

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

January 27, 2025

Wendy Johnston
VESTRA Resources, Inc.CHAIRPERSON
Reginald Pagaling
Chumash**Via Email to: wjohnston@vestra.com**VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Buffy McQuillen
Yokayo Pomo, Yuki,
Nomlaki**Re: Native American Tribal Consultation, Pursuant to the Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), Amendments to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Chapter 532, Statutes of 2014), Public Resources Code Sections 5097.94 (m), 21073, 21074, 21080.3.1, 21080.3.2, 21082.3, 21083.09, 21084.2 and 21084.3, South Siskiyou County Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, Siskiyou County**SECRETARY
Sara Dutschke
Miwok

To Whom it May Concern:

PARLIAMENTARIAN
Wayne Nelson
Luiseño

Pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (c), attached is a consultation list of tribes that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the above-listed project. Please note that the intent of the AB 52 amendments to CEQA is to avoid and/or mitigate impacts to tribal cultural resources, (Pub. Resources Code §21084.3 (a)) ("Public agencies shall, when feasible, avoid damaging effects to any tribal cultural resource.")

COMMISSIONER
Isaac Bojorquez
Ohlone-Costanoan

Public Resources Code sections 21080.3.1 and 21084.3(c) require CEQA lead agencies to consult with California Native American tribes that have requested notice from such agencies of proposed projects in the geographic area that are traditionally and culturally affiliated with the tribes on projects for which a Notice of Preparation or Notice of Negative Declaration or Mitigated Negative Declaration has been filed on or after July 1, 2015. Specifically, Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1 (d) provides:

COMMISSIONER
Stanley Rodriguez
Kumeyaay

Within 14 days of determining that an application for a project is complete or a decision by a public agency to undertake a project, the lead agency shall provide formal notification to the designated contact of, or a tribal representative of, traditionally and culturally affiliated California Native American tribes that have requested notice, which shall be accomplished by means of at least one written notification that includes a brief description of the proposed project and its location, the lead agency contact information, and a notification that the California Native American tribe has 30 days to request consultation pursuant to this section.

COMMISSIONER
Laurena Bolden
SerranoCOMMISSIONER
Reid Milanovich
Cahuilla

The AB 52 amendments to CEQA law does not preclude initiating consultation with the tribes that are culturally and traditionally affiliated within your jurisdiction prior to receiving requests for notification of projects in the tribe's areas of traditional and cultural affiliation. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) recommends, but does not require, early consultation as a best practice to ensure that lead agencies receive sufficient information about cultural resources in a project area to avoid damaging effects to tribal cultural resources.

COMMISSIONER
Bennae Calac
Pauma-Yuima Band of
Luiseño IndiansACTING EXECUTIVE
SECRETARY
STEVEN QUINN

The NAHC also recommends, but does not require that agencies should also include, with their notification letters, information regarding any cultural resources assessment that has been completed on the area of potential effect (APE), such as:

NAHC HEADQUARTERS
1550 Harbor Boulevard
Suite 100
West Sacramento,
California 95691
(916) 373-3710
nahc@nahc.ca.gov

1. The results of any record search that may have been conducted at an Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS), including, but not limited to:

- A listing of any and all known cultural resources that have already been recorded on or adjacent to the APE, such as known archaeological sites;
- Copies of any and all cultural resource records and study reports that may have been provided by the Information Center as part of the records search response;
- Whether the records search indicates a low, moderate, or high probability that unrecorded cultural resources are located in the APE; and
- If a survey is recommended by the Information Center to determine whether previously unrecorded cultural resources are present.

2. The results of any archaeological inventory survey that was conducted, including:

- Any report that may contain site forms, site significance, and suggested mitigation measures.

All information regarding site locations, Native American human remains, and associated funerary objects should be in a separate confidential addendum, and not be made available for public disclosure in accordance with Government Code section 6254.10.

3. The result of the Sacred Lands File (SLF) check conducted through the Native American Heritage Commission was negative.

