

SIERRA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES

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Sierra Pacific Industries to Reopen Its California Forestlands for Public Access & Recreation, Effective Fri., Sept. 23.

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Anderson, CA – With the recent rains in California, Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) is reopening its California forestlands to recreation, effective Fri., Sept. 23. Closures will remain in place on SPI forestlands in the vicinity of the recent wildfires to ensure the safety of the public and crews working to recover, restore and reforest the lands impacted by those fires.

"Protecting forestlands from catastrophic wildfires is a commitment that SPI takes seriously," said Andrea Howell, SPI spokeswoman. "We are grateful the recent rains improved conditions to facilitate the reopening of our lands for responsible recreation."

SPI's public access policy allows for use of most its California forestlands for hunting and other recreational activities. Among other restrictions, overnight camping, campfires, and smoking are prohibited. Motorized use in many areas is restricted for resource protection and public safety concerns. In addition to the wildfire-related closures, other areas will be posted closed for active logging, existing leases, wildlife protection and other considerations.

This decision does not mean that wildfire season is over. With California wildfire conditions an ongoing concern, SPI remains dedicated to long-term health and resiliency of forestlands. The company will continue working with US Forest Service, CAL FIRE, and other partners on this critical issue, including fuels management work across the forest landscape having implemented a network of more than 1,500 miles of fuel breaks on SPI lands with plans to continue to do more in the coming years.

As fire conditions can change quickly, SPI will continue to regularly evaluate the situation and keep interested parties updated on any changes. For inquiries about areas remaining closed due for post-wildfire forest recovery, contact the SPI California Public Recreation Hotline, 530-378-8274. To learn more about the company's recreation access policies, visit http://spi-ind.com/OurForests/RecreationAccess.

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<u>Sierra Pacific Industries</u> is a third-generation, family-owned forest products company based in Anderson, California. SPI owns and manages more than 2.4 million acres of timberland in California, Oregon and Washington and is one of the largest U.S. lumber manufacturers. The company also produces millwork, windows and renewable energy.