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Comments: Indigenous peoples once practiced prescribed burning of forests and landscapes, but our technology and infrastructure has come a long way since first-nations people had the influence on the land that they once did. With climate catastrophe affecting the vast majority of the earth today, it is too late to pretend to appreciate indigenous people's knowledge of ecosystems, especially because native peoples have been murdered and indoctrinated and the bison had been massively slaughtered to the point of extinction.

With our synthetic products and recreational lifestyles, our technology is invading the wild spaces and quiet places. How can we pretend to be like the ancestors by treating the land with prescribed burns in the name of preventing massive-scale wildfires and climate catastrophe? Our intention in this day and age is not caring for the land, but controlling it and profiting from it. Protecting our homes and structures does not mean thinning and burning old-growth forests, but building with ember-resistant materials and landscaping with drought tolerant plants and hardscape buffer zones. The prescribed burning is not the protection of our forests, the lungs of the earth, but the creation of roads that can be used for recreational sports, selling timber and supporting the economy/job market.

Prevention needs to address the cause. The forest service needs to stop calling the forest floor "dead fall" because, truly, the decaying trees and plants are the only way that the forest can regenerate. Once all the ground cover is gone, plants and animals do not adapt, they disappear. There is no benefit for animals from a logged forest, and the wood harvested is used by people for profit and construction. We need our homes and structures to be well away from our forests, and protect the habitat that we still have; we shouldn't be building with wood, we should use brick and metal.

I am against the for-profit extraction of "resources" on our public lands. Once the habitat is gone, it is GONE. Stop with this apocalyptic "get out the cut" model and be true to "maintaining wilderness character."

Attachments:

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