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Comments: I am writing to express my support of Alternative 2 -Proposed Action for the Jackson Mountain Landscape Project as described in the Environmental Assessment. In our current climate, reducing fire severity by reducing fuel loading in our forests is such an important action to take if our forests are to remain healthy. The EA for this project takes into consideration many aspects of proposed project activities that could negatively impact the value of this forest to wildlife and people in the short term. When weighed against the long-term benefits of preventing a catastrophic wildfire and increasing forest diversity, these impacts seem justified. I am heartened to read that efforts to retain old growth trees, to encourage the growth of larger aspen stands and to make our forests more resilient in the face of climate change are part of the plan.

It is encouraging to feel that USFS management is placing a priority on managing this forest to benefit wildlife or at least placing the survival of resident species on equal footing with the desire for human recreation. We have many forest areas where bicycles, off-road vehicles, cars, careless camping and other recreational uses by people already pose challenges to wildlife. We cannot afford to ignore these impacts while biological diversity decreases worldwide.

Thank you. Jean Zirnhelt