P.O. Box 897
Big Bear City, CA 92314
Tel: 530-273-9290
Email: cthanson1@gmail.com

January 19, 2014

Cal Joyner, Regional Forester
Southwestern Region
U.S. Forest Service

Dear Mr. Joyner,

On behalf of the John Muir Project of Earth Island Institute, I am filing this Objection to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and draft Record of Decision (ROD) for the Four-Forest Restoration Initiative (4FRI). I submitted detailed scientific comments and analysis on the Draft EIS (DEIS), pointing out numerous significant misrepresentations and omissions of the scientific evidence with regard to historical forest structure, fire regimes, and the ecological importance of post-fire habitat created by patches of high-intensity fire in the DEIS. The FEIS and ROD simply do not meaningfully address my comments, nor do they meaningfully remedy the numerous inaccuracies, misrepresentations, or omissions of current scientific knowledge on these issues. Rather than once again repeating the information in my DEIS comments—information that was largely either ignored, mischaracterized, or cursorily dismissed—I instead incorporate my DEIS comments fully into this Objection. I also incorporate by reference, fully, the Objection of Dr. William Baker regarding the 4FRIS FEIS and draft ROD. I have attached both documents for your reference. Because the FEIS and draft ROD are not scientifically accurate, and because they omit and mischaracterize key scientific findings that contradict the assumptions upon which the FEIS and ROD are based, I request, as a remedy, that they be withdrawn.

I look forward to speaking with you about these issues as part of the Objection resolution process, and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Also, please note our new address below. Thanks.

Sincerely,

Chad Hanson

Chad Hanson, Ph.D., Director and Ecologist
John Muir Project of Earth Island Institute
P.O. Box 897
Big Bear City, CA 92314
530-273-9290
cthanson1@gmail.com