

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/28/2022 11:28:52 PM

First name: Tom

Last name: Andrews

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To USDA Forest Service,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your St. Vrain proposal.

My principal concern is that you may cut down old-growth trees, particularly ponderosa pines.

I witnessed the effects of cutting many old-growth ponderosa pines during a St. Vrain Fuel Reduction Project that occurred prior to 2010 in the Taylor Mountain Unit. This Forest Service project was contracted to a private logging company, which cut down these old-growth trees, with the Forest Service's knowledge, in order to harvest this timber and gain some revenue, thus lowering the costs of the fuel reduction project.

The results of this project were criticized by many local individuals, with people complaining to the District Ranger, Forest Supervisor, Regional Forester, Chief of the Forest Service, Congressional representatives, and the Department of Agriculture.

I sincerely hope that nothing even remotely like this old-growth destruction happens in the course of the upcoming St. Vrain project. Old-growth ponderosa pine stands and individual trees are rare on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and deserve as much protection as they can be given.

Sincerely,

Tom Andrews