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Comments: Thursday, November 7, 2024

Sierra National Forest

1600 Tollhouse Road

Clovis, CA 93611

Subject: Spare the crown jewels of the National Wilderness Preservation System from misguided plans for cutting and burning -- Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Prescribed Fire Project #65081

To USFS Chief Randy Moore, Sequoia National Forest Supervisor Anthony Edwards, and Sierra National Forest Supervisor Dean Gould:

I strongly support the Sequoia and Sierra National Forests Prescribed Fire Project Alternative C, the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative. Thank you for including Alternative C in the draft Environmental Assessment. I am very disappointed that Alternative C is not the U.S. Forest Service's Proposed Action.

While I recognize that fire has played, and continues to play, an important ecological role in these Wildernesses, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) proposal represents a huge human-driven manipulation of Wilderness that is inconsistent with the letter and spirit of the 1964 Wilderness Act. Disappointingly, the USFS is even proposing to ignite some fires in Wilderness using helicopters and drones.

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.

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

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

Please adopt Alternative C, the Wilderness Exclusion Alternative.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments. Please do NOT add my name to your mailing list. I will learn about future developments on this issue from other sources.

Sincerely,

Christopher Lish

San Rafael, CA