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Comments: I am opposed to the Bitterroot Front project as currently proposed. This is WAY too big of an area to treat as a single unit. From my past experience with the Forest Consensus Council we learned that forest management needs to be specific over very small areas, considering drainage, soil type, slope, aspect, elevation etc. In forestry, one size does NOT fit all.

In general keep cutting away from drainages, none in wilderness or wilderness study areas, do not disturb areas with old growth - trees 16 in. or larger. It is probably OK to do some thinning within 200 or even 500 feet of private property, but any fire control beyond that should be solely the responsibility of the private land owner NOT the taxpayers.

The USFS should insist that Ravalli County create regulations controlling structures in the wildland urban interface, because ultimately that is where the solution lies to the problem of private land and houses being "good neighbors" to the forest, and vice versa. There is no such thing as a forest that will not burn and we just have to learn to live with that. I do not want my public land de-nuded, with habitat and drainages sacrificed, just so someone can irresponsibly build a house in an unprotected area.

Thank you for stopping this misguided project.