Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/6/2021 5:05:05 PM First name: Alasdair Last name: Lindsay Organization:

Title:

Comments: The forests around Santa Fe are endangered because of climate change. Whatever we do to our forests now will be permanent and irreparable. Fast moving climate change is charting the course for destruction even without the help of the US Forest Service slash and burn tactics. Government and many of it's agencies continue to try and play catch up to what is actually happening because of climate change. Environmental damage in the past was repaired over short periods of time because climate was stable and reliable. We now are facing a climate of horrifying consequences which only scientists can somewhat predict.

The ugly burn scar left from the Las Conchas fire which burned over a decade ago is testimony to how slowly nature repairs itself. There will be growth again in that area, but it will never again be a forest. This is the saddest part of climate change and destruction. What we had will never come back to where it was in the past. The US Forest Service is at a juncture of how useful they are. Following policies of the past will not work in the world of the 21st century. We are faced with dying forests and forests which the US Forest Service has slashed and burned....devoid of life and health. We have to be smarter now. We need an Environmental Impact Statement for a thoughtful and carefully planned management of the forests which we have left. These forests can never be replaced. They are priceless.