Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/19/2021 2:20:14 AM

First name: carol Last name: teutsch Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I appreciate the enormous responsibility you bear to preserve and protect our forests and its natural inhabitants. From my study of your proposed project and the current level of unsettled forest science combined with climate change, I believe a full EIR must be done before proceeding with the thinning and controlled burns you are proposing.

We have unique features to our forest due to climate and altitude and some of the unusual genetics of the white pine species. Preserving genetic diversity is critical to future survival of our trees in the face of potential infestations and climate challenges.

Our forests are our partners and do so much to mediate climate change and our healthy enjoyment of our environment. We have to get our science right so we help maximize the resilience of our forests and don't harm them. The data on how much to thin the forests and how to create the right diversity of burns and how frequently to burn are important scientific issues where there is not agreement. If we harm our forests, even unintentionally, we compromise the health of ecosystem and it may not recover.

I have lived in California during some of the recent horrific fire seasons and realize that the devastation and pollution with concomitant adverse health effects are enormous. I personally suffer asthma with smoky environments. Getting a better understanding of root causes and changing ecosystems to understand the best way to intervene is a more likely successful path rather than fighting established fires which is getting increasingly difficult and expensive.

Let's do some collaborative research and thinking and analysis and look at ALL THE AVAILABLE DATA before we proceed. We need to have the best science and best minds working together on this.