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Comments: Hello, I am writing to oppose the North Sandia Fuels Reduction proposed by the US Forest Service in Sandoval and Bernalillo counties, north of I-40, in the Sandia Mountains. For years, our communities, including the Sandia Collaborative, have been asking the federal government to:

- Manually thin the forest and clear the dead brush due to the wildfire risk it presents
- Maintain the roads in the canyon because they are in a state of disrepair, making it nearly impossible for vehicles and first responders to reach the site of a crisis in a timely manner
- Listen to Indigenous and Land Grant communities, who have been stewards of this land for generations, as well as all of those who share a watershed that would be affected by a fire in this area

We oppose the planned prescribed burns, ESPECIALLY IN THE SPRING AND SUMMER, and demand regular and sustained maintenance of these forested areas, which house our precious watershed. We would like to enter negotiations with the Forest Service to create a wildfire risk mitigation plan together. We want a seat at the table.

We have seen what happens when the Forest Service fails to listen to communities, including in the time leading up to the Calf Canyon and Hermit's Peak wildfire, when community members warned that it was too windy for a prescribed burn.
For decades, our requests for proper maintenance of the forested canyon area have been blatantly ignored by the US Forest Service. We demand a proper solution that is informed by consultation with our communities.

We call on the Forest Service to pause this project and engage with stakeholders to identify and implement sustainable solutions. Thank you.