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First name: Larry

Last name: Campbell

Organization:

Title:

Comments: From: Larry Campbell

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2019 9:30 AM

Subject: FW: Buck Horn GNA field trip notes

Dear all,

I have had trouble with the electronic comment submission site, and I just returned from a holiday trip out of town, so here are some comments. I hope this is admissible given the difficulties. My comments may be sketchy, but no more so than the scoping letter.

Please accept these forwarded emails as comments for the project file. Larry Campbell

From: Larry Campbell

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2019 11:03 AM

Subject: RE: Buck Horn GNA field trip notes

Loose end: All or parts of units 11, 12 and 13 are not in WUI. If you want a good chuckle, get up to their WUI units and think Wildland and Urban and fire hazard to structures. What a stretch. The closest structures downwind may be in P'burg.

From: Larry Campbell

Sent: Sunday, November 10, 2019 9:01 AM

Subject: Buck Horn GNA field trip notes All,

Yesterday Michael, Mac and I did a quick drive-by through the proposed project area to get an initial feel for what is at stake. I'm sure M&M can improve this preliminary attempt at notes. Given the very limited info provided by the BNF we could only guess at what "treatments" are planned for which units. Given the probable narrow window of opportunity to visit the actual forest prior to getting weathered out and the looming deadline for comments, we went before adequate info was available to form informed scoping comments relevant to specific sites. Also, without any info on plans for the necessarily tethered state land (GNA requirement), other than 400 acres are up for "treatments", we were unable to identify what the synergistic benefits of such a joint project might be.

Initial impressions relating to the forest are:

\*Much of the area is doing just fine without any further FS management caused damage. Nature is busy with

restoration up there, at no taxpayer expense. As usual, the most efficient and effective approach to restoration would be to remove man-made impediments to recovery and do no further harm.

\*Soil damage will be a huge issue in terms of damage to 'forest health', even if not in terms of agency concerns. Very steep slopes are common. (I would take a clinometer on any future field trips.) Soils are remarkably thin and very erosive. I saw several small fans of eroded soil forming from road cutbanks, indicating a tendency for erosion and even potential mass failure. Existing soil compaction damage is quite evident in general, from past log skidding, and especially so due to terracing and high road density. Weeds are common along roads.

\*Lodgepole stands are nicely thinned by beetles, without any ground disturbance. Needles are cast, so the fire hazard has been reduced, without any ground disturbance and with gains in soil building debris.

\*P pine and doug fir are collaborating well, with neither significantly dominating the other. It appears that nature wants fir. Most natural regen tends to be fir. It would require 'pushing the river' repeatedly to interrupt the forces of nature, intercept fir "encroaching" and manage for an exclusive, gated community of p pine.

\* The road we were on intercepted ground water in a few places within the restricted scope of our visit. The area is generally quite dry, very little live water.

Initial impressions relating to democratic process in managing our land"

\*We are given only a very short and inconvenient time frame to comment.

\*We are given very sparse info on what activities are actually planned for any given BNF area. (Implying the BNF doesn't think that is relevant to useful public comments).

\*We have no info whatsoever on what might be done on state land, implying cumulative impacts are being discounted.

\*We can not assess any potential synergistic benefits of managing state and national forest in a coordinated way.

\* We can not assess economic impacts because the admin and accounting is not disclosed (or known, apparently).

I'll probably come up with more given more time to ruminate. Like cows just jumped into my head (ouch) and they would be a multiplying factor for many of the resource damage issues above.

Larry