



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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July 19, 2022

Jonathan Birdsong
Director, Western Regional Office
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
1133 Fifteenth St. N.W., Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: CalTrans Shasta Klamath (CA) Wildlife Connectivity Project


Dear Mr. Birdsong,

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is writing this letter to express our support for the CalTrans "Shasta Klamath Wildlife Connectivity Project" proposal being submitted to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundations "America the Beautiful Grant Program". The proposal provides a much-needed analysis to evaluate assessing and implementing wildlife crossings in the far northern California I5 corridor located in Siskiyou County.

Deer populations have been acknowledged to be on the decline partly due to vehicle collisions; meanwhile Elk populations in Siskiyou County are on the rise. The latter is encouraging for the overall health of Elk herds in the Northern California/Southern Oregon region, however, an increase in population results in an increase in the potential for vehicle-wildlife collisions. Interstate 5 is one of the most heavily traveled and vital roadways in the West, which increases the necessity to protect both travelers and wildlife. CalTrans, if awarded these funds, will be able to conduct the surveys and assessments necessary to identify existing structures in need of improvement and conclude as to which areas would most benefit from the construction of new wildlife crossings within these critical travel corridors. Siskiyou County believes this project is vital to protecting its citizens, the constantly increasing number of travelers who pass through our beautiful county, and the abundant wildlife that inhabit Siskiyou County.

If you have further questions please contact Matt Parker, Siskiyou County Natural Resources Specialist at mparker@co.siskiyou.ca.us or 530-842-8019.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Brandon A Criss, Chair
Board of Supervisors