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First name: David

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Organization:

Title: Land Owner

Comments: Ms. Bailey,

I have again reviewed the information on the Forest Service website concerning the Rattlesnake Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project. I have a couple questions and some comments and objections to the project.

There is information on the project pages that identify connectivity corridors. What is the purpose of a connectivity corridor? What is the significance of a connectivity corridor to the project as a whole? Will there be any treatments in these areas? I could not find any where in the project documents as to what treatment is happening in these areas if any at all.

Once again we object to the lack of fuel reduction treatment in areas that border private property such as ours. We would not object so much to old growth designations if such a designation protects old growth stands. However, these designations appear to lead to a lack of under brush treatment and reduction of dead and dying trees which I feel actually endangers an old growth stand and poses a fire danger to adjoining private property. We spent a lot of funds and time improving the fire danger on our private property and do not appreciate the lack of consideration given by the Forest Service to reciprocate our efforts. There isn't even a designation of a buffer area that would be treated along private properties. We object strongly to the way the southern boundary of the project has been addressed. We are happy with other areas of the forest that have been treated for fuel reductions such as those you see along Devine Canyon. Is this to make the public think that all of the forest looks like Devine Canyon when in fact areas that are not as accessible such as forest property that borders our property are not being treated in the same manner? It seems that the Forest Services is using a tactic like Congress uses. Throw in little bits legislation into a popular bill so that these little bits of legislation get passed along with the big bill. The Forest Service is sending up a smoke screen of treated areas that are visible while leaving areas not readily visible to the general public untreated.

I await the answer to the questions concerning connectivity corridors.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment and I hope you consider my comments on this project before implementing it.

Sincerely

David W. Arntz, Landowner.