

Item #7
9-15-15

Concerned Citizens of Central California

September 15, 2015

Attn: Fresno County Board of Supervisors
1730 South Maple Avenue
Fresno, CA 93702

Dear Supervisor:

The residents of Eastern Fresno County do hereby inform you that degraded conditions in the County forests are endangering the health, safety, welfare and prosperity of Fresno County citizens, businesses, public and private lands.

The unique and endangered flora and fauna contained within the borders of eastern Fresno County are experiencing irreparable harm. The effects of this natural and socioeconomic disaster will be with us for generations.

Fresno County residents request the immediate focused attention and decisive action of the Board of Supervisors as we address the complex issues that this catastrophe presents. We have lost the luxury of time for study and planning. Prompt action is crucial to protect our residents, animals, infrastructure, homes, businesses, natural resources and recreational industry.

On February fourth, two thousand and fourteen, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors passed and adopted the RESOLUTION REQUESTING A STATE OF EMERGENCY IN FRESNO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA DUE TO DEGRADED FOREST CONDITIONS AND IMMINENT THREAT FROM CATASTROPHIC FIRES AND EXTREME DROUGHT.

This resolution states that, "it is the responsibility and within the scope of authority of the Board of Supervisors of Fresno County ("County") to exercise powers necessary and proper to protect public safety, health, and the economic prosperity of the inhabitants of the County pursuant to the provisions of the constitution of laws of this State;" The Board of Supervisors follows with a request that a state of emergency be declared in and around the County's forest communities.

The residents of Fresno County, whose health, safety and welfare you have sworn to protect, do now call upon you, the members of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, to act promptly and decisively to protect your county against further destruction.

As our Federal and State agencies have failed us, in preventing this emergency, local action becomes the only logical solution.

You will find that the support of eastern Fresno County residents lies with you. They will organize, they will implement effective solutions, if only you will act.

Please schedule a meeting, as promptly as can be organized, including the Board of Supervisors, the Fresno County Sheriff, all appropriate County agencies, the United States Forest Service, Cal Fire, P.G. & E., So. Cal Edison Co. and the residents and business owners of Fresno County, to discuss the implementation of measures, to protect our public and private lands and communities from further damage. Mountain residents will be happy to assist in organizing this event.

Thank you,

Concerned Citizens of Central California on behalf of the
Eastern Fresno County residents and business owners