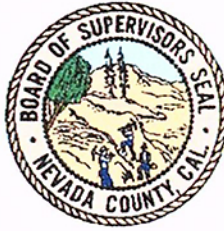


COUNTY OF NEVADA  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



**Richard Anderson**  
Supervisor, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
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**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** October 24, 2017  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** **Richard Anderson, District V Supervisor**  
**SUBJECT:** Letter of Support for UC Berkeley – Sagehen Creek Field Station’s Proposal to Reintroduce Fire through Broadcast Burning at Sagehen Basin

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**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the Chair to sign the attached Letter of Support and submit to the California Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**FUNDING:** N/A

**BACKGROUND:**

UC Berkeley’s Sagehen Creek Field Station, Tahoe National Forest, and the Pacific Southwest Research Station have been studying the Sagehen Basin in eastern Nevada County since 2004, with the intention of enhancing its resilience to wildfire. The Sagehen Forest Restoration Project has involved a significant collaborative process to better understand forest ecology, reduce fire danger, and enhance functioning of the ecosystem through a multi-phase implementation process. This process has included thinning of the forest through hand and mechanical methods, and burning the waste piles thus created. The third and final step is to reintroduce low-intensity fire to the understory through broadcast burning. After this is completed, it is anticipated that the Sagehen Basin forest ecosystem will be more resilient to fire and will also enjoy improved water quality and other natural resource benefits.

As a part of that effort, the Sagehen Creek Field Station is submitting to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy a proposal for a \$500,000 grant so as to allow the controlled reintroduction of fire on a minimum of 950 acres and up to 1,500 acres within the Sagehen Basin. The field station’s director, Jeff Brown, has requested a Letter of Support from the Nevada County Board of Supervisors.

Should the Sagehen Creek Field Station’s proposal be accepted and funding allotted, the final stage of the Sagehen Forest Restoration Project will be completed, which at the very least will reduce the danger of wildfire in the area. Therefore, I respectfully request the Board to authorize the Chair to sign the attached Letter of Support and submit it to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rich", is written over the word "Respectfully,".

Richard Anderson  
Supervisor, District V