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Comments: Hello,

I would like to add my comments on the proposed Foothills Forest Plan. Overall I think the goals and priorities established in the plan are appropriate and reasonable. My family appreciates the difficult work ya'll do to preserve our forest resources and the opportunities for recreation they provide. We also understand the goal of harvesting timber resources and improving habitat.

My concern is primarily over the process. I believe strongly that we need to keep public review and input throughout the plan's 10-year lifespan. We as the taxpayer should have access to all projects proposed for our forests. As a hiker, a hunter, fishermen and a father/grandfather I hope that the USFS will continue to be open and transparent with periodic open public hearings and a vigorous EIS, driven by science.

I was pleased to see the proposal to ensure the health of our old-growth forest. I do however have concerns that we don't rely on herbicide and unneeded cuts to ensure our shared goal of a healthy forest.

Thanks again for this chance to comment and for your difficult work of striking a fair and balanced forest plan for the next decade.

Sincerely,

Jack Etheridge