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Comments: I am writing to comment on the U.S. Forest Service's draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests prescribed fire project. This includes all 866,741 acres of designated Wilderness on both national forests, including the Ansel Adams, Dinkey Lakes, John Muir, Kaiser, Kiavah, Monarch, South Sierra, Dome Land, Jennie Lakes, and Golden Trout Wildernesses.

While fire has played, and continues to play, an important ecological role in these Wildernesses, the Forest Service proposal represents a huge human-driven manipulation of Wilderness that is inconsistent with the letter and spirit of the 1964 Wilderness Act, including its use of drones and helicopters.

From a wilderness perspective, it is far better to allow natural, lightning-caused fire to play its role, rather than to invade Wilderness to cut down "undesirable" trees and burn forests based on human wishes and desires.

I support Alternative C, the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative. The Forest Service should exclude all designated and recommended Wildernesses from its proposed cutting and burning plans for the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests in order to comply with the Wilderness Act.

The Forest Service should also add the Moses Mountain Recommended Wilderness to Alternative C.

The agency should instead allow natural, lightning-caused fire to play its ecological role in designated and recommended Wilderness on the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests.

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