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First name: Sharon

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: We are writing to express significant concerns regarding the Flat Tail Management Project in the Whitepine drainage next year. Our home, situated near Whitepine Creek, has experienced two high water incidents since we purchased it in 2008, most recently in December 2025.

We, along with our neighbors, are worried this project will increase water runoff, resulting in much higher creek levels and posing a serious flooding risk to properties located in the Whitepine drainage.

Our apprehension is rooted in well-established ecological and hydrological principles. The removal of significant tree and brush cover in a sensitive drainage like Whitepine can dramatically alter natural water retention and flow dynamics.

Such operations typically result in diminished soil stability, accelerated snowmelt, reduced evapotranspiration, and a substantial increase in surface runoff velocity and volume. This, in turn, amplifies the risk of severe soil erosion and, critically for us, drastically elevated creek levels that pose an imminent threat of catastrophic flooding to our property and potentially to other residences throughout the Whitepine Valley.

We request this notice is taken seriously and that the highest levels of preventative mitigation is implemented to avoid a rise in Whitepine Creek flow levels.

While we appreciate this project is an effort in fire and disease control, we would like reassurance that the potential for future flooding, due to the scope of this project, is given equal consideration to safeguard Whitepine Valley residents.

Respectfully,

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