



STATE OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SIERRA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA
SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE MEETING

Lee Adams, Chair, District 1

P.O. Box 1 - Downieville, CA 95936 - 530-289-3506 - supervisor1@sierracounty.ca.gov

Peter W. Huebner, Vice-Chair, District 2

P.O. Box 349 - Sierra City, CA 96125 - 530-565-6055 - phuebner@sierracounty.ca.gov

Paul Roen, District 3

P.O. Box 43 - Calpine, CA 96124 - 209-479-2770 - supervisor3@sierracounty.ca.gov

Terry LeBlanc, District 4

P.O. Box 387 - Loyalton, CA 96118 - 707-489-0314 - tleblanc@sierracounty.ca.gov

Sharon Dryden, District 5

P.O. Box 246 - Loyalton, CA 96118 - 530-913-9218 - sdryden@sierracounty.ca.gov

The Sierra County Board of Supervisors will meet in special session commencing at 9:00 a.m. on October 14, 2021 via teleconference and in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers, Courthouse, Downieville. This meeting will be recorded for posting on the Board of Supervisors' website at www.sierracounty.ca.gov.

This meeting will be open to in-person attendance and available to the public via teleconference.

The public may observe and provide public comments by using the Teams options below.

By Phone: 1-323-892-2486

Access Code: 112 393 041#

By PC: <https://tinyurl.com/101421BOS>

NOTICE

Accommodations for individuals with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Federal Rules and Regulations adopted in implementation thereof, can be made with the Clerk of the Board and CA Relay Services 711 prior to the meeting. The Clerk of the Board may be reached at 530-289-3295 or at the following addresses:

Heather Foster
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
100 Courthouse Square, Room 11
P.O. Drawer D
Downieville, CA 95936
clerk-recorder@sierracounty.ca.gov

All items posted on the agenda, including under correspondence, may be acted upon by the Board

of Supervisors. However, matters under committee reports and department manager's reports may be briefly addressed by the Board or Staff but no action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda. (GC 54954.2)

The Board of Supervisors may hold a Closed Session as the agenda schedule permits.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. STANDING ORDERS

- Call to Order
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
- Approval of Regular Agenda

2. PUBLIC COMMENT OPPORTUNITY

Matters under the jurisdiction of the Board not on this posted agenda may be addressed by the general public during the Public Comment Opportunity time. No action may be taken or substantive discussion pursued on matters not on the posted agenda. Public comment is regulated by the Sierra County Board of Supervisors' Rules and Procedures. You may obtain a copy of the Public Comment rules from the Clerk. The Board limits public comment to three minutes per person and not more than three individuals addressing the same subject.

3. PUBLIC WORKS/TRANSPORTATION - TIM BEALS

- 3.A. Discussion/authorization to draft and submit comments to the US Forest Service regarding the notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the North Yuba Landscape Resilience Project.

Documents:

[NYLRP comments.pdf](#)

4. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- 4.A. Discussion/action regarding conducting meetings of the Sierra County Board of Supervisors by remote teleconference only, as a result of the increase in COVID-19 cases throughout Sierra County and in accordance with AB 361 and Sierra County Resolution 2021-140. (SUPERVISOR HUEBNER)

Documents:

[Remote BOS meetings.pdf](#)

ADJOURN

**Sierra County
Board of Supervisors'
Agenda Transmittal &
Record of Proceedings**

MEETING DATE: October 14, 2021	TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Timed <input type="checkbox"/> Consent
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DEPARTMENT: Department of Public Works APPROVING PARTY: Tim H. Beals, Director PHONE NUMBER: 530-289-3201
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AGENDA ITEM: Discussion/authorization to draft and submit comments to the US Forest Service regarding the notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the North Yuba Landscape Resilience Project.

SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTS ATTACHED: Memo Resolution Agreement Other
USFS NOI

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Comments are due within 30 days of the publication in the Federal Register, which was September 16, 2021.

