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Organization:

Title:

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Dear Forest Service Managers:

You have requested comments on possible changes for elk habitat standards. I am very concerned about the process to suddenly change such a big thing that is in our forest plan. I know that the plan is old and needs to be renewed in light of the changing climate conditions that we face. I am willing to be a part of that process.

It certainly appears that just changing the elk habitat standards right now to reduce thermal cover is a way to get more trees out of the forest for your upcoming project encompassing nearly the entire west side of the valley.

This is not right. We need to update our entire plan in light of the more extreme conditions that scientists agree will be coming our way.

With that said, perhaps your studies show that in mild conditions, the elk don't need as much thermal cover as previously thought, yet we must keep in mind the extreme conditions. Let's not damage our economy by eliminating habitat for elk that people come from everywhere to hunt.

Thank you for your time.

Sarah Roubik