

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/12/2026 5:00:00 AM

First name: Chris

Last name: Brooks

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Hi Suzanne,

The online portal for entering comment letters kept freezing yesterday when I submitted my comment, so I'm not sure whether it was successfully submitted?

Attaching my comment here, just in case there is some issue with the online system.

Thanks,

I am a resident of East Middlebury, Vermont owning property that abuts Forest Service land impacted by this potential project. I'm also an active user of the trail system that exists in the area potentially impacted by this project, as are many members of our community. I'm writing to express my very sincere concerns with a number of aspects of the project as proposed, and to urge the USFS to strongly reconsider.

Overall, the public has not received adequate information in order to understand the project plans and the rationale for the project. The period for public presentation and public comment has been inadequate. The project maps show that up to 2700 acres could be a part of this prescribed burn[mdash]an extremely large area. The USFS hasn't clarified when and where more targeted burns would take place.

There are also significant concerns about impacts to environmental and public health. Numerous people who live in our neighborhood abutting the project area have asthma. We live only thousands of feet from one of the proposed staging areas for the controlled burn. More information is also needed about the use of herbicides; the plan for application and criteria for determining if/when to use herbicides.

As a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, this proposed project should undergo a full review under the National Environmental Policy Act (see section 102(c)). At the very minimum, the USFS should extend the period of public comment and provide more information to the public to clarify the details of the plan.

Sincerely,