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Comments: I am opposed to the Forest Service's plan North Sandia Fuels Reduction, # 65654 because one of the components of their plan is to do "controlled" burns.

Though I agree that Las Huertas Canyon is heavily overgrown and is dangerous due to the amount of dead and down agricultural debris, I believe the action of controlled burns is not well thought out and not in the best interest of the mountain and surrounding communities. There are other methods for clearing overgrowth such as thinning and removal that are also included in the plan. These methods are safer and demonstrate an awareness of the dangers of attempting any type of burn during the spring and early summer when the winds are strong and variable in direction and speed.

The Forest Service exists to protect our lands and I implore them to demonstrate some learning and caution from the debacle the Forest Service created in northern NM with the Calf Canyon/Hermit's Peak fire of 2022. The same thing can happen in the Sandia Mountains.

NM Senator Ben Ray Lujan introduced legislation today with the Wildland Fire Research Act. This clearly demonstrates that much more work is needed "to guide decisions before a controlled burn". He states that "current fire modeling is not adequate." Lujan's bill is supported by UNM, The University of Alaska and the Federation of American Scientists and they recognize that the current wildfire models are inadequate because our current weather patterns are not what they were when the models were first developed.

Controlled burns that easily get out of control cost us, the communities that would be impacted, everything - our land, our culture, our livelihood and our past and future.

As an heir of the original descendants of the San Antonio de las Huertas Land Grant situated in Placitas, NM I strongly oppose any controlled burn in the Forest Service's North Sandia Fuels Reduction Plan, #65654 and as a method for clearing the Las Huertas canyon