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Comments: I am pleased to see that an effort is being made to reduce fuel load, especially fine fuels. I am a retired professional forester and do recognize the complications involved in planning a large-scale burn such as is being proposed. Considerations are not just wind, fuel volume and type, moisture content, placement on the terrain and air pollution as well as many other logistics. There are other considerations that the general public might not recognize immediately, such as the regenerative stage a particular stand or stands might be at. It would be unfortunate to lose decades of planning and work to bring a stand to regeneration and then lose that to a poorly planned prescription burn.

In my practice I also piled slash into the pyramids that I see done on the Kaibab and Dixie. If I were to make a recommendation, don't include fine fuels in those pyramids and don't burn the pyramids. I found them very useful for habitat, initially small rodents and later snakes and other larger predators in the food chain. Thanks for the opportunity to comment.