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First name: Cobey

Last name: Williamson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To the Forest Supervisor,

I am writing to insist that this project, Bitterroot Front #57341, be guided by the latest available science rather than legacy practices or economic interest. While fuel reduction in the Hazardous Ignition Zone may be considered critically important, there is no evidence that indicates that large diameter trees need be removed as part of an effective fuels treatment. Large diameter trees are vital to carbon sequestration and should be retained and their growth encouraged. Harvesting marketable timber simply to make the less solvent aspects of the project financially attractive to commercial operations is not sufficient reason for removing large diameter trees.

Acknowledge the demands that this new paradigm in forest management requires and restrict your treatment activities to the reduction of the ladder fuels that are most responsible for catastrophic fire in the WUI.

Cobey Williamson