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02/26/02 10:51 AM

To: jgreis@fs.fed.us

cc:

Subject: Southern Forest Resource Assessment Comments

Mr. John Greis

Dear Mr. John Greis,

I am commenting on the draft of the Southern Forest Resource Assessment (SFRA).

- (1) The draft shows that 30 million acres of forest will be lost to sprawl through 2040.
- (2) The draft shows that 270 million acres of forests will be harvested to produce products.

I encourage you to include a more complete analysis of ecological and socio-economic threats posed by the expansion of forestry and sprawl.

The impacts that need analysis are:

- (1) Wetlands
- (2) Water quality
- (3) Recreation acreage
- (4) Diversity of wildlife and the continuing robustness of the environment to withstand assaults of all forms.
- (5) Diversity of species and the continuing robustness of the environment to withstand assaults of all forms.
- (6) Viability of communities as industrialization decreases jobs. These communities and economies will need other jobs, such as recreation and other forest activities not related to mere "chopping trees".
- (7) Distortions of efficient markets due to undue influence, such as what has happened in the farming business.
- (8) Excessive costs of infrastructure, time spent traveling, etc due to sprawl. Just look at Houston, which on a percentage basis, has the highest tax rate (including all taxes) of any city in the nation (according to a Houston Chronicle article).

I hope you will add the full life cycle costs of all stake holders, not just the tree companies.

Sincerely,

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