



File Code: 1950

Date: December 16, 2015

Dear Interested Party:

You are receiving this letter to inform you of a Forest Service proposal to conduct a combination of thinning, chipping, masticating brush and smaller trees, and hand treatments including brush cutting, hand thinning, and pruning, prescribed understory burning, and road maintenance activities within the Cleveland-Ice House Plantations on the Pacific District of the Eldorado National Forest. The project would reduce stand density, competing vegetation, and fuels on an estimated 3,000 acres of national forest system land within the South Fork of the American River drainage. The project is intended to improve forest health, fire resiliency, and wildlife habitat using a combination of mechanical treatments (thinning, chipping, and masticating) and hand treatments to include prescribed understory burning, plus road maintenance activities.

The Cleveland-Ice House Forest Health Project is located on the Pacific Ranger District within the South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy Area (SOFAR). SOFAR includes areas designated under the 2014 Farm Bill to address insect and disease threats that impact forest health, and increase the risk of wildland fire. I anticipate making a decision for the Cleveland-Ice House project under the categorical exclusion authority granted by the 2014 Farm Bill for insect and disease risk.

The purpose and need, proposed action, and map of the project area are enclosed for your review and input. If you have information you feel the Forest Service may not be aware of, or you feel you have issues regarding potential effects of the proposed action, please send those issues in writing to: Placerville Ranger District, 4260 Eight Mile Road, Camino, CA 95709, Attn: Travis Thane or email to: tthane@fs.fed.us. Comments should be received by January 19, 2016 in order to be most helpful in the analysis.

If you have questions about the proposed project, or would like more information, please contact Travis Thane at 530-644-2324 or tthane@fs.fed.us.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information and for your continued interest in the management of National Forest System lands.

Sincerely,

RICHARD THORNBURGH
District Ranger
Enclosures

