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Please preserve more of Sierra, Sequoia, and Inyo National Forests as wilderness

Jun 23, 2016

U.S. Forest Service Supervisors

Dear Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for more recommended wilderness areas within the Sierra, Sequoia, and Inyo National Forests.

With nearly 1.5 million acres of roadless, undeveloped land in these three forests, we have a great opportunity to protect vulnerable areas from development and preserve the wild condition of the land for clean water, wildlife and non-motorized recreation.

I support the conservation alternative for wilderness (Alternative C), but also urge you to add two new areas as recommended wilderness: Bright Star Wilderness Additions and Rattlesnake Creek/Durwood Creek Watersheds in the Golden Trout Wilderness Addition.

Managing more areas as recommended wilderness will allow us to use natural fire patterns to restore the landscape, while simultaneously saving lives and money by reducing back-country fire suppression activities and concentrating fire-fighting on community protection. Adding low-elevation areas and under-represented ecosystem types to the wilderness system would preserve essential habitat for sensitive wildlife species and create connected corridors, so plants and animals can adapt and migrate in response to a changing climate.

Expanded wilderness areas would also help release pressure from overcrowding in other natural areas--preserving a sense of solitude for the large number of visitors who depend on the forests for back-country recreation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

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