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Comments: Supervisor Birkey and August Phase 1 Planning Team:

We deeply value the Wild and Scenic South Fork Trinity River and post-fire forests. The Smoky, Red Mountain, and Prospect Creek tributaries have already begun to recover from the August Complex fire. We know that natural regeneration is happening throughout this beloved mosaic burn.

The thousands of acres of ground based post-fire logging, hundreds of acres of logging in Riparian Reserves, eight miles of "temporary" roads and opening two miles of decommissioned roads would harm water quality, soil, regeneration, wildlife, salmon, and other aquatic life. Additionally the visual quality in these watersheds would be greatly impaired by these invasive projects.

The environmental assessment really offers no real data to support the claims that this project would be insignificant. For decades scientific research explicitly shows that logging in fire-affected forests is ecologically the worst thing you can do for every aspect of the environment, and would likely increase future risk of fire in these watersheds.

We are writing to ask that you please protect and work towards the recovery of struggling salmon and wildlife populations, water quality, habitat connectivity and visual quality in the already impaired South Fork Trinity River.

Please, please forgo this massive logging project and focus on public safety. Focusing solely on imminent hazard trees (that are completely dead), and only around recreation sites and on major roads, not the entire 922 acres of roadside logging, as proposed in Alternative 2.

Thus we support a carefully and thoughtfully reduced Alternative 2 as the best option for a healthy and safe watershed.

Thank you for your attention to our comments and concerns.