



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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August 24, 2022

Director Carrie Selberg Robinson
NOAA Office of Habitat Conservation
1315 East-West Highway, 14th Floor
Silver Spring, MD 20910
Sent Via Email: afowler@caltrout.org

Re: Letter of Support - California Trout's Shasta River SHA Habitat Improvement Design and Implementation

To Whom It May Concern,

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is writing to express its support for the Shasta River Safe Harbor Agreement (SHA) Habitat Improvement Design and Implementation proposal, which is being submitted for funding to the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) FY2022 Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience Grants*. The Board has long been supportive of solution-oriented projects that provide benefits to both fisheries and agriculture.

Awarding this project will work in collaboration with multiple partners such as state and federal agencies, tribal representatives, and landowners to design and permit SHA instream improvement projects. The project footprint encompasses roughly 17 miles of the mid-Shasta River, Big and Little Springs Creeks, two miles of lower Parks Creek, and about six miles of upper Parks Creek. These areas encompass six landowners across seven different ranches. The habitat improvement projects will include reconnecting oxbows, improving other off-channel habitat where cold water is present, adding large woody debris (LWD) to improve the diversity of rearing habitat, stabilizing banks where needed, adding spawning gravels, and riparian planting and fencing.

Together, these projects will enhance and expand instream habitat for all life stages of Coho in this region of the Shasta Watershed. Increasing the diversity and extent of available habitats for Coho will increase the species resiliency to drought and future climate change impacts in the Shasta Watershed.

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors supports this project and encourages solution oriented cooperatives like this in the future.

Sincerely,

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Brandon A. Criss, Chair
Board of Supervisors