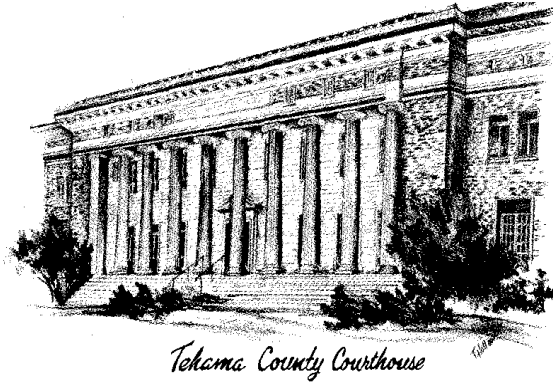


Board of Supervisors
COUNTY OF TEHAMA

District 1 – Rob Burroughs
District 2 – Tom Walker
District 3 – Steve Zane
District 4 – Matt Hansen
District 5 – Greg Jones



Gabriel Hydrick
Chief Administrator

April 21, 2026

National Park Service
12795 W Alameda Parkway
Lakewood, CO 80228

Subject: National Park Service Pacific West Region–National Recreation Trail
Coordinator/Reviewer

To whom it may concern:

On behalf of the Tehama County Board of Supervisors, we would like to express support for the designation of the Bigfoot Trail as a National Recreation Trail. The 360-mile trail route passes through or adjacent to the towns of Crescent City, Weaverville, Hayfork, Etna, and Seiad Valley; through the Klamath, Six Rivers, Shasta-Trinity, Mendocino, and Rogue-Siskiyou Forests, and Redwood/Jedediah Smith National and State Parks.

The Bigfoot Trail is a good candidate for designation as a National Recreation Trail. A long distance hiking route through the Klamath Mountains of northwest California and, briefly, southwest Oregon, it begins in the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness and ends near Redwood National and State Parks at the Pacific Ocean near Crescent City, California. 168 miles of it pass through designated wilderness, with 49 miles running along three wild and scenic rivers - the South Fork Trinity, the Salmon, and the Smith. The trail traverses the Mendocino, Shasta-Trinity, Klamath, Rogue-Siskiyou, and Six Rivers National Forests, as well as the Jedediah Smith and Redwood National and State Parks, with a total elevation gain and loss of approximately 100,000 feet. The route also encompasses the Kelsey National Recreation Trail, used by pioneers to haul supplies from the California coast to California's interior.

A special point of interest is the trail's exceptional conifer diversity, encompassing thirty-two unique species along its 360 miles. Recognition of this route as a National Recreation Trail will lead to a deeper understanding and awareness for this little-known corner of California— introducing nature lovers to the biodiversity of the Klamath Mountains region, promoting greater sustainability for this botanical wonderland and

contributing to the economic well-being of towns where hikers and other trail users will re-supply.

The designation of the Bigfoot Trail as a National Recreation Trail is important to Tehama County because it plays a key role in the trail's southern extent, as the route begins in the Yolla Bolly–Middle Eel Wilderness, which lies partly within Tehama County. This positions the County as an important gateway to the trail, contributing to access, stewardship opportunities, and regional recreation and tourism connected to the Bigfoot Trail corridor. The Bigfoot Trail Alliance creates opportunities for community engagement that include: encouraging volunteers to engage with wilderness places through trailwork; educating the public about our region's unique ecosystem and biota; making it possible for young people to experience the wilderness and identify as stakeholders in the region's wild places; promoting cooperation among agencies and jurisdictions; and representing our region at regional trails summits, providing access to public lands for hunting, fishing and horse packing as well as hiking and enhancing the economic survival of rural communities thru tourism.

The 2025 Land Act, currently championed by California Senator Alex Padilla, will protect and steward more than 1.7 million acres of California public lands. Importantly for the Bigfoot Trail, the bill directs a federal feasibility study and creates a pathway for its designation as a National Recreation Trail, helping to secure long-term recognition, support, and collaborative stewardship of this signature route.

Thank you for your consideration of the Bigfoot Trail for NRT designation. We look forward to publicizing the trail and its designation as a National Recreation Trail.

Sincerely,

Tom Walker
Chair, Tehama County Board of Supervisors