

FIRE

ECOLOGICAL FACTORS

<u>Air</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Safety</u>	<u>Prescribed/Wild</u>	<u>Recreation</u>	<u>Economic</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Wildlife</u>	<u>Vegetation</u>	<u>Questions</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can something be done to keep down the dust? • Limit air quality problems • Minimal impact on air quality • Will they stop burning when the valley fills with smoke? • Aspen Trail – the whole valley filled with smoke – is that what they would do? Problem with breathing the smoke • How to reduce the impact on the residents? Bad for local economy when the smoke fills the valley 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cattle grazing to keep brush down to help prevent fire • Is it a good idea to have grazing on such a popular canyon? • What is the impact of the cows on the river to other wildlife? • Canyon has not changed since 1800s because of old practices of stewardship through grazing, firewood harvesting. Grazing brings back grasses for other game 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety to private lands • Prevent erosion on side roads used by ATV • Speed limit – to keep down dust • Inevitable fuel reduction • Fuel reduction increase safety to visitors in canyon. Protecting campgrounds, Boy Scout camp, trail heads, Alta water supply, Driggs water supply, ski area • Boy Scout camp is important in this setting and the SAFETY of the SAFETY of the scouts is important – there is only one access to/from camp • Firefighter public safety • Safety for people in canyon • Do they have to leave the trees standing after the burn? Danger – fall on you. Spring Creek is ruined since the burn 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How would wild-fires affect noxious weeds? • Burning takes away from grazing and other things for agriculture • Keep it from burning however we have to • Will the canyon be closed when they do a prescribed burn? Will the willows burn? • How to reduce the impact on the residents? Bad for local economy when the smoke fills the valley • How will the sequester affect available funds for the burning project? Will the burn be done in stages? • Do they have to leave the trees standing after the burn? Danger – fall on you. Spring Creek is ruined since the burn • Reduce in small chunks – small controlled burns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a key location for photography in this valley • Something to do all year round • Open view sheds • Easy trail, good for guests – walk 10 minutes see beautiful things • What would be the impact to the trails if they had to bring in heavy equipment? What are the effects of the machines on the trails? • Can a trail be put in on North side of creek? • Provides important wildlife habitat, quiet non-motorized recreational activities (above trailhead south of North fork) • Recreational opportunities • Noise and cost of getting timber out • Solitude/Quiet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not recommending timber sale • Not wasting resources. Use the fuel to benefit the economy • Dead trees can be utilized – not just through burning. Can be used for firewood and other products. Fire should be last resort (x 3 comments) • If they can do timber harvest economically, would it pay for the harvest? • Could a waiver be used for citizens, groups to harvest timber/firewood voluntarily? • Take a look at historical active management of timber harvest and other tools. Burning is lazy way out and smoke is an issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alta culinary and irrigation water • Water quality • Appreciate the pristine cleanliness of streams, forests • Lots of water for use from the canyon for the city of Driggs and Grand Teton Canal and other irrigation water, so we need to protect water use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase forage for predators • Too vague a question – what wildlife are we trying to improve? Define improvement? • Be good to some wildlife, bad to others – younger vegetation under represented • Full of wildlife • Deer, elk, moose have reduced numbers due to habitat condition • What are the needs for the wildlife? • Don't know if it helps wildlife. Mother nature has done very well, who do we need to change that? • Support prescribed burn only if it helps wildlife. Ex. burn brush = new growth would be food for wildlife. More food for wildlife 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase age diversity • Increase vegetation diversity • Increase forage for predators • Restore Aspens to enhance the habitat • Thorn apple – remove, replace with willow • Increase Aspen across landscape • Habitat diversity – changing ecosystems • Forest health • Species diversity • Reduce risk of insect and disease • Aspens grow near water, on northern slopes. Burning out conifers will not increase Aspen growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access roads – can we keep them open without the tank traps and stopping traffic? A single sign in middle of the road (multiple use, no passage, etc.) would suffice. Need a way to get to help in a problem situation. Leave the roads open and warn people with signs like “possible fine if you go beyond this point” or something like that • What is the current condition? • What is the desired future condition? • Can they do small burns – how small is effective? • What are the needs for the wildlife? • What is the impact of the cows on the river to other wildlife? • Is it a good idea to have grazing on such a popular canyon? • Can a trail be put in on North side of creek?

