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Organization:

Title:

Comments: As a retired Fire Chief I have experienced dozens of wildland fires and its destruction dating back to my start in 1982. Prior to that I lived through the destruction of wildland fire dating back to the 1970's. I have seen first hand what wildland fire can do to homes and neighborhoods as well as the long term devastation from wildfire. I have first hand experienced the terror of a wildland fire burn over and watched dozens of homes explode into an inferno. Let me be clear anything that can help to mitigate the impacts of wildland urban interface I am of full support.

We also know that insurance companies are now cancelling insurance to homeowners who live in the Wildland Urban Interface. Anything we can do to help mitigate that secondary effect would be greatly appreciated.

I 110% agree with the wildland fuel mitigation proposed by this project. Where we live in the Flathead Valley is surrounded by trees and would be in direct path of a fast moving wildland fire if the conditions and winds happen to be pushing that direction.

As a society we must accept the fact that wildland fire is not going away and as homes push into the wildland urban interface will continue be an issue. We need to look no further than the Spokane Valley and the loss of life and hundreds of homes just last month. Plus all the homes lost down in the Paradise area. Additionally our own area the disruption by evacuation of the Canyon area and the Olney area.

Please push forward and allow this mitigation effort to take place. Building these swaths can help protect lives, homes and power infrastructure in our area. Lets be proactive and decrease the potential damage while we can.

Thank you again for your proactive stance toward wildland fire mitigation.