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Comments: The U.S. Forest Service has moved forward in support of a massive burning project for the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests in California that covers 2.4 million acres-including all 866,741 acres of designated Wilderness on both national forests.

While I do recognize that 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. During the initial "scoping" phase of this project last year, the agency included Alternative C in the draft EA-the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative.

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

From a wilderness perspective, the agency should instead allow natural, lightning-caused fire to realize it's ecological role in designated Wilderness areas like the Sequoia and Sierra National Forest.

Thank you for your proposal of Alternative C, the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative. It demonstrates a clear understanding of what mitigation factors must be considered in implementing forest and wilderness management practices.