FUNDING SOURCE:
GENERAL FUND IMPACT: No General Fund Impact
OTHER FUND:
AMOUNT: \$ N/A

ARE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL REQUIRED? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes, -- -- <input type="checkbox"/> No	IS THIS ITEM ALLOCATED IN THE BUDGET? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No IS A BUDGET TRANSFER REQUIRED? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
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SPACE BELOW FOR CLERK'S USE

BOARD ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as amended <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Taken	<input type="checkbox"/> Set public hearing For: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Direction to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Continued to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Authorization given to: _____	Resolution 2021- _____ Agreement 2021- _____ Ordinance _____ Vote: Ayes: Noes: Abstain: Absent: <input type="checkbox"/> By Consensus
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COMMENTS:

CLERK TO THE BOARD _____	DATE _____
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are—(1) to establish State systems to promote the nutritional health of school children of the United States through nutrition education and the use of team nutrition messages and material developed by the Secretary, and to encourage regular physical activity and other activities that support healthy lifestyles for children, including those based on the most recent Dietary Guidelines for Americans published under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5341); (2) to provide assistance to States for the development of comprehensive and integrated nutrition education and active living programs in schools and facilities that participate in child nutrition programs; (3) to provide training and technical assistance and disseminate team nutrition messages to States, school and community nutrition programs, and child nutrition food service professionals; (4) to coordinate and collaborate with other nutrition education and active living programs that share similar goals and purposes; and (5) to identify and share innovative programs with demonstrated effectiveness in helping children to maintain a healthy weight by enhancing student understanding of healthful eating patterns and the importance of regular physical activity.

Description of Respondents: State, Local, Tribal Governments, Private Sector (Businesses or other for-profits/ Not-for-profit institutions).

Number of Respondents: 122,130.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: Annually, Weekly.

Total Burden Hours: 35,484.

Ruth Brown,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 2021-19983 Filed 9-15-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-30-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Food and Nutrition Service

Agency Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection; Comment Request: Additional Information To Be Collected Under the Uniform Grant Application Package for Discretionary Grant Programs for the Emergency Food Assistance Program Reach and Resiliency Grants

Correction

In notice document 2021-19764 appearing on pages 51110-51111 in the issue of Tuesday, September 14, 2021, make the following correction:

On page 51110, in the first column, in the **DATES** section, in the third and fourth lines “September 14, 2021.” should read “October 14, 2021.”

[FR Doc. C1-2021-19764 Filed 9-15-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 0099-10-D

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Tahoe National Forest; California; North Yuba Landscape Resilience Project EIS

AGENCY: Forest Service, Agriculture (USDA).

ACTION: Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

SUMMARY: The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the North Yuba Landscape Resilience Project. The purpose of the Project is to improve and restore forest health and resilience, reduce the risk of uncharacteristic wildfire, protect and secure water supplies, and protect communities from the effects of high-severity wildfire and climate change in the North Yuba River watershed. Actions to reduce hazardous forest fuels and enhance forest resilience to severe disturbances from wildfire, insect and disease infestation, drought, and anticipated future climate change are intended to provide long-term benefits to the Landscape’s communities and ecosystems. These actions include several project-specific amendments to the Land Management Plan for the Tahoe National Forest related to management of California spotted owl habitat. The amendments are based on the Conservation Strategy for the California Spotted Owl in the Sierra Nevada (USDA Forest Service 2019) and rely on the best available science.

DATES: Comments concerning the scope of the analysis must be received 30 days from date of publication in the **Federal Register**. The draft environmental impact statement is expected July 2022, and the final environmental impact statement is expected March 2023.

ADDRESSES: Send written comments via mail or by hand delivery to Eli Ilano, Tahoe National Forest Supervisor, c/o Laurie Perrot, Attn: North Yuba Project, 631 Coyote Street, Nevada City, CA 95959. Comments may also be submitted electronically: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=59693.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Laurie Perrot, Forest Environmental Coordinator, laurie.perrot@usda.gov.

Additional information concerning the proposed Project is available online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/projects/tahoe/landmanagement/projects>. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the hearing-impaired (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339, 24 hours a day, every day of the year, including holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed North Yuba Landscape Resilience Project (Project) is a watershed-scale forest restoration project in the North Yuba Watershed within the Tahoe National Forest developed through a collaborative process by the North Yuba Forest Partnership, a diverse group of nine entities. The Project area stretches from New Bullards Bar Reservoir east up to the Sierra Crest along Highway 49. The planning area (or Landscape) is approximately 275,000 acres, of which approximately 210,000 acres are National Forest System lands. The watershed includes substantial forest habitat, is an important source of water to downstream users, supports high biodiversity, offers excellent opportunities for recreation, and is home to the communities of Camptonville, Downieville, and Sierra City.

