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Comments: It is critical that wildfire risk be mitigated. Having said that, this plan has a feature that actually works *against* wildfire mitigation. Namely, including commercial logging companies to take old growth trees and the fact that climate consideration is not mentioned in the plan.

The US Forest Service has pledged to consider climate factors and current research in all new projects.

Current science indicates that "old growth" trees (30-40 years in age or older) sequester far more carbon than smaller trees that replace them. Current climate mitigation forestry science suggests every mature healthy tree remains standing

Current science questions the value of "thinning" vast swaths of forest out beyond the immediate HIZ (Hazardous Ignition Zone) within 150 ft of structures. BCAG strongly supports clearing the HIZ throughout the Wildland Urban Interface.

An article in The Missoulian from January 19th on this subject observed that fire behavior causing the most serious human community destruction in the last few years strongly supports this direction.

Please adjust this plan to protect the old growth trees (and by extension be *better* for wildfire mitigation than the current plan as it stands.

Thank you for your consideration.