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Comments: Dear Mr. Chandler:

The proposed federal rule on carbon dumping in national forests is unacceptable. Carbon capture and disposal companies should not be allowed to use our public lands as a permanent dumping ground. This proposal would fundamentally change the way that we manage our national forests, and puts human health and the environment at risk. The US Forest Service must rescind this proposal.

If this rule goes through, carbon capture and disposal companies would be able to build massive industrial infrastructure in and through our national forests. This includes pipelines, injection wells, well pads, and service roads. Collectively, these activities will disturb forest ecosystems with clearcutting, soil compaction, and road construction, and degrade sensitive habitat for threatened and endangered species.

In addition to the environmental impacts, this proposal would pose serious health risks to visitors and locals alike. The pipelines would be carrying highly pressurized carbon dioxide. If the pipelines rupture, or injection wells leak, lethal plumes of carbon dioxide can suffocate people and wildlife miles away. Highly concentrated carbon dioxide can also disable vehicles, preventing first responders from accessing victims. Previous well blowouts and pipeline ruptures have harmed both humans and wildlife.

In conclusion, we urge you to rescind this proposal. Carbon dumping in our national forests is the wrong move.

No private company or individual should have perpetual and exclusive use of public lands, especially for dangerous activities that will convert our forests to industrial dumping grounds. We can't waste any more time on unproven systems for carbon disposal. Our forests are already home to a viable carbon capture and storage technology - trees. Let's get out of the way and let the trees do their work.

Sincerely,

Joshua M. Taylor, MPA, MPPPA