Many homes and communities are located within and near the Landscape’s forested areas. Recognizing community safety and forest health are complementary and interrelated, the Forest Service is acting together with other public and private stakeholders to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire and protect communities at an increased pace and scale, given the geographic scope and severity of the problem.

Given project implementation will occur over many years, it is desirable to allow regular opportunities to address changing conditions on the ground (e.g., insect outbreak, wildfire, etc.) and provide periodic formal, structured public comment and pre-decisional administrative review opportunities before decisions are made. Toward this end, a staged decision-making approach is planned for this Project. Staged decision-making means proposed actions for the entire Landscape would be analyzed in the EIS; however, separate records of decisions would be issued for smaller sub-project areas within the Landscape. This approach would allow surveys to be completed prior to each decision and provide the opportunity to review potential new information or changed circumstances that could have a bearing on the proposed action and its impacts and

potentially require supplemental NEPA analysis.

Purpose and Need for Action

Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP 1990) as amended by the *Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision* (SNFPA ROD 2004), collectively referred to as the Forest Plan, provides the foundation for the purpose of the Project. The Project's purpose is further supported by the North Yuba Forest Partnership's four goals for this Landscape: (1) Improve and restore forest health and resilience, which is aligned with Forest Plan direction to respond to deteriorating forest health by reducing susceptibility of forest stands to insect- and drought-related tree mortality (SNFPA ROD, pp. 6, 32, and 44–48); (2) reduce the risk of high severity wildfire, which is aligned with Forest Plan direction to reduce threats to communities and wildlife habitat from large, severe wildfires (SNFPA ROD, pp. 8, 34, and 44–48); (3) protect local communities from the effects of high severity wildfire and climate change, which is aligned with Forest Plan direction to reduce the risk of wildfire to communities in the urban wildland interface while modifying fire behavior over the broader landscape (SNFPA ROD, pp. 3, 34, and 45–46); and (4) protect and secure water supplies through restoring watershed process and function, which is aligned with Forest Plan direction for addressing forest health; reducing risk of large, severe wildfires; and maintaining, restoring, and enhancing aquatic, riparian, and meadow ecosystems (SNFPA ROD, pp. 32–34, 42–43, and 62–66).

Needs for this proposal are driven by existing problematic conditions in the North Yuba Landscape in the areas of forest resilience, fire dynamics, fire-adapted communities, water security, and biodiversity conservation. Actions are needed to: (1) Restore forest structure and species composition to develop heterogeneous forest stands and a forested landscape resilient to severe impacts from wildfire, insect and disease infestation, drought, and anticipated future conditions resulting from climate change; (2) reduce hazardous forest fuels to reduce wildfire spread and intensity and facilitate reintroduction of more frequent, low- to moderate-severity fires; (3) reduce hazardous forest fuels and stand densities in strategic locations to help protect communities and critical infrastructure in the event of a wildfire and to facilitate wildfire management operations; (4) reduce sedimentation from existing roads, trails, ditches, and

other diversions and restore the natural hydrologic function of soils, meadows, and fens; and (5) maintain, enhance, and restore important terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic habitats.

Proposed Action

The Tahoe National Forest is proposing multiple actions to meet the Project's purpose and need, including prescribed fire; thinning; opening creation; strategic tree planting; sanitation cutting and stand improvement; restoration of aspen stands, meadows, and fens; stream channel restoration; soil decompaction; road repair, maintenance, and decommissioning; and removal of non-native invasive plants. In addition, project-specific amendments to the Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (1990 and 2004, as amended) are proposed.

Actions are proposed in the following emphasis areas: (1) Forest matrix; (2) infrastructure, strategic fuel area, and designated recreation site; and (3) unique ecological communities. Landscape-wide actions are proposed for roads, soils, and non-native invasive plant treatments.

Vegetation and fuels management treatments include prescribed fire, thinning from below, variable density thinning, creation of one to three-acre openings, strategic tree planting, and sanitation cutting and stand improvement. Prescribed fire includes underburning and piling and burning as well as activities needed to prepare areas for burning, such as mastication, chipping and hand cutting and/or pruning shrubs and small trees, lopping and scattering cut material, and/or machine or hand cutting and piling of material and fire-control line construction.

