

**Petition to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
And the Mendocino County Department of Transportation**

We are the Residents of "The Woods", a Senior Community of Little River. We have 161 residents in 109 homes, more than 1/4 of the population of Little River, on a 37 acre tract of land immediately adjacent to the north of the County's Little River Airport Property (see map at atch 1).

While we live in a forested area with an ever-present risk of wild fires, we are concerned by the increased risk represented by the Airport Property's dead and down timber, low growth shrubs and "ladder fuel" directly across Little River Airport Road from the "The Woods". Our residents have one escape route in event of fire, Little River Airport Road. If a fire were to take place on Airport Property from an aircraft accident, vehicle accident, cigarette tossed from a vehicle, or natural causes, that fire could block the escape of the Woods residents either from fire equipment responding to an airport fire or the fire migrating easily onto the Woods property.

The County Department of Transportation has taken some action near or on the airport property to reduce fire danger and control tree growth. CalFire Corrections Crews worked for the County cutting and having a controlled burn east of the runway in 2016. In 2017, CalFire crews cut some timber and brush near Airport Hangars. And currently, CalFire Crews are working to meet FAA requirements for tree heights around the runway and approaches.

As is evidenced by the attached pictures (atch 2), there is more work to be done. The risk to the community and the Airport itself is too high to be ignored. In event of an earthquake or major disaster on the Mendocino Coast, the airport is a needed as a critical emergency response resource. The Woods has the largest water storage (128,000 gallons) capability near the airport and within the Albion-Little River Fire Protection District. As such, its accessibility and survival of infrastructure could be critical to a local disaster response.

We the residents of The Woods respectfully petition and request the County Board of Supervisors and Department of Transportation take action before the summer/fall fire season with CalFire crews or other resources to reduce the fire danger starting with the area north of the hangars to Little River Airport Road and across from The Woods.

Sincerely,

The Residents of "The Woods"

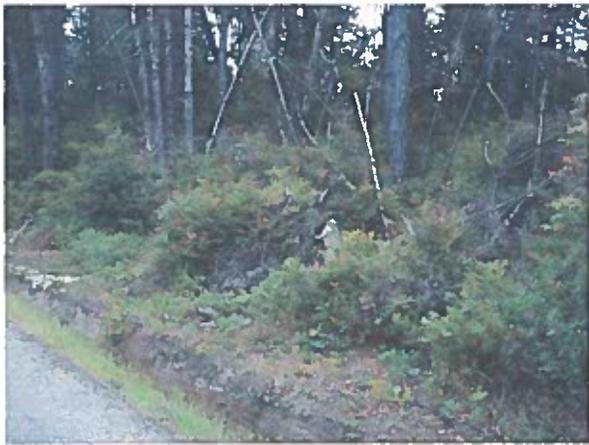
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at ch 1



at ch 1



Examples of dead and down timber and "ladder fuel" (shrubs and dead foliage underneath trees branches which could result in ground fire leading directly to a canopy fire). These pictures taken directly across Little River Airport Road from entrances to "The Woods". Pictures are on Little River County Airport Property.

atcha