Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/22/2022 4:09:35 AM

First name: Ned

Last name: McDougald

Organization:

Title:

Comments: 1) Why hasn't the federal Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960 (Public Law 86-517) been addressed in this project assessment? This law authorizes and directs the Secretary of Agriculture to develop and administer the renewable resources of timber, range, water, recreation and wildlife on the national forests for multiple use and sustained yield of the products and services - with no use greater than the other. Multiple use is defined as the management of ALL the various renewable surface resources of national forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the peopl.e

- 2) Two years' time has already lapsed since the 2020 Creek Fire when prescribed burning could have safely been conducted to further reduce the fuel load as well as hazards to the public. This delay in timber harvesting has resulted in the loss of marketable timber as well as increased hazards in the burned areas. This two-year delay cannot be recaptured.
- 3) Hazard tree removal has been neglected in the Forest for years/decades adding to the incredible backlog of work and increased threat to public safety.
- 4) In the Creek Fire, critical infrastructure sites were not protected by the Fire Management Teams. On the Bass Lake District, the Norris Creek Bridge was not protected and was burned down resulting in inability to access areas for logging, recreation, and livestock grazing activities. This bridge has now been out for more than two years and is not slated for reconstruction until Fall 2023 (at best). On the other hand, the Fire Management Team spent time and money to fly a helicopter reconnaissance team to look for the "historic" Bugg Cabin in the Ansel Adams wilderness...however, the USFS had previously burned down that cabin 20+ years ago. In addition, historic cow camp infrastuctures were also allowed to burn down in the Creek Fire.
- 5) There is lack of specificity with regard to where fire breaks may be built. For example, firebreaks could be constructed utilizing existing natural features such as rock outcrops extending from Shuteye Peak off the Beasore Road south to the Mammoth Pool Road. This would be a huge stopping point in the event of a wildfire.