



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 4/2/2019

File #: 19-463

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisor Estelle Fennell

Agenda Section: Initiated by Board Member

SUBJECT:

Presentation by Kurt McCray, Unit Chief for Cal Fire, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit related to Governor Newsom's Emergency Declaration and Wildfire Mitigation Projects (Supervisor Estelle Fennell)

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Hear the presentation and take appropriate action, if required.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

N/A

DISCUSSION:

Kurt McCray, Unit Chief for Cal Fire, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit will give a presentation related to Governor Newsom's Emergency Declaration and wildfire mitigation projects statewide. He will also be discussing one of these projects that is located around the perimeter of the town of Bridgeville with the intent of minimizing impacts to the town of Bridgeville from wildfire.

Cal Fire has been tasked with completing this project by the end of 2019, and anticipates the project will be completed before the peak of the 2019 fire season to provide immediate benefits to the Bridgeville Community. While operational and logistical details are currently being planned for this project, it is expected that operations could begin as early as next week. Prior to commencing operations however, Cal Fire needs to obtain documented permission from landowners to execute the work; obtain a waiver of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements from the California Resources Agency as well as California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA); secure a contract for services (if Cal Fire chooses to utilize a contractor for a portion of the project) with approval from the California Department of Finance; initiate departmental financial requirements; and develop an operational plan. Also, prior to commencing operations despite the emergency declaration, Cal Fire intends to implement wildlife and cultural evaluations as well as implement associated mitigation, if needed, to offset potential adverse environmental impacts. The nature of the situation California faces with respect to the threat of wildfires is considered imminent by the Governor as well as Cal Fire.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Cal Fire

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Board discretion

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A