

Butte County Federal/State Land Use Coordinating Committee

September 10, 2019 2:00 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Public Works Conference Room

7 County Center Drive, Oroville CA

Special Meeting Agenda

- 1) Self-Introductions (committee members and public)
- 2) Approve Minutes of August 2, 2019 Coordinating Committee Meeting.
- 3) The meeting scheduled for September 9 was canceled due to lack of a quorum.
- 4) Discussion of Draft Comment Letter for West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve issuance of a letter of support (draft letter attached) for the West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project. (comments due September 11, 2019)

- 4) Review of Board of Supervisor's Resolution and Committee changes (September 10, 2019 Board of Supervisors' Meeting)
- 5) For Information Only:

Poe Relicensing: PG&E Recreational Trail Feasibility Study - Butte County Resource Conservation District (BCRCD)

BCRCD Motorized Trails Assessment Study completed and posted online:

<https://www.bcr cd.org/assessing-table-2-ohv-trails>



BUTTE COUNTY FEDERAL/STATE LAND-USE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

7 County Center Drive

Oroville, CA 95965

September 10, 2019

Chris O'Brien

Lassen National Forest All Units

2550 Riverside Dr.

Susanville, CA 96130

RE: Letter of Support – West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project

The Butte County Federal/State Land Use Committee (Committee) is writing in support of the West Shore Project in the Lake Almanor area. Many Butte County residents own property in the area and/or recreate there on a regular basis. Butte County's Forest Advisory Committee (FAC) member Patricia Puterbaugh has been regularly attending meetings of the South Lassen Watershed Group and has reported to the FAC and the Committee on the development of this project so important to the welfare of the forest and the community.

The Committee understands the primary purpose of the proposed West Shore Project is to reduce the risk of wildfire damages to human life and property in the wildland urban interface (WUI) areas of Prattville, Lake Almanor West, and Big Meadows communities by thinning overstocked conifer stands and reducing hazardous fuel loads. The project is designed to improve forest resiliency and the recreation experience through facilities improvements and access management.

The Committee agrees with Patricia's concerns about any potential for loss of the very large, older trees that are healthy and vigorous, providing an attractive canopy for the campgrounds and trails as well as wildlife habitat in certain areas. The Committee asks that the project be evaluated for any opportunities to preserve such trees and consider increasing the canopy cover to 50% for wildlife areas that would not adversely impact the overall design and goal of the project.

The Committee is very supportive of this project overall. The need to protect the WUI and promote forest resiliency is paramount, and the area has been long overdue for upgrades to parking and campground improvements. The West Shore is heavily used by recreationists in the summer months and they will really benefit from many of the improvements outlined in the project documents.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this project. We look forward to seeing the wildfire protection and forest resiliency work implemented and the opportunity for Butte County's residents and all recreationists to visit and enjoy the enhanced facilities.

Sincerely,

Dennis Schmidt

Butte County Federal/State Land Use Committee

cc: Butte County Forest Advisory Committee

Butte County Board of Supervisors

Shari McCracken, Butte County CAO