

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE USE OF FIRE TO MEET
ECOLOGICAL AND OTHER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES
INCLUDING THE PROTECTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND
COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Agreement Between the Undersigned Parties

USDA, FOREST SERVICE - REGION 5	CENTRAL SIERRA ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE CENTER
CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD	CALIFORNIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION (CAL FIRE)	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON
THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY	USDA, NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE, CA
SIERRA FOREST LEGACY	CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE FOUNDATION / CALIFORNIA OAKS
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY	EL DORADO COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY	BUTTE COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
USDI, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PACIFIC REGION	PLACER COUNTY AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT
THE SIERRA CLUB, MOTHER LODGE CHAPTER	AMERICAN RIVERS
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA PRESCRIBED FIRE COUNCIL	CALIFORNIA INDIAN WATER COMMISSION
SOUTHERN SIERRA PRESCRIBED FIRE COUNCIL	YUBA WATERSHED INSTITUTE
PACIFIC FOREST TRUST	DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
AUDUBON CANYON RANCH	CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
PEPPERWOOD PRESERVE	CALIFORNIA TAHOE CONSERVANCY
USDI, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT	THE FIRE RESTORATION GROUP
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION	SAVE THE REDWOODS LEAGUE
CENTER FOR RESEARCH AND OUTREACH, UC BERKELEY	SAGEHEN FIELD STATION
AMERICAN FORESTS	

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is hereby made and entered into by and between USDA, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region; the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection; State of California Air Resources Board; California Sierra Nevada Conservancy; Sierra Forest Legacy; The Nature Conservancy; The Wilderness Society; USDI, National Park Service-Pacific Region; Sierra Club, Mother Lode Chapter; Northern California Prescribed Fire Council; Southern Sierra Prescribed Fire Council; Pacific Forest Trust; Audubon Canyon Ranch; Pepperwood Preserve; USDI, Bureau of Land Management; California Department of Parks and Recreation; Center for Fire Research and Outreach, UC Berkeley; Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center; California Forestry Association; Southern California Edison; USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, CA; California Wildlife Foundation/California Oaks; El Dorado County Air Quality Management District; Butte County Air Quality Management District; Placer County Air Pollution Control District; American Rivers; American Forests; California Indian Water Commission; Yuba Watershed Institute; Defenders of Wildlife; California Native Plant Society; California Tahoe Conservancy; The Fire Restoration Group; Save the Redwoods League; and Sagehen Field Station, UC Berkeley. The Parties hereafter will be referred to as “MOU Partners.”

Background: California’s wildlands are dominated by ecosystems that evolved with natural and cultural fire that together shaped these landscapes and contributed to ecosystem resilience and renewal. Recognition by scientists and land managers of the ecological benefits of fire has led to the development of policies and land management guidance to support the expanded use of fire to improve ecological conditions and more effectively undertake fire management across California’s fire adapted landscape.

Managed fire within the scope and context of this MOU refers to the use of natural or human-ignitions within appropriate burn prescriptions for the purposes of including public safety and ecosystem benefits, where allowed under the policies and regulations of federal, state, and local agencies with primary jurisdiction.

Federal, state, local land management agencies, and private landowners are governed by regulations and policies that provide direction on how fire may be applied and managed to achieve ecological benefits. Goals and objectives for the protection of public health and safety also influence any decision to apply fire as a restoration tool.

This MOU acknowledges the unique direction applicable to each MOU partner. The MOU draws on the guidance below developed by federal, state, local, and other stakeholders to address fire management across jurisdictions to support the use of fire for ecological and other benefits including the protection of public health and community safety:

A. Guidance for Implementation of Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy (NWCG 2009) <https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/uploads/2009-wfm-guidance-for-implementation.pdf>

Guiding Principle 2: “The role of wildland fire as an essential ecological process and natural change agent will be incorporated into the planning process. Federal agency land and resource

management plans set the objectives for the use and decided conditions of the various public lands.”

Guideline 6: “A wildland fire may be concurrently managed for one or more objectives and objectives can change as the fire spreads across the landscape. Objectives are affected by changes in fuels, weather, topography; varying social understanding and tolerance; and involvement in other governmental jurisdictions having different missions and objectives.”

Policy Statement 2: “Agencies will exploit the full range of fire management options to sustain healthy ecosystems within acceptable risk levels as identified in the Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP).”

