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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom It May Concern,

The northeast corner of Oregon is truly unique and unlike any place on Earth. As a budding conservationist and public lands recreator, I've had the opportunity to explore the Eagle Cap Wilderness and surrounding landscape during the time I lived in Oregon. Those potent memories of walking through old growth forests, gazing into Hells Canyon, and following in the paw prints of gray wolves are moments I won't soon forget. There's a spirit to the land and to the wildlife that call northeast Oregon home. I hope in your surveying you've felt it too.

I urge you to reconsider this Project. The values of intact landscapes, clean water, connected wildlife habitat, stunning viewsheds, and natural soundscapes are higher than any cost of building roads and logging on steep slopes and in proposed protected places. How we protect and honor those values and the communities who have been there since time immemorial are some of the most important questions of our time - and the Forest Service directly impacts that answer.

As one of the largest land managers in the country, I urge you to think more ecologically and holistically about this Project. Industrial logging is not a good fit for ~87,000 acres of this incredibly diverse and complex ecosystem. We can leverage nature-based solutions, like protecting large trees, old growth forests and wildlife habitat, to meet the challenges of a warming climate and wildfire mitigation. These areas seek protection for a reason, and I have faith you can implement a scientifically sound "resiliency" project outside of this biologically and ecologically critical area.

Thank you,

Gaby Diaz

Colorado resident who longs for Oregon