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Comments: Dead and dying trees should be left alone in Wilderness. Unless there is an extremely dry year, the decomposing trees are a whole cycle of life, feeding not only microbes but plants and animals. Disrupting this cycle harms the forest and the wildlife. Climate Change is causing enough problems but making them worse by taking out parts of the chain could affect how much carbon a forest can absorb. We simply cannot afford it. The Forest Service should use crosscut saws, not chainsaws, to clear trails of only the fallen trees that must be removed. Harming the environment is simply not acceptable.

Wilderness visitors should be allowed to experience nature on its own terms, including any risks that entails. We need a healthy ecosystem, in short, We need Mother Nature. She does not need us. It is time that human beings practiced this respect.

The Forest Service needs to exclude all Wilderness areas from this project, including any encroachment from activity on wilderness boundaries.