

Date submitted (Mountain Standard Time): 8/5/2019 12:00:00 AM

First name: Louise

Last name: Baum

Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Re: Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

Dear Mr. Melonas,

There are many aspects of the planned "Resiliency" project that concern me. I request that an Environmental Impact Statement be extensively researched and prepared now, before any further progress of this project goes forward.

My specific concerns include:

Project Roadless Areas -- do not open them up, ensure that no commercial logging takes place in them, or mining or other extractions.

Old Forest Roads should be obliterated, not used for bringing in tree clearing equipment, let them go back to Nature.

It is very important to protect wildlife, and burning, cutting, etc. will negatively affect wildlife -- we need to preserve the integrity of the interconnected nature of our Forest ecosystem.

I am particularly outraged at the plan's intention to only spare a "minimum of 20%" of old growth trees! These trees are the backbone and essential substance of the Forest. We need to protect them, not sacrifice them to someone's ill-conceived idea of what the forest should look like.

I also want you to work with the proposed alternatives to the present plan put forth by Defenders of Wildlife, and Forest Guardians.

And it is very important to work with the local people who know, and deeply respect and understand this area. Some people in the Forest Service, are rotated in and really are ignorant of local realities.

Also I would like you to extend the comment period to 90 days.

And again, I reiterate -- an Environmental Impact Statement needs to be done as so many of us are requesting.

Additionally I am very concerned that the toxic chemicals used to ignite one area after another will have a very negative impact on wildlife, and all of us who breathe the air that will be contaminated by the burning.