

From: [Tim Metz](#)
To: [Planning Clerk](#)
Subject: Support Letter for Marshall Ranch Streamflow Enhancement Project
Date: Monday, November 22, 2021 4:25:21 PM
Attachments: [2021.11.22.RFI.SRF Letter of Support.pdf](#)

Attached please find my letter supporting the Marshall Ranch project.

Thank you,
Timothy Metz

Registered Professional Forester #2601
Restoration Forestry, Inc.
1593 Old Briceland Road
Garberville, CA 95542
tim@restorationforestry.com
(707) 496-0322



Letter of Support

Monday, November 22, 2021

Humboldt County
Planning and Building Department
3015 H Street
Eureka, CA 95501

Re: Marshall Ranch Streamflow Enhancement Project
Record Number: PLN-2019-15661

Dear Humboldt County Planning Commission,

I am writing to express my support of the Marshall Ranch Flow Enhancement project. I am a long-time resident of the Briceland area, a Registered Professional Forester, and the contracted land manager for Lost Coast Forestlands. My company, Restoration Forestry, Inc., has been working in the Mattole and South Fork Eel River basins on fisheries restoration and long-term timber management for 24 years.

As a landowner, community member, and a resource professional, I am intimately familiar with the low-flow conditions in Redwood Creek. I strongly believe that this proposed off-stream pond project is the appropriate scale to help address the low-flow conditions that imperil juvenile salmonids in this critical watershed. In fact, Lost Coast Forestlands has recently acquired the upper 938 acres of the Redwood Creek watershed and has worked directly with SRF to support its acquisition of funding from CDFW (\$277,000) to further augment flow in Redwood Creek increasing the effectiveness of this very important project.

Additionally, as a resident of the Briceland area since 1993, I recognize what a unique opportunity this project represents - a project with a willing landowner who supports conservation practices and increasing instream flows for the benefit of fish. It's not everyday that a conservation opportunity of this scale is even possible. It's even more of a rarity for two large landowners within a couple of miles of each other on the same tributary are willing to work

with a public benefit non-profit simply for the benefit of fish and instream flows. This kind of unique opportunity cannot be passed up.

Redwood Creek is a critical tributary of the South Fork Eel and there are hundreds of diversions within the watershed. The time, effort, and cost associated with developing individual storage and forebearance solutions like have been successful in the upper Mattole would be burdensome and take too long to come to fruition. That is time that Redwood Creek coho may not have.

The Briceland community is also quite vulnerable to the next catastrophic wildfire. Ever worsening climate change effects will only serve to exacerbate the susceptibility of our local forests to increasing drought conditions and the resulting higher intensity fires that are guaranteed to result. The last two fire seasons have clearly demonstrated how limited our area is in its ability to provide large amounts of accessible water to combat these essentially inevitable future crises. The fire suppression component of this proposed project would be an immense benefit to the community of Briceland.

In conclusion, I support the Marshall Ranch Flow Enhancement Project because of its contribution to increasing instream flows for salmon and safety benefits for my community.

Sincerely,



Timothy A. Metz, RPF #2601
Restoration Forestry, Inc.
1593 Old Briceland Road
Garberville, CA 95542
(707) 496-0322
tim@restorationforestry.com