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Comments: Wilderness should be wilderness. If dead and dying trees are chopped down, it is no longer wilderness. Visiting wilderness requires accepting certain risks. Wilderness visitors should be allowed to experience nature on its own terms. If the risks are managed out, it is no longer wilderness.

The Forest Service could post warning signs at trailheads alerting visitors to the risk, and letting visitors decide whether they want to accept the risk or hike somewhere else. Dead trees should be allowed to fall naturally. This presents an outstanding educational opportunity to inform visitors of the benefits of Wilderness and of allowing natural processes to run their course.

The Forest Service needs to exclude all Wilderness areas from the R5 Post Disturbance Hazardous Tree Management Project for the Pacific Southwest Region (Region 5), including any encroachment from activity on wilderness boundaries.