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First name: Carolyn

Last name: Borkowski

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my support for Alternative C, the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative, in the draft Environmental Assessment for the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Prescribed Fire Project. As a concerned citizen and advocate for our nation's wilderness, I urge the Forest Service to fully adopt this alternative to protect our treasured wilderness areas from extensive human manipulation.

The inclusion of all designated Wilderness areas and the recommended Monarch Wilderness-South addition in Alternative C is a crucial step in preserving the integrity of these lands. Covering a total of 871,472 acres, these areas represent some of the most beloved parts of our National Wilderness Preservation System, including the Ansel Adams, John Muir, and Golden Trout Wildernesses, among others.

While I acknowledge the ecological role of fire in these ecosystems, the scale and method proposed in the current project plan, involving mechanical cutting and the use of helicopters and drones to ignite fires, do not align with the Wilderness Act of 1964. This act mandates that wilderness areas be managed in a manner that preserves their wild character, minimizing human impact and interference.

I strongly advocate for the Forest Service to allow natural processes, particularly natural, lightning-caused fires, to function in these ecosystems. This approach not only adheres to the principles of the Wilderness Act but also supports ecological integrity without unnecessary human intervention.

Additionally, I propose that the Moses Mountain Recommended Wilderness be included in Alternative C to ensure comprehensive protection of potential wilderness areas under consideration.

Please consider these points carefully and recognize the importance of adopting Alternative C as the preferred action. By doing so, the Forest Service will demonstrate its commitment to preserving the natural beauty and ecological health of the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests for future generations.

Thank you for considering my comments. I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the discussion on this important matter.