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Comments: As a retired fire ecologist and fire management officer with the Fish and Wildlife Service and most recently with the Bureau of Indian Affairs with both a BS and MS from the School of Forestry at the University of Montana the proposal for a massive prescribed burn is inappropriate and contrary to the spirit and letter of the Wilderness Act. I think prescribed natural fire is far preferable and appropriate. 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.