

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 7/9/2019 12:49:09 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Scoping Comments for the SF Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

Mr. Melonas,

I am a resident of Santa Fe and am very concerned about the enormous size of this project, the short comment period allowed by the public, and the repeated response by the Forest Service employers that there will be no Environmental Impact Statement regarding it's effects on our forest. It took longer, with more public input, to approve the small Railyard Project, in comparison to the 50,000 acres slated for this project.

I would like to know why there is such a rush to push this permanent cutting and burning of our forests? Please extend the comment period to 90 days to enable a more democratic process.

The Forest service claims that that the entire forest needs to be thinned and burned, but the research of Dr. Chad Hansen and Dr. Jack Cohen shows that the most effective mitigation is to treat directly around homes and structures . This current science must be taken seriously.

Climate scientists with experience in forestry, such as Dr. Dominick Della Sala should be allowed to weigh in during the critical time of massive loss of species, habitat and plants in our local Santa Fe area.

We need to cut carbon sequestering plants. They provide Santa Fe our only buffer against the climate crisis. We truly need every tree we have and every other plant in Santa Fe to help us bring moisture and rain; keep the ground cool as the temperatures rise, and decrease winds and the spread of pests and other parasites on trees that occurs with thinning.

Please consider treating this situation democratically and let taxpayers express their wishes.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Rubin

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