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Comments: Much of the year the North Shore and surrounding hill sides are quiet and in recent years I've witnessed the return of Deer, Coyote, jack rabbits and have even spotted a mountain lion. I don't remember a time when I've seen the wildlife so active in this area. At least not since the 1980s. If the proposed trail systems are built I can't help wonder how that will impact the wildlife?

Understandably, the population growth in nearby cities combined with changes in temperature stacked on top of COVID have driven vacationers to the area at levels that seem higher than in previous seasons. This has led to overwhelming crowds of people on the Woodland Trail and other hot spots where trash and parking has overrun the system in peak months and brought noisy guests within ear shot of what was once a peaceful treasure of wilderness close to home. In the last few months San Bernardino Forest Service has shut down several areas including in at least one case where emergency services could not reach the scene of an accident due to record crowds visiting during the pandemic. While the need for public recreation is something that is important given the wild changes we are currently facing, I would like to know more about what management plans there are to keep traffic, litter, and noise pollution under control.

As we struggle to find a balance in providing public recreation for the area I cannot deny that, as a cabin owner, trespassing is a major concern. For the most part, people are respectful and neighboring cabins are often occupied enough to keep tabs on the area, but with crowds ever growing and services potentially expanding it raises the concern that parking overflow will spill into nearby roadways. That trails leading around property owners will be a temptation for people to explore empty cabins or perhaps commit small crimes. Or potentially, off road vehicles to disrupt. While peacekeeping may be considered a different issue, it is in my interest to suggest a buffer zone that will hopefully disincentivize such behaviors. To my mind a limit of 500 feet around property owners could suffice, but compromises will surely be needed. What plans does this project offer to mitigate such challenges?

Knowing that resources are limited and often under strain I am more than willing to work cooperatively with local Rangers. Since it is my understanding that fire prevention will be a large component of the proposed project I am very willing to play my part in helping maintain my area, and if opportunity provides, lend a hand to other areas. There are several questions I have that probably apply only to my situation - erosion control is something I am very interested learning more about for example - but for the sake of staying focused I am curious about where clearing crews plan to access areas for trimming, where construction equipment will be stored and when these schedules will take place on the calendar. Will there be forthcoming information about these project specifics?

Thank you for your consideration and all the hard work you do in maintaining the forest. In the coming month I'm certain more questions will arise, so hopefully this will not be the last opportunity for dialogue, but until then I eagerly await more information regarding the North Big Bear Landscape Restoration Project.