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Comments: I feel that the current logging proposal is too aggressive. The time period (40 years) is too long in duration and the amount of clearcutting, especially on steep slopes, has potential complications such as increased risk of landslides, flooding, sediment in runoff, and explosive growth of invasive species. Not to mention the impact on our limited natural resources, nearby nature preserves, and local homeowners just outside the logged areas. Compromise between the interests of the forest service, preserving nature, and local homeowners seems the best way forward where everybody wins and loses to some degree.

Therefore, I support the alternative proposal (alternative 1) which reduces the logged period to six years, the overall acreage of logging, and eliminates some of the most aggressive clearcut methods.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

James Hiken, MD