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Comments: I would like to compliment the Forest Service and the contractor(s) on the cleanliness of this project. I recreated a lot in the Leverich and Kirk Hill area last summer and was pleasantly surprised by how well the slash management was performed, especially in steep areas where it is very difficult. I have not found any trash either, which is fantastic. Sourdough Road was also kept in great condition for the amount of use it got, well done!

Before this project, the amount of dead and down lodgepole was very concerning, from a fire and also a wildlife/forest health aspect. I like how these areas were specifically targeted to reduce the fuel load and open the canopy for future growth.

The Forest Service has done a great job of limiting closures and allowing recreation to continue throughout this project, which is a huge benefit.

I know that everyone worked really hard to make this project happen. I hope you know that there are people who appreciate the persistence of the FS to make this happen. Our forest is going to be much healthier now, and everyone and everything will benefit from this. I hope that this project can act as a template for future projects in our forests.

I know that I'm about 20 years late on this suggestion, but in Idaho (where I grew up), some logging projects would allow people to cut/harvest non-viable trees from the slash piles. We used to get a lot of firewood that way. There was a ton of dead lodgepole that would be great to skid out and stack for public consumption. I think that would be a win/win, but I know that also poses some challenges and risks.

Thanks for all the hard work out there! Keep pushing for these kinds of projects in the Bozeman area.