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First name: Harry

Last name: Benham

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I oppose the Hyalite-Cottonwood Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project.

First, some of the proposed treatment area may be within the Hyalite-Potcupine-Buffalo-Horn Wilderness Study Area(WSA). The WSA established by Congress in 1977 is protected and cannot be legally degraded without Congress removing its WSA status.

Second, wildlife including endangered species will be adversely impacted by modifications to their habitat. My experience with fuels reduction projects in Arizona is that 75% of the trees are gone and highly flammable logging/thinning debris covers the former forest floor.

Third, hardening of residential structures to withstand wildfires is considerably more effective than fuels reduction projects in the reduction of losses due to wildfire. Check the current science!

Finally, an EIS is definitely needed to assess the impacts on wildlife, water quality, and water runoff.