

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/20/2023 1:53:48 AM

First name: Bennett

Last name: Batten

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Biden Administration established the 30x30 plan. The goal is to protect 30 percent of this country for conservation. This plan fails to follow that direction. Instead it does the opposite by opening up nearly 300,000 acres for logging.

Targeted logging of Beetle kill and fire management is perfectly fine, but this is not that.

An alternative to this plan would have proposed 300,000 + acres for wilderness protection. Grand Masa & Uncompahgre NF are deprived of wilderness. This needs to change! The USDA needs to do its part in protecting these 300,000 acres of wilderness quality lands by managing them as if they are wilderness already.

Our public lands over the last 10 years has seen a surge in recreational use. This is great ! but it puts stress on lands by threat of over use. To combat this we need to protect more wilderness and expand where people can recreate in solitude.

in fact the this proposal was SO WEAK on its wilderness proposals that it only endorsed wilderness designation for lands bordering existing wilderness. This is a MASSIVE disservice. Uncompahgre has some amazing lands that need protection.

Please reconsider your proposal and come into alignment with the Biden Administration's objectives of fighting climate change and conserving our wild lands.