalist, ecologically sound project, such as the one submitted by the Magnolia Forest Group.

Sincerely,

James C. Morris , 60 S. 33 rd St. ,Boulder,CO 80305