



MARIPOSA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors • (209) 966-3222



RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2019-642

MEETING: November 12, 2019
TO: The Board of Supervisors
FROM: Miles Menetrey, District V Supervisor
RE: Letter of Support for Fire Safe Council for a Grant Application

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

Approve a Letter of Support for Mariposa County Fire Safe Council's Submission of a Fire Protection Grant Application for the implementation of the Stumpfield Mountain Fuel Break; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Letter (Supervisor Menetrey)

Implementation of this project will protect the watershed of the Chowchilla River by reducing fuel loading. It will also support the Mariposa County Fire's goals of improving fire protection in the County by reducing potential wildfire intensity and rate of spread. It will reduce the risk of fire ignition, intensity, spread and burn severity on the watershed. It will maintain water quality by minimizing the risk of stand-leveling wildfire and severe soil burns that cause extensive erosion from unstable slopes. This project will protect the adjacent communities of Usona, Ponderosa Basin, Lushmeadows, Bootjack, Ahwahnee and Nipinnawasee. This project supports the Metcalf Gap road maintenance and fuel reduction project, which is included in the CalFire Emergency 45-day Plan, CalFire's 2019 Strategic Fire Plan for California and Cal Fire's MMU Unit Strategic Fire Plan.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board has approved letters in support of other efforts that will benefit the County or its residents.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Do not approve the letter. Individual members of the Board may write their own letters of support as desired.

ATTACHMENTS:

Mariposa County BOS Letter of Support (DOCX)

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RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Marshall Long, District III Supervisor

SECONDER: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor

AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey

Mariposa County Board of Supervisors

District 1 ... ROSEMARIE SMALLCOMBE
District 2 MERLIN JONES
District 3 MARSHALL LONG
District 4 KEVIN CANN
District 5 MILES MENETREY



DALLIN KIMBLE
County Administrative Officer

RENÉ LAROCHE
Clerk of the Board

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www.mariposacounty.org/board

November 12, 2019

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
(CalFire) California Climate Investments
Fire Prevention Grants Program
P. O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Re: Project Name: Stumpfield Mountain Fuel Break
Project Tracking Number: 19-FP-MMU-2022

To Whom It May Concern:

The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council is submitting a Fire Prevention Grant for the implementation of the Stumpfield Mountain Fuel Break. The Stumpfield Mountain Fuel Break is located along the Mariposa and Madera County lines within the Chowchilla River Watershed, a High Fire Hazard Severity Zone” and adjacent to a “Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone” and sits in the footprint of the catastrophic Harlow fire, which now encompasses 2,586 parcels.

This project would treat fuels along the existing road to a total width of 300 feet (150 feet on either side of centerline as appropriate). Recent fires in the area, such as the Rim Fire and the Detwiler Fire, illustrate that the typical 100-foot fuel break is not always sufficient for the safety of wildland firefighters or for the protection of the Sierra Nevada’s crucial water resources.

Implementation of this project will protect the watershed of the Chowchilla River by reducing fuel loading. It will also support the Mariposa County Fire’s goals of improving fire protection in the County by reducing potential wildfire intensity and rate of spread. It will reduce the risk of fire ignition, intensity, spread and burn severity on the watershed. It will maintain water quality by minimizing the risk of stand-leveling wildfire and severe soil burns that cause extensive erosion from unstable slopes. This project will protect the adjacent communities of Usona, Ponderosa Basin, Lushmeadows, Bootjack, Ahwahnee and Nipinnawasee. This project supports the Metcalf Gap road maintenance and fuel reduction project, which is included in the CalFire Emergency 45-day Plan, CalFire’s 2019 Strategic Fire Plan for California and Cal Fire’s MMU Unit Strategic Fire Plan.

The Mariposa County Fire Safe Council has assisted over 12,000 Mariposa County residents and completed over 40 major fuel reduction projects since its establishment in 1998. The Council has a long and successful track record for grant administration and collaboration with government agencies, such as CAL FIRE, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Mariposa County Fire, Mariposa County Sheriff's Office, Mariposa County Resource Conservation District, PG&E and many more.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Miles Menetrey", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Miles Menetrey, Chair
Mariposa County
Board of Supervisors