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Comments: Mountain City, Ruby Mountains and Jarbidge Ranger District,

The Little Paris Sheep Company would like to address a concern regarding noxious weeds for the forthcoming EA to consider. It is noted that the NOPA has carried forward for further analysis of noxious weeds in relation to fuel treatments, and it is appreciated that attention is being paid to this issue. However, the problem of noxious weeds requires further explanation as to why even more attention to their existence must be paid. In past instances of the Forest Service executing fuel treatments, it has been common that noxious weeds have grown in abundance in the areas the Forest Service has thinned of fire fuel. For example, the south end of the Rubies has seen a large expansion of noxious weeds where the Forest Service had just previously worked. Fuel treatments are important and necessary, but attention to the area of fuel treatments should extend beyond the fuel treatment itself. It is unclear how the noxious weeds were able to take over areas after fuel treatments, but it is highly suggested that treatments and/or maintenance management to the HTB are conducted in order to preclude the spread of noxious weeds.

Little Paris Sheep Company

David Little

November 24, 2024