Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 7/9/2019 10:01:39 PM
First name: Carol
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Organization:
Title:
Comments:
Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

Mr. James Melonas, Forest Supervisor Santa Fe National Forest
11 Forest Drive
Santa Fe, NM 87508

RE: Scoping comments for the Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

Dear Mr. Melonas,

Having been a long time resident of New Mexico, I am very concerned about the proposed project by the Forest Service to drastically reduce the number of trees over 50,000 acres of forest. It is critical that a longer time be allotted for public comment and for expert witnesses to have the opportunity to speak about their deep understanding of the consequences of what appears to be a hurried decision.

Since carbon sequestering is so important in this time of climate crisis, it is essential to review all the scientific data available about the most likely results of such a large project, a project that reduces the amount of carbon sequestration by such a tremendous percentage. Rather than speeding to approve this vast project, it would be wise to allow a range of experts and the public to share their experience and intelligent viewpoints, which may help bring forth alternative measures to help mitigate the impact of wildfires. I urge you to allow for other solutions to be considered, solutions that will not have such far reaching negative effects as this project will on carbon sequestration, wildlife and rain fall (it is known that rain fall is lessened in areas where forests have been reduced, and increases as forests are increased). In this time of great environmental concern, and Environmental Impact Statement is also an important aspect of the process.

I sincerely hope you will take to heart the concerns of the public to save the forests, to keep as many trees intact as possible, and to search for less destructive avenues to achieve the ultimate end of less wildfire destruction.

Respectfully,
Carol Ennis
209 Dartmouth NE
Albuquerque, NM