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Organization:

Title:

Comments: August 12, 2020 Stanislaus National Forest 19777 Greenley Rd. Sonora, CA 95370 Attn: SERAL project
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scoping notice for the above project. I represent Central Sierra Audubon on the YSS. This is a huge project and we reserve the right to make additional reviews. These are my initial comments only and are intended to improve it.
Table 4 (CA Spotted Owl PAC): We don't support logging in Protected Activity Centers as this is the only area being protected. At the very least even 20-inch trees should be spared.
Table 4 (General Forest): The additional constraints section says the thinning treatments are limited to only when necessary or beneficial but there is no guidance provided. We have not seen any science that proves a need to cut trees larger than 30 inches in diameter for restoration objectives. It's highly debatable that logging a tree up to 40 inches in diameter makes a bit of difference to enhance a rust-resistant sugar pine tree or make aspen stands grow faster.
E. Non-Native Invasive Weed Control and Eradication: There should at least be limits or prescription descriptions here. How will herbicides be used to avoid any toxic or ecological effects on birds?
These are my initial thoughts on the project. The Central Sierra Audubon will review the project as more information is provided. Thank you.

Walter L. Kruse