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First name: Richard

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: All Concerned,

I respectfully ask you to support this project to restore the health of America's federally-owned forests.

This well thought out and researched project gives the Forest Service the ability to :

- 1.Reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire, insect infestation and disease, and to protect municipal watersheds.
- 2.Remove dead trees after wildfires, creating new revenue to replant and rehabilitate burned forests.
- 3.Create young and mixed-age forest habitat to support wildlife and to incentivize and fast-track forest projects developed by local collaboratives, usually consisting of conservationists, sportsmen and women including hunters, fishermen and women, wildlife and bird watchers, timber industry and elected officials.

With all of the acres of National Forest in the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests adjoining Roanoke and the surrounding counties, I think it is extremely important that forest management that has been ignored for years be put back on track to restore the health of the forests we have been blessed with.

Respectfully,

Richard Sprinkle,

Virginia Bear Hunters Association