



August 17, 2020

Forest Supervisor Jason Kuiken
Stanislaus National Forest
Attn: SERAL
19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA 95370

Submitted electronically via comment portal:

<https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/commentInput?Project=56500>

Re: Comments on the Scoping Notice for the Social and Ecological Resilience Across the Landscape (SERAL) project

Dear Forest Supervisor Kuiken,

These scoping comments are in response to the Scoping Notice the proposed Social and Ecological Resilience Across the Landscape (SERAL) project on the Stanislaus National Forest.

We ask that the project be ended. It is not based on the best available science and instead is based on the CSO Conservation Strategy that is contributing to the decline of the owl by promoting logging of large trees (over 24 inches dbh) when there exists a deficit of such trees. The Strategy also ignores more recent science such as Blakely et al 2019 showing how not only PACs but also territories should be protected from logging.

Alternatives to be addressed are (1) protecting trees over 24 inches dbh, (2) creating a CSO Strategy that seeks to conserve the CSO, and (3) creating a managed wildfire program rather than a logging program.

Sincerely,

Justin Augustine
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