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Organization:

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Comments: As a National Forest user and federal taxpayer, I have reviewed the Foothills Project draft EA and offer the following input.

I support:

CONF efforts to streamline its planning processes and refocus your staff time and funds on the production of goods and services for the public.

Alternative 2, the proposed action, over the No Action alternative.

Your adaptive management approach to plan implementation.

The use of watersheds as the appropriate Project Implementation Areas.

Restoration of forest habitat diversity and improving the abundance of fish and wildlife populations, especially early successional species.

Active forest management to achieve your fish and wildlife goals. This includes commercial timber harvest, which can provide revenues for road maintenance (and reduce stream sedimentation) and wildlife projects.

Fuels management to reduce risk of catastrophic wildfire, which is a HUGE risk to coldwater stream ecosystems.

Aquatic organism passage.

Restoration of channel complexity and aquatic habitat to restore stream fish populations and enhance their resiliency.

Road system maintenance to reduce stream sedimentation.

More efforts to retrofit small lakes with deep releases, so that warm discharges to downstream trout waters are reduced or eliminated.

Enhancing recreational opportunities on lakes and streams, with your budget constraints. Partnership opportunities abound here.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on a very good draft plan and EA by your staff. I look forward to its finalization and, most importantly, it's timely IMPLEMENTATION.