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Comments: A very important consideration before proceeding with this project should be whether prescribed burns will increase stress on key wildlife habitat that is already suffering from climate change. A paper by Jeanne M. Fair et al, "Avian communities are decreasing with pinon pine mortality in the southwest," published in Biological Conservation in 2018, suggests that they will. Fair is a scientist at Los Alamos laboratory. Her paper reads in part: "Thinning junipers to control for fires results in fewer trees and more herbaceous cover...richness and abundance (of birds) decrease faster at thinned sites than unthinned sites. Thus, pinon mortality may have a greater influence on bird communities, but added thinning practices in high mortality areas may accelerate bird declines." The conclusions would seem to apply to Ponderosa and mixed-conifer forests, too. If threatened or endangered species are present, the consequences could be even more alarming. Please review her paper.