4. Any ethnographic studies conducted for any area including all or part of the APE; and

5. Any geotechnical reports regarding all or part of the APE.

Lead agencies should be aware that records maintained by the NAHC and CHRIS are not exhaustive and a negative response to these searches does not preclude the existence of a tribal cultural resource. A tribe may be the only source of information regarding the existence of a tribal cultural resource.

This information will aid tribes in determining whether to request formal consultation. In the event that they do, having the information beforehand will help to facilitate the consultation process.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from tribes, please notify the NAHC. With your assistance, we can assure that our consultation list remains current.

If you have any questions, please contact me at my email address: melina.carlos@nahc.ca.gov

Sincerely,

Melina Carlos

Melina Carlos
Cultural Resources Analyst

Attachment

Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request

Native American Heritage Commission

1550 Harbor Blvd, Suite 100

West Sacramento, CA 95691

916-373-3710

916-373-5471 – Fax

nahc@nahc.ca.gov

Information Below is Required for a Sacred Lands File Search

Project: South Siskiyou County Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

County: Siskiyou

USGS Quadrangle Name: City of Mt. Shasta, McCloud, Elk Spring, Dunsmuir, Girard Ridge, Lake McCloud

Township: See list attached **Range:** **Section(s):**

Company/Firm/Agency: VESTRA Resources, Inc., on behalf of Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District

Street Address: 5300 Aviation Drive

City: Redding **Zip:** 96002

Phone: (530) 223-2585

Fax: N/A

Email: wjohnston@vestra.com

Project Description:

Hazardous fuels reduction on private property within Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas to reduce fire intensity around communities. The project site consists of three Project Activity Areas (PAAs): Mt. Shasta, Dunsmuir, and McCloud. The proposed treatments include removing ground and ladder fuels, thinning trees to reduce crown closure, and removing dead and dying trees using manual, mechanical, and herbicide treatments. The maximum potential acreage to be treated is 7,000 acres within the project area as shown in Figure 1 attached.

USGS Quadrangle Names:

City of Mount Shasta

McCloud

Elk Spring

Dunsmuir

Girard Ridge

Lake McCloud

Township, Range, Sections

Township 38N, Range 4W, Sections 1 and 2

Township 39N, Range 2W, Sections 6 and 7

Township 39N, Range 3W, Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, 18, 19, and 30

