



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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December 05, 2017

Charlton H. Bonham, Director
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
1416 9th Street, 12th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Response to November 06, 2017, Letter and Invitation for Siskiyou County Visit

Dear Director Bonham:

We received your November 06, 2017, letter (attached) responding to the County's concerns regarding the California Department of Fish and Wildlife's (CDFW) possible acquisition of the Shasta Big Springs Ranch. Your letter accurately outlines the County's primary concerns and requests as to arrears tax payments and future tax payments, and the need for Safe Harbor Agreements to benefit fisheries in the Shasta and Scott Rivers and provide assurances for irrigators (letters attached). However, your letter does not set a solid path forward towards resolving these issues and provides no guarantees for the County that would fully address our concerns.

We appreciate that your letter outlines funds that CDFW and the Water Conservation Board has utilized in Siskiyou County; and we would like to outline that portions of these funds are generated by California's tax payers, with a large portion of the funding you outlined being dedicated specifically towards the Shasta Big Springs Ranch. The current water and land management of the property has resulted in opposition and disappointment throughout the Shasta Valley and beyond, which has prompted the County to stay involved in the issues.

Landowners throughout Siskiyou County have dedicated much of their own time and funding towards benefiting water quality, quantity and fisheries habitat, and we would like to extend the opportunity for you to visit the County and discuss some of these projects with landowners. The Board strives to have a positive working relationship with the local and Redding CDFW offices and has stayed involved in many ongoing issues. A visit to the County to meet with landowners, county staff and a couple of Board members would help further develop these relationships and would provide you with a clearer understating of the on-ground activities occurring throughout the

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District 3

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District 5

County. We also invite you to meet with the Sheriff's department to discuss cannabis, and opportunities to better engage CDFW in future regulatory activities.

Please feel free to coordinate a visit to Siskiyou County either through our Natural Resource Policy Specialist, Elizabeth Nielsen, at (530) 842-8012 or enielsen@co.siskiyou.ca.us.

This letter was approved by the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors on December 05, 2017, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Criss, Haupt, Valenzuela, Nixon and Kobseff

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

Sincerely,



Michael N. Kobseff, Chair
Board of Supervisors

cc: Assemblyman Brian Dahle

John Donnelly, Executive Director
Water Conservation Board

Susan LaGrande, Deputy Director
Office of Legislative Affairs

Stafford Lehr, Deputy Director
Wildlife and Fisheries Division

Neil Manji, Manager
Northern Region (Region 1)

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