

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/8/2020 8:58:09 PM

First name: Vicki

Last name: Weeks

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Forest Service has taken over a year-and-a-half to write their plans, and they include "new ways of doing things." But crucially, Project documents do not include the actual locations of most these actions. The Forest Service wants approval of this general Environmental Assessment before any site level analysis of potential impacts to soils, streams, trees, wildlife and recreation. If that happens, the Public will be signing away their legal ability to be involved for the next two decades or more. Even though today's Forest Service includes many knowledgeable and dedicated individuals, there is no guarantee that the Forest Service will be the same in ten years let alone 20. We the Public who care must stay involved and the Forest Service, rather than trying to block this involvement of the public in management of OUR forests, should welcome it.

Forests have been increasingly show to be a crucial element of reducing the impact of the emerging climate crisis. Rather than calling for more logging for private interests to profit from, the Forest Service should be calling for more protection and expansion and diversification of the forest lands they manage. This would provide the greatest benefit for the most people, in the States and across the planet.