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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

?To whom it may concern,

I am writing object to "Lower North South Vegetation Management" project which will enable the largest logging sale in Colorado history. In May 2024, I visited the proposed logging site in the Pike-San Isabel National Forest with my three young grandchildren. I wanted them to see for themselves the beauty of one of their public forests and to understand that citizens have to speak up to protect our nature treasures or they could be destroyed.

I understand that our forests are not healthy due to poor fire management over generations but this project includes up to 40 acre clear cuts - clear cutting is not thinning for fuel reduction - it is logging for timber sales. This technique often leaves behind slash piles, which are, in fact, highly flammable fuel for forest fires.

I strongly object to logging in endangered species habitat and roadless areas. Logging roads increase erosion and habitat fragmentation and introduce invasive species.

I agree that fuel reduction is needed in our mismanaged forests but it seems that this project does not have the science behind it to convince me that it will improve forest health and reduce fire hazard. It seems that it is merely an opportunity for logging companies to access our forest resources for profit.

I urge you to shelve this plan and draft a new plan that will reduce fuel and decrease fire risk using selective logging AND with ecological goals in the forefront.

On behalf of my grandchildren, thank you for considering the my comments. I hope profit takes a backseat to their natural legacy.

Sincerely yours,

Jody Riesberg