

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 7/7/2019 8:01:52 PM

First name: Jan

Last name: Tomski

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

Dear Forest Service,

Several times a year my family and I enjoy the forests of New Mexico, so I am concerned about the impact this proposal will have on this beautiful site.

This letter is being written about the Scoping Document for the Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project. I appreciate the Forest Service soliciting public comment on this project, and have a number of concerns with the Forest Service's proposal:

1. An EA is inappropriate for a project of this scale and complexity that impacts many threatened and sensitive species, old growth forests, roadless areas and streams and riparian areas. Because this project will have significant impacts to these and other resources, a thorough, site-specific analysis of all environmental impacts in an Environmental Impact Statement is required.
2. The Forest Service will need to analyze a full range of alternatives to the agency's proposal, including the Santa Fe Conservation Alternative submitted by WildEarth Guardians and others.
3. The Forest Service needs to identify and implement the minimum road system on a landscape scale and employ a thoughtful, strategic approach to assuring public access while reducing negative impacts from forest roads to water quality and aquatic habitats, and improving watersheds and forest resiliency by returning expensive, deteriorating, and seldom-used forest roads to the wild.
4. The Forest Service should consider the best available science. In order to do a responsible analysis, the agency needs to consider all the data, including contrary, credible views and data.
5. Climate change intensifies the adverse impacts associated with tree thinning, prescribed burning, and roads. In order to preserve and maintain this environment, the Forest Service must consider the risks of increased disturbance when analyzing the proposed project, as part of the affected environment, and as part of the agency's hard look at impacts.

6. The Forest Service should also analyze the cumulative impacts of the proposed project with all other past, present and foreseeable future projects within the broader landscape, including the Hyde Park and Pacheco Canyon projects, livestock grazing, and motorized use.

Thank you for your time and attention with this matter.

Sincerely,

Jan Tomski
464 Inca Street
Denver, CO 80204
jantomski@msn.com