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## Title:

Comments: I have recently read this quote by Thomas Paine: "We have the power to begin our world over again." At this time in our world's history, we HAVE to begin our world over again or the world as we know it will not exist. There will be storms, starvation, species extinction, rising seas, millions more climate refugees because of global warming. So I applaud the decision to cap the orphan wells and abandoned mines in the Wayne Forest. However, I do NOT applaud the present Environmental Assessment which basically ignores many of the standard procedures used by the Forest Service when doing projects. To cap the wells and mines with basically no feedback from the public nor a real environmental assessment quite possibly could/would cause more damage than harm. While recent scientific evidence indicates that a mature forest is one of the best means of removing carbon dioxide from the air, the current plan does not indicate that any precautions would be taken to minimize harm to the forest. The Wayne is also a sanctuary for endangered bats and is the home to many other plant and animal species which make a forest a forest. Thus, I urge you to abandon the present EA and develop one which not only cares about capping wells and mines but also cares about taking measures that will ensure "beginning the world over again" and not doing business as usual - using heavy equipment, cutting multiple new temporary roads, destroying wetlands and polluting streams. I'm sure the Forest Service can come up with a better way, even if it takes a little longer, uses more muscle, mules, money, and moxie; but thus preserves a national forest, a national treasure. Thank you for considering these comments.