

Rattlesnake Project,  
c/o Content Analysis Group,  
172 E. 500 S,  
Bountiful, UT 84010.  
bhnf@contentanalysisgroup.com  
"Rattlesnake Project" scoping comments

Dear Mr. Kozel and the Content Analysis Group:

Please consider the following personal comments regarding your request for public input on the Rattlesnake Project Area on the Black Hills National Forest.

I agree with Prairie Hills Audubon Society that the Rattlesnake Project Area has "an exceptionally wild landscape for the Black Hills and a potential for a wonderful and beautiful back-country hiking experience with a roadless area at the core." And "the potential to provide 'old growth pine' habitat and larger old yellow barks -- a very important and 'at risk' biodiversity element on our forest."

Like the Norbeck Society, I am "especially concerned about the proposed road construction" that "would certainly affect the integrity of the natural character of the larger area."

Like Biodiversity Conservation Alliance, I reject as scientifically unfounded the "Forest Service argument that timber management schemes will have any major impacts on lessening potential pine beetle infestation or wild fire." And "Backcountry logging of tree stands that add no benefit tot the protection of the wildland-urban interface."

I agree with the Wyoming Wilderness Association that "the Black Hills National Forest areas that were once heavily logged be restored to natural conditions and allowed to rest," including the Rattlesnake Project Area.

And I agree with the Defenders of the Black Hills that "while we transition towards climate change mitigation as the central organizing principle of society, we should immediately insist that our public land management decisions focus on enhancing short-term carbon sequestration," including actions on the Rattlesnake Project Area.

Please bear these concerns in mind as you revise your proposal for the Rattlesnake Project Area to reflect the wishes of the public.

Sincerely,