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Comments: Speaking out to protest the White River Aspen Management Project #59419, I would like to point out the fact that this particular project does not take the environmental impact on subterranean areas and the karst they contain into account.

The aforementioned karst features are extremely fragile and take incredibly long periods of time to form, these karst fixtures are protected by the Federal Cave Resources Protection Act.

Additionally, there are a number of potential impacts that could come of burning areas surrounding vulnerable karst areas, they include: smoke entering caves that pollute the air for cave dwellers and recreationists, and which affect fragile cave formations.

One of the many major negative impacts to this delicate resource is that fires can incinerate the thin soils needed to regrow a forest and leaves the residual detritus to wash down into the limestone caverns to impact aquatic life.

Adding to what was mentioned above, the plan does not consider the effect on the roosting ground of various bat species, these include trees and rock outcroppings, caves, borrasca, and other features which would undoubtedly be negatively affected by these intended burns.

This is a specific concern currently, due to the fact that the *Pseudogymnoascus destructans* fungus, otherwise called White Nose Syndrome is spreading into the western U.S. and affecting hibernating bats.

The White River Aspen Management Project also ignores the effects on both surface and underground water supply found in the region and will certainly degrade and alter the standard and current rate of the precious water sources found in this area