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First name: Nancy Last name: Miller Organization:

Title:

Comments: It is terrifying to be here during an active fire season. Every afternoon the fires blow up and smoke towers reach for the sky. At night, the fires glow on the ridges or creep along the slopes. Each day, measure is taken of how far and in what direction the fire has progressed. Whether to evacuate or to offer shelter, what treasures to try to save, which roads and trails are useable are anxieties that consume every waking minute. The coming of the rain or the snow is a blessing until three seasons pass and we are in the midst of another fire season. Roads, rivers, or human-created barriers to fire spread need to offer resistance to protect the communities. Fuel burdens like standing dead trees along the roads or beetle damage need to be removed or managed.