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Comments: Re: Project 65356

After graduate studies in forestry and Wildlife Management at Colorado State University, I served as a national park ranger in Rocky Mountain, Yosemite, Mount Rainier, and Yellowstone.

Conserving forests is the fastest, most efficient way to stabilize our climate.

Human manipulation of mature forests is counterproductive to their function as sequesters of carbon, protection of watersheds, water quality, and wildlife habitat. Thinning and logging have demonstrated no effect on wildfires produced by prolonged drought, high winds, and high temperatures.

Mature forests have subsisted for millennia without the help of bulldozers and chainsaws. As medical students are admonished, "First, do no harm."

In my opinion, and in that of numerous forest ecologists, the optimum treatment for conservation of forests is simply to LEAVE THEM ALONE.