B. The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy National Action Plan (2014).

<https://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/documents/strategy/strategy/CSPhaseIIINationalStrategyApr2014.pdf>

Management Options include:

Prescribed fire: “Prescribed fire is one of the more effective and cost-efficient means of managing vegetation for multiple purposes, including hazard reduction, ecosystem restoration or maintenance, silviculture and others.”

Managing wildfire for resource objectives: “This option refers to a specific choice to use unplanned ignitions to achieve resource management objectives.”

C. Strategic Fire Plan for California (2018 California Board of Forestry) [THE 2018 STRATEGIC FIRE PLAN \(ca.gov\)](#)

Vision

A natural environment that is more resilient and man-made assets which are more resistant to the occurrence and effects of wildland fire through local, state, federal and private partnerships.

Goals as Summarized

The goals that are critical to achieving the 2018 Strategic Fire Plan’s vision revolve around fire prevention, natural resource management, and fire suppression efforts, as broadly construed.

Major Components are:

- Improve the availability and use of consistent, shared information on hazard and risk assessment.
- Promote the role of local planning processes, including general plans, new development, and existing developments, and recognize individual landowner/homeowner responsibilities.

- Foster a shared vision among communities and the multiple fire protection jurisdictions, including county-based plans and community-based plans such as Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP).
- Increase awareness and actions to improve fire resistance of man-made assets at risk and fire resilience of wildland environments through natural resource management.
- Integrate implementation of fire and vegetative fuels management practices consistent with the priorities of landowners or managers.
- Determine and seek the needed level of resources for fire prevention, natural resource management, fire suppression, and related services.
- Implement needed assessments and actions for post-fire protection and recovery.

Title: Cooperating for the purpose of increasing the use of fire to meet ecological and other management objectives including the protection of public health and community protection.

I. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this MOU is to document the cooperation between the MOU partners to increase the use of fire to meet ecological and other management objectives including the protection of public health and community safety, in accordance with the following provisions.

II. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFIT AND INTERESTS:

The mission of the **U. S Forest Service** is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. This mission includes addressing all aspects of wildland fire management and working through State Foresters to accomplish this mission on State and private lands.

The mission of the **California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (“CAL FIRE”)** is to serve and safeguard the people and protect the property and resources of California. CAL FIRE manages several programs aimed to enhance forest resources and recognizes prescribed fire as a useful tool in enhancing ecosystem processes.

The **California Air Resources Board (CARB)** mission is to promote and protect public health, welfare, and ecological resources through the effective and efficient reduction of air pollutants while recognizing and considering effects on the economy. CARB recognizes and supports the use of prescribed fire on the landscape as a means of restoring healthy forests and mitigating the risks, and associated air quality and health impacts, of wildfire smoke.

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) initiates, encourages, and supports efforts that improve the environmental, economic, and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities, and the citizens of California. The SNC strongly supports the increased use of prescribed fire and wildfire managed for resource benefits, under appropriate conditions, as critical tools in restoring the ecological health of our forests and watersheds. The use of fire as a

restoration tool will greatly assist in protecting water supplies and quality, preserving important habitat, and providing for stable long-term storage of carbon.

The **National Park Service** preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The mission of **Sierra Forest Legacy** is to engage citizens, communities, and coalition members in the healthy management of Sierra Nevada forest ecosystems to protect and restore the region's unparalleled beauty and natural values. We apply the best practices of science, advocacy and grassroots organizing to safeguard forest lands throughout the Sierra Nevada. Sierra Forest Legacy is a coalition of over 80 conservation organizations dedicated to science-based ecological restoration and the use of fire as a primary process for building lasting forest resilience.

The Wilderness Society's mission is to protect wilderness and to inspire Americans to care for our wild places. We contribute to better protection, stewardship, and restoration of our public lands, preserving our rich natural legacy for current and future generations.

The mission of the **Nature Conservancy** is to conserve the lands and waters upon which all life depends. Our vision is a world where the diversity of life thrives, and people act to conserve nature for its own sake and its ability to fulfill our needs and enrich our lives.

The **Sierra Club's** mission is to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the Earth, to practice and promote responsible uses of the Earth's ecosystems and resources, to educate and enlist humanity in the protection and restoration of the quality of the natural and human environment, and to use all lawful means to carry out those objectives.

The mission of the **Northern California Prescribed Fire Council** is to serve as a venue for practitioners, state and federal agencies, academic institutions, tribes, coalitions, and interested individuals to work collaboratively to promote, protect, and expand the responsible use of prescribed fire in Northern California's fire adapted landscapes.

