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First name: Patricia

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Santa fe National Forest is my back yard. No, I don't live on the edge of the forest. I live in a little neighborhood in the middle of the city. My family moved here 35 years ago. We moved here to be able to see the mountains, hike in the mountains, camp in the mountains, fish in the mountains. I volunteer with Once A Forest, Santa Fe Forest Coalition, The Forest Advocate.

I request a COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT be completed for this project.

Site-specific information must be used [not a condition-based approach], a broad range of the best available science must be incorporated in the planning of this project. I protest that you have mainly ignored any science that does not support your plan, that you have not taken a conservation approach in planning the project. Also, I am very upset that you have lied publicly about what you intend to do and about the potential impacts could be. This project meets the criteria for needing a EIS: It has significant impacts on the human environment that is controversial, it damages forest resources, it does not have a range of required alternatives, it does not provide for a conservation alternative.

I am upset that you have not seriously considered the seriousness of the health impacts from prescribed burn smoke. For those of us with respiratory illnesses, frequent prescribed burn smoke is scary! I want an analysis to determine how much more smoke we will be breathing because of your project. And there is no analysis that estimates how much smoke that is emitted by wildfire compared with the combination of prescribed burning.

The information you have published about the project is vague: You have not spelled out where the "treatments" will be nor how they will be carried out in a site specific way, ["the actual location of forest treatments would occur where deemed appropriate at the time of implementation". Environmental Assessment, p. 31], Residents of forest communities want to know if thinning will occur close to communities. Where and how will treatments occur in Inventoried Roadless Areas, which are intended to be preserved in a natural state.

The environmental assessment analysis does not use a broad range of the best available scientific information. It uses almost none of the studies done from a conservation perspective.

Burning every 5- 15 years is too frequent and will destroy the understory which induces repeated shock to the environment and hurt some wildlife species, not to mention damaging our lungs!