<u>Air</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Safety</u>	<u>F I R E</u>			<u>Water</u>	<u>ECOLOGICAL FACTORS</u>		<u>Questions</u>
			<u>Prescribed/Wild</u>	<u>Recreation</u>	<u>Economic Benefit</u>		<u>Wildlife</u>	<u>Vegetation</u>	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no one easy fix. We need to find/maintain balance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inevitable fuel reduction Controlled burns necessary in some places and saw wood or firewood may be utilized. Controlled burn preferable to wild fire Would like more background info on fuels reduction. There are questions about effect of fuel reduction on habitat. There may be mulching value. Vegetation including dead debris has watershed value. Questions on catastrophic fire effect – if no danger then minimize disturbance Burning takes away from grazing and other things for agriculture Important – good habitat, the animals will be healthy and reproducing How long would the burn last? Reduce potential for large fire 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation is the biggest economic driver in this community Recreation. Good to have different people using canyon More wildlife habitat. Dogs need leashes year round Access roads – can we keep them open without the tank traps and stopping traffic? A single sign in middle of the road (multiple use, no passage, etc.) would suffice. Need a way to get to help in a problem situation. Leave the roads open and warn people with signs like “possible fine if you go beyond this point” or something like that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern with other fuel reduction – wood chip – concern about bringing in equipment to cut and chip – what would be the impact of bringing in machines. What would happen to the trails? How will it impact hikers? Noise and cost of getting timber out Open to firewood collection How will it affect the trails if they bring in machines? Aspen Trail – the whole valley filled with smoke – is that what they would do? Economic benefit of wood (harvesting for lumber and firewood), habitat of vegetation/game, recreation Reduce in small chunks – small controlled burns More open access to gather firewood – further in than 300 feet 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Of course, helpful for their food supply – increase food supply and provide better regrowth. It is the home for the wildlife. Maintain what we got in terms of wildlife Canyon has not changed since 1800s because of old practices of stewardship through grazing, firewood harvesting. Grazing brings back grasses for other game Teton Canyon haven for wildlife – putting up too many fences – wildlife do not have enough open area to migrate. Worry about all the wildlife. Want to maintain, not ruin wildlife habitat. Wildlife is beautiful and like to see it and needs protection. Wolves are affecting wildlife. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can something be done to keep down the dust? How long would the burn last? How much area would be burned at one time? Do they have to leave the trees standing after the burn? Danger – fall on you. Spring Creek is ruined since the burn What would be the impact to the trails if they had to bring in heavy equipment? What are the effects of the machines on the trails? How much does a control burn cost? What are the costs of the alternatives? Does it cost more to stop a wildfire? Can you take big equipment into a wilderness area? Would the campground or trail be closed during burn? How long?

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the canyon be closed when they do a prescribed burn? Will the willows burn? • Need to have pre-scribed burns. How do people get out if there is a fire – how do they get out? Prescribed burns will prevent this. Gain for wildlife – if they can't get food wildlife will leave the canyon • Can they do small burns – how small is effective? • How much area would be burned at one time? • Is important, but needs to be done in a safe manner. Not like Colorado Springs. Concern is the fire getting out of control. What is the safest time to do it? Fall? • There are places for burning there and places for timbering 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent erosion on side roads used by ATV • Important movement path • How will it affect the trails if they bring in machines? • <u>Moderate</u> cross country skiing • Incredible, fabulous place for hiking • It is a sanctuary, a place for solitude, introspection, peace, interaction with natural setting • One of the most beautiful canyons • Girl Scout camp – they learn good wilderness ethics (700 girls go through there in the summer) • Boy Scout camp is important in this setting and the SAFETY of the scouts is important – there is only one access to/ from camp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How extensive would fuels reduction be? Where? What are the options to fire? When would this happen? How would trails be affected, campgrounds, etc.? • How would water quality be affected, both surface and ground? Costs for harvest, chip, etc. vs. fire? Value in harvesting dead trees? Could that value pay for harvesting cost vs. prescribed fire? What recreation opportunities will be lost short and long term? • Limit time spent each summer – if it could be done in a week • More open access to gather firewood – further in than 300 feet • Not recommending timber sale 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Predators have controlling effect on wildlife and habitat plays minor role • Allow predators – grizzlies and wolves • Enhance wildlife diversity – elk, moose, deer, big horn sheep • Provides important wildlife habitat, quiet non-motorized recreational activities (above trailhead south of North fork) • Is important, but needs to be done in a safe manner. Not like Colorado Springs. Concern is the fire getting out of control. What is the safest time to do it? Fall? • More wildlife habitat. Dogs need leashes year round • Animals do not seem to be afraid of humans • Wildlife diversity – habitat retention 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the liability issues for prescribed burns? Will a controlled burn control the beetle problem? • How will the sequester affect available funds for the burning project? Will the burn be done in stages? • How extensive would fuels reduction be? Where? What are the options to fire? When would this happen? How would trails be affected, campgrounds, etc.? How would water quality be affected, both surface and ground? Costs for harvest, chip, etc. vs. fire? Value in harvesting dead trees? Could that value pay for harvesting cost vs. prescribed fire? What recreation opportunities will be lost short and long term?

