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Comments: Comments on Morgan Nesbit proposal.

I will make more extensive comments in the future.

While I like to always hope the USFS , (for whom I have worked in several capacities) with this 'new era' and new staff, may change their collective or local behavior from past horrors, it appears there is way too much emphasis in this plan taken from the 'good ol' get the cut out' priorities of the past.

We all know there are no local mills. Creating a few logging jobs is certainly no reason to send heavy equipment into this special, diverse, and important area to log, especially any large trees, or to build ANY new roads, open old roads, and cause the litany of destruction, disturbance and erosion that would certainly result if this plan goes forward.

The ONLY justifiable course is to Leave it Alone, or rewrite the plan for light-touch, environmentally sensitive rehabilitation projects that address past damage and resulting ongoing issues.

It took decades to finally designate protect much of this region as the HCNRA. Then it took another couple decades of advocacy and lawsuits to keep the USFS from hammering it even after the designation. Endless idiotic damaging plans to log heavily and continue destructive grazing practices sprang from the agency tasked with 'protecting this treasure.'

So this 'project area', which IS really, to be crystal clear, --- A Special ecosystem that bridges the the Eagle Cap Wilderness and the HCNRA, and is OWNED 'by and for the People of the USA', now and into the future--- and is NOT a 'resource' for extraction and welfare programs for a tiny minority of loggers and grazers at the expense of the land and the people.

All the damn 'agency speak' and labeling of what sounds to be such good causes for the land does in no way fool anybody to think the land would in any way be better off than before a bunch of heavy equipment gouges and slashes the complex forest ecosystem into a degraded, less diverse condition, with more invasives, less old trees, and more compacted soil and a lot more erosion into salmon streams, etc, etc..... right?

The local USFS does not even have the will nor ability to keep up a few 'exclosure areas' to keep cattle out of a few stretches of the creeks to protect them, and to have them as baseline study areas --- as comparison to the endless miles of cow-hammered and degraded riparian areas that the USFS somehow deems acceptable, even in the face of declining and threatened fish runs.

How can we think you can plan, manage, and in any way protect these highly diverse, steep and fragile landscapes in the face of massive equipment intrusions, road building and widening, logging, and all the rest?

This 'plan' should be scrapped in its entirety and if any action would be considered it should be based on a completely different paradigm of ecosystem connectivity, healing past damage, eliminating all grazing for decades, and absolutely no road building but instead road rehabilitation.

Any future actions should be written by the the Tribes, Oregon Wild, the Western Watershed group, and GHCC as an ecosystem based healing of the land. It is now 2023, and huge logging projects, many under the guise of spurious 'fire reduction' continue on Public Land. Others like this purport to somehow include restoration and

new practices but the land would be certainly better off left alone. Do that. Seriously. Save all the admin money and truly go out and protect some of this damaged local landscape.