The **Southern Sierra Prescribed Fire Council** mission is to serve as a venue for practitioners, state and federal agencies, academic institutions, tribes, non-governmental organizations, coalitions, and interested individuals to work collaboratively to promote, protect, conserve, and expand the responsible use of prescribed fire and cultural fire in the southern Sierra Nevada's fire-adapted landscapes and fire-dependent landscapes, and to promote public understanding and acceptance of the ecological and cultural importance of burning.

The mission of the **Pacific Forest Trust** is to sustain America's forests for their public benefits of wood, water, wildlife, and people's well-being, in cooperation with private landowners and communities.

The **Audubon Canyon Ranch** mission is connecting nature, people, and science in a rapidly changing world.

The **Pepperwood Preserve Foundation** mission is to advance science-based conservation throughout our region and beyond.

The **Bureau of Land Management's** mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

The mission of **California Department of Parks and Recreation** is to provide for the health, inspiration, and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the State's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.

The mission of the **Center for Fire Research and Outreach and the Center for Forestry** is to bring together researchers to create and disseminate knowledge concerning ecosystem processes, human interactions and value systems, and restoration and operational forestry management practice.

The mission of the **Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center** is to protect water, wildlife, and wild places of the Northern Yosemite Region.

The mission of the **California Forestry Association (Cal Forests)** is a statewide forestry association that consists of forest owners, forest product producers, and forestry professionals committed to sustainable forestry and responsible stewardship of our renewable natural resources through environmentally sound policies and conservation practices. The forest sector is a significant contributor to our state's environmental and economic well-being.

The mission of **Southern California Edison** is to manage our forest lands in a productive, natural fashion creating the highest quality wildlife habitat, clean water, abundant water, valuable forest products, safe recreation opportunities, and a fire resilient forest.

The mission of the **Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** is to address the natural resource conservation on private lands.

California Wildlife Foundation is committed to conserving, restoring, and maintaining habitats and corridor linkages throughout the state in order to ensure the biological diversity of species over time. The California Oaks program works to conserve and perpetuate the state's primary old growth resource.

The mission of the **El Dorado County Air Quality Management District** is to work to improve air quality and quality of life for El Dorado County residents.

The mission of the **Butte County Air Quality Management District** is to protect the people and the environment of Butte County from the harmful effects of air pollution.

The mission of the **Placer County Air Pollution Control District** is to achieve and maintain clean air standards throughout Placer County.

The mission of **American Rivers** is to protect wild rivers, restore damaged rivers, and conserve clean water for people and nature.

The mission of **American Forests** creates healthy and resilient forests, from cities to wilderness, that deliver essential benefits for climate, people, water, and wildlife.

The **California Indian Water Commission (CIWC)** works to protect, promote, and enhance the traditional ecological cultural knowledge and stewardship practices of the Indigenous people of California for the future generations of our tribes and all Californians.

The mission of the **Yuba Watershed Institute** is to advocate for the sustainable use of natural resources and the protection of long-term biological diversity within the Yuba River watershed.

The mission of the **Defenders of Wildlife** is the protection of all native animals and plants in their native communities.

The mission of the **California Native Plant Society** is to conserve California native plants and their natural habitats, and increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants.

The mission of the **California Tahoe Conservancy** is to lead California's efforts to restore and enhance the extraordinary natural and recreational resources of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

The **Fire Restoration Group** mission is to integrate fire policy with science-based and socially responsible use of fire in the restoration of the fire-associated forest landscapes of California.

The mission of **Save the Redwoods League** is to protect and restore redwood forests and connect people with their peace and beauty so these wonders of the natural world flourish.

The mission of the **UC Berkeley Sagehen Field Station** is to foster and conduct applied and basic research on the function and operation of the natural and managed ecosystems of the Sierra Nevada, to apply this learning to resource management, then connect this knowledge to the broader public.

The MOU Partners join in their shared knowledge, experience, networks, and vision for ecological resilience and sustainable, diverse forests in California, recognizing the ecological role of fire in these ecosystems in relation to each of the MOU Partner's missions.

Furthermore, the MOU Partners acknowledge expanding collaboration associated with the expressed purpose of this MOU to include other organizations and groups is in the interest of all the partners.

