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Comments: I support the recommendations made by Mountain True. I've copied them below. Our forests are critical natural capital for our region and are drivers for our economy. Yes, timber is important, but it is NOT the most important resource in our forests. The ecosystem services, the view sheds, the clean cool air, the clean mountain streams, the recreation services all are essential to our economy and are the MOST important resources. Our region would die without these resources.

Please make the needed changes suggested below.

Thank you.

We support the controlled burns in the proposal to maintain high-elevation pitch pine and oak forests and their associated wildlife.

We support the aquatic organism passage projects in the proposal to reconnect miles of stream for aquatic wildlife.

We support the construction of a new parking lot to facilitate recreational use and access.

Measures should be taken to prevent the spread of non-native invasive plant species due to logging and road building.

Skyline logging should be done on steep slopes, and road construction on steep slopes should be avoided to mitigate landslides and erosion risks.

Log fewer trees through the Rich Cove Forest Ecozone. The Lickston Project exceeds the natural range of variation in Rich Cove Forests, which could lead to a loss of ecological integrity.

Remove units 50 and 52 from the timber plan. These units are diverse and in good condition; logging them would degrade these healthy Rich Cove Forests.