

Public Comment
on I.1

 Outlook

protect lower Redway redwoods

From reindeerspirit <reindeerspirit@protonmail.com>

Date Fri 4/17/2026 4:22 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Attention: Supervisors

I strongly petition you to vote to have the Humboldt County planning department enforce the Q zone ordinance in lower Redway. This is the right thing to do given the rarity and majesty of these Redwood trees. It is the right thing to do ecologically. It is the right thing to do for future generations. It is important to respect the citizens who worked so hard to get this ordinance passed. We need this to protect Humboldt's tourism economy.

I urge you to tell John Ford to keep a stop work order on Robert Scarlett's property. Do not let any more trees be cut on this property. All of them should be protected, regardless of the letter from an arborist. None of the remaining Redwood trees meets the definition of threat laid out in the Q zone ordinance. None of them is in imminent danger of falling over.

As to working with Cal Fire to protect the redwoods of lower Redway, I think that educating them to the existence of the Q zone protections is important, so that no one at Cal Fire ever signs off on logging a redwood tree there again.

Sincerely,
Amy Gustin
Ettersburg

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Letter to the Supervisors for the April 21 BOS meeting / Q-Zone in Redway

From Parke Bostrom <parke.bostrom@gmail.com>

Date Sun 4/19/2026 8:56 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

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Dear Clerk of the Board,

The below letter is related to the Redway Q-Zone agenda item at the April 21 BOS meeting.

Can you please provide copies of the letter to the Supervisors for their consideration?

Thank you,

Parke Bostrom
Eureka, California

Dear Humboldt County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you regarding the Q-Zone in Lower Redway and the related agenda item on the upcoming April 21 BOS meeting.

I recommend that the BOS **postpone acceptance of the staff report**, thereby giving staff time to provide crucial additional information.

I believe the staff report, as currently written, contains a claim that is dubious and probably incorrect. This probably incorrect claim is central to the entire report. Namely, the probably incorrect claim is the following:

"This section [section 4516.5 of the Forest Practices Act] states that a county has no jurisdiction over tree removal covered under the Forest Practices Act except in certain limited cases." And furthermore that: "[T]he property in lower Redway ... [falls] under this provision."

I believe the above claim in the staff report is probably incorrect because: Section 4516.5 of the FPA does, in some cases, limit a county's authority to regulate the removal of redwood trees. However, Section 4516.5 itself goes on to say in subsection (f) that: "This section does not apply to Timber Operations on any land area of less than three acres and which is not zoned Timberland production." In

other words, if a land area is less than three acres and if that land area is not zoned Timberland production, then Section 4516.5 does not limit a county's authority in any way.

The land area in Redway where the trees were removed is less than one acre in size and is zoned Residential. Therefore, it seems likely to me that Section 4516.5 does not apply to the land area in Redway. And consequently, the county does, in fact, have authority to regulate and control the removal of redwood trees in most of (perhaps even in all of) the Q-Zone.

Crucially, the staff report does not mention or address Section 4516.5 subsection (f) in any way.

Additionally, the staff report contains numerous mentions of staff's lack of clarity on the matter of the county's authority (or lack thereof) in the Q-Zone. For example: "Until clarity could be achieved..." "The Forest Practices Act does not provide a clear pathway..." "It is unclear whether..." "Staff have not been able to define the line between..." "Staff will attempt to clarify this..." "If there is an avenue here to create greater clarity, this would be helpful for all."

Given both (a) the probably incorrect claim in the staff report (as described above) and (b) the extensive lack of clarity in the staff report itself (as enumerated above), I strongly urge the Board to **postpone accepting the staff report until greater clarity can be achieved.**

Furthermore, I urge the Board of Supervisors to **ask staff to comment on Section 4516.5 subsection (f)**, and how that subsection relates to the Q-Zone.

