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Comments on Grass Valley Restoration Project, Environmental Assessment

The US Forest Service [ndash] San Bernardino National Forest (USFS) recently completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Grass Valley Fire Restoration Project (Project). The USFS is proposing to implement the Project by conducting fuels reduction and vegetation management activities on approximately 1,043 acres, including reforestation and planting with site appropriate native species; treating non-native plants by manual methods only; repairing damaged infrastructure including trails and roads; and removing danger trees of all sizes in the entire Project area.

This letter provides the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board[rsquo]s (Water Board) support for the Project. Water Board staff has reviewed the EA and has determined that Water Board comments outlining the permitting and planning requirements for the Project that were transmitted to the USFS in a May 14, 2015 letter titled "Comments on Grass Valley Fire Restoration Project" have been acknowledged in the EA.

Thank you for providing Water Board staff the opportunity to provide comments on this Project and to assist with early Project planning. Please contact me at (530) 542-5477 (jim.carolan@waterboards.ca.gov) with any questions.

Jim Carolan, PG, CHG

Engineering Geologist

JC/ma/T: Grass Valley Fire Restoration Project_EA

File Under: ECM / Environmental Documents/Review/Water Board Review/Response