

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2023 12:07:06 AM

First name: Ashley

Last name: South

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I believe this project needs to be stopped dead in its tracks. At the bare minimum this massively huge project deserves an environmental impact statement before the project is implemented. The scope of this project is not include best available climate science, deforestation science, carbon sink science, soil compaction and mycorrhizae science, this project is simply unembarrassment. By removing these intact forests for financial gain, will destroy biophysical settings that will be irreversible. Logging these forests will destroy thousands of years of natural Forest secession, creating a dead space that no longer holds carbon or produces oxygen for us to breathe. Deforestation increases the dewatering and drying of the landscape. If this project goes through it will not stop massive wildfires, as best available science has shown wildfires will burn through clear cuts and clear cuts with reserves due to the dry understory. Old intact Forest landscapes that still have natural Forest secession are resilient two extreme wildfires as they hold more moisture. Deforestation has proven to eradicate the microorizing layer that is crucial for soil health. Logging equipment and building roads compacts the soil so severely, and taking the intact Forest canopy severely dries and kills the nutrients that have been built and thrived over thousands of years. Deforestation for monetary gain has put us in this climate crisis along with other corporate interests for the short-term goal of financial gain, destroying and killing everything in its corporate path. The department of agriculture should not be treating forested landscapes like crops and using taxpayers money to feed them scare tactics and lies. Stop this project from being implemented until all available climate and deforestation sciences used. It is crucial that this project goes through an environmental impact statement and considers all public comments in the changes and decision making of this landscape. The taxpayers that pay for your livelihood deserve respect as it is their public land, the department of agriculture is supposed to serve not control and manipulate. Stop taking from the land and finally restore and replant the landscapes that your agency entity have destroyed for so many years. Enough is enough.