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Comments:

Dear Mr Thomas Montoya and other associated forest supervisors.

As a landowner and a recreational miner in the proposed project areas, I'd like to ask what took so long?

The forests belong to the public, yet they are in very poor management. I've seen the beetle kill take it's toll, all in the name of salmon and special interest groups. My own land was damaged by a fire from a fire which spread from a mismanaged adjacent forest, I was never compensated for the loss of 40 acres of heavy wood.

I've also seen what misdirected arial seeding has done to the forest above mine, so thick nothing will grow, yet miles of acreage was not seeded. Perhaps more troops on the ground and less driving around?

There are trees from the 96 fire that should have been salvaged, now down and providing a more than unsightly view of the what was once a beautiful and lush forest. All of thia was taken away because you failed to manage the forest we entrusted to your department.

I would welcome the time to tour the area of old Susanville with you, Lookout Mountain, and a host of others. Show me what the USFS has done to better our land. Show is your accomplished tasks, and don't count shutting roads to the public as one of them.

I'm hoping that we can return to a FS which is funded by how well it manages the forest, how well it provides for recreation, jobs, and beautiful places to camp.

As a last note, what if another fire breaks loose that you set for burning underbrush and it damages private property, will you be liable?

I'd like to see our forests cleaned up, undergrowth cleared, and noxious weeds removed. No road closures, and systematic and well manages reforestation. Our national forests are of substantial value to the livelyhood of countless loggers, hunters, and outfitters. Don't you owe us an explanation for your past failures?

Sincerely

Bob Benton  
USMC Retired  
817-565-0766