

Sophia Cassam

From: Lynda Guernsey
Sent: Wednesday, April 13, 2022 8:56 AM
To: Comp Plan Update
Subject: FW: Revision to 2.2F
Attachments: Comp Plan- Timber Harvesting.docx

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From: Peter Kilpatrick <peterk@sanjuanco.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 4:43 PM
To: Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: Revision to 2.2F

Peter Kilpatrick- 4/12/2022

A proposed change to the Draft Land Use and Rural Element section

2.2F Natural Resource Conservation section

Currently written as; Conserve forest lands in DNR's forest grades 1-5 classification for long term timber production.

Background: I've been concerned for quite a few years that a viable commercial timber industry in San Juan County has a potential for significant impact. There really hasn't been substantial harvesting, mostly because the price for raw logs has been low for a long time. If the price went up to levels that made it attractive to individual landowners, we could see a real change in the wild beauty that we are used to. With prices low, we have an opportunity to make changes to our timber resource designations before it becomes a crisis.

Proposal: To conserve our forest resource lands with a listed priority for carbon sequestration instead of for harvesting.

- ~ Allow the continuance of existing harvesting plans.
- ~ Allow all other harvesting plans to be for local use only, not for export out of the county
- ~ Encourage permitting for county milling and lumber production facilities.
- ~ Allow for wildfire mitigation plans.
- ~ Encourage low impact harvesting techniques.
- ~ Convert the Open Space timber classification to an Open Space carbon sequestration classification.
- ~ Establish a new classification for Open Space carbon sequestration, with the corresponding tax benefits.
- ~ Set a goal for the percentage of total land area of San Juan County to be devoted to high density forest devoted to carbon sequestration. Start at 10%.
- ~ Pursue the conversion of state trust lands from timber harvesting to carbon sequestration.