

PC FSC Press Release

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PLUMAS COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL AWARDED NATIONAL FIRE PLAN GRANT TO IMPROVE FIRE SAFETY

Plumas County Fire Safe Council is Part of Nationwide Effort to Make California Fire Safe

Plumas County's Fire Safe Council was awarded a \$50,000 grant and is among 32 other California Fire Safe Councils tasked with improving community fire safety under the National Fire Plan.

The grant will be used to provide to continue Council coordination, public education and hazardous fuel reduction project development. The Council, which began more than 5 years ago, has become extremely active in meeting it's mission *"To reduce the loss of natural and manmade resources caused by wildfire through pre-fire activities."*

"This work is vital to the safety of our homes, communities and natural resources. We wouldn't be able to do it without this BLM support. Thanks to Congressman John Doolittle, Senators Feinstein and Boxer, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the state Fire Safe Council for making this possible," said Mike De Lasaux, Plumas County Council Chair.

Volunteer and in-kind participants in the grant include Council members and the CDF Butte Ranger Unit. The Plumas County Fire Safe Council is a non-profit corporation. The Council's board of directors includes volunteer fire department chiefs and many county, state and federal agencies involved in fire services and education.

"In addition to the funding itself, the voluntary and cooperative support provided by our partners in this grant makes it possible for us to improve fire safety conditions in Plumas County" said Mike De Lasaux.

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Funded by the Bureau of Land Management, the Community-Based Wildfire Prevention Grants total \$2.3 million to the state Fire Safe Council through March 2004.

“The Fire Safe Councils in California have been powered by voluntary and in-kind support since their formation in 1993. We are grateful to our Congressional representatives and the BLM for significantly increasing our ability to make a positive impact in our communities,” said Bruce Turbeville, statewide Fire Safe Council chair.

The National Fire Plan was created in 1999 to help states like California reduce the potential for wildfire damage near federal lands. The Sacramento Regional Foundation, a nonprofit community foundation, administers the national Fire Plan-funded Community-Based Wildfire Prevention Grants Program.

The Fire Safe Council is a coalition of public and private sector organizations that share a common, vested interest in reducing losses from wildfire. The Council is fulfilling its mission of preserving California’s natural and manmade resources by mobilizing all Californians to make their homes, neighborhoods and communities fire safe through the combined expertise, resources and distribution channels of its members. Since 1993, the state Fire Safe Council has seen nearly 100 local Fire Safe Councils established that have completed numerous fire safety projects in their communities.

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