

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/25/2020 12:28:37 AM

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Comments: After reviewing the 5 proposed alternatives, it appears that Alternative X would be the most advantageous. I specifically oppose locking up more land with either Wilderness or Wild and Scenic designations. Alternative X avoids these pitfalls, and appears to do the most to facilitate effective management of the Forest lands for timber harvest, fire control, and forest health.

Maintaining a healthy forest provides an ideal environment for wildlife conservation and management and recreation. Access is vital for resource management, recreation, and especially for firewood harvesting, which has distinct benefits to forest health and human well-being. Grazing of domestic livestock in the Forest also has significant benefits to forest health, which I have come to greatly appreciate over the last 32 years.

And finally, we appreciate every effort to protect adjoining private property from the ravages of wildfire. I hope to see efforts made in the direction of utilizing thinning, timber harvest, grazing, and prescribed burns to reduce needless fire hazards, particularly in areas that are within a few miles of private holdings.

Thank you for your efforts!