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To whom it may concern:

This is a response to the comments for managing the Santa Fe National Forest.

I use the forest for purposes of hiking, skiing, birding, camping and I love nature and it replenishes my spirit.

It brings something that I can't find in other places-- It brings peace of mind and spiritual happiness.

This is such an important use of the forest and I believe it is needed more than ever at this time of human existence on our planet.

We all know that the earth is heating up and global warming is our biggest threat to survival as humans and to all of life on the planet. We know that trees absorb the carbon and give back fresh oxygen for us to breathe.

I believe that now is the time to increase size and health of forests rather than decrease them by logging, mining, controlled burning and constant damage by building more roads and other activities that create destruction of wildlife habitat and causes degradation of rivers and streams.

Stop deforestation by unsustainable logging practices, livestock grazing and burning of the forests. We don't have time to waste with Global warming looming and we need to take each moment we have to develop healthier and larger forests with a multilayered canopy and mixed conifers.

We should be planting more trees not burning more trees down. The controlled burns in the past have not proven effective for stopping forest fires. I believe that as trees die, and as the forest composts- it brings nutrients back to the soil that is so often lost when it has been burned. It adds a protection layer to the ground floor of the forest and serves as habitat to many animal and plant species that are so threatened.

I believe we should be expanding forests and wilderness areas.

This is urgent and we need to respond as rapidly as possible.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Paula Seaton