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

October 9, 2012

Kevin B. Elliott, Forest Supervisor
Sequoia National Forest
1839 South Newcomb Street
Porterville, CA 93257

Subject: Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan, California (CEQ# 20120292).

Dear Mr. Elliott:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Giant Sequoia National Monument Management Plan. 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 Section 309 of the Clean Air Act.

EPA reviewed the Draft EIS and provided comments to the Sequoia National Forest on December 2, 2010. We rated the Draft EIS as Environmental Concerns – Insufficient Information (EC-2) due to our concerns regarding impacts to air quality, and specific road decommissioning targets. The EPA thanks the Forest for responding to our comments, and for providing further information regarding proposed emissions from future vegetation treatments.

Please note that, as of October 1, 2012, EPA Headquarters no longer accepts paper copies or CDs of EISs for official filing purposes. Submissions on or after October 1, 2012 must be made through EPA's new electronic EIS submittal tool: *e-NEPA*. To begin using *e-NEPA*, you must first register with EPA's electronic reporting site - https://cdx.epa.gov/epa_home.asp. Electronic filing with EPA Headquarters does not change the requirement to submit a hard copy to the EPA Region 9 Office for review.

We appreciate the opportunity to review this Final EIS. Should you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact me at (415) 972-3521, or contact James Munson, the lead reviewer for this project, James can be reached at (415) 972-3800 or munson.james@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Martyn Goforth, Manager
Environmental Review Office
Communities and Ecosystems Division