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Comments: I am writing to object to the Spruce Vegetation Management Project #61599

I am opposed for the following reasons:

As we continue to experience warmer and dryer weather in the Black Hills due to climate change we need to preserve diversity in our forest. Removing spruce will only weaken diversity, not enhance it. We need to protect spruce, aspens, oaks, etc. Not remove them to favor ponderosa pine trees.

The actual treatment area outlined in the proposed action is really quite small. The size of the area treated will not achieve any meaningful reduction in fuels.

Finally, the project is of low economic value due to the small treatment area, so why pursue such an undertaking if there is little to no economic value in the removed spruce trees?