

I had a phone conversation with Rick Brown of the National Wildlife Federation today about the Little Canyon Mountain EA. The following notes from the conversation should be treated as comments from Rick on the EA. (Recognize that these are my notes and not his words or thoughts exactly)

1. Conceptually he agrees that in the LCM situation that some sort of thinning is appropriate.
2. The line around the homes for intense treatment could be drawn more tightly than 1 and 1/2 miles. Maybe 1/4 or 1/3 or 1/2 miles.
3. Thinning from below is good.
4. He is skeptical about the relationship between basal area and crown fire potential. Could we clarify? Crown density is the real issue for crown fire. It isn't so simple.
5. Would hope for variability in basal area based on distance from homes and on site potentials. Accepting more risk further away from homes. Leave more forest in a more ecologically acceptable state.
6. Do not get too hung up on the historical information. Photos may be just one point in time. Things and times are changing still today.

Rick asked to be kept informed of the decision.

/s/ Dan Tippy