



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Sierra
National
Forest

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Date: September 29, 2009

The Sierra National Forest and the Pacific Southwest Research Station invite you to a public scoping meeting to discuss our proposed activities in the Kings River Experimental Watershed Forest Health and Research Project (KREW Project). The meeting will be on October 14, 2009 at two times and locations.

- 3:00 to 4:30 pm at the Sierra National Forest Supervisor's Office, 1600 Tollhouse Road, Clovis, CA (559-297-0706)
- 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the High Sierra Ranger District Office, Sierra National Forest, 29688 Auberry Road, Prather, CA (559-855-5355).

The proposed project activities are in two coupled components: Component 1, management treatments and Component 2, research to examine ecosystem response to those treatments. The purpose of the management treatments is to improve forest health in a financially viable manner. The purpose of the proposed research is to examine the physical, biological, and chemical response to forest management treatments at a watershed scale. The research has been underway since 2000 to instrument the subject watersheds and measure baseline (pre-treatment) ecological response. Treatments will involve various types of thinning and prescribed burning commonly used throughout the western United States to reduce hazardous fuels and restore resilience and health in mixed-conifer forests.

The Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement will be published in the Federal Register on October 9, 2009. At the October 14 meeting we will provide more detail on the proposed forest management treatments and research and where these activities will occur. We are interested in any feedback or concerns you may have with our proposed KREW Project. Gathering feedback will help us address any issues as we move forward with our environmental analysis.

We appreciate your participation and feedback.

Sincerely,

EDWARD C. COLE
Forest Supervisor

PETER A. STINE
Pacific Southwest Research Station

