



HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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November 12, 2020

Board of Supervisors
County of Humboldt
815 5th Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: Support for Mad River Watershed restoration post August Complex fire

Dear Supervisors,

Our Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District is requesting your support for efforts to restore the Mad River Watershed headwaters at and above Ruth Lake in Trinity County. As you know, Ruth Lake serves as the municipal and industrial water supply for 2/3rds of Humboldt County's population. The August Complex wildfire has consumed much of the headwaters area. We are seeking any support that your Board can provide to muster federal and state resources to address watershed restoration to maintain the high-quality water that we have enjoyed from Ruth Lake and the Mad River. After burned structure debris removal, efforts need to focus on erosion control, burned tree removal, woody debris removal from tributaries, and revegetation of burned areas.

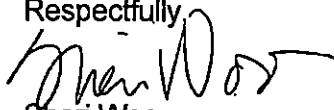
Our District has been working closely with Trinity County to address hazardous debris removal resulting from the loss of burned structures around Ruth Lake. DTSC began their assessment and cleanup efforts on Monday November 2nd. They plan to have the properties immediately adjacent to the lake complete by December 1st and will then move up stream in the headwaters area. Beginning on December 1st, FEMA will begin non-hazardous burn debris removal of lost structures. They will initially focus around Ruth Lake and then move up stream and to other affected areas.

Communications to our federal and state elected officials informing them of the importance of the high-water quality needs in the Mad River watershed for our Humboldt County population would be beneficial. Contacting others such as: 1) Air Quality for easing restrictions on the operation air curtain burners for processing wood waste; 2) bio mass co-generation plants for accepting wood waste; 3) Cal-Fire Board of Forestry for expediting post wildfire timber harvesting in Trinity County; 4) US Forest Service to aggressively engage in re-forestation of the area burned by the August Complex fire and any others that you deem appropriate to facilitate immediate and rapid watershed recovery within the headwaters of the Mad River watershed.

For your reference and information, we are attaching our Emergency Declaration Resolution 2020-08 passed on October 8th.

We appreciate your prompt attention to our request.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheri Woo", written in a cursive style.

Sheri Woo
President