III. IT IS MUTUALLY UNDERSTOOD AND AGREED BY AND BETWEEN THE MOU PARTNERS TO THE FOLLOWING:

- A. Engage with a variety of stakeholders, including but not limited to, federal, state, and local government agencies, tribal and non-governmental organizations/groups.
- B. Encourage minimizing barriers to implementing fire use by improving smoke management coordination and engaging in public education and outreach. This is especially important when we are trying to encourage the choice by decision makers to manage wildfire for resource objectives.

- C. Work to increase capacity to use wildland fire for resource benefit and community safety purposes, through expanded training opportunities and resource sharing.
- D. The MOU is a broad, relatively general agreement that seeks to include as many partners as possible who are interested in increasing the use of wildland fire to meet ecological objectives, public health, or community safety objectives. Signatories can be government and non-government organizations or the individuals, generally the designated leader of each organization.

Participation in the MOU is voluntary, and non-binding. Agreements by any of the partners to the MOU are non-binding on any other partners, nor are they legally actionable. MOU Partners can be added without all partners signing the MOU again. A modification will be executed to reflect the new partners to the official file of record which will be kept at the Fire Restoration Group [website](#).

Leadership and governance will be managed by a voluntary steering committee composed of MOU Partners who can commit the time and resources to facilitate the completion of the agreed upon activities. The voluntary steering committee will meet periodically to identify approaches and or activities that all partners, some partners, or individual partners are undertaking to further the purpose of the MOU.

The Steering Committee will establish meeting schedules once the MOU implementation is underway. In the past 2015-2020 MOU era this schedule has been monthly Steering Committee meetings and an annual gathering of all MOU Partners.

It is expected that the MOU Partner membership will expand and change over time.

The Steering Committee is responsible for the creation of an action plan to identify the activities the MOU Partners agree to support. It is understood that MOU Partners will have varying interests and opportunities to advance the application of increased managed fire through the stated objectives above.

The action plan will be reviewed biennially and updated by the Steering Committee and interested MOU Partners. The action plan update will be circulated to all MOU Partners for review, comment, and possible endorsement.

Working groups will be established to implement the action plan. Working groups will devise a mechanism to keep the Steering Committee and MOU Partners informed of their progress implementing the action plan that is synchronized with the periodic meetings of the Steering Committee. It is understood that throughout the duration of this MOU Partnership, any activities that involve the exchange of funds or resources will be done utilizing a separate agreement type and authority.

- E. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS (signatory authority). Individuals listed below are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this agreement. (Primary program contacts handling day-to-day responsibilities are listed in Appendix A)

MOU Partner Administrative Contacts

<p>USDA, Forest Service, Region 5 Name: Randy Moore Title: Regional Forester-Pacific Southwest Region Address: 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592 Phone: 707-562-9000 E-Mail: rmoore@usda.gov</p>	<p>California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Name: Thomas Porter Title: Director Address: 1416 9th St., Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: 916-653-5123 E-mail: Thomas.Porter@fire.ca.gov</p>
<p>California Air Resources Board Name: Michael Benjamin Title: Air Quality and Science Division Chief California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95812 Phone: 916-201-8968 E-mail: Michael.Benjamin@arb.ca.gov</p>	<p>Sierra Nevada Conservancy Name: Angela Avery Title: Executive Officer Address: 11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205 Auburn, CA 95603 Phone: 530-823-4681 E-mail: angela.avery@sierranevada.ca.gov</p>
<p>The Wilderness Society Name: Dan Smuts Title: Interim Deputy Vice President, Pacific Region Address: One Kaiser Plaza Suite 1450 Oakland, CA 94612 Phone: 415-398-1111 E-mail: dan_smuts@twso.org</p>	<p>National Park Service Name: Robin Wills Title: Director, Fire & Aviation Management Address: 333 Bush Street, Suite 500, San Francisco, CA 94104 Phone: 415-203-7162 E-mail: robin_wills@nps.gov</p>
<p>Sierra Forest Legacy Name: Susan Britting Title: Executive Director Address: P.O. Box 377, Coloma, CA 95613 Phone: 530-295-8210 E-mail: britting@earthlink.net</p>	<p>Southern Sierra Prescribed Fire Council Name: John Mount Title: Chair, SSPFC Address: 41465 Meadow Lane, Auberry, CA 93602 Phone: 559-855-3672 E-mail: mount.john@ymail.com</p>
<p>Nor Cal Prescribed Fire Council Name: Lenya Quinn-Davidson Title: NCPFC Director and Area Fire Advisor, UC. Coop Extension Address: 5630 South Broadway Eureka, CA 95503 Phone: 707-445-7351 E-mail: lquinn-davidson@ucanr.edu</p>	<p>Audubon Canyon Ranch Name: Julia Clothier Title: Chief Operations Officer Address: Martin Griffin Preserve 4900 Shoreline Highway 1, Stinson Beach, CA 94970 Phone: 415-868-9244 x-301 E-mail: Julia.clothier@egret.org</p>
<p>Pacific Forest Trust Name: Laurie Wayburn Title: President and Co-CEO Address: 1001-A O'Reilly Avenue San Francisco, CA 94129 Phone: 414-561-0700 E-mail: lwayburn@pacificforest.org</p>	<p>The Nature Conservancy Name: Dan Porter Title: Forest Program Director Address: 830 S. Street, Sacramento, CA 95811-7023 Phone: 415-652-4301 E-mail: dporter@tnc.org</p>

