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Comments: While fire has historically always been an element in the western US forests (eastern forests as well!), the proposal for a massive prescribed fire is contrary to the spirit and letter of the Wilderness Act. Rather as a retired fire ecologist (USFWS and BIA) I would suggest prescribed natural fire is far more preferable. The Forest Service should exclude all of the designated Wildernesses from its proposed burning plans for the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests in order to comply with the Wilderness Act. Some of America's most loved Wilderness areas are at stake, including the Ansel Adams, Dinkey Lakes, John Muir, Kaiser, Kiavah, Monarch, South Sierra, Dome Land, Jennie Lakes, and Golden Trout Wildernesses.

The agency should instead allow natural, lightning-caused fire to play its ecological role in Wilderness on the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests.

Again, prescribed natural fire is more preferable and appropriate for any Wilderness.