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Comments: I am writing to object to the White River Aspen Management Project #59419 since it does nothing to address the environmental impact to caves and karst features in the areas. These karst features are incredibly delicate and non renewable resources and which have been identified as highly significant and are protected by the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act (FCRPA).

Consider the potential impacts of burning on these higher vulnerability karst areas (e.g., smoke entering significant caves can reduce air quality for cave fauna and recreationists, and affect delicate cave formations). Only one of the major negative impacts to this delicate resource is that fire on karst "incinerates" the thin soils needed to regrow a forest and leaves the residuals to wash down into the subterranean limestone to impact aquatic life.

Additionally the plan fails to consider the effect on many bat specie's habitats, such as trees and adjacent rock outcroppings, caves, mines, and other features which would be very negatively affected by these proscribed burns . This is a particular concern at this time, as the *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* fungus (aka WNS) is spreading into USFS RE2 and affecting hibernating bats.

This plan also ignores the effects on both surface and subterranean ground water supply throughout the region and will certainly degrade and permanently alter the quality and flow of the areas precious water sources.