

October 4, 2020

To: Calaveras Ranger District

Attn: **PRATHER MEDUSA**

P.O. Box 500

Hathaway Pines, California 95233

From: Richard G. Gaiser

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Chinese Camp, California 95309

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Having reviewed the project, I wish to make the following comments:

- 1) In spite of being the affected grazing permittee, in spite of letting the forest service know I was interested in this project, in spite of giving my mailing address, in spite of giving my email address, and in spite of leaving you my phone number, I did not receive this document. Fortunately, I was given a copy less than a week ago.
- 2) I would like to request that no snags be left within falling distance of any grazing improvements, as fences, structures, corrals, or salt/mineral sites.
- 3) I would like to protest the use of "slash and leave" or "lop and scatter" anywhere on the project. I would much rather see small piles made to burn (or even to deteriorate). It takes approximately 3 years before any trails appear in this type of tree removal, may it be deer, bear, or livestock, let alone a hiker. This type of process is very hazardous for any one or any animal trying to maneuver about in it.
- 4) As a livestock grazing permittee, I cannot over emphasize the importance of working with you on all aspects of this project including cattle movement trails and access to salt and mineral.
- 5) With regard to fuel breaks, I would encourage working together to encourage grass and forb growth on these fuel breaks to provide competition against brush growth.
- 6) Lastly, I hope that this project goes forward as planned, vastly reducing the chances of catastrophic wildfire in the area, improving wildlife habitat, and greatly increasing the amount of water in the landscape, increased runoff, deeper water storage and increased springs.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

