Data Submitted (UTC 11): 5/20/2022 6:00:00 AM

First name: james Last name: smith Organization:

Title:

Comments: We believe the Bitterroot National Forest "Bitterroot Front" fuel reduction project has serious flaws.

This project will:

- -Damage water quality
- -Negatively impact fisheries and hunting
- -Lower property values
- -Negatively impact irrigation water
- -Harm recreation opportunities

We strongly recommend the Project to be modified to:

- -Focus on helping homeowners and property owners fire-safe their property
- -Not include "clearcuts"
- -Build no addition roads
- -Does not remove any "Old growth trees
- -Stays out of un treated areas which reflect wilderness characteristics
- -MOST IMPORTANTLY give cleat project details BEFORE a final decision

The current project maps are flawed and are incorrectly drawn.

The characteristics of many areas are misrepresented and incorrect.

Many years ago the Stevensville Ranger District proposed and approved the "Sharrot Larson Boundary Fuels Treatment" project. This project was initiated but then abandoned. This left areas dangerously overloaded with heavy fuel loads. Debris piles and hand piles remain to this day. This situation has created a dangerous situation for adjacent property owners. The Stevensville Ranger district gave no reason for canceling the project and never accounted for the funds obtained to complete the project. Areas covered by this project are now being targeted again but being considered for wilderness designation. This illustrates how the current "Bitterroot Front" is flawed with incorrect information about the condition of many areas.

We currently cannot support this project as currently written.