

May 19, 2021

Richard Sykes, Executive Officer
Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority
15083 Camanche Parkway South
Valley Springs, CA 95252

Subject: Support for the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority's Grant Application for a *Forest Projects Plan* to the CalFire Forest Health Grant Program

Dear Mr. Sykes:

The Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG) is pleased to submit this letter of support for the Forest Projects Plan and UMRWA's application to CalFire Forest Health Grant Program. The Forest Projects Plan represents another significant step in UMRWA's partnership with the United States Forest Service (USFS), the ACCG and other stakeholders in implementing critical forest health and fuel treatment projects that reduce wildfire risk to protect and restore the health of the Upper Mokelumne River and watershed. Furthermore, UMRWA has committed to collaborate with the ACCG in developing implementation actions under this plan.

Since the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority and USFS partnership was established by a Master Stewardship Agreement in April 2016 the Pumpkin Hollow, Cabbage, Black Springs and West Calaveras Thin Projects have reduced fire risk and increased forest resilience on more than 4,000 acres of high-risk public lands. The Forest Projects Plan will allow the UMRWA/USFS partnership to continue this important work by completing planning, permitting and environmental documentation to implement forest health projects on thousands of acres of additional at-risk public forest lands.

We strongly encourage CalFire to approve UMRWA's Forest Projects Plan grant application to continue these important forest health and resilience efforts.

Sincerely,