Different types and combinations of activities are proposed in key areas designated in the Forest Plan: (1) Inventoried roadless areas (IRAs), (2) California spotted owl and northern goshawk protected activity centers (PACs), (3) California spotted owl home range core areas (HRCAs), and (4) other forested areas, which include wildland urban intermix (WUI) threat zones, old forest emphasis areas, and general forest areas. The proposed action recognizes the importance of re-introducing fire in the Landscape. In all designated areas, forest stands needing treatment would first be evaluated to determine whether prescribed fire could be applied as a stand-alone treatment. In such cases, prescribed fire would need to be effective in meeting treatment objectives for the stand(s) without resulting in

excessive rates of fire spread and fire-caused mortality of large trees.

Encroaching trees would be removed as needed in approximately 1,716 acres of meadows and fens. Roads and/or trails impacting the meadow or fen would be realigned or reconstructed to reduce or eliminate their impact to the meadow or fen. Ditches would be plugged, and other diversions disconnected from the meadow or fen to restore natural hydrology. Incised stream channels in meadows or fens would be restored.

Proposed road management actions include maintenance, improvement, realignment, and decommissioning. All temporary roads used for project implementation would be decommissioned upon completion of project activities. No new permanent roads are proposed for construction. Manual, cultural, and chemical methods would be used for invasive plant removal.

Forest Plan Amendment

The proposed action includes several project-specific amendments to the *Tahoe National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* (LRMP 1990) as amended by the *Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment Record of Decision* (SNFPA ROD 2004). Proposed changes include modifying, removing, and adding specific forest plan components to: (1) Protect California spotted owl protected activity centers (PACs) by enhancing their resilience to severe disturbances, thereby providing for their long-term sustainability on the Landscape; (2) address needs for enhancing habitat resiliency in California spotted owl home range core areas (HRCAs); (3) balance needs for protecting PACs with protecting public and firefighter safety and reducing fire hazards near communities, critical access roads, and infrastructure for emergency services, communications, and power delivery; (4) enhance forest resilience by retaining large conifer trees (greater than or equal to 30 inches diameter at breast height [DBH]) while allowing some large trees to be removed under specific circumstances to enhance stand heterogeneity and meet project objectives for tree species composition and stand density; (5) effectively manage forest stand density for improved resilience in light of anticipated climate change. The proposed forest plan amendments would apply only to the North Yuba Landscape Project.

The proposed forest plan amendments pertaining to the California spotted owl are based on the Conservation Strategy for the California Spotted Owl in the

Sierra Nevada (USDA Forest Service 2019, referred to as the Conservation Strategy). The Conservation Strategy provides updated management recommendations, based on best available science, that focus on maintaining high-quality spotted owl habitat while increasing habitat resiliency across landscapes.

Substantive Provisions

In accordance with 36 CFR 219.13, the Responsible Official has determined the following specific substantive requirement(s) within §§ 219.8 through 219.11 are directly related to the plan direction being added, modified, or removed by the proposed amendments: 36 CFR 219.8(a)(1): Sustainability, (a) Ecological sustainability. (1) Ecosystem Integrity; 36 CFR 219.9(a)(1) and (2) and (b): Diversity of Plant and Animal Communities, (a) Ecosystem plan components, (1) Ecosystem integrity and (2) Ecosystem diversity and (b) Additional Species-Specific Plan Components; 36 CFR 219.10(a)(1), (5), (7), and (8): Multiple Use, (a) Integrated resource management for multiple use; (1) Aesthetic values, cultural and heritage resources, ecosystem services, fish and wildlife species, forage, geologic features, grazing and rangelands, habitat and habitat connectivity, recreation settings and opportunities, riparian areas, scenery, soil, surface and subsurface water quality, timber, trails, vegetation, viewsheds, and other relevant resources and uses; (5) Habitat conditions, subject to the requirements of § 219.9, for wildlife, fish, and plants commonly enjoyed and used by the public; for hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, observing, subsistence, and other activities (in collaboration with federally recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations, other Federal agencies, and State and local governments); (7) Reasonably foreseeable risks to ecological, social, and economic sustainability; and (8) System drivers, including dominant ecological processes, disturbance regimes, and stressors, such as natural succession, wildland fire, invasive species, and climate change; and the ability of the terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems on the plan area to adapt to change (§ 219.8).

Preliminary Alternatives

An alternative that does not adopt the proposed project-specific forest plan amendments would be developed and analyzed. Other alternatives would be developed based on scoping input.

