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Comments: I'm writing to comment on the salvage logging proposal on the Boise National Forest, specifically for the part of the forest I'm most familiar with -- the Boulder/Lava fire burn area, starting at the Fawn-Tussock area marked on the nurn map, up through the northern part of the forest area that runs along the 404 road. My comments are as follows:

--Weed management on the forest is lacking, and it's especially important to ensure that logging equipment is free of weeds before it's allowed on this part of the forest, especially in burn areas, which lack adequate plant communities to outcompete species like Canadian thistle, houndstongue, and bull thistle. The Brush Creek logging job of 2022 left monstrous thistle patches in its wake, and the Forest lacks sufficient funds/personnel to repair them. I understand it's a regulation for logging equipment to be inspected for weed seeds, but I also feel like there ought to be a post-logging monitoring component to make sure weeds aren't making the most of the disturbance. After the Pioneer burn of 2022 we saw the increep of weeds onto decommissioned fire line, too, on parts of the forest that are only accessible by horse (or two legs, for the aerobically ambitious). Parts of the forest are being significantly changed by weed increep, and we could possibly do a better job of preventing that... particularly in logging areas, but also on fire line. (For the record, though, other logging jobs on this part of the forest have been pulled off with minimal weed spread, so I feel like it's possible to better prevent weed creep through vigilance.)

--This pertains less to burned areas than logging in general on this part of the forest... but there are parts of this mountain that harbor remarkable plant and fungal life. These are typically steep areas where cattle don't generally graze and areas that aren't frequented by motorized traffic. In 2023, in the aftermath of a logging job adjacent to private lands, I saw a notable curtailment of fungal systems that have fruited vigorously for generations. It was an area where equipment never made skid tracks -- trees were yarded out from a logging road above the slope -- which was interesting, because to me it showed that it wasn't the logging activity that was harming the soil, but the removal of trees itself that wounded the mycological communities there. (The logging also brought weeds, for the record.) I feel an onus to advocate for a 'hands-off' approach to some of the steeper areas on this part of the mountain so they're able to become safe havens of biodiversity on a Forest that's otherwise very productive for timber and grazing.

Thank you for hearing my comments.