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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I support a balanced approach that protects our natural forests while supporting sustainable recreation and controlled burns to prevent dangerous wildfires. As currently drafted, the Lickstone project includes important controlled burns, watershed improvements, and a new parking lot to accommodate recreation. Unfortunately, it also threatens the area's rich cove forests, ecological integrity, water quality, and wildlife habitat.

My Recommendations:

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

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

\*I 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 Lickstone 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.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.