

# County of Lassen BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



**CHRIS GALLAGHER**

*District 1*

**DAVID TEETER**

*District 2*

**JEFF HEMPHILL**

*District 3*

**AARON ALBAUGH**

*District 4*

**TOM HAMMOND**

*District 5*

County Administration Office  
221 S. Roop Street, Suite 4  
Susanville, CA 96130  
Phone: 530-251-8333  
Fax: 530-251-2663

September 11, 2018

Sierra Nevada Conservancy  
Jim Branham – Executive Officer  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603

Dear Mr. Branham:

The Lassen County Board of Supervisors supports the Lassen County Fire Safe Council, Inc. (LCFSC) Diamond Mountain Forest and Watershed Restoration Project application for the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's (SNC) Watershed Improvement Program.

The Lassen County Community Wildfire Protection Plan Working Group gave the Diamond Mountain project its highest priority and designated LCFSC as lead in developing a public/private partnership to address watershed restoration and wildfire issues on Diamond Mountain.

The overall Diamond Mountain Watershed Restoration Project (Project) covers approximately 14,000 acres of a combination of private, US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management land. The Project is adjacent to the private land work that LCFSC and the Honey Lake Valley RCD are completing near Susanville, and the 2007/67,000 acre Moonlight Fire.

The Project spans across the north slope and top of Diamond Mountain and lies entirely within the Wildland Urban Interface of Susanville. The SNC component of the Project will be implemented within an 8,000+ acre block of the Lassen National Forest. The Project area is in an overstocked condition; too many trees and high basal area exceeding the long-term carrying capacity of the site.

The purpose and benefits of the Project are to implement forest restoration treatments to reduce hazardous fuel loads; improve public safety; restore native forest; improve forest health by removing insect and disease affected trees; reduce stand density making forests more resistant to drought; improve forest adaptability to climate change; reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire and the associated adverse effects on air and water quality; reduce the probability of excessive greenhouse gas emissions associated with catastrophic wildfire; stabilize carbon storage by

improving forest health; improve and enhance watershed services and functions; maintain, improve, and protect habitat on the landscape; improve local socioeconomic conditions by employing local contractors and sustaining local biomass generation facilities; and protect working forest and agricultural landscapes.

Please accept this letter of support as one of highest regard for the LCFSC/SNC Diamond Mountain Forest and Watershed Restoration Project.

Sincerely,

CHRIS GALLAGHER, Chairman  
Board of Supervisors

CC: City of Susanville City Council