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First name: Christina

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Greetings,

I am writing to add to my group of 3 comments from 2/18/23, 3/13/23, 4/2/24.

I do not feel the Forest Service is acting responsibly regarding invasive plants.

I have private ownerships on all sides of me, and I can literally no longer harvest timber on my land without risking an invasion from all sides. This is a big financial negative and will likely impact my son continuing on with his higher education. I can cut patches of my land, but that probably spells the end of it being a healthy, native forest. Or I can keep the forest uncut and hold off the invasive plant species. From what I see, it matters very little what we do to clean boots or machines. Deer and dogs and bicycles and birds will still bring seeds into places where there is sunlight. So if the Forest Service hasn't reached out to all the private property owners in the Telephone Gap Project area to identify the invasive plants that are on their lands, I think we will have a crisis on our hands. I do believe the agency drastically undercounts the problem, again based on my personal experience. And before any project gets underway, logging in particular, we need accurate information on all lands and a real plan with money committed to prevention up front. Please share the communications you have sent to private landowners bordering the national forest regarding what invasive plants are already on their lands.

Thank You, Christina Martin