Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/11/2022 7:00:00 AM
First name: Chad
Last name: Hanson
Organization: John Muir Project
Title:
Comments: Dear Ms. Eberlien,

On behalf of the John Muir Project of Earth Island Institute, lead objector, we are objecting to the SERAL project EIS and draft decision, Stanislaus National Forest, for the reasons described in detail in the comments from Center for Biological Diversity and JMP on Jan. 22, 2022, including but not limited to failure to meaningfully analyze dissenting scientific opinion or cumulative effects, failure to take a hard look, failure to meaningfully analyze cumulative effects, and failure to ensure scientific accuracy and integrity with regard to adverse impacts of planned logging on native wildlife species, such as the California spotted owl (incorporating by reference pp. 1-5 of our 1/22/22 DEIS comments), black-backed woodpecker and other snag forest habitat dependent species (incorporating by reference pp. 7-11 of our DEIS comments), and future fire intensity (incorporating by reference p. 5 of our DEIS comments, and see additional attachments). Further, the EIS violates NEPA's hard look and incomprehensibility provisions by failing to identify or divulge the location or timing of vast commercial thinning of old-growth forest (incorporating by reference pp. 5-7 of our DEIS comments) and vast salvage logging of snag forest habitat (incorporating by reference pp. 7-11 of our DEIS comments). As a remedy we request that the project be withdrawn or, in the alternative, that commercial thinning, salvage logging, and other commercial logging units be dropped and project focus be redirected toward educating nearby homeowners on home hardening and defensible space to protect them from wildfires, and to provide assistance to nearby homeowners in need for defensible space pruning within at most 200 feet from properties. I look forward to discussing this matter with your during the objection resolution process.

Sincerely,

Chad Hanson, Ph.D., Ecologist

John Muir Project