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First name: Richard

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Organization: Virginia Bear Hunters Association

Title:

Comments: Ranger Brown,

I personally, and also with the Virginia Bear Hunters Association's backing, ask you to initiate this management project to restore the health of America's federally-owned forests in this strategic area..

This well thought out and researched project gives the Forest Service the ability to :

1. Reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire, insect infestation and disease, and to protect municipal watersheds.

2. Remove mature timber which creates revenue to replant, manage, and rehabilitate the woodlands and also help local economies.

3.Create the young and mixed-age diverse forest habitat to support all wildlife and to incentivize and fast-track forest projects developed by local collaboratives, usually consisting of conservationists, sportsmen and women including hunters, fishermen and women, hikers, bikers, wildlife and bird watchers and photographers, timber industry and local elected officials.

I think it is extremely important that forest management that has been ignored for years be put back on track to restore the health of the forests we have been blessed with. Thank you for the opportunity to participate. Best of luck with this extremely worthwhile project.

Respectfully,

Richard Sprinkle, Advisory

Virginia Bear Hunters Association