

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/19/2023 2:34:39 AM

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Comments: 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.

I have hiked on some of the noted wilderness areas and very specifically have special knowledge regarding Kaiser Ridge. I was a member of the Save Kaiser Ridge Committee, and I along with other members, testified before U.S. House and U.S. Senate Committees during sessions in 1975 and 1976, along with numerous other entities, regarding Kaiser Ridge and the request for its wilderness designation, and subsequently in 1976, Kaiser Ridge became Kaiser Wilderness.

I strongly urge the agency to spare these crown jewels of the National Wilderness Preservation System from its misguided burning and cutting plans.