

The proposed budget cut for the Mendocino Fire Safe Council is worse than fool hardy. The Council, together with Firewise groups has just begun to do the work necessary to protect our communities from wildfires. Many grants that are available require that the County participates by funding a portion of the Council's budget. If you cut this amount to less than \$50,000 many grants will be unobtainable. Please reconsider this totally ill-advised proposal and leave the funding for the Council in tact which will also insure the continued efforts of the firewise groups.

Thank you,

Geraldine A. Lewis