

OPPORTUNITY TO OBJECT

La Brea Restoration Project

Los Padres National Forest, Santa Lucia Ranger District

As the Responsible Official, Kevin B. Elliott prepared a draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the La Brea Restoration project Environmental Assessment (EA). The project will restore access to the area by re-opening to public motorized use 7.2 miles of roads that have been closed since the fire and flooding that occurred in 2009-2011. The project will re-open, but change, 7.4 miles of roads from motorized to non-motorized use. These roads will be managed as non-motorized trails for public recreational use, but will remain on the system as maintenance level 1 roads for fire suppression and other emergency or administrative access. The 8.3-mile Kerry Canyon Motorcycle trail will be decommissioned without ground disturbing actions, and removed from the trail system. The project will re-open one developed campground with services, change the classification of one campground from developed to a primitive camp, and decommission two developed campgrounds and three primitive camps. The decommissioned campgrounds would continue to be available for dispersed use. The EA and draft DN & FONSI are available for review at the Santa Lucia Ranger District office, 1616 Carlotti Drive, Santa Maria, CA 93454; and at the Supervisor's Office, 6750 Navigator Way, Suite 150, Goleta, CA 93117. It can also be viewed on-line at the following internet address: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=50298>.

This proposed decision is subject to objection pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. Objections will only be accepted from those who submitted timely project-specific written comments during any designated opportunity for public comment (36 CFR 218.5). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted comments unless based on new information arising after the designated opportunities for comment. Individuals or representatives of an entity submitting comments must sign the comments or verify identity upon request.

Objections must be submitted within 45-days following publication of the legal notice announcing availability of the EA and draft DN & FONSI in the Santa Barbara News-Press, the newspaper of record. The date of this legal notice is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection. Those wishing to object should not rely upon dates or timeframes provided by any other source. It is the objector's responsibility to ensure evidence of timely receipt (36 CFR 218.9).

Objections must be submitted to the reviewing officer: Randy Moore, Regional Forester, USDA Forest Service; Attn: La Brea Restoration Project; 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592. Ph. (707) 562-8737. Objections may be submitted via mail, FAX (707-562-9229), or delivered during business hours (M-F 8:00am to 4:00pm). Electronic objections, in common (.doc, .pdf, .rtf, .txt) formats, may be submitted to: objections-pacificsouthwest-regional-office@usda.gov with Subject: La Brea Restoration Project.

Objections must include (36 CFR 218.8(d)): 1) name, address and telephone; 2) signature or other verification of authorship; 3) identify a single lead objector when applicable; 4) project name, Responsible Official name and title, and name of affected National Forest(s) and/or Ranger District(s); 5) reasons for, and suggested remedies to resolve, your objections; and, 6) description of the connection between your objections and your prior comments. Incorporate documents by reference as per 36 CFR 218.8(b). Names of objectors will be part of the public record subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

For additional information, contact Kyle Kinports at the Los Padres National Forest Supervisor's Office at kyle.kinports@usda.gov or 805-961-5710.

Aug. 16/2019--55205