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Organization:

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Comments:

I respectfully request that the Santa Fe National Forest prepare a NEPA-compliant Environmental Impact Statement as part of the proposed Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project and extend the public comment period to 90 days. This report should address the concerns of individuals as well as those raised by advocacy groups including the Santa Fe Conservation Alternative to the Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project, as put forth jointly by the Sierra Club, Defenders of Wildlife, and WildEarth Guardians.

I make this request as an annual visitor to Santa Fe and longtime resident of the Adirondack State Park, NY. Here in the Adirondacks, similarly important public land management decisions are made through a deliberative process like the one that has been implemented in the Santa Fe Mountains. Despite the difficulty involved in reaching consensus among natural resource professionals, advocacy groups and individuals, the advantages of doing so are well known to those of us who are dedicated to ethical approaches to natural resource management.

Despite the tensions inherent to such a process, the importance of a method that is responsive to public inquiry and input, that includes comprehensive research and reporting by the decision-making entity cannot be overstated. The consequences of implementing a management plan that falls short of these ideals includes an erosion of trust in State and Federal Agencies that undermines progress towards common ground and the collaborative ethical stewardship of our public lands.

Thank you for your consideration.