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Comments: I am writing to support preserving the fundamental qualities of America's wilderness areas. Doing least is best, as human management, even with the best of intervention, by definition, negatively affects those qualities we most treasure in our wild places. The wild has its own system of replenishment and rejuvenation, and the wild knows best.

Specifically, I oppose using chainsaws to clear trails in Wilderness. The last thing I or anyone else wants to hear in wilderness is the sound of a chainsaw, the sound of tree-felling. It is a primal affront to our peaceful enjoyment of nature. Dead and dying trees should be left alone in Wilderness.

The Forest Service should use crosscut saws, not chainsaws, only where they must clear trails, and cut only the section of any fallen trees that must be removed.

wilderness visitors need to experience nature on its own terms, accepting the natural risks that are present or may occur when visiting such places.

The Forest Service must exclude all Wilderness areas from this project, and must prevent any encroachment on these areas from activity occurring on wilderness boundaries.

Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.