



CAL POLY

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To Whom it May Concern,

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I am writing on behalf of the California Polytechnic State University's Swanton Pacific Ranch in support of the 2021 UC ANR CE Position Forestry Area Advisor (Santa Cruz, San Mateo, Santa Clara). We are strongly supportive of this position and would encourage placement of this position in Swanton Pacific Ranch offices in Northern Santa Cruz County.

Swanton Pacific Ranch (SPR) is the school forest of California Polytechnic State University and has long supported efforts to maintain and improve regional forest management with a variety of partners. As such, SPR has become well established as a hub for demonstration, outreach, teaching, and research for forest management. Recently, we have expanded our partnership with CAL FIRE's Soquel Demonstration State Forest to collaborate on several research and demonstration projects funded with millions of dollars of CAL FIRE support and including many collaborators and greatly expanding our organizations' capacities. These emerging projects focus on improving our understanding and management of forest health while addressing fuels management both pre- and post- fire with treatments that will serve for demonstration and research.

We understand the importance of partnership with UCCE, and have a history of productive collaboration. For many years, SPR and Cal Poly professors/students have advanced rangeland productivity and health by working with UCCE with their rangeland management initiative, the Central Coast Rangeland Coalition. More recently, SPR staff have been working with UCCE to launch the Central Coast Prescribed Burn Association. We would very much to expand this partnership by collaborating to improve the management and health of the forests of the Central Coast.

Swanton Pacific Ranch is committed to assisting with this proposal's endeavors. We are enthusiastic about the potential for this new UCCE position locating at our facilities. There are many synergies to explore with this opportunity, and we look forward to collaborating with this important initiative.

Sincerely Yours,