Expected Impacts

Among the significant impacts expected to be analyzed in the EIS are: Effects on habitat for the California spotted owl and other old forest-associated species, impacts on roadless area characteristics in IRAs, and impacts on the density and distribution of trees greater than 30 inches DBH.

Responsible Official

The Responsible Official is the Forest Supervisor of the Tahoe National Forest.

Scoping Comments and the Objection Process

This notice of intent initiates the scoping process, which guides the development of the environmental impact statement. In this process, the Agency is requesting comments on potential alternatives and impacts, and identification of any relevant information, studies or analyses of any kind concerning impacts affecting the quality of the human environment. Please visit the North Yuba Forest Partnership website for information about public meetings: <https://yubaforests.org>.

It is important that reviewers provide their comments at such times and in such manner that they are useful to the Agency's preparation of the environmental impact statement. Therefore, comments should be provided prior to the close of the comment period and should clearly articulate the reviewer's concerns and contentions. Commenting during scoping and any other designated opportunity to comment provided by the Responsible Official will also establish standing to object once the final EIS and Draft Record of Decision has been published. Comments received in response to this solicitation, including names and addresses of those who comment, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. Comments submitted anonymously will be accepted and considered, however, they will not be used to establish standing for the objection process.

Nature of Decision To Be Made

The EIS will support staged decision-making, which will be documented in multiple records of decisions for sub-project areas that have completed surveys. For all decisions, the Responsible Official will consider all reasonable alternatives in light of the purpose and need and environmental effects to decide whether to implement the proposed action, implement one of the other action alternatives, or decide to take no action for one or more of the sub-project areas within the Landscape.

In the initial record of decision, the Responsible Official will also determine whether to modify, remove, and add specific forest plan components that would apply to actions in the North Yuba Landscape Resilience Project area during the life of the Project. Subsequent decisions will be made as required surveys are completed and sub-project areas reviewed for possible new information and/or changed circumstances.

Dated: September 10, 2021.

Barnie Gyant,

Associate Deputy Chief, National Forest System.

[FR Doc. 2021-20044 Filed 9-15-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3411-15-P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Notice of Public Meeting of the South Carolina Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights

AGENCY: U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Announcement of meeting.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (Commission) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act that the South Carolina Advisory Committee (Committee) to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights will hold a meeting on Thursday, September 30, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. Eastern Time. The Committee will discuss civil rights concerns in the state.

DATES: The meeting will take place on Thursday, September 30, 2021, from 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. Eastern Time.

ADDRESSES: (Audio/Visual): <https://tinyurl.com/yf2hwdft>. Telephone (Audio Only): Dial 800-360-9505 USA Toll Free; Access code: 433 716 81.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Barbara Delaviez, DFO, at bdelaviez@usccr.gov or (202) 376-8473.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Members of the public can listen to these discussions. Committee meetings are available to the public through the above call-in number. Any interested member of the public may call this number and listen to the meeting. An open comment period will be provided to allow members of the public to make a statement as time allows. Callers can expect to incur regular charges for calls they initiate over wireless lines, according to their wireless plan. The Commission will not refund any incurred charges. Callers will incur no charge for calls they initiate over land-line connections to the toll-free

**Sierra County
Board of Supervisors'
Agenda Transmittal &
Record of Proceedings**

MEETING DATE: October 14, 2021	TYPE OF AGENDA ITEM: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Timed <input type="checkbox"/> Consent
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DEPARTMENT: Board of Supervisors APPROVING PARTY: Peter W. Huebner, Supervisor, District No. 2 PHONE NUMBER: 530-289-3295
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AGENDA ITEM: Discussion/action regarding conducting meetings of the Sierra County Board of Supervisors by remote teleconference only as a result of the increase in COVID-19 cases throughout Sierra County and in accordance with AB 361 and Sierra County Resolution 2021-140.

SUPPORTIVE DOCUMENTS ATTACHED: Memo Resolution Agreement Other

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

FUNDING SOURCE:
GENERAL FUND IMPACT: No General Fund Impact
OTHER FUND:
AMOUNT: \$ N/A

ARE ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL REQUIRED?

