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Title:

Comments: As the Director of Sierra Outdoor School at Five Mile Creek, I see a tremendous need for this type of activity. Clearly the proposed project area would help to solve a critical fire danger situation to several communities including Cedar Ridge/Phoenix Lake, Columbia, Twain Hart, Miwok, and Sugar Pine just to name a few. Additionally, two outdoor educational facilities, Sierra Outdoor School and Old Oak Ranch Conference Center, would be given a layer of protection by reducing fuels. Combined the two outdoor facilities house up to 1,000 students, chaperones and staff at any given time.

At this time, I can say that I have never seen this part of the forest so overgrown. The Natural Range of Variationism about 78% of its normal range. To once again have a healthy forest, this SERAL project is desperately needed.

The Forest Service is deeply committed to forward thinking in its management of the forest. Projects like this are what will make our forest healthier and protect against devastating fire incidents. The Sierra Outdoor School looks forward to teaching our children about proper forest management and this project will give us an opportunity to do just that.