

ANCIENT FOREST INTERNATIONAL

Martha Spencer
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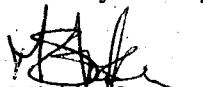
Dear Ms. Spencer,

Ancient Forest International strongly supports the recommended changes identified in the Trees Foundation general plan update proposal. These community-based zoning recommendations evolved from an understanding of public trust resources preservation and restoration goals and experience by many rural landowners with success implementing those goals on-the-ground.

As a local nonprofit organization we have been leading proponents of successful conservation and restoration projects in the southern Humboldt rural landscape. These collaborative achievements included the Gilham Butte acquisition, nearly 300,000 acres of new federal wilderness in the region, and the Headwaters Forest Reserve. We also helped develop the Redwoods-To-Sea project, to aid rural landowners in coordinating sustainable stewardship goals in the Mattole, South Fork Eel watersheds. These private rural lands when stewarded in an ecologically sensitive manner provide: the functional connection between large public and private conservation lands throughout this section of the County, insure water quality, river and forest recovery, wildlife corridors, and are the foundation for thriving rural communities.

The proposed zoning amendments stated in the Trees Foundation package will assist the County in achieving its legal environmental obligations under County, state, and federal resource regulations and policies. We strongly support their inclusion in the Humboldt County general plan.

Thank you for your consideration.


Mishka Straka
President