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Comments: To Whom It May Concern:

I live in the North Fork Valley east of Deming. Generally, I don't have a problem with logging as long as it's done in sustainable fashion. This however is absolutely unacceptable.

The Forest Service is tasked with reducing the existential dangers of climate change to both our regional ecosystems and human communities. Logging these forests defeats their carbon sequestration potential for decades to come.

In the face of extensive and ongoing clearcutting operations on private and state timberlands nearby, the Forest Service must prioritize allowing our National Forest to mature naturally for carbon capture, clean water, sensitive wildlife habitat, and compatible recreation.

The Forest Service must not construct new logging roads, including so-called "temporary" roads, which act as vectors for invasive weeds and human-caused abuses (including fires), while fragmenting habitat. Instead, the Forest Service should permanently close unneeded decaying roads. This is a special place and must be kept off limits to large scale logging as proposed there.

Thank you.

Tim McHugh