The project proposes to enhance landscape and species resilience to future wildfire by restoring forests to their natural (historical) range of variation. It is spurred on the unusually dry forests and high risk of wildfire. Yet in the current changing climate it may be impossible to return to the historical range of variation. Any IES which does not include future projections of species viability in the project area will be inadequate.

Please consider the information coming out of the Moscow Forestry Science Laboratory. It is species specific and includes the region under discussion. Even the short term projections of forestry loss are significant. A major effort to replant areas in species the “new climate” can support will be required.

The current loss of forest to beetles, disease and fire should encourage you to limit logging to only areas necessary for the health of the forest and to plant appropriate species for the future generations.