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June 26, 2026

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Wildfire Prevention  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support for Bureau of Land Management Applegate Field Office Wildfire Prevention Grant Application – Big Valley Wildfire Resilience Phase 1 Project

Dear Wildfire Prevention Grant Review Committee,

The County of Lassen fully supports the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Applegate Field Office's Wildfire Prevention grant application for the Big Valley Wildfire Resilience Phase 1 Project.

The project areas identified within this proposal are located in the northwestern portion of Lassen County—an area that is both underserved and under-resourced, yet critically important to the safety and resilience of our rural communities. These landscapes are historically prone to dry lightning strikes and subsequent wildfire ignitions, which continue to pose significant threats to residents, infrastructure, and local emergency response resources.

Comprehensive fuels reduction and vegetation management projects in this region are essential to reducing wildfire risk and improving community protection. The proposed work will significantly contribute to a more resilient landscape and enhance the safety of those living in these vulnerable areas.

The County of Lassen recognizes and values the importance of coordinated wildfire mitigation efforts among federal, state, and local partners. We understand that Cal Fire—LMU, the Pit Resource Conservation District, and the Lassen Fire Safe Council are also engaged in or planning similar projects within overlapping geographic areas. The BLM Applegate Field Office's proposed efforts will complement these initiatives, improving treatment continuity, expanding coverage across jurisdictional boundaries, and supporting a more comprehensive and sustainable approach to forest and fuels management.

BLM's Applegate Field Office has already demonstrated its effectiveness as a key partner in reducing hazardous fuel loads and improving community safety. Their previous work along Day Road in McArthur is a strong example of successful wildfire

risk reduction, particularly in areas with limited ingress and egress that present heightened evacuation concerns. These efforts have directly contributed to reducing wildfire exposure for nearby residences and infrastructure.

The County of Lassen strongly supports the continued expansion of these efforts through the requested grant funding. Approval of this application will help ensure ongoing protection of lives, property, and natural resources throughout the Big Valley region and beyond.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project and for your continued commitment to wildfire resilience in California.

Sincerely,

Gary Bridges, Chairman  
County of Lassen Board of Supervisors