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

JUL 20 2010

Ramiro Villalvazo
Forest Supervisor
Eldorado National Forest
Big Grizzly Project
100 Forni Road
Placerville, CA 95634

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Big Grizzly Forest Health and Fuels Reduction Project, Placer County, California (CEQ# 20100226)

Dear Mr. Villalvazo:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) 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.

EPA previously reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Big Grizzly Forest Health and Fuels Reduction Project and provided comments on March 18, 2010. We rated the DEIS as Environmental Concerns – EC-2, based on our concerns regarding the need for additional information about air quality emissions and climate change. We thank the Forest Service for addressing all of EPA's comments, including providing additional information regarding the project's general conformity requirements.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this FEIS. If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Skophammer, the lead reviewer for this project, at (415) 972-3098 or skophammer.stephanie@epa.gov, or me at (415) 972-3521.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office
Communities and Ecosystems Division

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