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Comments: Do not create large openings (clear-cuts). Large openings remove natural windbreaks and have been shown to increase wildfire speed and intensity.

Project activities conflict with climate goals. Logging and road building increase carbon emissions, remove carbon stores, and reduce future carbon sequestration. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is necessary for a project of this magnitude. The 144,000-acre project spans the entire East face of the Bitterroots from Florence to Darby. It will degrade wildlife habitats, streams, water, air, and carbon sequestration. An EIS requires a more thorough, site-specific analysis than the planned Environmental Assessment (EA).

A condition-based analysis is not appropriate. This multi-decade project relies on unproven computer modeling instead of an on-the-ground, site-specific analysis. Public input is eliminated from the decision-making process.

No roads, temporary or otherwise, should be constructed or reconstructed in the project area. The Bitterroot National Forest is decades behind on the maintenance of currently existing roads with little hope of catching up. More roads would put the Agency further behind. STOP THE GREED OF DEVELOPMENT IN THE LAST GREAT PLACE!!! We live here for the wildlife and solitude, peace and quiet. It is never enough and this drives down the quality of life for all. HANDS OFF ALREADY.