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AM

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To

cc

Subject
public comment on plan outlined at
http://www.blm.gov/nhp/news/release/s/pages/2005/pr051110_vegEIS.htm

Dear Department of Land Management;

1 Regarding the request for comments on the "treatment" of vegetation on public lands, how could I not comment?

Like approximately one two hundred Americans, I have a strong, noticeable reaction to herbicide, which has prompted me to do a large amount of reading and research on the subject. Suh symptoms are commonly listed in the MSDS of these products, but even people with these reactions seldom make the connection to which products, of the thousands we're routinely exposed, are responsible for their headaches, fatigue, etc. In my case, as in many, the effects are debilitating, but as the medical attitude towards these chemicals is "just don't use them", there is no protection for me -- I'm at the mercy of others, such as yourselves, not to.

2

* Synthetic chemical herbicides have a strong links to cancer, increasing the instance of some common cancers such as lukimia by a factor of 10
* Run-off disrupts neural activity in fish and shellfish, causing dwindeling

3 * Attempting to radically alter the composition of forests to reduce the risks of fires for the benefit of a few who foolheartedly built homes too near the forest is obscene and demonstrates bizarre priorities and a God complex

* Invasive pest species, in all but rare cases, will only attach to recently disturbed earth, such as by newly created trails and roads, and will not distrub land densely populated by primary vegetation such as trees

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- * Aerial spraying has been banned previously, and for good reason -- the spirit of banning aerial spraying should be upheld even if loopholes permit its use -- drift pesticide distributes the nervous systems of birds of prey, such as eagles and falcons, as well as beneficial insects and the small birds that eat harmful insects
 - * Causes a general sense of malaise, tiredness, fatigue, and shortness of breath, even in humans without any special
 - * Millions of Americans, after having had personal experiences with the effects of pesticides or after having taken time to read about the issues involved, have made the decision to make the effort to keep pesticides out of their lives

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I write this as ten days of high pollution warnings in the Phoenix metro area make it extremely difficult to even go outside and cycle, an activity that should and normally does get me much needed fresh air and help me feel better. Such plans are only short sighted, temporarily in good effect, surprising long in ill effect, and destructive. I strongly urge you reconsider the proposed pesticide applications. I learned a long time ago that I cannot safely visit a national park for fresh air. This is a crying shame.

Regards,
-scott

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