

COUNTY OF EL DORADO

330 Fair Lane
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5390
(530) 622-3645 Fax

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October 30, 2018

National Association of State Foresters
444 N. Capitol Street NW
Suite 540
Washington, DC 20001
Attn: 2019 NASF Wildfire Mitigation Award Committee

RE: Letter of Support – Nomination of Pat Dwyer-2019 Wildfire Mitigation Award

To Whom It May Concern:

The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors welcomes the opportunity to support the nomination of Pat Dwyer for the 2019 Wildfire Mitigation Award.

Under Pat Dwyer's leadership the efforts of the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council (EDCFSC) has produced numerous benefits to the residents and communities throughout El Dorado County. Through strong organizational and grant writing skills Pat Dwyer has successfully secured funding to support new and expand existing EDCFSC programs that have contributed to improve the wildfire protection, prevention and preparedness of our residents and that continue to improve the safety and preparedness of communities throughout our County. Pat Dwyer's dedication has resulted in the establishment of programs and planning efforts that include:

- The Chipping and Green Waste Dumpster Program. Since inception, these programs have served approximately 4000 residences, removed over 700,000 cubic yards of material and cleared the equivalent of 1500 acres.
- The Senior Defensible Space Assistance Program. Provides defensible space treatment and clearing for eligible seniors who cannot physically perform or financially pay for the work.
- The Veterans Defensible Space Assistance Program. Provides defensible space treatment and clearing, with no age requirement, for veterans as well as widows and widowers of deceased veterans with limited resources and who may be physically unable to perform the work.
- The Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan. First completed in 2017 this extensive document covers the entire western slope of El Dorado County. The EDCFSC has just received funding to update and expand the Plan over the next 2 years. The completion of the Plan has resulted in successful outreach efforts to educate residents in defensible space requirements, help communities form Satellite Fire Safe Councils and develop specific Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs).

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These valuable services are critically important elements in our combined efforts to reduce the risk for homeowners while improving safety for our firefighters. The activities of the Fire Safe Council serve as a “force multiplier” in our countywide prevention efforts.

On February 14, 2017, our Board of Supervisors formally recognized Pat Dwyer for his outstanding dedication in leading the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council in their exceptional efforts to promote the importance of wildfire education, mitigation and planning throughout the County of El Dorado and on the successful completion of the “El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan.” A copy of the Proclamation recognizing Mr. Dwyer is included to further demonstrate the level of support and appreciation that Mr. Dwyer has earned from the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, our state and local agency partners, and the residents we all serve to protect.

On behalf of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors it is my honor to submit to you the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors support for the nomination of Pat Dwyer for the 2019 NASF Wildfire Mitigation Award. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Michael Ranalli
Chair, Board of Supervisors
County Of El Dorado
(530) 621-6513

Enclosure