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Comments: Anyone or any organization that has the best interests of the forest in mind would want to see every opportunity taken and every point of view studied thoroughly before embarking on a project as large and potentially destructive as the Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project. It would be foolhardy to do otherwise or to rely on outdated or cherry-picked information in an era when the climate is so unsettled and changing fast.

For these reasons, I request that a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement be completed for Project #55088. I don't understand the reluctance on the part of the USFS to take this important step - if they had started back when we first heard of this project, we'd be much further down the road already. I believe that a project of this size is legally required to do this under the NEPA, and that any simplified approach or exemption from the requirement would not be in the best interests of the forest or of the people of Santa Fe. I want to hear all voices and all points of view expressed and considered carefully by the USFS, and I would think that the USFS would want the same.

A concern of mine is that the USFS seems to be ignoring much of the informed research currently available, related to forest resiliency in a time of climate change and drought, specifically how the forest will revive (if at all) after the heavy-handed cutting and burning methods recommended so far. Thinning the forest by 90%, as has been done already in several areas, seems guaranteed to destroy the understory and to turn our forest into a desert, similar to the mountains of southern NM. In a related concern, our forest sequesters a great deal of carbon dioxide, and releasing that into the atmosphere during a climate crisis seems irrational.

I am also worried about the adverse effects of the smoke generated by this project. These have not been studied enough and too little effort has been made to address ways to reduce this danger (other than advising people to stay indoors, which seems ridiculous for a project of this size and duration). No one has addressed the health effects of breathing the projected amount of smoke.

Please complete a thorough Environmental Impact Statement as required by the NEPA. We will all be happier and better off for it.