



Department of Public Works

Joshua Pack, Director

7 County Center Drive
Oroville, California 95965

T: 530.538.7681
F: 530.538.7171

buttecounty.net/publicworks

July 13, 2023

Honorable Superior Court Judge
c/o Court Administration
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965



RE: Response to the 2022-23 Butte County Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Honorable Judge:

Under Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the Butte County Department of Public Works submits the following response to the findings and recommendations of the Butte County Grand Jury Report for 2022-23 on the Department of Public Works.

Is Butte County Prepared for the Next Disaster?

Findings:

F5. Emergency preparedness is spread among multiple departments each with different priorities.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Recommendations:

R5. The Board of Supervisors consolidate all emergency preparedness and response into a single office or agency within the county by June 30, 2024.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted or is not reasonable. The size and scope of disasters and disaster recovery impacts may vary in which various county departments may be called to action with expertise and experience specific to the disaster. Consolidating these efforts into a single office or agency could result in overwhelming workloads, conflicting priorities, lack of specialization, reduced flexibility and agility, potential conflicts of interest, and resource allocation challenges. While consolidation may provide limited benefits for small-scale disasters on a case-by-case basis, it is essential to strike a balance between efficiency and maintaining the necessary specialization, flexibility, and accountability required for effective emergency management.

Sincerely,

Joshua Pack
Director – Public Works

CC: Board of Supervisors
Andy Pickett, Chief Administrative Officer