

TRINITY CENTER
COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
P.O. BOX 177
Trinity Center, California 96091

September 4, 2018

Dave Moore, Director
California Department of Transportation
District 2
1657 Riverside Drive
Redding, CA 96001

Re: Vegetation Management on State Highways

Dear Mr. Moore:

Governor Brown described the Carr Fire as "the new normal". That is true with regards to the size and intensity of the fire, but the Carr Fire also is just the most recent catastrophic wildfire to have started along the right-of-way of a California state highway. Here in Trinity County we are all too familiar with the human and environmental costs of roadside wildfires.

The Trinity Center Community Services District, which includes the Trinity Center Volunteer Fire Department, is responsible for responding to fire emergencies in northern Trinity County and State Highway 3 is the main route in and out of our service area. We know that the highways don't start the fires, mechanical problems with vehicles do. We also know that the only factor that we can control is the amount of burnable fuel (vegetation) along the edges of our roadways through vegetation management.

The Board of Directors of the Trinity Center CSD implores you to treat all of your rights-of-way to minimize the fuel loads each and every spring and throughout the fire season. In our case we have been fortunate that we have not had a catastrophic wildfire along Highway 3. We also know that it is not a matter of if, but when we will have to respond to one.

Our request carries a cost, but the cost of a fire like the Carr Fire dwarfs the costs of prevention.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,


Patrick M. Frost, Chair
Trinity Center CSD

Cc: Trinity County Board of Supervisors
Steve Renten, Chief, Trinity Center VFD