Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please restore the FireSafe Council's budget to last years \$100,000 level. I can't even believe that you want to cut the budget in this extreme drought year that is expected to cause an increase in wildfire hazards.

We must continue to prepare for the worst fire season in decades and the way to save lives and property is to prepare before the fires happen.

The Mendocino Firesafe Council supports education on fire safety, evacuation preparedness, and fire hazard chipping programs not to mention writing grants that have brought in over \$1,000,000 in resource money for vegetation management.

You can trim the budgets in some other non-catastrophic areas this year to keep your citizens safer from wildfires. We will pay much more if some of the fire hazards

are not mitigated BEFORE the wildfires. The Mendocino FireSafe Council is at the forefront of our Mendocino County mitigation efforts.

Sincerely,

Your Concerned Brooktrails Citizen, **Bonnie Belt**