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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Forest Health - Salter Vegetation Management Project #57671

Comment period till 3/12/21

Forest maintenance is necessary however time of the year is difficult to plan around. Forest dweller's breeding & nesting and weather / time of the year.

My concern with any forestry work ie. mulching, cutting timber, etc is the time frame.

Last year 2020 work was done elsewhere in the San Juan Forest during nesting and rearing of birds & baby squirrels, etc. It was heart breaking to see their needed brushy habitat destroyed. Tall ancient oak under story was mulched.

Birds nest till end June. Small mountain owls fledge in June & July.

I doubt machinery operators are trained to look for cavity dwellers and nests among foliage, thus destroying eggs and nestlings, etc.

Last year I found & photographed proof of late June nests in the Chicken Creek logging area.

Please factor in nesting & breeding seasons. I know you know there are laws regarding this.

Addendum: 3/12/21

I also very seriously question the trees / acre that are being taken. I know the cut areas, at Chicken Creek & close to the Bible Camp on Forest Service Rd 559, I believe) look bare.

It seems close to clear cut to me. How can the ground maintain moisture with full sun. As I stated previously, we are in a documented "severe multiyear drought". I question to age of this forest maintenance plan.