

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/26/2021 10:57:01 PM

First name: Ian

Last name: Clark

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am concerned that the current management plan failed to predict increases in forest use and forest vulnerability due to sustained droughts, increased fire frequency and beetle infestations. I note that current forest treatments in the Old Agency La Garitta area and Slumgullion area have been planted with spruce seedlings even on south aspects. This despite predicted climate change and increased drought cycle and the viability of more drought resistant species such as bristle cone pine, limber pine, and doug fir. I would hope past performance is not a predictor of future performance, but then maybe it is time to let go of past fire behavior and frequency as a predictor of future fire behavior and frequency.

With this in mind, I support the B option of the revised forest plan. It is my hope that this will enable the USFS to aggressively increase prescribed burns and timber treatments in an effort to promote a more resilient mosaic of forest seral stages. It would be nice to embrace option D as preservation oriented rather than conservation oriented organizations have done, but this would result in more obstacles for the USFS to overcome in order to manage the forest for the future difficult times that are currently being predicted.

I know in the end the forest will be managed according to social political pressure, but my hope is that some consideration will be given to predicting the future social political pressure not typically vocalized until failure is evident.

Thank you.