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How much does a control burn cost? What are the costs of the alternatives? Does it cost more to stop a wildfire? Fuel reduction through fire is not economically beneficial to community. Wasting a resource Support prescribed burn only if it helps wildlife. Ex. burn brush = new growth would be food for wildlife. More food for wildlife Get wildlife more food. The animals will be forced out of the canyon during the controlled burn until the following summer. Where will they go? Would the animals come back? The controlled burns are good because you can control what you burn in contrast to wildfires Helps entire valley in many ways and fire may not be best or only tool If you get a wildfire what would the cost 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very popular for public – multiple use Scout camps Campground NOLS BEAUTY OF CANYON Gentle hiking with great views – great for non-hard-core hikers Riding bike and walking *Proximity and access to wilderness Non-motorized trail on North side of creek starting at the first parking lot Campgrounds should be used more and reduced fees would help with better use Serenity, beauty, wild life, trails, vistas, wild flowers Horseback riding Riding bike and walking Recreation. Good to have different people using canyon 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is wildlife, deer, coming into residential areas? Cars, traffic. What is the reason wildlife coming to residential areas to eat? Like to see wildlife habitat enhanced and canyon is shared with people Full of wildlife Good for big horn sheep; be good to see big horn sheep Why so many deer and elk in the neighborhoods? Wildlife Truly value the encounters with wildlife What are the needs for the wildlife? Restore Aspens to enhance the habitat Important – good habitat, the animals will be healthy and reproducing Wildlife habitat 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If they can do timber harvest economically, would it pay for the harvest? If you get a wildfire what would the cost be? Could a waiver be used for citizens, groups to harvest timber/firewood voluntarily? How would wildfires affect noxious weeds? Is important, but needs to be done in a safe manner. Not like Colorado Springs. Concern is the fire getting out of control. What is the safest time to do it? Fall? Concern with other fuel reduction – wood chip – concern about bringing in equipment to cut and chip – what would be the impact of bringing in machines. What would happen to the trails? How will it impact hikers?

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern with other fuel reduction – wood chip – concern about bringing in equipment to cut and chip – what would be the impact of bringing in machines. What would happen to the trails? How will it impact hikers? Fuel reduction would be good to prevent a massive forest fire, which would cost taxpayers millions of dollars to fight Fuel reduction increase safety to visitors in canyon. Protecting campgrounds, Boy Scout camp, trail heads, Alta water supply, Driggs water supply, ski area Fire is a natural cycle of the forest with ecological benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife, flowers, waterfalls, quiet, river, trails, mountains, walking the dog, hiking Birds, waterfalls, Teton creek, hiking, see moose; listen to the birds, wildflowers to shoulder. Take house guests, flat, accessible, unique. Not afraid to go alone Most beautiful place on west side of the Tetons, wildlife Access to background, solitude, exercise, close by, wild flowers, wild life Access to back country, up & over Close by, 10 minutes from home Easy trail, good for guests – walk 10 minutes see beautiful things Historical use for group parties/ gatherings 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce risk of insect and disease Is there food right away for the wildlife? Where do they go? Get wildlife more food. The animals will be forced out of the canyon during the controlled burn until the following summer. Where will they go? Would the animals come back? The controlled burns are good because you can control what you burn in contrast to wildfires Wild game should be taken care of and Boy Scout camp is important. Campgrounds should be used without such high fees 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will it affect the trails if they bring in machines? Aspen Trail – the whole valley filled with smoke – is that what they would do? Is there food right away for the wildlife? Where do they go? Problem with breathing the smoke Need to have prescribed burns. How do people get out if there is a fire – how do they get out? Prescribed burns will prevent this. Gain for wildlife – if they can't get food wildlife will leave the canyon Will the canyon be closed when they do a prescribed burn? Will the willows burn? Will they stop burning when the valley fills with smoke? How to reduce the impact on the residents? Bad for local economy when the smoke fills the valley