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Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my concerns over the proposed Jardine Logging Project. First and foremost are my concerns for public safety. This is an area highly coveted by locals and visiting tourists alike for the recreational opportunities it affords. To increase the traffic with logging trucks on roads that are in poor conditions and people drive to fast would be a mistake. I also don't think many loggers want to see people/dogs wondering around in their logging job while they are trying to operate. This would be a safety concerns for most people. NEPA must also address noise and dust.

Additional concerns include this project is reportedly to reduce fuel loads and create healthy resilient forests. I have read no valid research that suggests clear cuts do this. As for reducing fuel loads, many of the residents burn with wood, leaving plenty of fuel in the area.

Clear cutting forests basically takes everything and does not leave the trees that are resistant to disease. The wood market is terrible and I know this because my dad is a logger. Why cut trees for no profit and it will likely be subsidized? Furthermore these trees help with carbon sequestration and will be irreplaceable once gone. I know there are healthy white bark pine up there as I hike up there all the time. What will be done to mitigate for the WBP trees taken? Finally if this is being done to reduce wildfire risks, clearcuts will undoubtedly introduce cheatgrass. Although much of Jardine does not have cheatgrass, it's undoubtedly in the seedbank just waiting to be released. Cheatgrass is known to increase the frequency of fire and prevent trees from germinating. Additionally it has already been clearcut in the past. Targeted clearcuts around Jardine would do more to prevent fire than random clearcuts.

I am concerned about the temporary roads that will be created. I have never seen a temporary road rehabilitated. They always mean more soil compaction and weeds. The FS barely has enough personnel to survey for rare plants/archeology/weeds/timber, let alone treat weeds. I also doubt very much that we would agree on what is an ecological weed vs. and agricultural weed.

And how is wildlife habitat being addressed? I certainly have seen my fair share of critters while I've been hiking around. Lots of sign of grizzly bears and wolves.

Thank you for considering these comments and taking them under careful consideration.