



SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES

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December 22, 2023
Kristen Lark – District Ranger
Six Rivers National Forest – Mad River Ranger District
741 State Hwy 36
Bridgeville, CA 95526

ATTN: ***Rattail Project***

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Six Rivers National Forest (SRNF)-Rattail Project. The following comments are written on behalf of Sierra Pacific Industries.

Sierra Pacific Industries is in support of the Six Rivers National Forest's decision to seek emergency authority to expedite the implementation of the Rattail Project. Sierra Pacific Industries is a purchaser of public and private timber, as well as a neighboring landowner to the United States Forest Service in many areas throughout California.

After visiting the project site and spending time in the area, it is clear there is a need for management. The forest must work now to protect the land from the devastating effects of severe stand replacing wildfires that we have seen too often in recent years throughout the state.

If the forest works fast to get this plan approved and there are merchantable products on the Rattail Project, it would be beneficial to see some of the area go out for bid as timber sales. By doing this, the value of forest products can offset the cost to the USFS and allow more acres to be treated into the future. Allowing mechanical treatments to complete objectives like stand thinning, fuels reduction, hazard tree abatement, and oak woodland restoration significantly increases the pace in which acres are treated.

The Six Rivers National Forest needs to implement more projects like this one by using the tools available such as Categorical Exclusions and help from USFS Partners. Protecting and managing the forest to prevent future catastrophic wildfires is important to the future of our industry and in the best interest of the public. I look forward to seeing the implementation of this project and other like it.

Sincerely,

Miles Schack

Miles Schack
Procurement Forester
Sierra Pacific Industries – Anderson Division
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