**Resolution No.\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SISKIYOU DEMANDING AND REQUIRING THAT ALL WILDFIRES WITHIN SISKIYOU COUNTY BE MANAGED THROUGH FULL SUPPRESSION EFFORTS**

**WHEREAS**, catastrophic wildfire has become a significant issue throughout California and the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors fully recognizes that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property have arisen within Siskiyou County, caused by the increasing risk of wildfire, and;

**WHEREAS**, recent data shows that, due to rising temperatures, decreased rainfall, and overstocked unmanaged forests, the fire season is beginning earlier and ending later each year, approaching a year-round fire season, and;

**WHEREAS**, historically, in Northern California, the fire season begins in June or July and runs through late October and November, and;

**WHEREAS**, the wildfire season in more recent years has started earlier in the year, as evidenced in 2022 when numerous fires started from January through April of that year, and;

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, a total of 8,835 fires were recorded across the State, burning a total of 2.5 million acres, and damaging or destroying 3,629 structures, and;

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, there were 7,477 wildfires throughout the State, burning 331,360 acres, 876 structures, and taking the lives of nine people, and;

**WHEREAS**, of the figures above for 2022, 78,214 of the acres burned were in Siskiyou County, accounting for 307 of the structures destroyed and six of the lives lost, and;

**WHEREAS**, according to the Western Fire Chief’s Association, studies have estimated that the nationwide impact of California’s 2018 wildfire season totaled $148 billion in economic damages, and;

**WHEREAS**, federally owned lands throughout the County are more susceptible to catastrophic wildfire due to many reasons, one of the primary ones being uncharacteristically high fuel densities, and;

**WHEREAS**, each year more and more of our forested lands burn, leaving behind a scarred landscape, dead vegetation, and destroyed habitat that will take decades to recover, and;

**WHEREAS**, until these forested lands are managed in a way that promotes wildfire that mimics smaller natural wildfires of centuries past, by reducing live tree densities to the pre-suppression forested condition, removing dry and dead logs and plants that build up over short wetter climate periods, and;

**WHEREAS**, over the years the Board of Supervisors have taken multiple actions to reduce the risk and impacts of wildfire, including implementing Resolution 21-116 (Exhibit A) which “requires that a Unified Command be invoked and fully utilized between the United States Forest Service, CAL FIRE, and the County of Siskiyou whenever a fire is within the influence of a “Community at Risk”, to employ the most timely and efficient response to wildfires”, and;

**WHEREAS**, “Communities at Risk” are generally identified as those within the wildland-urban interface that are at high risk of damage from wildfire.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that,

1. The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors finds it is imperative to the health, welfare, and safety of citizens in Siskiyou County that agencies deploy full-fire suppression efforts when a wildfire begins.
2. The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors demands and requires that when a wildfire starts within Siskiyou County, it be immediately addressed through full suppression efforts, by extinguishing the wildfire and preventing or modifying the movement of the fire.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that it be recognized that this resolution builds upon Resolution 21-116, which is still in effect, to protect “Communities at Risk” throughout Siskiyou County.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Siskiyou on November 7, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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 Ed Valenzuela, Chair
Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Laura Bynum,
County Clerk

By \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 Deputy