

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 11/20/2023 10:44:51 PM

First name: Wallace

Last name: Elton

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I write as someone who is a Wilderness enthusiast who has hiked in several of the designated Wilderness areas on these two national forests. This proposed project is basically a massive human-driven habitat manipulation project that is completely at odds with the Wilderness Act. In Wilderness, natural processes are to take their own course, untrammelled by humans.

I call upon the Forest Service to respect the intent of Wilderness designation by Congress and remove all designated Wilderness areas from treatment under this proposal. Recognizing the role fire has played in shaping these forests, I urge the agency to adopt a policy of allowing lightning-caused fires to burn within Wilderness so they can play their ecological roles.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.