



**French Meadows South Shore Water Supply Project
Public Scoping**

American River Ranger District, Tahoe National Forest
Placer County, California

The United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (Forest Service), Tahoe National Forest (TNF), in coordination with the Placer County Water Agency (PCWA), is initiating public scoping for the French Meadows South Shore Water Supply Project located at French Meadows.

The proposed action has been developed to support the terms and conditions of the license for the Middle Fork American River Project (MFP), issued by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on June 8, 2020. The new waterline was evaluated under National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as part of the relicensing process.

Following completion of this analysis it was determined that the existing horizontal well has an inadequate yield and needs to be replaced. Installation and maintenance of the new Project components, as well as actions necessary for the decommissioning, were not covered in the NEPA analysis completed for issuance of the license and require separate analysis. Action is needed to: 1) increase the water supply for the current and future needs of the facilities, 2) decommission the existing water supply system, 3) provide communication to the LL Anderson Repeater, and 4) cover those components of the Project that occur on National Forest System lands outside of the FERC Project boundary under a Special Use Permit. The following actions are proposed. PCWA would 1) decommission the existing water supply system; 2) decommission the access road; 2) install a new water supply system; and 4) install a new communication facility. The Forest Service would cover those components of the Project that occur on National Forest System lands outside of the FERC Project boundary under a Special Use Permit. A detailed description and maps of the proposed project are available for review online at http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=60120.

The Responsible Official intends to use a Decision Memo to analyze potential environmental impacts. The American River Ranger District is seeking public input on this proposal. Individuals and entities are invited to submit timely, specific written comments regarding the proposed project during this 30-day scoping period.

If you have information that is specific to this proposed action that you feel the Forest Service may not be aware of, or feel you have issues (points of dispute, debate, or disagreement) regarding potential effects of the proposed actions, please submit your comments to: Eli Ilano, Forest Supervisor, C/O Matthew Brownlee, American River Ranger District, 22830 Foresthill Road, Foresthill, California, 95631; FAX (530) 367-2992. Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt) or Word (.doc) to comments-pacificsouthwest-tahoe-american-river@usda.gov with the subject line "South Shore Well."

For additional information about the French Meadows South Shore Water Supply Project, please contact Matt Brownlee, Public Services Officer, email matthew.brownlee2@usda.gov. Thank you for your interest in the management of Tahoe National Forest.