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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am the President of the Sand Creek Country Club, homeowner in the canyon, and sit on the Board of Directors at Ranch A. My family has been here for over 80 years, but may be considered "newcomers" from some of the other old time comment writers.

I personally agree with the need for the North Sand Forest Management Project. The area is mostly overgrown and has significant fire fuels present that need to be mitigated, however, I have the following concerns with the project implementation.

1. Controlled burning of this area is frightening to me and every neighbor I discuss this with. If it has to be done, it should only be attempted in ideal conditions. We would like prior notification to key people in the area so we know it is happening.
2. I do not support the removal of larger oaks. They are a prime food source for our wildlife.
3. The Dugout Gulch Botanical Area needs protection of the hiking trails and the surrounding ecosystem.
4. Invasive plants need to be controlled to ensure they are not brought in by the traffic and they do not take control of the damaged areas.
5. Logging trucks on our roads need to be minimized and controlled. Alternate haul roads besides the populated Sand Creek road need to be used as much as possible. Dust control, road maintenance of pot holes, and truck speed is a major concern. There are many blind curves that may be improved with thinning.
6. Per the project description, 10 miles of new roads will be built and later removed. Can these roads be gated for future fire truck access if necessary?
7. Last but not least, we are concerned with the damage and burning of the ground surface and this contributing to soil erosion. We are very concerned with the potential of damage to the Sand Creek blue ribbon trout stream.

Thank you,

Thomas F Winkler PE