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Comments:

the rush to burn is not advisable

I wish the Forest Service were able to come up with a way to control fires by burning less forest acreage and without using so many chemicals; I do not trust the Forest Service at this point since the number of acres to be burnt is so large, and since the apparent overuse of chemicals is alarming.

When there is such outcry about this there must be a way to modify what the Forest Service is hankering to do. Very annoying that scare tactics are being used by both sides in this argument.

And perhaps it needs to be noted that just because a homeowner or a builder gets a permit to build in the forest does not mean that that homeowner or builder can demand protection in risky areas. Those folks who persist in living in risky areas need to be able to leave when there is danger of fire and move away to keep themselves and their families safe, while being prepared to lose a building or home. The same sensible approach is recommended for those who insist on building in floodplains. Yes, this is harsh and I do not recommend abandoning people even if they have been foolish enough to build selfishly, but we all need to be more protective of the forests and modify our use of controlled burns and find better methods than the exciting chemical drops.

I have friends in both camps. That means I favor discussion.

Good luck -- and that doesn't mean just business as usual.

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