

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

January 30, 2012

Scott Armentrout  
Forest Supervisor  
Sierra National Forest  
1600 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, California 93643

Subject: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Greys Mountain Ecological Restoration,  
Sierra National Forest, Madera County, CA (CEQ# 20110421)

Dear Mr. Armentrout:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the above-referenced project. Our review and comments are pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), and our NEPA review authority under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

We have rated the Draft EIS as Lack of Objections (LO) (see enclosed "*Summary of Rating Definitions*"). We recognize the long-term benefits of decreasing wildfire risk, and we support the inclusion of the resource protection measures and best management practices described in the Draft EIS. EPA would also like to commend the Forest Service for providing information related to climate change trends in the Sierra Nevada, including information regarding declining snowpack and large and severe wildfires. We encourage such discussion in NEPA documents because it contributes to improved federal planning and public understanding of the effects of climate change on forest ecosystems and forest management.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Draft EIS. When the Final EIS is released for public review, please send one hard copy and one CD to the address above (mail code: CED-2). Should you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact me at (415) 972-3521, or contact Stephanie Skophammer, the lead reviewer for the project. Stephanie can be reached at (415) 972-3098 or [skophammer.stephanie@epa.gov](mailto:skophammer.stephanie@epa.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager  
Environmental Review Office

Enclosure: Summary of EPA Rating Definitions