

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 6/5/2026 5:34:08 PM

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Comments: As a longtime fan of the Trinity Alps Wilderness and the surrounding region, particularly that unique southeastern corner between the wilderness and Clair Engle Lake, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project.

I have serious concerns about this project. My particular concerns relate to the widespread disruption to the forest ecosystem this project would cause. I believe the STNF can reduce fire risk while maintaining a significantly higher degree of canopy cover than this project would allow by focusing removal on small DBH trees (under 20 inches) and using the existing road system, rather than new roads. The fact that your proposed project will significantly impact spotted owl habitat areas as well as riparian and late successional reserves should be a red light for it proceeding.

Just because most dispersed recreational use occurs within the TAW boundaries should not be interpreted to mean that this adjacent area is less ecologically important. I believe it's imperative that this and other logging or fire risk reduction projects also look at the overall impact to the biological values, and be fitted to maintain those values. Thank you!