

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/15/2021 4:20:22 AM

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Comments: This comment is regarding R5 Post Disturbance Hazardous Tree Management Project for the Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5). The project includes cutting, logging, and removing thousands of "hazard" trees (both living and dead trees that burned over past fire seasons) along roads, trails, and facilities in 10 National Forests. The Forest Service doesn't mention Wilderness anywhere in the project's scoping letter, but the maps are UNCLEAR as to whether Wilderness is included.

Wilderness or wildlands, are defined as natural environments on Earth that have not been significantly modified by human activity . In Wilderness Areas I oppose using chainsaws to clear 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. 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. Thank you for listening to my concerns.