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Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Prescribed Fire Project #65081. I have reviewed the plan as presented on the Forest Service website, and wanted to briefly state my support for this proposal. The relatively recent practice of fire exclusion in historically fire-influenced ecosystems across North America is resulting in a severe reduction in specialized biodiversity and a degradation in landscape resilience, while also presenting potentially devastating threats to public safety. These ecosystems rely upon regular fire events to maintain their function and integrity, and in their current state of prolonged absence of fire, they have now entered a condition where a wildfire scenario would result in adverse levels of severity and dangerous degrees of intensity due to long-accumulated fuel loads and shifts in vegetation composition. Prescribed fire allows for both safe fuel reduction and the return of a critical ecological process in a way that would otherwise be impossible. Under a long-term prescribed fire regime, it would be expected that this landscape will once again return to a state of resilience and ecological function while being able to eventually benefit from (instead of be devastated by) wildfire events. Returning such resilience to this landscape is critical, and there is no better way to achieve this than by thoughtfully restoring the natural process of fire in the controlled ways that are being proposed.