

County of Lassen BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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November 28, 2023

Shannon Johnson, Staff Chief
CAL FIRE Climate & Energy Program
PO Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Dear Chief Johnson:

On behalf of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of the California Forestry Association's application to CAL FIRE's Forest Health grant program for "Calforests Dixie Post Fire Recovery – Phase I" project.

This project will reforest 4,951 acres of timberland impacted by the Dixie Fire. The Dixie fire was an enormous wildfire in Butte, Plumas, Lassen, Shasta, and Tehama counties that burned 963,309 acres. Most of the project is located on 3,628 acres in Lassen County, six miles east of the community of Westwood within the Duffy Creek watershed, which drains into Mountain Meadows Reservoir.

It is our understanding that the objective of this project is to reestablish native conifer forest that will grow to capture long term carbon, provide soil protection that reduces sediment transport, develops a variety of wildlife habitat over time, and produces wood products in the future. This will be accomplished by reducing fuels, planting native conifer seedlings grown from locally collected seed, and providing vegetation management.

Projects such as this is of critical importance to the local communities and to those that depend on the resource for all of the benefits that these forests provide. Such benefits are destroyed by wildfire. Without immediate post-fire restoration, the long-term economic impact on community wealth, from the economic loss of the resource, is for decades to come and often without interim mitigation of the loss.

Please accept this letter of support as one of the highest regard for funding from CAL FIRE.
Sincerely,

GARY BRIDGES, Chairman
Lassen County Board of Supervisors