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Organization: San Joaquin River Trail F.

Title: Pres

Comments: Your proposed plan/action of #65081 - Prescribed Fire Project for the Sequoia/Sierra National Forest is one of the best proposed actions that I have seen from the Forest Service - and specifically for the Sierra NF. I enthusiastically support this bold and necessary action of fire restoration for the landscape scale and simplicity of paper process for this necessary action. I will support this Plan in any way that I can.

Since 1978, when I moved to the Fresno area and became intimate with the Sierra NF, I have been in awe of the vistas of the topography, geology and tall trees/foliage of the landscape. In 1988, I was part of the formation of the San Joaquin River Trail Council which promoted and actively physically restored sections of the trail and secured grants for reconstruction and new construction of the trail. I have also seen the slow decadence of over-story vegetation and build up of under-story foliage which started to clog the forest and become a fire hazard. The need for broadcast burning was growing quite obvious and necessary.

Although I support the entire forest for active and often fire burning, I am particularly concerned about the San Joaquin River Trail (SJRT) which is becoming lost in the Forest closures from disuse, but also possible management area actions which may cut over and change the bed of the trail. I encourage you, where possible to use the trail bed of the SJRT as a control or approach line where possible - the trail bed needs activity and brushing and the fire activity will assist in that effort. I encourage burning the landscape across the trail as much as possible to reduce under-story growth and removal of fallen trees. In some locations it may provide a strategic location for creating landscape units.

I would be willing to assist in trail location where desired as well as providing GPS mapping if you are not sure exact location.