 Yes, -- --
 No

IS THIS ITEM ALLOCATED IN THE BUDGET? Yes No

IS A BUDGET TRANSFER REQUIRED? Yes No

SPACE BELOW FOR CLERK'S USE

BOARD ACTION: <input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as amended <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Adopted as amended <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> No Action Taken	<input type="checkbox"/> Set public hearing For: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Direction to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Referred to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Continued to: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Authorization given to: _____	Resolution 2021- _____ Agreement 2021- _____ Ordinance _____ Vote: Ayes: Noes: Abstain: Absent: <input type="checkbox"/> By Consensus
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COMMENTS:

CLERK TO THE BOARD

DATE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SIERRA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF SIERRA AS A RESULT OF A LOCAL
EMERGENCY AND AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS OF
THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF SIERRA COUNTY PURSUANT TO
BROWN ACT PROVISIONS**

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-140

WHEREAS, the County of Sierra is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed pursuant to his authority under the California Emergency Services Act, California Government Code section 8625, that a state of emergency exists with regard to a novel coronavirus (a disease now known as COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, on June 4, 2021, the Governor clarified that the “reopening” of California on June 15, 2021 did not include any change to the proclaimed state of emergency or the powers exercised thereunder; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of this Resolution, neither the Governor nor the Legislature have exercised their respective powers pursuant to California Government Code section 8629 to lift the state of emergency either by proclamation or by concurrent resolution in the state Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the continued local rates of transmission of the virus and variants causing COVID-19 are such that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees of public meetings;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNTY OF SIERRA HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Proclamation of Local Emergency. The Board hereby proclaims that a local emergency now exists throughout the County, and social distancing orders are currently in place and needed to protect the health and safety of the citizens.

Section 3. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The staff and legislative bodies of Sierra County are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 4. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the earlier of thirty (30) days from adoption of the Resolution or such time the Board of Supervisors adopts a subsequent Resolution in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend the time during which the legislative bodies of the County of Sierra may continue to teleconference without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of section 54953.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of October 2021, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sierra by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Huebner, Roen, LeBlanc, Dryden, and Adams

NOES: None

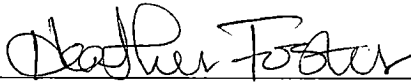
ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None



Lee Adams, Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:



Heather Foster, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



David Prentice, County Counsel



Sierra County Health and Human Services

Social Services
P.O. Box 1019
Loyalton, CA 96118
202 Front Street
(530) 993-6720
Fax (530) 993-6767
Vickie Clark- Director

Public Health
P.O. Box 7
Loyalton, CA 96118
202 Front Street
(530) 993-6700
Fax (530) 993-6790
Vickie Clark- Director

Behavioral Health
P.O. Box 265
Loyalton, CA 96118
704 Mill Street
(530) 993-6746
Fax (530) 993-6759
Lea Salas- Director
Kathryn Hill- Clinical Director

**Human Services
Satellite Office**
P.O. Box 38
Downieville, CA 95936
22 Maiden Lane
(530) 289-3711
Fax (530) 289-3716

Date: September 30, 2021

To: All Sierra County Boards and Commissions

From: Dr. Celia Sutton-Pado, Health Officer

Subject: Remote Public Meetings

In light of the ongoing public health emergency related to COVID-19 and the high level of community transmission of the virus that causes COVID-19, the Sierra County Public Health Officer recommends that public bodies continue to meet remotely, to the extent possible. Boards and Commissions can utilize the provisions of newly enacted AB 361 to maintain remote meetings under the Ralph M. Brown Act and similar laws.

Among other reasons, the grounds for the remote meeting recommendation include:

- The continued threat of COVID-19 to the community. As of September 30, 2021, the case rate remains high and unstable in Sierra County, as well as our neighboring counties that are regularly utilized for our services and goods. Case rate is one metric used under the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) framework for assessing community COVID-19 transmission; and,
- The unique characteristics of public governmental meetings, including the increased mixing associated with bringing together people from across the community, the need to enable those who are immunocompromised or unvaccinated to be able to safely continue to fully participate in public governmental meetings, and the challenges of ensuring compliance with safety requirements and recommendations at such meetings.

Meetings that cannot feasibly be held virtually should be held outdoors whenever possible, or indoors only in small groups with face coverings, maximal physical distance between participants, use of portable HEPA filter (unless comparable filtration is provided through facility HVAC systems), and shortened meeting times. Indoor meeting mitigation measures should be posted.

This recommendation is based upon current conditions and available protective measures. The Public Health Officer will continue to evaluate this recommendation on an ongoing basis and will communicate when there is no longer such a recommendation with respect to meetings for public bodies.