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**File Code:** 1950  
**Date:** August 17, 2016

Dear Interested Party:

As the Responsible Official, I signed a Record of Decision (ROD) for the Rim Fire Reforestation project. I am pleased to announce that my decision, based on community input and referred to as the “Community Alternative” will help *create a fire resilient mixed conifer forest that contributes to an ecologically healthy and resilient landscape rich in biodiversity* through a variety of treatments including: deer habitat enhancement; natural regeneration; noxious weed eradication; thin existing plantations; and, a combination of reforestation methods from Alternatives 1, 3, 4 and 5.

You are receiving this notice because you expressed interest in the project or because I believe you may be directly or indirectly affected by the project. The ROD is enclosed for those who submitted objections during the objection period; otherwise, the documents, maps and other information are available by request from the Stanislaus National Forest, 19777 Greenley Road, Sonora, CA 95370; or, online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=45612>.

This project was subject to the pre-decisional objection process pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. A legal notice announcing the 45-day objection period appeared in the Union Democrat, the newspaper of record, on April 29, 2016. A total of four objections were submitted during the 45-day objection period which ended on June 13, 2016. Three objections supported the proposed decision and one objection opposed the proposed decision. The Reviewing Officer completed the objection review documented in a letter (August 16, 2016) finding the rationale for the project is clear and the reasons for the project are logical and responsive to direction contained in the Forest Plan. The Reviewing Officer also instructed the Forest Supervisor to proceed with issuance of a Record of Decision and states there will be no further review by any other Forest Service or U.S. Department of Agriculture official as per 36 CFR 218.11(b)(2). The objection related documents are available by request.

Implementation of this decision may begin immediately (36 CFR 218.12(a)).

For additional information regarding this project, contact Maria Benech at the Stanislaus National Forest; 19777 Greenley Road; Sonora, CA 95370; or, call (209) 288-6285.

Thank you for your continued interest in management of the Stanislaus National Forest.

Sincerely,

  
JEANNE M. HIGGINS  
Forest Supervisor

