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Comments:

To the National Forest Service:

Overall, the plan provides very weak, and in some cases non-existent, direction for the protection of important resources. More standards, i.e., mandatory limits on action, need to be in the plan.

Frustratingly, there is only land in the San Juans recommended for Wilderness, even though many other areas exhibit wilderness characteristics. I support new wilderness areas, including those in the Community Conservation Proposal.

Under a proposed standard, timber harvest would be allowed in high-quality lynx habitat. This must not be allowed.

Guidelines for protecting big game (deer, elk, bighorn sheep) on birthing grounds and winter range would be voluntary. They need to be mandatory.

The plan proposes to establish conservation watershed networks to protect watersheds and sensitive species like trout and boreal toad, but provides no detail on how these networks would be applied and maintained.

Thank you for reading my comments.

Cynthia Ziegler