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Comments: I am a former Forest Service employee in Region 5. Snags are critical for many species of wildlife and should be left alone to the extent possible. Cutting snags in campgrounds, and perhaps along some roads, is probably justifiable. Cutting snags elsewhere, is not justifiable and is stupid. All snags in wilderness should be left alone.

I oppose using chainsaws to clear trails in Wilderness. I do volunteer trail work in wilderness, including R5 using cross cut saws. They are just fine for clearing fallen logs out of trails. Dead and dying trees should be left alone in Wilderness. The Forest Service should use crosscut saws, not chainsaws, to clear trails of only the fallen trees that must be removed. Chainsaws destroy wilderness. Wilderness visitors should be allowed to experience nature on its own terms, including any risks that entails. The Forest Service needs to exclude all Wilderness areas from this project, including any encroachment from activity on wilderness boundaries.