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Comments: I am writing in support of the proposed prescribed burning and active management of the Northern Escarpment. I believe that the application of prescribed fire is a necessary and useful tool to promote future climate resiliency and diversity.

In reading the other comments, people seem to have a misunderstanding of what prescribed fire looks like, and means. As well as in some cases seeming jumping to the conclusion that the use of the word chainsaw means a timber harvest will be a part of this regardless of the fact that the project description says, "No timber harvest is proposed in this project. " The burn parameters are not for some all consuming crown fire, blasting soot into the surrounding community, and ejecting a forest full of carbon into the atmosphere, but low intensity fires consuming leaf litter. With that being said, I would suggest that as time and safety allow, you invite people into the units after burning. The way to make people comfortable with it is to show them.

I would urge anyone who is strictly against this, particularly who is concerned about the recreation aspect, to try to spend some time in a forest that has been managed with fire. They are joys to be in. Sightlines are increased, brush is decreased, and ticks are decreased. Plants you can't see anywhere else flourish, and animals browse happily.

While it seems that a vocal part of the community would encourage you, the GMNF, to sit on your hands, I do not.

Burn it