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Comments: It seems clear to me that, because of the overgrowth of forests by not allowing natural wildfires because of human domiciles interspersed through the forests and because of the accelerating danger from climate change, we need to change our approaches and habits. I think that we also need to realize that the results of these changes may not cause the or be restricted to the desired outcomes. I think that close study of many areas of results is necessary to make appropriate adjustments to methods as we go along. For instance, a large area of concern in the watershed of my community is wildfire wiping out vegetation that keeps the soil and sediment on the steep hillsides. However, we need to make sure that the remedy of thinning trees with deep roots doesn't create the potential for dangerous erosion, too. We will probably need to be sure that other anchoring plants are in place before taking too many of the trees that create dangerous canopy fire-passing conditions. Another method that I have heard that needs timeliness in implementation are the pile burns. We need to make sure that the piles are burned in a timely manner or transported to areas outside of houses and/or critical areas where damage could happen to our watershed. Prescribed burn seems like a valuable method, and I would also prefer these to be done in very small sections with extreme caution, waiting between them for growth of sustaining plants to hold the soil, sustain wildlife, etc.
I am new to living in a mountain, forested community. I hope to be part of more conversations and action in helping to work with the agencies and coalitions that are working toward best outcomes in the future. Thank you for making this project a possibility and for asking for public comment.