



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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July 1, 2026

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Attention: Grant Management Unit Wildfire Prevention Grants
P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244-2460

Project Tracking Number: 25-WP4-SKU-90457964

Dear CAL FIRE Review Team,

This letter confirms that Siskiyou County owns parcels 030-260-150, 030-360-240, 030-370-380, 030-360-260, and 030-300-110 and grants the Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) permission to perform fire mitigation activities on these properties as part of the Dunsmuir Wildfire Prevention Project.

Dunsmuir is a historic community located along Interstate 5 and the Union Pacific rail line in the Upper Sacramento Canyon. The community sits on the canyon floor, where steep, narrow terrain can funnel winds and rapidly accelerate wildfire spread. Numerous fire chimneys extend up the slopes on both sides of town, creating conditions that can intensify fire behavior. The surrounding landscape also supports high fuel loads and experiences hot, dry conditions that increase wildfire risk.

In addition to these natural hazards, Dunsmuir's built environment and population make the community especially vulnerable. Many homes are older structures located on steep hillsides with limited access and only a single route for evacuation. The community also has a large senior population, and some residents may face additional challenges evacuating quickly during a wildfire.

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) identifies Dunsmuir as an area where fires can quickly escape initial suppression when forest fuels become dry. Once established, wildfire can spread rapidly through the steep terrain and dense vegetation, producing fire behavior that can overwhelm both ground crews and aerial firefighting resources.

These local conditions are reflected in statewide and national wildfire hazard assessments. The U.S. Forest Service's "Wildfire Risk to Communities" assessment ranks Dunsmuir at higher wildfire risk than 99 percent of communities nationwide. The entire community is also located within the Wildland Urban Interface and is designated as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

The community's socioeconomic characteristics further underscore the importance of reducing wildfire risk. Dunsmuir, with a population of approximately 2,000 residents, is designated as a Severely Disadvantaged Community by the Department of Water Resources, with a median household income below 60 percent of the statewide median. In addition, approximately 92 percent of students at Dunsmuir Elementary School qualify for free or reduced-price lunch.

Jess Harris
District 1

Ed Valenzuela
District 2

Michael N. Kobseff
District 3

Nancy Ogren
District 4

Ray Haupt
District 5

Siskiyou County strongly supports this project and appreciates CAL FIRE's consideration of this proposal. The planned fuel reduction activities will help protect residents, critical transportation corridors, homes, and community infrastructure while reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire in one of California's most vulnerable communities.

Sincerely,

Signed by:


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Ray A. Haupt
Chair, Board of Supervisors

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