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First name: Michelle

Last name: Smith

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for reading my comment. I support the recommendations offered by MountainTrue. There are too many important, ecosystems, waterways, at risk or endanger species, in the Lickstone Project areas. Local economies depend on these forest, being intact, accessible, and thriving. Also, the entire forest, as with all forests, have more value as carbon sequestration sinks as cut logs. The days of forest extraction are over. Forest need to be left standing for the ecosystem services they provide. Thank you again, Michelle Smith.

Our Recommendations:

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 Cover 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.

Project Summary:

944 acres of commercial logging

1041 acres of noncommercial tree cutting

1341 acres of controlled burns

6.27 miles of road construction

2.21 miles of net addition to the permanent road system