

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/17/2023 1:46:45 AM

First name: Ann

Last name: DeBolt

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear USFS:

I am writing to urge you to drop the proposed burn of 2.4 million acres in the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests from consideration. The proposed burn would include more than 800,000 acres of Wilderness, which is absurd. From what I have read, this includes Wilderness Areas such as the Ansel Adams, John Muir, Dome Land, Jennie Lakes, and more. These are crown jewels of the American West, and should be allowed to burn when a natural fire strikes, not burned just because the USFS thinks it is time.

This USFS proposal represents a massive human-driven manipulation of Wilderness that is inconsistent with the letter and spirit of the 1964 Wilderness Act. From a wilderness perspective, it is far better to allow natural, lightning-caused fire to play its role, rather than to invade Wilderness to cut down "undesirable" trees and burn forests based on human wishes and desires.

I am writing to urge you to drop this misguided burning and cutting plan from consideration. You must exclude all Wilderness Areas from this proposal, as well as other important areas that are unsuitable for such intense manipulation. Given the climate crisis, which has affected all aspects of natural processes and every single organism, such large-scale projects make no sense.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and for doing the right thing, and eliminating this proposed project from consideration.

Sincerely, Ann DeBolt