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Sierra Pacific Industries

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April 15, 1999

Mr. Lester Snow
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Clear Creek CALFED Grant Proposal

Dear Mr. Snow:

Sierra Pacific Industries is a private landowner in the Clear Creek Drainage of Shasta County. We manage our lands to produce high-quality forest products while giving consideration to the needs of watershed protection, fisheries and wildlife, and recreational opportunities.

One challenge we face is protection of the watershed. We find this very difficult given the checkerboard ownership patterns, the wide variety of management objectives, and the classic fire-adapted vegetation types which cross ownerships. What planning SPI carries out on its lands can be negated by a neighbor's activity or inactivity.

The resources in Clear Creek are best protected when owners work collaboratively. One way to foster this collaboration is to mathematically model then visually depict how vegetation in the watershed grows over time. We have been working with computer programs which allow us to picture these changes. Having the Clear Creek owners sit down and coordinate management activities which reasonably protect the watershed will ensure clean, predictable flows in the watershed.

As you are aware, the Western Shasta Resource Conservation District has submitted a grant proposal in CALFED's "Local Watershed Stewardship" grant category. The visualization process is an important component of the plan. Sierra Pacific Industries strongly supports this proposal and intends to remain an active participant in Clear Creek. We have already committed significant information and staff time to this effort. SPI looks forward to the participation of CALFED in this planning and education process.

Sincerely,



Dan Tomascheski
Vice President - Lands and Resources