DOUG LAMALFA

1st District, California
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-0501

May 24, 2023

Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1515 Clay St Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Scott River Watershed Council-Scott Valley Community and Forest Wildfire Resilience Project - Siskiyou County, CA

Dear Chairman Bosco,

I am writing in support of Scott River Watershed Council's proposed Scott Valley Community and Forest Resiliency Project (SVCFRP).

As Chair of the Forestry Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee, I am very concerned with the successful implementation of projects which are critical to wildfire mitigation, forest management, and fuel reduction. The SVCFRP will bring the use of fire as a land management tool to at least 139 acres in Siskiyou County, California to protect the communities of Etna and Greenview from catastrophic fire and improve forest health and resilience.

The SVCFRP involves treatment of 139 acres by burning piles that were generated by fuel management to create a shaded fuel break. Siskiyou Prescribed Burn Association will coordinate with multiple State, County, Tribal and local partners to provide burn planning, mapping, management, permitting, access, ecological knowledge, monitoring, reporting, personnel, and equipment to implement this project.

The project area contains multiple values at risk based on criteria such as wildfire exposure to buildings in the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), exposure to underserved communities, Indigenous peoples and lands, sources of drinking water, habitats for native fish, wildlife, and more. The SVCFRP will serve disadvantaged communities within the WUI, areas which have been designated in the National Fire Plan as having extreme fire risk.

I support the Scott River Watershed Council's proposed Scott Valley Community and Forest Resiliency Project with the goal of restoring forest health, increasing fire adapted species, and returning the landscape to a more wildfire resilient status.

Sincerely,

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