<p>Pepperwood Preserve Name: Michael Gillogly Title: Preserve Manager Address: 2130 Pepperwood Preserve, Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Phone: 707-591-9310 x-206 E-mail: mgillogly@pepperwoodpreserve.org</p>	<p>USDI, Bureau of Land Management CA Name: Karen Mouritsen Title: California State Director Address: 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825 Phone: 916-978-4400 E-mail: Kmouritsen@blm.gov</p>
<p>California Department of Parks and Recreation Name: Armando Quintero Title: Director Address: 1419 9th Street, Room 923 Phone: (916) 653-9542 E-mail: Armando.Quintero@parks.ca.gov</p>	<p>Center for Fire Research and Outreach-UC Berkeley Name: Scott Stephens Title: Professor, Fire Science Address: 360 Mulford Hall Phone: 510-642-7304 E-mail: sstephens@berkeley.edu</p>
<p>Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center Name: John Buckley Title: Executive Director Address: POB 396, Twain Harte, CA 95383 Phone: 209-586-7440 E-mail: johnb@cserc.org</p>	<p>California Forestry Association Name: Rich Gordon Title: President/CEO Address: 1215 K Street, Suite 1830 Phone: 916-842-3447 E-mail: richg@calforests.org</p>
<p>Southern California Edison Name: Stephen Byrd Title: Natural Resource Manager Address: 42696 Tollhouse Rd., Shaver Lake, CA. 93664 Phone: 559-972-3849 E-mail: stephen.byrd@sce.com</p>	<p>USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, CA Name: Carlos Suarez Title: State Conservationist Address: 430 G Street #4164 Davis, CA 95616 Phone: 530-792-5600 E-mail: Carlos.suarez@ca.usda.gov</p>
<p>California Wildlife Foundation/California Oaks Name: Janet Cobb Title: Executive Officer Address: 428 13th Street, Ste 10A Oakland 94612 Phone: 510-763-0211 Email: jcobb@californiawildlifefoundation.org</p>	<p>El Dorado County Air Quality Management District Name: Dave Johnston Title: Air Pollution Control Officer Address: 330 Fair Ln, Placerville, CA 95667 Phone: 530-621-7578 E-mail: dave.johnston@edcgov.us</p>
<p>Butte County Air Quality Management District Name: Stephen Ertle Title: Air Pollution Control Officer Address: 629 Entler Avenue, Suite 15 Chico, CA 95928 Phone: (530) 332-9400 E-mail: Sertle@bcaqmd.org</p>	<p>Placer County Air Pollution Control District Name: Robert Weygrandt Title: Chairperson, Placer County Air Pollution Control District Board of Directors Address: 110 Maple St, Auburn, CA 95603 Phone: (530) 745-2327 E-mail: rweygand@placer.ca.gov</p>

