

RESOLUTION NO. 21-169

RESOLUTION OF THE MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REQUESTING SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF JACKSON DEMONSTRATION STATE FOREST

WHEREAS, the science is convincing that our existential fight against climate change demands expanded effort to store carbon in the State's natural and working lands to remove it from the atmosphere; and

WHEREAS, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors embraces the responsibility to mitigate the systemic risks climate change poses to humans and natural systems; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom, through an executive order, committed the State of California to a goal of protecting 30% of California's land and coastal waters by 2030; and

WHEREAS, in November of 2021, leaders of more than 100 countries, including the United States, held climate talks in Glasgow and President Biden pledged to end deforestation by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's executive order directs the State's Natural Resources Agency to draw up a plan by February 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mendocino has an integral role to play in helping the State achieve its 30 by 30 climate goal encouraged by California's Climate Change Scoping Plan for local governments to adopt goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 15% below 1990's levels by 2020, 40% below 1990's levels by 2030 and 80% below 1990's levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has adopted commercial Timber Harvest Plans for Jackson Demonstration State Forest based on goals not yet refreshed to reflect the State's recent climate commitments and has commenced logging; and

WHEREAS, science-based forest management is vital to bolstering long term forest health, improving forest resiliency from wildfire, protecting wildlife habitat and riparian corridors; and

WHEREAS, the County of Mendocino respects the guidance of Mendocino's indigenous people, many of whom are calling to prioritize carbon sequestration and in-forest storage, preservation and protection of Native American cultural heritage, equitable access to public lands, and the protection of California's rare and endangered species; and

WHEREAS, the State of California should ensure there is not inconsistency between Jackson Demonstration State Forest management goals and the adopted State of California climate change commitments.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors urges Governor Newsom and the State's Natural Resources Agency to include any climate impacts of commercial logging on State lands in drawing up the plan to protect 30% of California's land use and coastal waters by 2030, and to publish a science-based report that evaluates carbon sequestration capacity and wildfire resiliency of current management practices, as well as alternate management scenarios, of Jackson Demonstration State Forest; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors strongly urges Governor Newsom to align Jackson Demonstration State Forest management goals with the

adopted State of California climate change commitments, and to do so in a way that enhances the wide-ranging scientific, recreational and economic opportunities offered by Jackson Demonstration State Forest.

The foregoing Resolution introduced by Supervisor Williams, seconded by Supervisor Haschak, and carried this 15th day of November, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors McGourty, Mulheren, Haschak, Gjerde, and Williams
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

WHEREUPON, the Chair declared said Resolution adopted and SO ORDERED.

ATTEST: CARMEL J. ANGELO
Clerk of the Board

DAN GJERDE, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Deputy

I hereby certify that according to the provisions of Government Code Section 25103, delivery of this document has been made.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
CHRISTIAN M. CURTIS
County Counsel

BY: CARMEL J. ANGELO
Clerk of the Board

Deputy