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First name: Larry

Last name: Evans

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Planning Team

thank you for extending the comment period in recognition of malfunction of the comment management system. It has come to my attention from morel pickers that there is a serious concern about the safety of eating morels that may be growing through areas red with fire retardant drop.

Acknowledging the recent requirements that the EPA mandated for disclosure, it seems the contents of retardant may pose a health threat to those harvesting and consuming these mushrooms. As I mentioned in a Fungal Jungal article "When Mushrooms Have Issues" fungi have the capacity to adsorb and transport cations and can concentrate these at levels 100x background levels in fruiting bodies (Shavit, Ryvarden, etc.) Paul Stamets has recognized this feature among species that can concentrate radioactive isotopes as a potential method for bioremediation of radioactive contamination of soils.

Issuance of guidelines for harvesting mushrooms in retardant drop zones would seem a minimal requirement to safeguard public health. Further research into the effect of retardant drops on fungal populations is merited.

Thank you for your work on the forest plan.

Cheers

Larry Evans