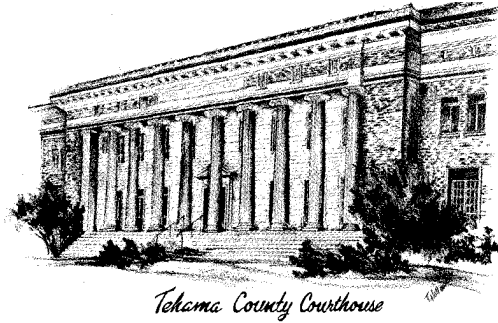


*Board of Supervisors*  
**COUNTY OF TEHAMA**

*District 1 – Rob Burroughs  
District 2 – Tom Walker  
District 3 – Pati Nolen  
District 4 – Matt Hansen  
District 5 – Greg Jones*



*Gabriel Hydrick  
Chief Administrator*

January 14, 2025

Helge Eng, Chief  
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection  
Grants Management Unit – CCI Forest Health  
P.O. Box 94244-2460

Re: Letter of Support – Crane Mills’ Upper Fish Creek Restoration Project

Dear Chief Tyler,

The County of Tehama supports Crane Mills’ CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Program proposal, Upper Fish Creek Restoration Project. This landscape level project is complimentary to collaborative work already underway within the Mendocino National Forest and surrounding areas with the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County and US Forest Service. The project area lies within the basin formed by Boswell, Fish, and Snake Ridges, encompassing upper Fish Creek in western Tehama County. Much of this region burned at high severity during the August Complex Fire of 2020 and is now in dire need of forest restoration.

The post-fire conditions in this area present serious challenges to the region's ecology, economy, and social well-being. These conditions not only hinder biodiversity but also compromise long-term carbon sequestration—a vital strategy for mitigating the impacts of climate change. Moreover, the loss of timber resources and diminished water quality caused by erosion exacerbate the challenges faced by our community.

The Upper Fish Creek Restoration Project will treat 3500 acres and leverage two previous Forest Health Grants and one future project that is in development within the Mendocino Forest footprint.

Crane Mills has put forward a comprehensive strategy to address these pressing issues. Their proposed approach—managing regeneration density and long-term fuel loads through mechanical treatments, grazing, and prescribed fire—promotes a fire-resilient landscape while reducing excessive vegetation and restoring ecological balance. In addition to the environmental benefits, this project offers significant socioeconomic advantages by supporting rural industries such as grazing and prescribed burning. Crane Mills' commitment to workforce development further amplifies these benefits by fostering local job growth and skill-building opportunities.

The implementation of the Upper Fish Creek Restoration Project is critical for the citizens of Tehama County. We strongly urge CAL FIRE to fund this important initiative to help restore our forests, support rural industries, and build a more resilient community.

Sincerely,

Tehama County Board of Supervisors, Chair