El Dorado County
COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN
Community Tab for
PATTERSON RANCH FIRE SAFE COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Prepared for Inclusion in the:

EL DORADO COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL
Community Wildfire Protection Plan
Diamond Springs, California

Prepared for:
PATTERSON RANCH FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

JANUARY 2017
**Patterson Ranch Community Fire Safe Council**

**Mission Statement:** The mission of the PRFSC is to preserve Diamond Springs’ natural and manmade resources by preparing, educating and guiding all Tullis Mine Road and Patterson Drive area residences and private landowners to ensure that their homes, neighborhoods and community are defensibly, wildfire safe.

The community of Patterson Ranch is located South of Diamond Springs California. The FSC includes 1,139 acres of land with a vegetation type of chaparral, grass oak woodland, and Gray pine with potential for rapid fire spread. The Population in 2010 was 1779 individuals with 799 housing units. Most of the housing units are on lots less than an acre in size surrounded by unoccupied acreages of vegetation.

Patterson Ranch is within the Diamond Springs El Dorado Fire Protection District, the fire district provides the structure fire protection. CALFIRE provides the wildland fire protection for the Ranch.

The Patterson Ranch Fire Safe Council was formed in 2015 and is a satellite council under the umbrella of the El Dorado County Fire Safe Council, its policies and procedures. The EDCFSC is a 501 c3 nonprofit organization.

In the afternoon of Friday, August 16, 2013, the Union Fire was reported just before 1:35 pm near Union Mine High School in Diamond Springs. The fire was fully contained at 116 acres by 6 pm. By that time, one home, the historic Patterson house, was destroyed and several outbuildings and fences were damaged by the fast moving wildfire.

The fire started behind Union Mine High School and burned in a northeast direction threatening hundreds of homes and the Lake Oaks Mobile Home Park on Patterson Drive. Residents were allowed back into the residents by nightfall. All, but the Patterson family, realized we had been very lucky to escape a more catastrophic end result, loss of our homes.

The fire had disclosed inherent problems with the locations of our residences. Defensible space and fire breaks along the perimeter of Lake Oaks Mobile Home Park, Deer Park and Deer Park Estates subdivisions was limited or completely nonexistent. The fire had consumed dry grasses and trees made available by years of neglect and drought conditions. With Patterson Drive blocked by the firefighting effort, Tullis Mine Road was found to be too narrow and unsafe as an alternative evacuation route.

On June 25, 2014, an assessment team composed of Supervisor Brian Veerkamp, EDC Board of Supervisor District 3, Bard Lower and Don Spear from County DOT, Rich Krek of DS/ED Fire District, Pat Dwyer of EDC Fire Safe Council, and Randy Pitts and Kris Payne, local residents, drove Tullis Mine Road and Patterson Drive in a 9-passenger van for three hours assessing our area’s fire safety condition. All realized that almost a year later, except for a few locations, it was conditionally worse.

Pat Dwyer spoke of the EDC Fire Safe Council county-wide effort and 8 months later the Patterson Ranch Fire Safe Council was born.
The Patterson Ranch Fire Safe Council consists of over 800 lots/parcels of land, divided into 8 sub-areas (blocks) of property in the vicinity of Tullis Mine Road and Patterson Drive (See attached map).

The EDCFSC offers programs to its affiliates (us) including special neighborhood vegetative waste containers for workdays/block parties’ efforts, and chipper reservations for chipping larger diameter tree limbs, senior assistance programs, and general assistance/guidance on fire safe standards and procedures. Over the next 6 months, the Patterson Ranch FSC will meet with residential and property owners of the 800+ lots/parcels to introduce its mission and organization. Area (block) leaders will be solicited for the 8 sub-areas and to make up the Patterson Ranch Fire Safe Council. This a worthy endeavor! Volunteers are needed! The Patterson Ranch FSC can be as large or as small a fire safety program deliverer as the organization can find volunteers to support its mission. Fund raising, block parties, etc., are all possible. EDCFSC will help fund our startup effort.

The Patterson Ranch is cover inside the Diamond Springs El Dorado FPD CWPP located on the website: http://www.edcfiresafe.org/cwpp/
The Fuel Break projects for Patterson Ranch are part of the system of fuel breaks that were recommended in the Diamond Springs/El Dorado Fire Protection District Community Wildfire Protection Plan, completed in 2011. The Patterson FSC has adopted some of those into the community Tab for their FSC.

Table 1: Patterson Ranch Projects

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<th>COMMUNITY</th>
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<th>PROJECT NUMBER</th>
<th>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</th>
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