<p>American Rivers Name: Kristin May Title: CFO Address: 1101 14th Street NW, Suite 1400 Washington, DC 20005 Phone: 202-347-7550 E-mail: kmay@americanrivers.org</p>	<p>California Indian Water Commission Name: Atta Stevenson Title: President Address: 8022 Benz Court, Sacramento CA. 95828 Phone: 559-479-6061 E-mail: Roger.aguilar0919@gmail.com</p>
<p>California Native Plant Society Name: Vince Scheidt Title: Executive Director (Acting) Address: 2707 K St #1, Sacramento, CA 95816 Phone: 916-447-2677 E-mail: vscheidt.bod@cnps.org</p>	<p>California Tahoe Conservancy Name: Jane Freeman Title: Acting Executive Director Address: 1061 Third Street, South Lake Tahoe, CA, 96150 Phone: 530-543-6038 E-mail: jane.freeman@tahoe.ca.gov</p>
<p>The Fire Restoration Group Name: Craig Thomas Title: Director Address: P.O. Box 244, Garden Valley, CA 95633 Phone: 916-708-9409 E-mail: craigthomas068@gmail.com</p>	<p>Save the Redwoods League Name: Paul Ringgold Title: Chief Program Officer Address: 111 Sutter St 11th floor, San Francisco, CA 94104 Phone: 415-362-5813 E-mail: pringgold@savetheredwoods.org</p>
<p>Sagehen Field Station Name: Robert Rhew Faculty Director, Central Sierra Field Stations Address: 508 McCone Hall #4740 University of California Berkeley, CA 94720-4740 Phone: 510-664-4072 E-mail: rrhew@berkeley.edu</p>	<p>The Sierra Club--Mother Lode Chapter Name: Kevin Rice Title: Ecologist Address: 20175 Chapel Dr. Tuolumne, CA 95379 Phone: 209-928-1238 Email: kjrice@ucdavis.edu</p>
<p>American Forests Name: Britta Dyer Title: California State Director Address: P.O. Box 1061 North Fork CA 93643 Phone: 503-238-7190 E-mail: bdyer@americanforests.org</p>	<p>Defenders of Wildlife Name: Pamela Flick Title: Sacramento Director Address: 980 Ninth Street Suite 1730 Sacramento CA.95814 Phone: 916-442-5746 E-mail: pflick@defenders.org</p>
<p>Yuba Watershed Institute Name: Chris Friedel Title: Executive Director Address: P.O. 2198 Nevada City, CA 95959 Phone: 530-955-1822 E-mail: chris@yubawatershedinstitute.org</p>	

F. ASSURANCE REGARDING FELONY CONVICTION OR TAX DELINQUENT STATUS FOR CORPORATE ENTITIES. This agreement is subject to the provisions

contained in the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2012, P.L. No. 112-74, Division E, Section 433 and 434 regarding corporate felony convictions and corporate federal tax delinquencies. Accordingly, by entering into this agreement each MOU Partner acknowledges that it: 1) does not have a tax delinquency, meaning that it is not subject to any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting the tax liability, and (2) has not been convicted (or had an officer or agent acting on its behalf convicted) of a felony criminal violation under any Federal law within 24 months preceding the agreement, unless a suspending and debarment official of the USDA has considered suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Government. If any MOU Partner fails to comply with these provisions, the U.S. Forest Service will annul this agreement and may recover any funds the MOU Partner has expended in violation of sections 433 and 434 under a separate agreement involving funds.

- G. NOTICES. Any communications affecting the operations covered by this agreement given by MOU Partners is sufficient only if in writing and delivered in person, mailed, or transmitted electronically by e-mail or fax, as follows:

To MOU Partners, at MOU Partner's address shown in this MOU, attached contact in Appendix A, or such other address designated within the MOU.

Notices are effective when delivered in accordance with this provision, or on the effective date of the notice, whichever is later.

- H. PARTICIPATION IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES. This MOU in no way restricts any MOU Partner from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
- I. ENDORSEMENT. Any of the MOU Partners contributions made under the MOU do not by direct reference or implication convey endorsement of any other MOU Partner's products or activities.
- J. NONBINDING AGREEMENT. This MOU creates no right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable by law or equity. The partners shall manage their respective resources and activities in a separate, coordinated and mutually beneficial manner to meet the purpose(s) of this MOU. Nothing in this MOU authorizes any of the partners to obligate or transfer anything of value.

Specific, prospective projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, property, and/or anything of value to a partner requires the execution of separate agreements and are contingent upon numerous factors, including, as applicable, but not limited to: agency availability of appropriated funds and other resources; cooperator availability of funds and other resources; agency and cooperator administrative and legal requirements (including agency authorization by statute); etc. This MOU neither

provides, nor meets these criteria. If the partners elect to enter into an obligation agreement that involves the transfer of funds, services, property, and/or anything of value to a partner, then the applicable criteria must be met. Additionally, under a prospective agreement, each partner operates under its own laws, regulations, and/or policies, and any Forest Service obligation is subject to the availability of appropriated funds and other resources. The negotiation, execution, and administration of these prospective agreements must comply with all applicable laws.


