



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Central Region Office
1250 t Alder St., Union Gap, WA 98903-0009 • 509-575-2490

April 13, 2026

Erica Taecker
Wenatchee River Ranger District, US Forest Service
600 Sherbourne St.
Leavenworth, WA 98826

RE: SEPA 202601284

Dear Erica Taecker:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Eagle Creek Project. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

Water Resources Program

If you plan to use water for dust suppression at your project site, be sure that you have a legal right. In Washington State, prospective water users must obtain authorization from the Department of Ecology before diverting surface water or withdrawing ground water, with one exception. Ground water withdrawals of up to 5,000 gallons per day used for single or group domestic supply, up to 5,000 gallons per day used for industrial purposes, stock watering, and for the irrigation of up to one-half acre of non-commercial lawn and garden are exempt from the permitting process. Water use under the RCW 90.44.050 exemption establishes a water right that is subject to the same privileges, restrictions, laws and regulations as a water right permit or certificate obtained directly from Ecology. Temporary permits may be obtainable in a short time-period. The concern of Water Resources is for existing water rights. In some instances water may need to be obtained from a different area and hauled in or from an existing water right holder. If you have any questions or would like to respond to these Water Resources comments, please contact Nathan Longoria at (509) 907-1752 or email at nathan.longoria@ecy.wa.gov.

Ecology's comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

Wenatchee River Ranger District, US Forest Service

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If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amber Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amber Johnson

SEPA Coordinator, Central Region Office

509-723-5677

crosepa@ecy.wa.gov