



Dear President Obama,

I urge you to use your influence to keep the Giant Sequoia National Monument (GSNM) within the USDA Forest Service's jurisdiction.

Groups interested in zero timber cut from public lands, including the Sierra Club, want your support to move the GSNM from the Forest Service to the Park Service, this is not only unnecessary it is counter-productive to GSNM's articulated goals.

As you know, the Proclamation speaks of "restoring natural forest resilience" in the Monument. This goal requires tools: adaptive management. To meet this goal, GSNM's vegetation mix has to be brought to a place where the vegetation has the ability to resist stressors (stability) and to recover from stresses once they occur (resilience), while best maintaining native biodiversity.

You are no doubt also aware that the shade-tolerant white fir has seeded under the old-growth giant sequoia groves during the past 100 years of aggressive fire suppression. Sequoia needs disturbance to regenerate and fire is a problematic tool due to Clean Air Laws. This leaves logging as the efficacious treatment to provide the needed bare mineral soil sequoia seedling require.

Logging around giant sequoia can be done without the adverse affects the Sierra Club claims. Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest (MHDSF) manages its land consistent with the recommendations in the GSNM's management plan. This highlights the irony of the GSNM: most visitors don't see any giant sequoia until they reach the State Forest's boundary. MHDSF has incorporated logging its management since 1946.

Not allowing harvesting in GSNM will eventually require a name change to the white Fir National Monument.

---

Signed