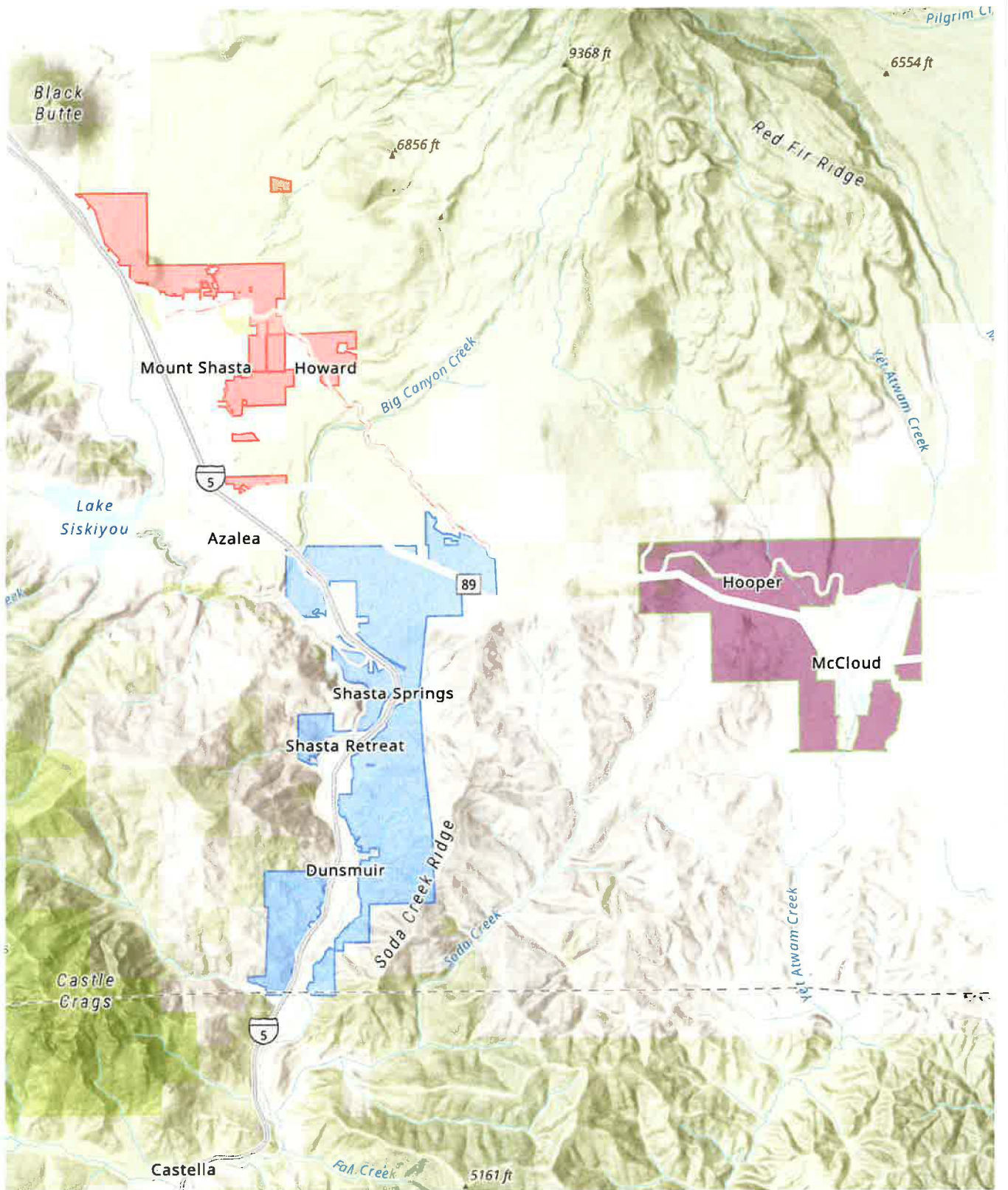
Township 39N, Range 4W, Sections 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36

Township 40N, Range 2W, Section 31

Township 40N, Range 3W, Sections 30, 31, 34, 35, and 36

Township 40N, Range 4W, Sections 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 35, and 36

Township 41N, Range 4W, Section 34



- Dunsmuir PAA
- Mt. Shasta PAA
- McCloud PAA

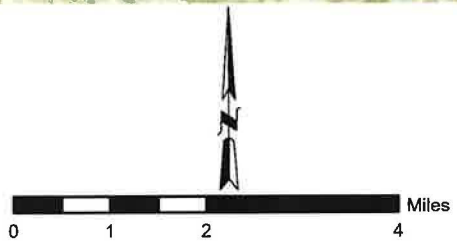


FIGURE 1
GENERAL SITE LOCATION
SOUTH SISKIYOU
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

USGS Quadrangle Names:

City of Mount Shasta

McCloud

Elk Spring

Dunsmuir

Girard Ridge

Lake McCloud

Township, Range, Sections

Township 38N, Range 4W, Sections 1 and 2

Township 39N, Range 2W, Sections 6 and 7

Township 39N, Range 3W, Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, 18, 19, and 30

Township 39N, Range 4W, Sections 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 35, and 36

