August 8, 2023

Emilia Barnum

United States Forest Service

Mt. Shasta Ranger District
204 West Alma

Mt. Shasta, CA, 96067
SENT VIA EMAIL: emelia.barnum@usda.gov

**Subject: South Fork Sacramento Public Safety and Forest Restoration Project #61863**

Dear Ms. Barnum:

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors would like to express our support of the Shasta Trinity National Forest’s proposed South Fork Sacramento Public Safety and Forest Restoration project. The proposed project will improve public safety and fire resilience of forested ecosystems to mitigate the potential of a large wildfire and to improve recreational opportunities. The County supports and encourages fuels management, restoration, repairs to riparian/habitat damage, and the establishment of trailheads and trails. We greatly appreciate the support shown for local recreation and the development and expansion of campgrounds and parking areas included in this project scope.

Federal forest lands make up approximately 62% of the County and healthy ones provide an economic benefit, habitat to multiple species, a variety of recreational opportunities, contribute to clean air, and so much more. Fuels reduction management activities are vital to our County as well as the surrounding communities who are greatly affected by catastrophic wildfires on an almost yearly basis. The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors entrusts the capable staff of the Shasta Trinity National Forest to do just research and take necessary actions within this project area to foster a healthy forest, support our local 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 or (530) 842-8012, if you have any questions or would like to discuss this further. This letter was approved by the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors on August 8, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Sincerely,

Ed Valenzuela, Chair

Board of Supervisors