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Comments: <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public/CommentInput?Project=68919>

Ranger Davies at robert.davies@usda.gov

I write in support of the recommendations outlined and specified below. These recommendations are supported by the best practices science and outweigh in every respect the damages inherent in the proposed 'treatments' made by the Forest Service. Don't add to the current damages incurred recently by the governmental dismantling of funding and employee dismissals that have left this arm of forest defense crippled. Resist the pressure to 'maximize' the intrusion on wild places. You can't bring back an ancient landscape and the things that live there.

The current administration sees themselves as 'warriors', out to conquer, not preserve, and conquer they will at the expense of life on our planet if they are not resisted. Clean air, water, soil, food are not on their agenda. I hope all of those things are on yours.

Do not log and build roads in the Pinnacle Creek watershed, where a 1993 Forest Service Environmental Impact Statement concluded that existing roads had increased sediment yield to that creek by nearly 12-fold and that "Roads will continue to generate sediment indefinitely unless they are restored to a pre-road condition."

Do not log and build roads in the Skyland area, which is far from the Highway 2 power line and transportation corridor - and also has a history of unstable soils, road slumps and culvert failures.

While removing trees that can strike power lines may help prevent wildfires, logging and thinning forests actually makes them drier, windier and more prone to rapid fire spread.

First complete the Forest Plan amendment you promised in 2022 to clarify what types of activities are allowed and not allowed in areas the Plan recommends be added to the National Wilderness Preservation System - before planning prescribed burns and Whitebark Pine restoration that may involve motorized equipment in proposed Wilderness and roadless areas.

Exercise your discretion under the emergency authority and prepare an in-depth Draft Environmental Impact Statement, then release it for a 90-day public comment period before finalizing it. Past EIS's show you have big problems to fix in this area, and not make worse!

I hope you are strong enough to reconsider the path you choose.

Sincerely,

Carol V Edwards

