



# COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

## Board of Supervisors

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November 15, 2022

Laura Hierholzer  
United States Forest Service  
Klamath National Forest  
1323 Club Drive  
Vallejo, CA 94592

**Subject: R5 Post-Disturbance Hazardous Tree Management Project – North Zone**

Dear Ms. Hierholzer:


The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors would like to express our support for the US Forest Service’s proposed Post-Disturbance Hazardous Tree Management Project, and we encourage the Klamath and Shasta Trinity National Forests to pursue these and other responsible forest management efforts to the maximum extent possible.

In areas like our County, where Federal forest lands make up approximately 62% of the lands, it is of vital importance to manage these forested areas and maintain them in responsible ways reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires. These efforts not only help to ensure the safety of the forests, but also reduce the risk or wildfire spread to neighboring communities from other areas. Our County has been ravaged by wildfires on nearly a yearly basis leaving destruction and a multitude of hazardous materials in the wake. Removal of these materials, such as hazardous trees, will be a hefty project but make a huge difference for the recovery, maintenance, and future fortification of our beautiful natural spaces. One area of example is Grayback Road which links the town of Happy Camp to the Oregon border. This roadway is critical to the communities in this area and becomes an essential evacuation route in times of disaster. The hazard trees that line Grayback could come down at any time, blocking this egress for Happy Camp and surrounding communities. As a community we need to ensure this route stays open for safe travel.

We appreciate the focus of this project being roadways, trails, and recreation sites. Reducing fuel load associated with felled hazard trees will positively impact the safety of these frequently populated areas and safe access or escape routes should the need arise. The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors entrusts the capable staff of the US Forest Service to do just research and take necessary actions within this project area to foster a healthy forest, support our local timber economy, protect our communities from catastrophic wildfire, and ensure these forests are around for future generations.

Please contact Elizabeth Nielsen, Deputy County Administrator at [enielsen@co.siskiyou.ca.us](mailto:enielsen@co.siskiyou.ca.us) or (530) 842-8012, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
41160BC51636457...  
Brandon A. Criss, Chair  
Board of Supervisors

Brandon Criss  
*District 1*

Ed Valenzuela  
*District 2*

Michael Kobseff  
*District 3*

Nancy Ogren  
*District 4*

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