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First name: Madison

Last name: Kobold

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am in objection to this project.

As a restoration ecologist in Glacier National Park, I recognize the importance of preserving forest ecosystems in the surrounding environments to provide vital habitat for an abundance of species, including rare and endangered species. Forest ecosystems provide irreplaceable and unreplicable services that humans and non-human relatives rely on to survive- including purifying water, air, and soil, as well as providing important habitat and migration corridors for wildlife, recreational opportunities for people, and a variety of ecosystem services that help keep the web of life in tact. While I can understand the desire to reduce fuels within forest ecosystems, I believe it is equally important to approach the decision with tact, as well as an understanding of what is at risk, and who will benefit in the long run. I personally believe the best ways to reduce fuels within a forest ecosystem is not by manual removal, but by the reintroduction of forest management practices that humans have practiced here since time immemorial- practices that are in balance with the natural world, such as prescribed burning and the introduction of valuable ecosystem engineers.

Thank you for your time.