

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/31/2024 6:00:20 PM

First name: Andy

Last name: Zahn

Organization:

Title:

Comments: This project is ill-advised, and will do immense damage to the area if implemented as currently written. While I applaud the decommissioning of roads, as well as the repairing of unauthorized trails and stream crossings, I strongly object to the timber harvest and fuels management being proposed.

The 549 acres of remaining complex mature forests must be removed from harvest plans, all trees with diameters larger than 30" must be protected, and a no-cut buffer of 1.5 to 2 drip lines must be provided for all trees with a diameter of 40" or more to protect their root systems from the negative impacts of heavy machinery.

I would also strongly advise that you reconsider all proposed timber harvest and fuels management, as studies have shown this to actually increase fire danger. The key driving factors behind catastrophic fires are wind, heat, and drought. Timber harvest and fuels reduction increase wind speed, exacerbate drought conditions, and result in higher temperatures. Introduction of invasive species is also a concern.