



May 1, 2018

Dr. Carol Christ
Office of the Chancellor, University of California, Berkeley
200 California Hall, #1500
Berkeley, CA 94720-1500
Submitted via: chancellor@berkeley.edu

RE: Campus support for UC Berkeley Field Research Stations

Dear Dr. Christ,

On behalf of the Truckee River Watershed Council, we urge you: please continue the campus support for UC Berkeley's field research stations.

The mission of the Watershed Council is to bring the community *Together for the Truckee* to protect, enhance, and restore the Truckee River watershed. We exist to transform the health and the resiliency of the watershed so that nature and humanity can thrive together for generations. Our goal is to complete 50 high priority restoration projects in the next 10 years. Your field research stations with their mission of research, education, and public service are not only treasured corners of the watershed but also support our community and inform our work.

These stations are the places of research, learning, and community. Where scientists, students, teachers, writers, artists, and land managers come together, focused on a place and learning more of our natural world. The result is a legacy of research and collaboration that provides critical data and guidance for land managers and groups like the Watershed Council.

The Sagehen Creek field station in our watershed is a particularly strong example. Since its establishment in 1951, the station has hosted thousands of researchers and has been the venue for hundreds of publications in fisheries, forestry, wildlife, and hydrology. In the field of forestry, research at Sagehen has catalyzed the Sagehen Forest Project. This provided sustainable forest management to 600 acres of experimental forest through a collaboration of station staff, fire officials, environmental groups, state and federal agencies, and the timber industry.

This project is on the forefront of forest management in the western states. It has served as a model and catalyst for larger collaborative forest management efforts such as Lake Tahoe West and the Tahoe Central Sierra Initiative.

In this time of rapid change, shifting paradigms, and "new normals" in our environment, we need places like Sagehen more than ever. But without the support of the UC Berkeley campus, these field stations can only do less.

Please continue the campus' support for the field stations.

Sincerely,



Lisa Wallace, Executive Director



Matt Freitas, Program Manager

CC: Jeff Brown, Director UC Berkeley-Central Sierra Field Research Stations
Rob Rhew, Interim Faculty Director Sagehen Creek Field Research Station
Paul Alivisatos, Executive Vice Chancellor
Randy Katz, Vice Chancellor for Research

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