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Comments: I urge a halt to this rushed proposal to heavily log the recent burn areas of the Akawa Fire footprint outside of Sisters, Oregon.

Wildfire burns are incredibly important areas for biodiversity and some species depend on snag forests. Keeping biomass present is important to hold moisture and provide habitat for establishment of plants and animals, supporting the future stages of this forest. You can read an overview here:

<https://www.nationalforests.org/article/snagtastic-why-wildlife-need-dead-trees-too/>

Each acre of land should retain the minimum number of trees necessary for sustaining habitat for these species of conservation concern, and trees of suitable diameters for those species should be retained. Prescriptions for numbers and sizes of trees to retain should be based on habitat criteria already published by USFS wildlife research scientists.

Locally, our mule deer population is imperiled and needs the type of forage that will come in the wake of this fire, but intense logging operations will ruin this opportunity.

Furthermore, adding more roads for logging, as proposed in this project actually increases wildfire risk. Read more here: <https://www.science.org/content/article/prevent-forest-fires-trump-wants-end-road-building-ban-scientists-are-skeptical>

Slow your roll, USFS! Don't exacerbate damage by rushing this process. Your lack of adequate timing sets you up for a costly lawsuit that wastes taxpayer dollars.

Thank you for your consideration,
Amy Sabbadini, resident of Bend, Oregon