# AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

**Agenda Item:** Ratification of Correspondence; Community Assistan

**Action Requested:** Motion

**Parties to the Agreement:**

**Term Begins:** **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

**Summary:**

The attached correspondence was signed/stamped and distributed 1/6/2021.

**Fiscal Impact:** N/A

**Submitted by:** Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

**Finance Review:** ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

**County Attorney Review:** ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

**County Manager Review:**

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 1/8/2021

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 1/12/2021

*Revised April 2015*

Gunnison County
COLORADO

**Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners**
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

January 6th, 2021

Dear Grant Application Review Committee:

I am writing to convey support from Gunnison County for the Wilder-Highlands Mountain Pine Beetle Response Project proposal submitted by the National Forest Foundation (NFF) to the Community Assistance Funds Adjacent to National Forests and Grasslands.

Gunnison County has demonstrated its support for this project from its inception. The Gunnison County Public Works Department has helped to coordinate logistics, facilitate community engagement, and uphold standards for risk management. The Wilder-Highlands project aligns with objectives established in the Gunnison County Community Wildfire Protection Plan, where the Gunnison-Highlands community was given a "very high" hazard rating. The recommended treatments for the area, patch cutting and lodgepole pine fuel break, were among the highest priorities of any community in Gunnison County. The urgency of this project cannot be overstated.

The Wilder-Highlands project is a shining example of shared stewardship. The NFF is playing a critical role in supporting forestry treatments on federal and private lands. The organization has taken the lead in fundraising, project coordination, and community outreach. Alongside Gunnison County, the U.S. Forest Service, Colorado State Forest Service, and others, we are reducing the risk of severe fire and protecting community resources. This project is currently the highest priority forest health project in Gunnison County, due to the outbreak of the Mountain Pine Beetle and the risks a severe fire poses to residents, watersheds, and the future of our forests.

We recommend full funding for this critical project. Thank you for your time and attention to the Wilder-Highlands Mountain Pine Beetle Response Project proposal.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson | Roland Mason, Commissioner | Liz Smith, Commissioner

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