Nothing in this MOU is intended to alter, limit, or expand the agencies' statutory and regulatory authority.

- K. USE OF U.S. FOREST SERVICE INSIGNIA. In order for MOU Partners to use the U.S. Forest Service insignia on any published media, such as a webpage, printed publication, or audiovisual production, permission must be granted from the U.S. Forest Service's Office of Communications. A written request must be submitted, and approval granted in writing by the Office of Communications (Washington Office) prior to use of the insignia.
- L. MEMBERS OF U.S. CONGRESS. Pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 22, no U.S. member of, or U.S. delegate to, Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this agreement, or benefits that may arise therefrom, either directly or indirectly.
- M. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA) or a PUBLIC RECORDS ACT REQUEST. Public access to the MOU or agreement records must be unlimited, except when such records must be kept confidential and would have been exempted from disclosure pursuant to Freedom of Information regulations (5 U.S.C. 552) or the Public Records Act.
- N. TEXT MESSAGING WHILE DRIVING. In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13513, "Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging While Driving," any and all text messaging by Federal employees is banned: a) while driving a Government owned vehicle (GOV) or driving a privately owned vehicle (POV) while on official Government business; or b) using any electronic equipment supplied by the Government while driving any vehicle at any time. All cooperators, their employees, volunteers, and contractors are encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text messaging when driving company owned, leased, or rented vehicles, POVs or GOVs when driving while on official Government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government.
- O. TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ORDINANCE (TERO). The U.S. Forest Service recognizes and honors the applicability of the Tribal laws and ordinances developed under the authority of the Indian Self-Determination and Educational Assistance Act of 1975 (PL 93-638).
- P. PUBLIC NOTICE. It is the Forest Service's policy to inform the public as fully as possible of its programs and activities. MOU Partners are encouraged to give public notice of the receipt of this agreement and, from time to time, to announce progress and

accomplishments. Press releases or other public notices should include a statement that highlights the Fire MOU Partnership and progress achieving our Purpose.

- Q. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. All partners that produce materials including publications, audiovisuals, and electronic media shall mention relevant partners featured or responsible for work in progress toward achieving our Purpose. Where appropriate, a Non-Discrimination Statement will be included on printed, electronic, or audio-visual materials made for public distribution developed or printed with federal funding.
- R. TERMINATION. Any of the partners, in writing, may terminate their participation in this MOU in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration noted here as December 31, 2025.
- S. RENEWAL. At the end of each 5-year period, the partners will evaluate renewal of the Fire MOU Partnership in terms of goals and achievement of our Purpose and 5-year goals.
- T. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION. MOU Partners shall immediately inform all undersigned that they or any of their principals are presently excluded, debarred, or suspended from entering into covered transactions with the federal government according to the terms of 2 CFR Part 180. Additionally, all MOU Partners or any of their principals receive a transmittal letter or other official Federal notice of debarment or suspension, then they shall notify all undersigned without undue delay. This applies whether the exclusion, debarment, or suspension is voluntary or involuntary. An additional cause for suspension from the Partnership would be public actions that run counter to the Purpose of the Fire MOU.
- U. MODIFICATIONS. Modification within the scope of this MOU must be made by mutual consent of the partners, by the issuance of a written modification signed and dated by all properly authorized, signatory officials, prior to any changes being performed. Requests for modification should be made, in writing, at least 30 days prior to implementation of the requested change. Notwithstanding the signature requirement above, a partner may be added to the MOU without requiring the signature of all MOU Partners.
- V. COMMENCEMENT AND EXPIRATION DATE. The 2021-2025 Fire MOU will commence when signatories provide authorized signatures for each partner and terminate on December 31, 2025. At that time willing partners may continue another 5-year agreement with updated membership and plans for the following 5-year period with a new MOU.
- W. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES. By signature below, each partner certifies that the individuals listed in this document as representatives of the individual partners are authorized to act in their respective areas for matters related to this MOU. It is the responsibility of each MOU Partner to inform the Fire MOU Steering Committee as to the changed status of authorized signatories or principal cooperator contacts in a timely manner.


In witness whereof, the partners hereto have executed this MOU as of the date listed below.



