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Comments: Please spare the designated Wilderness areas from this extensive burning and habitat manipulation project. As the proposed project has been announced, all Wilderness areas in two national forests, over 842,000 acres of Wilderness in total, are subject to the proposed burn plan. 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.

I accept and recognize that fire has historically played an important ecological role in these Wilderness areas, however, the Forest Service proposal represents a huge human-driven manipulation of the environment 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.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.