

**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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Chair Edward Scofield
Board of Supervisors
County of Nevada
950 Maidu Ave
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Honorable Chair Scofield,

2018 is shaping up to be one of the most devastating fire years in California History. The deadly Ferguson and Carr fires have taken lives of first responders and civilians and decimated communities. The Mendocino Complex has shattered records as the largest fire in California history by a magnitude over the Thomas Fire in 2017. Year to date, approximately 875,000 acres have burned in California as opposed to 230,000 acres this time last year.

Following last year's devastation from wildfires, Federal, State and Local governments have been working actively to address the myriad issues regarding vegetative fuel reduction, fire prevention and fire suppression. CAL FIRE supports local government efforts to reduce fuel, prevent and suppress fires.

Nevada County has worked with communities to establish this emergency ordinance to reduce unwanted fires in the South Yuba River Corridor. The CAL FIRE Nevada Yuba Placer Unit appreciates the opportunity to provide input and feedback to the urgency ordinance, and is hopeful Nevada County will dedicate sufficient resources to the enforcement of this local ordinance. This urgency ordinance coupled with the California Public Resources Code will be helpful as an education and enforcement tool for Nevada County to minimize wildfire risk in the South Yuba River corridor.

As wildfire risk progresses in California, CAL FIRE advises the public to take an active role in reducing vegetative fuel around their homes by maintaining 100' of defensible space, and reference Readyforwildfire.org for more information on managing fire risk and preparing for evacuation in the event of a wildfire.

Sincerely,

George W. Morris III
Unit Chief
CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit