

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/12/2021 9:38:43 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I write to express my opposition to using chainsaws to clear trails in wilderness areas. Hikers and campers know - or certainly should know - that being in the woods or wilderness means exposure to that which exists in nature, be it wildlife, poison ivy, unimpassable trails, etc. One reason I enjoy such areas is to experience nature as it exists; I recognize, as do my kids - nature as it should be.

Falling trees are a natural hazard that anyone who enters a Wilderness must be willing to accept-these are not managed forests, gardens or city parks, nore should they be. Chainsaws to clear wilderness trails is unnecessary and vulgar.

Dead and dying trees should be left alone in Wilderness.

If trails are to be cleared, it should be done only when critical, and only with trees that have already fallen. The Forest Service should use crosscut saws only rather than chainsaws.

I urge the Forest Service to exclude all Wilderness areas from this project, including any encroachment from activity on wilderness boundaries.