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Comments: I am concerned about this proposal, first of all because it is a radical shift from the Forest Service management plan that has sustained this land for decades. I anticipate negative impacts on the local habitat, as well as local communities, and am alarmed that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has not been done to quantify these impacts. An EIS must be done before a decision is made on this project. It would be irresponsible not to do so.

The forest as it stands offers positive benefit both to the existential threat of climate change and local habitats. Cutting these forests will cut off their capacity to lock away carbon for decades to come, instead of allowing them to do the job they are naturally gifted to do. For the local communities and habitats, allowing the forest to mature naturally offers everyone clean water, safety and security for the delicate ecosystem that has developed within these natural conditions, and a beautiful setting for compatible human recreation.

The infrastructure needed to carry out this logging project is also a concern. The construction of new "temporary" roads fragment the habitat and offers easy ways for invasive plants and human-caused abuses such as fires to take hold. Instead of proceeding with this project, the Forest Service should support the forest in naturally maturing, and permanently close roads that are decaying and unneeded.