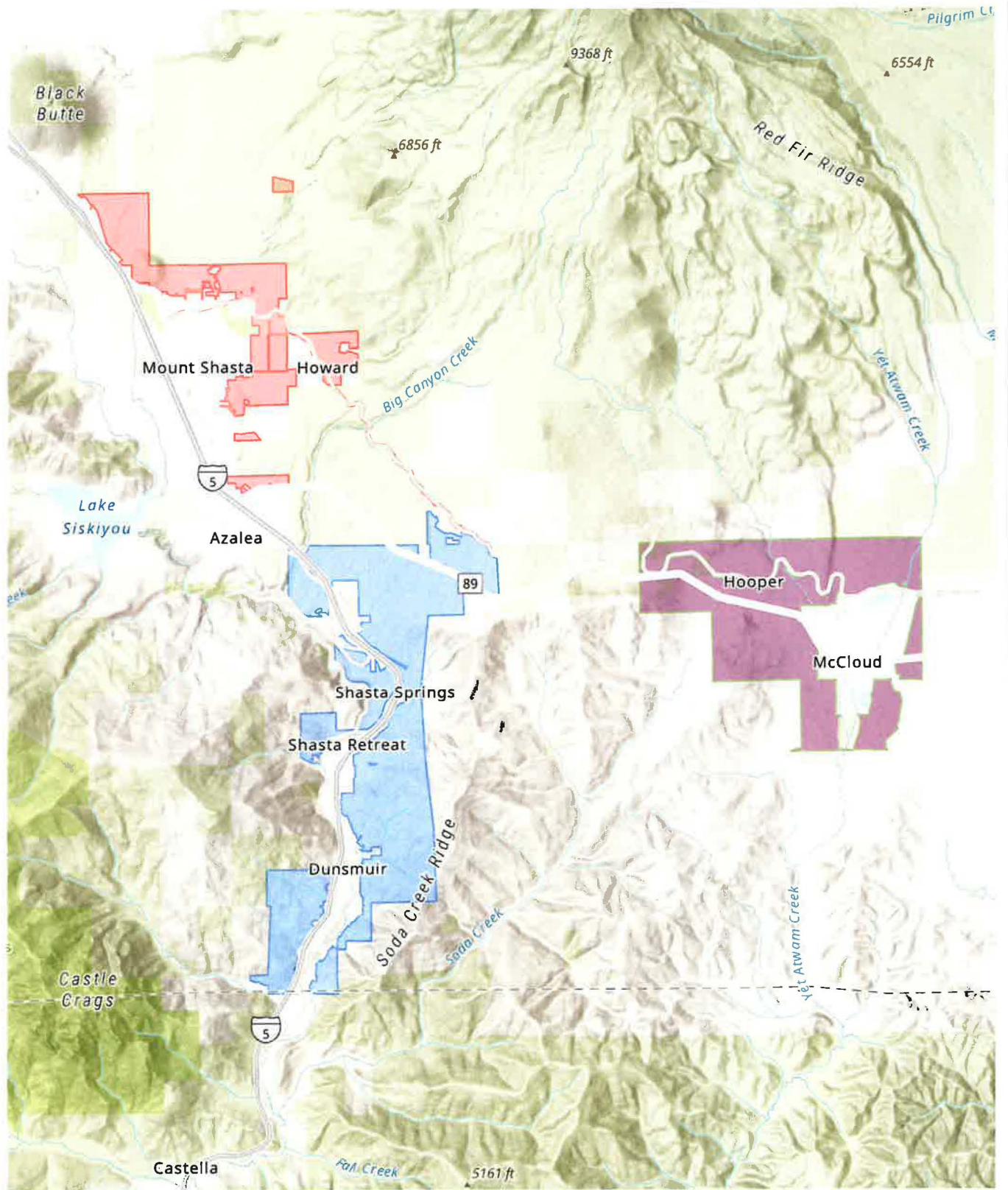
Township 40N, Range 2W, Section 31

Township 40N, Range 3W, Sections 30, 31, 34, 35, and 36

Township 40N, Range 4W, Sections 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 35, and 36

Township 41N, Range 4W, Section 34

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- Dunsmuir PAA
- Mt. Shasta PAA
- McCloud PAA

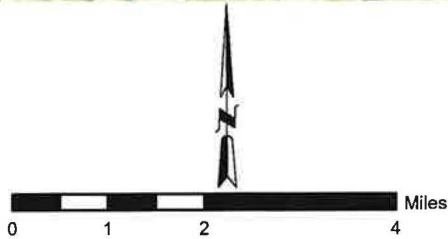


FIGURE 1
GENERAL SITE LOCATION
SOUTH SISKIYOU
SISKIYOU COUNTY, CALIFORNIA