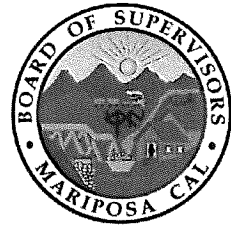




# MARIPOSA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors · 209-966-3222



## **RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2016-436**

MEETING: August 16, 2016

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

RE: Letter of Support for Mariposa County Fire Safe Council Grant Application

---

### **RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:**

Approve a Letter of Support for the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council's Grant Application to CAL FIRE to Continue Providing Services to Reduce Wildfire Risk and Increase Public Safety for Mariposa County Residents; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter.

The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council (FSC) is applying to CAL FIRE for funding to continue their critical efforts to assist Mariposa residents to comply with defensible space requirements. Since 1998, the FSC has contracted with various organizations to provide a wide range of services to Mariposa citizens, including seniors, low income, disabled individuals, minorities and veterans. Those services include chipping, brushing and removal of slash, limbs, wood and debris around residents' homes. They also include work along non-county maintained roads and the "senior wood program." Given the FSC's track record of providing these critical services to many Mariposa County residents, it is appropriate for the Board to support their efforts to secure necessary funding.

### **BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:**

The Board has routinely approved letters of support for issues that it believes will benefit the citizens of Mariposa County.

### **ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:**

Do not approve the letter. Individual members of the Board may write their own letters of support. (Supervisor Smallcombe)

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

**FSC LoS 8-9-16 MB Revisions (DOCX)**

### **CAO RECOMMENDATION**

Requested Action Recommended

  
Mary Hodson, CAO 8/11/2016

**RESULT:** ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]

**MOVER:** Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor

**SECONDER:** Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

**AYES:** Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Carrier

# Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE  
District 2 ..... MERLIN JONES  
District 3 ..... MARSHALL LONG  
District 4 ..... KEVIN CANN  
District 5 ..... JOHN CARRIER



MARY HODSON  
County Administrative Officer

RENE LAROCHE  
Clerk of the Board

P. O. Box 784  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
(209) 966-3222  
(800) 736-1252

Fax (209) 966-5147  
[www.mariposacounty.org/board](http://www.mariposacounty.org/board)

Len Nielson  
CAL FIRE-MMU Unit  
5366 Hwy 49 N  
Mariposa, Ca. 95338

Re: Mariposa County Fire Safe Council Wildland Urban Interface Grant Application

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors urges CAL FIRE to approve the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) grant submitted by the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council (FSC). Mariposa County is the epicenter of California's Tree Mortality Disaster. The Fire Safe Council is a critical partner in mitigating effects of this Disaster. Like the County and other partners, the FSC is focused on reducing the risk of wildfire and thereby increasing safety -- the safety of emergency personnel as well as that of homeowners and their structures. The FSC provides valuable services to many Mariposa residents, including seniors, low income, disabled individuals, minorities and veterans.

The projects managed by the FSC deliver important services to Mariposa residents. Those services are focused on ensuring that as many residents as possible are able to comply with defensible space requirements and improve their safety and that of emergency responders. The FSC therefore contracts with a number of local organizations to provide chipping and brushing services as well as for removal of slash, limbs, wood, and debris from around residents' homes. They also contract for removal of downed trees that are then split and distributed to low income families and seniors for firewood in the winter. And, the Mariposa FSC has been involved in removing a considerable quantity of hazardous fuels along non-county maintained roads to permit safer entry and exit during emergency situations such as wildfires.

The image below shows one of several hundred piles of material chipped by Mariposa County FSC's contractors in the recent past. Some of these piles are many feet long, although the height is restricted to 5 feet.



Mariposa County FSC is a critical partner in reducing wildfire dangers to residents. FSC coordinates with a number of different partner organizations to ensure that the maximum quantity and quality of services are provided for the lowest possible expenditure of funds. The FSC has worked closely with the Madera-Mariposa-Merced CAL FIRE unit on projects such as the senior firewood program, brushing along non-county maintained roads, countywide chipping, and downed tree removal. They also work closely with the U.S. Forest Service, PG&E, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Mariposa County departments, and Home Owner Associations to ensure that chipping and brushing occurs in close coordination with efforts undertaken by these organizations.

The Mariposa Board of Supervisors asks that CAL FIRE approve this grant application so that the FSC can continue to deliver these critical services to Mariposa residents in a coordinated, efficient, and cost effective manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Carrier".

John Carrier  
Board Chair