

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/15/2023 11:13:17 PM

First name: James

Last name: Miller

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am strongly opposed to this project. The source of every so called forest health problem that we have on the BNF has been caused by over a century of logging that has been proposed by the Forest Service and carried out by the timber industry. So the FS now proposes yet more logging to fix the problems they have created. Logging does not create resilience. It destroys it. The proposed condition based analysis is illegal and a violation of NEPA and NFMA and it is a ploy to avoid the kind of site specific analysis that a project of this scale requires. The project proposes five forest plan amendments. It is clear that the FS cannot attain their timber harvest targets by adhering to their own Forest Plan or the environmental laws of our country. This 144,000 acre project will destroy old growth trees, create clearcuts, build more roads, compact and displace soils, threaten wildlife, and spread noxious weeds. It will do nothing to mitigate wildfire behavior which is being driven by a hotter, drier climate that the Agency seems to be in denial about. With this project the FS will repeat all of the same mistakes of the past and will turn the entire Bitterroot Front into a woodlot that will no longer function as a forest no less resemble one. The FS has been entrusted by the American people to be the stewards of our national forests and with this project and others like it, they have violated that trust. Sincerely, Jim Miller