



North State Super Region

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Tamera Leighton, Chair

April 26, 2013

Federal Lands Access Program

Central Federal Lands Highway Division

12300 West Dakota Ave, Suite 380B,
Lakewood, CO 80228

Subject: California North State Super Region FLAP Projects

Dear California Programming Decisions Committee:

The California North State Super Region is pleased to endorse the projects listed below for the Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP). The North State Super Region consists of fourteen counties representing 36% of California's land area and 30% of California's State/Federal roads, highways, and interstates. All fourteen counties have jointly agreed upon the ten projects that address the FLAP criteria and the public's best interest. We are proud to be stewards of the most spectacular open spaces in California and home to the federal high-use recreational sites. The following projects are listed in no particular order and are equally supported:

- Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge – Planning Study submitted by Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Tehama and Caltrans Districts 2 and 3
- Bald Hills Road Rehabilitation and Paving Project submitted by Humboldt and Yurok Tribe
- Bucks Lake Road (Tollgate Reconstruction), Drainage Crossing Improvement Projects, Graeagle-Johnsville Road Drainage Reconstruction, and Lake Davis Bridge Crossing, all submitted by Plumas, which is 76% federal and public lands
- Rehabilitate J.F. Kennedy Memorial Drive submitted by Shasta
- Jelly's Ferry Road North Reconstruction, Jelly's Ferry Road South Reconstruction, and Bend Ferry Road Reconstruction all submitted by Tehama, which is 53% federal and public lands

Jon Clark

Butte County Assn. of Governments

James Bell

Colusa County Transportation Comm.

Tamera Leighton

Del Norte Local Transportation Comm.

John Linhart

Glenn County Transportation Comm.

Marcella Clem

Humboldt County Association of Govt.

Lisa Davey-Bates

Lake Co City/Area Planning Comm.

Larry Millar

Lassen County Transportation Comm.

Phil Dow

Mendocino County Council of Governments

Debbie Pedersen

Modoc County Transportation Comm.

Daniel Landon

Nevada County Transportation Comm.

Robert Perreault

Plumas County Transportation Comm.

Daniel S. Little

Shasta County Transportation Agency/MPO

Tim Beals

Sierra County Transportation Comm.

Melissa Cummins

Siskiyou County Local Trans. Comm.

Gary Antone

Tehama County Transportation Comm.

Richard Tippet

Trinity County Transportation Comm.

When evaluating FLAP projects we ask that the Programming Decision Committee (PDC) consider the following:

The North State Super Region isn't so super when it comes to its economy.

Federal policies have dramatically curtailed our timber and fishing industries effectively removing our resource-based economies, and we are the largest major economically depressed area in California.

The North State Super Region has a significant percentage of California's federal and public lands.

A significant percentage of the land area is federal or public in the Super Region counties that have requested FLAP funding. These counties bear the benefits and the burden of hosting these federal lands and this high percentage should be positively weighted in application scoring.

The proposed FLAP projects address the selection criteria:

- **Access, Mobility and Connectivity** to federal lands.
- **Economic Development:** All NSSR Counties are economically distressed areas that will benefit from the increased tourism generated by improved access to federal lands.
- **Condition:** Rural Counties have a lower pavement conditions index as documented in the 2012 and prior California Statewide Needs Assessment Updates.
- **Safety:** Rural counties have higher accident rates and investment of FLAP funding will improve public safety and access to pristine federal lands.
- **Funding, Coordination and Cost:** All fourteen North State Super Region counties have coordinated and agree from a statewide perspective there is significant value to improving rural roads as many of our federal lands have only one access point.
- **Plans:** The proposed projects are consistent with the North State Super Region Economic Development Study, County General Plans, County Regional Transportation Plans, Caltrans Transportation Concept Reports, and Bikeways Plans.
- **Natural Resource Protection:** We are responsible stewards of our natural resources, which include the federal high-use recreational sites for California, and our stewardship should be rewarded with improved access. Local parks and open space play an important role in our economies both locally and regionally, support our quality of life, engage citizens in outdoor activities that heighten awareness of the environment and ecological stewardship.

The North State Super Region appreciates the opportunity to endorse 10 outstanding FLAP projects that will increase access of public lands and safety to the traveling public. We encourage the award of FLAP funding to the projects in California's North State Super Region.

Sincerely,



Tamera Leighton, Chair

North State Super Region