



SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES

14353 McFarland Rd. • Mt. Vernon, WA 98273 • (360) 424-7619 • Fax (360) 428-6834

VIA Online Submission: [Comment Analysis and Response Application \(CARA\)](#)

April 15, 2026

Erica Taecker
Wenatchee River District Ranger
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
600 Sherbourne St
Leavenworth, WA 98826

RE: Eagle Creek Project Draft EA Comments

Dear Erica,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) comments on the Eagle Creek Project.

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) is a fourth-generation family-owned company based in Anderson, California that employs over 6,500 employees nationwide and operates a combined 16 sawmills in California, Oregon, and Washington. These sawmills rely on timber that is generated on Federal Forests, including the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest (Forest).

In general, SPI supports the Eagle Creek Project and formally incorporates American Forest Resource Council's comments into ours. In addition, SPI offers the following comments for consideration.

Proposed Action

The Draft EA shows 80% of the treatment acres are located in Matrix land use allocations. SPI would like to remind the Forest that the primary objective of Matrix is to provide a sustainable yield of timber production. This should include the use of even-aged harvest methods. Strictly focusing on thinning treatments limits the available contractor pool and can increase costs to a point where projects are no longer economically viable. Even aged management, including planting and young stand treatments, is better suited to meet the sustainable yield of timber production objective that is unique to Matrix.

Compliance with Other Environmental Reviews

SPI supports the use and appropriate implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Section 40807, as well as Executive Order 14225, Immediate Expansion of American Timber Production as outlined in the Draft EA.

Wet and/or Winter Condition Log Haul PDCs

SPI requests that the Forest consider changing language regarding the suspension of timber/log hauling when sediment is observed moving into ditches. While this could lead to sediment delivery into typed waters, it should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Not all ditch lines connect to a typed water crossing and could simply disperse onto the forest floor.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide Draft EA comments on the Eagle Creek Project. I look forward to this project being implemented.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Adam Ellsworth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adam" and last name "Ellsworth" clearly distinguishable.

Adam Ellsworth
Log Procurement Manager
Sierra Pacific Industries
Burlington Division