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Organization:

Title:

Comments:

Santa Fe Mountains Landscape Resiliency Project

With the proposal of cutting down 90% of the trees and shrubs across up to 33 square miles, the forest service will certainly be minimizing forest fires in that area, but not in a healthy way. This kind of clearing is devastating to the ecosystem, removing homes from the animal population, soil-holding roots that the plant population depend upon, and providing a basis for mass erosion that will surely decimate the area for generations to come. This is clearly the government taking the easiest route to preventing forest fires by eliminating the forests rather than managing the forests for their enjoyment by all. Additionally, minimizing the light absorption that the effected volume of trees and shrubs currently provide with their energy-use and release of oxygen byproduct, will result in heating that same effected area which will mean the remaining trees and shrubs will have to adapt to a harsher, dryer and hotter living space, and many of those remaining 10% will likely die off, leaving more of a desert environment than a managed forest. If the US Forest Service doesn't want to manage the forests and their respective ecosystems, then they should give these forests back to the various states. Each state may not be equipped to handle the extra burden of work involved, but by simply not doing anything which would surely result in such a case, the forests and their respective ecosystems would at least in the short-term, be protected.

Respectfully,

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