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Organization:
Title:
Comments: As a mother, a multi-generational Colorado who has a Masters in Natural Resource Management and who has worked in the field for over 30 years, I want to voice my strong opposition of what our National Forest Service has labeled, quite deceptively, the Pikes Peak Vegetation Management & Restoration Project. This plan is a thinly veiled plot for more extractive, private corporations to make yet more profits off of OUR PUBLIC LANDS, while the people and wildlife of Colorado suffer the consequences. The extremely brief public comment period of two weeks allotted for this project attests to a full awareness of disastrous impact of this project. As a citizen and a Coloradoan, I demand that no logging occur in the areas currently designated, as "Roadless Areas", nor in forests that is known habitat for threatened or endangered species. I demand that real forest scientists, real biologists, and real natural resource managers, be in charge of any modifications to OUR PUBLIC LANDS! That the ecosystem services that our forests provide, such as clean water, erosion protection, habitat for wildlife, recreation (which is the activity that Coloradoan's most benefit from economically- not mining and timber extraction, which only lines the pockets of private investors), increased health and well-being of people who reside in our forests, controlled hunting and fishing, increased soil and tree moisture which reduces wildfires and cools the ambient air temperatures, inspiration, biodiversity, and a legacy to hand down to our children and grandchildren be prioritized in OUR PUBLIC LANDS. Cutting down our forests only leads to MORE WILDFIRES, NOT LESS by drying out the soils and remaining vegetation, encouraging more people to enter a previously unaccessible area and starting unintentional fires. It caused sedimentation in our waterways, and the breakdown of ecosystem services. I know that logging is one of the multiple uses of our forests, but this plan is too destructive to be implemented, and lacks sustainability practices and consideration for OUR National Forest's various other uses.