Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/19/2024 3:06:45 AM First name: Tim Last name: Gifford Organization: Title:

Comments: Earlier today I was able to sign on to a letter in support of the bipartisan National Prescribed Fire Act. As a passionate conservationist I have been following this bill as it makes its way through congress. I believe that active management is absolutely vital towards promoting healthy ecosystems in our public grasslands as well as our public forests.

I would also like to show my support for the USDA's proposal to actively manage the nation's National Forests. Hopefully, all ages of successional forest growth will be considered as equally important as the old growth stands this proposal is meant to protect. Early successional forests are vitally important for so many species of wildlife, particularly many species of birds which are on the decline. I believe this proposal is a good first step in a process that should be science based and aimed at creating healthy sustainable forests while at the same time allowing wildlife to flourish.

Thank you, Tim Gifford