

### Santa Fe Mountain Landscape Resiliency Project

*The Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency (SFMLR) Project is a vegetation management project spanning approximately 50,566 acres proposed by the Española and Pecos-Las Vegas Ranger Districts. The purpose of the Project is to improve the ecosystem resilience of a priority landscape to future disturbances including wildfire, climate change, and insect outbreaks.*

*The SFMLR project is an activity implementing a land management plan and not authorized under the HFRA and is subject to 36 CFR 218 Subparts A and B.*

*Only individuals or entities (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) who submit timely and specific written comments (as defined by 36 CFR 218.2) about this proposed project or activity during this or another public comment period established by the Responsible Official will be eligible to file an objection. Other requirements to be eligible to submit an objection are defined by 36 CFR 218.25 (a)(3) and include name, postal address, title of the project and signature or other verification of identity upon request and the identity of the individual or entity who authored the comments. Individual members of an entity must submit their own individual comments in order to have eligibility to object as an individual. A timely submission will be determined as outlined in 36 CFR 218.25 (a)(4). It is the responsibility of the sender to ensure timely receipt of any comments submitted. Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the public record and may be released under the Freedom of Information Act.*

*Specific written comments should be within the scope of the proposed action, have a direct relationship to the proposed action, and must include supporting reasons for the Responsible Official to consider (36 CFR 218.2).*

*This is an opportunity for you to provide your interests, concerns, and recommendations for the SFMLR Project area. You may be assisted by a facilitator and/or note taker. This form may serve as your submission of comments for the Scoping period.*

**How do we contact you?**

**Please provide your specific comments below.**

21 Cougar Rd, Santa Fe 87505  
Maj Britt Eagle

June 24, 2019

To the Forest and Freshed Coalition,  
From the Nation Magazine, the Christian Science Monitor, YES!, we hear that carbon "farming", "ranching", "gardening" can reduce emissions, restore ecological balance, and offer hope to the rising generation; i.e., regenerative practices in our forests will remove the carbon that fuels

Climate disturbance when it is in our atmosphere.



please see p.2

As home owners adjacent to the Santa Fe Forest, Forest Rd 79, we question the unprecedented scale of this project, its reluctance to reveal specific details, and seeming lack of deep environmental analysis. For example, necessarily road/machines will intrude into wildlife habitat; this effects a loss of wildlife security, especially if, as I understand, the clearing of the forest and ensuing burn of slash (piled high - why? for fire intensity?), will happen at intervals (every 10 years). Reminder that Aldo Leopold highlights the value of every member of our ecosystem, whether or not we understand each one's function.

"In wilderness lies the salvation of the world", (Thoreau), and this project's impact to our wilderness (roadless areas have great value!) will lessen the economic value of our home, and most certainly our joy in inhabiting our forest.

You state in your letter to the public that this project will improve the forest's resilience to insects, disease, and climate change, yet the opposite seems the case: a tree is not a forest. On its own a tree cannot establish a consistent local climate. It is at the mercy of wind and weather. But together, many trees create an ecosystem that moderates extremes of heat and cold, stores a great deal of water, and generates a great deal of humidity — to get to this point the community of trees must remain intact, no matter what. Every tree is valuable — in part by virtue of the "smart" ecology of communication beneath the soil. (Peter Wohlleben, Hidden Life of Forests)

Beauty is inherent to our realizing a healthy, resilient forest; have you a landscape architect to design and oversee the cut and burn? Fire, in effect, alarms: when you burn the slash, toxins + chemicals will be released, their embers carried by the wind to the watershed. Particulates will be inhaled by our residents, wildlife and human — to the detriment of health of all. Such burning and clearing when monsoons happen erodes the soil — so that said "regeneration" can not occur, perhaps ever again.

Maj-Britt Eagle 24 June '19