



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

King Range Project Office
PO Drawer 189
Whitethorn, CA 95589
www.ca.blm.gov/arcata

October 5, 2022

USDA Forest Service
Community Wildfire Defense Grant

Re: Bureau of Land Management support for Mattole Restoration Council's Prosper Ridge Community Wildfire Resilience Project

Dear Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program Committee,

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), King Range National Conservation Area (KRNCA), expresses support for projects like the Mattole Restoration Council's (MRC) ***Prosper Ridge Community Wildfire Resilience Project***, which will implement fuels reduction on private lands adjacent to the 68,000 acre KRNCA.

Over the last decade MRC and BLM have been working to restore coastal prairie habitat and reduce fuel loads on Prosper Ridge in the KRNCA. Projects have included the treatment of roadside fuels and the removal of douglas fir and coyotebrush that have encroached historic coastal prairies. Over 300 acres of coastal prairie has been restored to date as part of this ongoing partnership. The Prosper Ridge Community Wildfire Resilience Project will treat private land adjacent to this ongoing work.

MRC's proposal will protect resources and reduce the risk of high severity fires threatening communities, as the proposed project work is strategically located on an ideal ridgeline for defense from a wildfire. In addition, the treatments tie into Potential Operational Delineation (PODS) boundaries drafted by the North Coast Resource Partnership, a regional organization coordinating the Regional Fire and Forest Capacity Program.

Sincerely,

Paul Sever
King Range NCA Manager (detailed)