

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/25/2024 4:15:58 PM

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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I am writing to express my strong support for Alternative C, the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative, in the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Prescribed Fire Project. I urge the Forest Service to exclude all designated and recommended Wildernesses from its proposed cutting and burning plans in order to comply with the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The Wilderness Act mandates the preservation of wilderness character, which includes protecting these areas from human manipulation and allowing natural processes to prevail. The proposed project, with its extensive tree cutting, burning (including the use of helicopters and drones for ignition), and habitat manipulation, directly contradicts the spirit and intent of the Wilderness Act.

Designated Wilderness areas like the Ansel Adams, Dinkey Lakes, and John Muir Wildernesses are national treasures that deserve the highest level of protection. These are places where people go to experience solitude and untrammelled nature. Introducing extensive human-caused fire and mechanical thinning compromises the very essence of wilderness character.

Furthermore, I strongly recommend adding the Moses Mountain Recommended Wilderness to Alternative C, ensuring its protection as well.

Instead of implementing the proposed project, the Forest Service should allow natural, lightning-caused fire to play its ecological role in designated and recommended Wildernesses on the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests. This approach respects the natural processes that have shaped these landscapes for millennia and ensures the preservation of wilderness character for future generations.

Thank you for considering my comments and for prioritizing the protection of our irreplaceable Wilderness areas.