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Comments: Air Quality in the Proposed 4FRI

As an Environmental Scientist/Consultant who has practiced in the Flagstaff area from over 20 years I have tested for smoke particulates and adverse conditions related to forest fires and/or controlled burns.

My testing equipment shows that during a normal Flagstaff area day we have about 5,000 particles (includes all sizes) in the air up to 5 microns in size.

When I test for particles in the air when it is known that a control burn is in the area, however one that you can not see or smell, I find particles in the air have increased 25 times with many know carcinogenic materials being present. When there is a fire in the area that you can see and smell I see particle counts that go much higher.

If we have controlled burns for 20 years over the proposed 2.4 million area of forest as outlined in the 4FRI; I can safely say based on my experience (I am not a health professional however) that there will be great increases in lung and other diseases for humans including (emphysema, asthma, cancer, COPD and other breathing problems). Wildlife and plant life will also suffer from the adverse air conditions.

My question is how is the Forest Service going to mitigate the adverse effects of the smoke related to controlled burns? Thank you.