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First name: Martene

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the Project Managers of Foothills Landscape project,

As a citizen I do not want to give away any rights to the management of these forests of which we pay taxes to sustain. I have no objection to cutting down trees that have reached their maturity and pose a fire hazard to the communities but why would I want to give away rights to the management of these forests of which you are hired and entrusted to care for? By giving that right away I would have no voice in how the government manages the resources we citizens pay for. Of course I certainly don't want to be unwise like California, as most trees are certainly renewable and provide jobs and revenue and I wouldn't want the forests to end up in ashes. But I would ask that you be wise in the clear cutting. Please don't allow the raping of the land to the extent that vegetation and eco systems are greatly disturbed as well as environmental run off of soil from the clear cutting. The amount you are suggesting to be cut will dramatically affect the tourist industry as well as hiking trails and horseback trails and eco systems of many animals. I would ask that you leave a large buffer around streams and trails where people hike, bike, and ride Horses. Also the cut areas be transplanted with young saplings to renew the area with new growth. Also controlled burning be utilized to keep vegetation from building up and causing major threats to existing communities. That there be notification when these burns are to be so that those in the forest know so they don't end up in the middle of a fire or the area be closed up during the time of the controlled burn. Also when clear cutting don't cut all the trees in one area but be prudent in allowing some areas to stand so that not all the trees are cut but maybe have strips of acreage left for another time and cut other strips in 5 year increments so the area won't seem so barren. Please leave some of the beautiful virgin timber! I won't live to see it grow back to maturity but hopefully the future generations will. Also please don't use chemical spraying the toxins will affect the whole eco system and poison the waters and creatures that live there as well as the run off will seep into the water tables at sometime. There is no reason to use chemicals in a natural forest. Please protect our natural resources and the beautiful scenic areas that so many people come to visit each year.

Thank you,

Martene Carleton