



MENDOCINO COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

Mission: Supporting Mendocino County residents and stakeholders through partnerships, education and collaboration in building fire resilient communities.

Long Term Goals and Objectives:

1. Implement high priority projects identified in the 2016 Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) through grant writing, project planning and coordination.
2. Assist local communities in achieving Firewise certification.
3. Increase community awareness of fire safety and forest resiliency through education and outreach.
4. Increase membership and participation in the Fire Safe Council.
5. Secure funding for long term operation.

Current Council Members:

CAL FIRE, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Mendocino National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, Mendocino Redwood Company, Robinson Creek Fire Safe Council, Pine Mountain Fire Safe Council, Black Bart Trail Fire Safe Council, PG&E, private residents

Request to Mendocino County from the Fire Safe Council:

1. \$24,500 annual allocation for administration and part time Fire Safe Council Coordinator.
2. A percentage of the collected cannabis tax revenue.
3. A County Supervisor designated to serve on the Fire Safe Council as an official member.

Justification of Need:

- Land development and building within the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) is at an all-time high. These areas may be further impacted by expansion of cannabis grow operations which will increase potential ignition sources. The Fire Safe Council can serve as the County's means to increase fire safety awareness and implement fire safety projects in high priority WUI areas.
- The County invested \$25,000 in 2016 to update the Mendocino County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The Fire Safe Council can assist in implementing high priority projects identified in the CWPP by seeking grant funds for coordination and implementation of projects.
- The Fire Safe Council's ability to keep a part-time Coordinator on board has greatly diminished as funding has not been secured. Without annual base funding, it is likely that the Council will dissolve in the near future. Base funding will allow the Council to cover administrative costs and to sponsor a Coordinator to facilitate meetings, provide information to the public via an updated self-service website and other educational materials, and to seek grant funds through a variety of sources to implement community wildfire protection projects.