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Organization:

Title:

Comments: R5 Post Disturbance Hazardous Tree Management Project for the Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5) to cut, log, and remove thousands of "hazard" trees (both living and dead trees that burned over past fire seasons) along roads, trails, and facilities in 10 National Forests.

Is Wilderness included? I oppose any activity in Wilderness area.

There are many trails and roads that abut wilderness boundaries, making the impacts to Wilderness unclear. Potentially, the Marble Mountains, Trinity Alps, Kaiser, Ansel Adams, John Muir, Golden Trout, Monarch, Jennie Lakes, Domeland, Yolla Bolly Middle Eel, Snow Mountain, Yuki, and Bucks Lake Wildernesses could be affected by logging and other clearing.

The Forest Service should reveal details in its scoping documents.

I oppose using chainsaws to clear trails in Wilderness because of the noise that will disturb animal and avian life. Visitors to Wilderness should experience nature on its own terms, which includes risks that naturally exist. Falling trees are a natural hazard anyone entering a Wilderness should be willing to accept. Wilderness is not "managed" forests, gardens, or city parks. Many birds make homes in deadwood. Please leave dead or previously burned trees standing.

The Forest Service should instead post warning signs at trailheads alerting visitors to risk, and let visitors decide whether they want to accept the risk or hike somewhere else. Dead trees should be allowed to fall naturally, with crosscut saws then used to clear trails. This presents an outstanding educational opportunity to inform visitors of the benefits of Wilderness, of allowing natural processes to run their course, and the value of maintaining traditional skills. I also must say that after years of volunteering to eradicate buckthorn in our Forest Preserve woods (which is done with manual saws), I stopped going after some idiot with a chainsaw literally dropped a tree on my head. People given gas-powered tools tend to be careless. People using manual saws are more careful of their environs and health.

Please exclude all Wilderness areas from this project, including any encroachment from activity on wilderness boundaries. Keep Wilderness Wild ... and quiet!