

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2023 1:42:45 AM

First name: Mike

Last name: Colvin

Organization:

Title:

Comments: In my experience, when humankind tries to improve nature, it usually fails and then still has to deal with the unfixed problem and the unintended consequences of the action. The problem we're discussing here is the result of us preventing forest fires, so we find ourselves now wanting to create manmade forest fires to improve the situation.

I don't see a better way, but I am leery of more modifying nature. Because we've let people build in areas that have forest fires, we have to protect their structures which prevents us from being able to let fires burn naturally as they should. I don't see a solution for existing structures, but I believe new structures should have to be fireproof. This is hard, but possible. Structures could be built partially underground from structural concrete and covered with earth.

The thought of clearing out forest to create fire lines for prescribed burns is very troubling to me. I ride dirt bikes in the forest and have fought for 40+ years to keep trails open because of the belief that these small trails are hurting the forest. Creating fire lines is infinitely more destructive than dirt bikes passing through on a single-track trail. I believe our priorities are all screwed up.