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Comments: I am concerned the Spruce Vegetation Management Project #61599 is designed to benefit the timber companies and Intermountain Forest Association. It presents itself under the guise of fire prevention, even though, ironically, spruce trees have little value as timber and are probably less prone to fires than pine. By replacing spruce with pine and aspen trees, the localized ecological systems are disturbed and trees are then planted in areas where they don't thrive. Senators Thune and Barrasso are pushing to expedite timber production while circumventing the critical processes that ensure environmental protections, such as NEPA, Environmental Assessments (EA), and Environmental Impact Statements (EIS). This warrants my attention. Politicians appear to be more interested in backing the lumber companies than thinking of the short-and long-term effects that such a decision would have. Not only will it affect the overall beauty of the area, (attracting tourists and thereby supplementing the regional economy). It's important for future generations to have the opportunity to enjoy and appreciate the area, and to protect the plants and wildlife that now thrive in the region. Saving industry in the short-term must not be at the expense of the beautiful Black Hills long-term. Once it is destroyed, we can never get it back.