

August 25, 2015

Pat Dwyer, Chairperson
El Dorado Fire Safe Council
P.O. Box 1011
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

Dear Mr. Dwyer:

The County of El Dorado's various Fire Safe Councils and associated organizations have done a great job of spreading the word about mandatory Defensible Space enacted into law by the State. Sometimes, however, source of fuels are on adjacent land, which—if unoccupied—can present a challenge to citizens.

Recently, one of our members was faced with this problem; a large, empty space in a valley in Placerville, overgrown with weeds. Attempts to find the owner of the unoccupied property were met with dead-ends...until she discovered that County mapping resources were available. She identified the owner, asked them—politely—to cut down and remove the fuel, and they complied in a mere two days.

In sharing her story, we realized this might be an opportunity to help other County residents, and she agreed to write the short procedure that can be used by anyone with Internet access...from home, office, or cellphone.

We are enclosing the result of her work, with the invitation to you to test it, confirm that it works, and then make it widely available to County citizens through your website, affiliated websites of the various Fire Safe Councils, and at meetings you and your associates may conduct on the matter. Perhaps the document...or a reference to it...can be included in future publications you may offer.

If you find we've many any error in this procedure, please notify us, and we'll correct it and provide you an improved edition.

We look forward to seeing the information made widely available for those who can make use of it, so we can all enjoy fewer fires, especially those that threaten homes and businesses in our beloved County.

Cordially,



Carol Anne Ogden
530/295-3657

On Behalf of the El Dorado County Book Club