Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2021 1:50:10 AM
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Comments: I would like to express my concerns for the proposed project. One of my primary concerns is that the use of a widespread aerial pesticide spray will be indiscriminate towards target species (L. dispar) and native species alike within the Lepidoptera family. How can the Forest Service mitigate a major issue such as this given the methodology proposed? L. dispar is an invasive species, yes; however, to what lengths are we willing to jeopardize the local ecology in the same of extermination of a nonnative species? What is the goal of this action? The proposed action is extreme and without a justification for why such actions must take place such that the impact on native species of Lepidoptera are wholly disregarded makes me question whether the Forest Service has evaluated this proposal properly. Even if this effort was successful, what are the chances L. dispar would be eliminated from the environment indefinitely? The Forest Service would need to be engaged in multiple efforts like this spanning years, if not decades and at that point, I can only imagine what would become of our native moth species. This area is rich in diversity of Lepidoptera species, including endangered species-- what has the Forest Service done to mitigate effects for these native species and their habitat in this proposal?
Lastly, I take issue with the new procedures of not allowing for additional public comment after the release of the Environmental Assessment where the public has no opportunity to weigh in on OUR PUBIC LANDS and their management once a management decision has already been taken.
Respectfully, Klio Stroubakis