RANDY MOORE, Regional Forester, PSW
USDA, Forest Service-Region 5

5/19/2021


Date



THOMAS PORTER, Director
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

5/14/2021


Date



ANGELA AVERY, Executive Officer
The Sierra Nevada Conservancy

5/14/2021

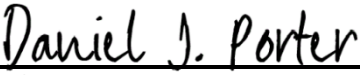
Date



SUSAN BRITTING, Executive Director
Sierra Forest Legacy

4/30/2021


Date



DAN PORTER, Forest Program Director
The Nature Conservancy

5/02/2021

Date



DAN SMUTS
The Wilderness Society

5/19/2021


Date



ROBIN WILLS, Director, Fire and Aviation Management
USDI, National Park Service Pacific Region

5/14/2021

Date



KEVIN RICE, Ecologist
THE SIERRA CLUB, Mother Lode Chapter

4/29/2021

Date

Lenya Quinn-Davidson 5/18/2021
LENYA QUINN DAVIDSON, NCPFC Director and Area Fire Advisor
Northern California Prescribed Fire Council Date

John Mount 5/14/2021
JOHN MOUNT, Chair, SSPFC
Southern Sierra Prescribed Fire Council Date

Laurie A. Wayburn 5/14/2021
LAURIE WAYBURN, President and Co-CEO
Pacific Forest Trust Date

Julia Clothier 5/18/2021
JULIA CLOTHIER, Chief Operations Officer
Audubon Canyon Ranch Date

Michael Gillogly 4/29/2021
MICHAEL GILLOGLY, Preserve Manager
Pepperwood Preserve Date

Karen Mouritsen 7/08/2021
KAREN MOURITSEN, California State Director
Bureau of Land Management Date

Armando Quintero 6/04/2021
ARMANDO QUINTERO, Director
California State Parks and Recreation Date

Scott Stephens 5/14/2021
SCOTT STEPHENS, Professor, Fire Science
Center for Research and Outreach UC Berkeley Date

John Buckley 4/29/2021
JOHN BUCKLEY, Executive Director
Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center Date

Richard S. Gordon 5/03/2021
RICH GORDON, President/CEO
California Forestry Association Date

Stephen Byrd 4/30/2021
STEPHEN BYRD, Natural Resource Manager
Southern California Edison Date

Michael Benjamin 6/02/2021
MICHAEL BENJAMIN, Air Quality and Science
Division Chief, California Air Resources Board Date

Carlos Suarez 5/14/2021
CARLOS SUAREZ,
USDA, Natural Resource Conservation Service, CA Date

Janet Cobb 6/03/2021
JANET COBB, Executive Officer
California Wildlife Foundation / California Oaks Date

Dave Johnston 7/02/2021
DAVE JOHNSTON, Air Pollution Control Officer
El Dorado County Air Quality Management District Date

Stephen Ertle 5/17/2021
STEPHEN ERTLE, Air Pollution Control Officer
Butte County Air Quality Management District Date

Robert Weygrandt 7/01/2021
ROBERT WEYGANDT, Placer County Air Pollution Control District
Board of Directors Chairperson Date

Kristin May 5/14/2021
KRISTIN MAY, CFO
American Rivers Date

<i>Atta Stevenson</i>	5/14/2021
ATTA STEVENSON, President California Indian Water Commission	Date
<i>Chris Friedel</i>	4/29/2021
CHRIS FRIEDEL, Executive Director Yuba Watershed Institute	Date
<i>Pamela Flick</i>	4/29/2021
PAMELA FLICK, Director, California Office Defenders of Wildlife	Date
<i>Vince Scheidt</i>	5/18/2021
VINCE SCHEIDT, Acting Executive Director California Native Plant Society	Date
<i>Jane Freeman</i>	5/14/2021
JANE FREEMAN, Acting Executive Director California Tahoe Conservancy	Date
<i>Craig Thomas</i>	4/29/2021
CRAIG THOMAS, Director The Fire Restoration Group	Date
<i>Paul Ringgold</i>	5/04/2021
PAUL RINGGOLD, Chief Program Officer Save The Redwoods League	Date
<i>Robert Rhew</i>	5/04/2021
ROBERT RHEW, Faculty Director Central Sierra Field Stations Sagehen Field Station	Date
<i>Britta Dyer</i>	5/03/2021
BRITTA DYER, California State Director American Forests	Date

The authority and format of this agreement have been reviewed and approved for signature.

Paulette Anderson - Peacock USDA

4/28/2021

PAULETTE ANDERSON-PEACOCK
U.S. Forest Service Grants Management Specialist

Date

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