Finally, I urge the Board of Supervisors to **ask staff to provide either:**

(1) **A legal opinion by a practicing attorney** with relevant expertise on the Forest Practices Act regarding the FPA's implications on the County's powers under the Q-Zone ordinance, and/or

(2) **A list of one or more court cases** where a county in California attempted to regulate and permit the removal of trees on small Residential parcels of land, but **where said county was sued and lost in court** on the basis of the Forest Practices Act.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Parke Bostrom
Eureka, California

Lower Redway logging, Agenda item 26-274

From Wanda Naylor <wnaylor@sonic.net>

Date Sun 4/19/2026 8:11 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

To Supervisors Arroyo, Wilson, Madrone, Bushnell, and Bohn:

In regard to Agenda item 26-274:

The q-zone legislation needs to be amended so that an operation like Robert Scarlett's can not happen again. Permitting needs to be multi-party or something similar. All we want is for the **intentions** of the q-zone legislation be enforced. as they were not this time.

We, the Naylor family, have owned a property approximately 150 feet away from Scarlett's since 1960. Since I had not owned another home until 10 years ago, this place is extremely important to me. Being so close, it is **my** trees that will be negatively affected by wind and humidity changes and other edge effects caused by the logging.

The q-zone legislation was drafted and signed into law by the Board of Supervisors in 1987. Somebody has logged huge old growth redwoods right in the curve of Briceland Road, as it comes down the hill, over a weekend, with planning dept. and judge not available. They hoped that that sort of logging would never occur again.

Scarlett's logging would have been illegal up until a few years ago, when the permitting process was shifted from the Planning Dept. to Cal Fire.

I understand that Scarlett had a permit, but since it was written out by a coworker, it seems to me a conflict of interest. This should be corrected in future.

Why would four trees be felled when targeted limbing could have been employed? My guess is that wouldn't have made Scarlett any money. Limbing trees would have been easier, safer, and more environmentally sane.

The structures in question included a house, but mostly carport-style sheds, in fairly poor repair.

I am horrified that this happened, especially only a stone's throw from my property.

The present laws need to be changed to include better (multi-party?) review of permits, as well as an emphasis on limbing, not cutting these ancient giants.


And I like the idea of money from hazard tree removal going into a fund to protect old-growth redwoods. Anyone just trying to get rich would be discouraged by that.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Wanda E. Naylor

Eureka, CA

 Outlook

Lower Redway Cutting Agenda item 26-274

From Suerie <sueriemcneill@gmail.com>

Date Sun 4/19/2026 2:57 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

To the Board of Supervisors:

I was appalled to see the trees cut down at 20 Orchard Lane.

We have been friends and frequent visitors of the Naylor's (whose property is next door) for over 40 years.

Shouldn't there be community input before such drastic cutting is allowed?

Wouldn't limbing have been safer, easier and not damaging to the local environment?

All we want is to see the intention of Q-Zone law enforced.

Suerie McNeill



Outlook

old-growth redwood logging in Redway

From john hardin <tincanluminary@yahoo.com>

Date Fri 4/17/2026 5:28 PM

To Bushnell, Michelle <mbushnell@co.humboldt.ca.us>; COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Michelle, and HumCo Sups,

Unfortunately I will not be able to make it to the Sups meeting on Tuesday, but I want you to know that I oppose the logging of old-growth redwoods, and feel that the horrible example in Lower Redway points to corruption in CDF. As our local representatives, I hold you accountable for not preventing this tragic loss of ancient trees in our local community. I want to see the Sups take a stand to defend the environmental policies that this community worked so hard to create.

Sincerely,
John Hardin

Redway, CA



Virus-free. www.avast.com



Outlook

Board of supervisors meeting April 21, 2026

From Karie Hillery <karie@karie.com>

Date Sun 4/19/2026 8:28 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

 1 attachment (14 KB)

To the board of Supervisors.docx;

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

"Like music and art, love of nature is a common language that can transcend political or social boundaries" Jimmy Carter

Karie Hillery
she/her/hers

!

One World Records/Singing Creek Studio

To the board of Supervisors

I have owned property in Lower Redway since 1991. I am one of the community members who hired attorney Mark Harris, spent time, money and personal resources to strengthen the existing Qualified zone language when an immediate neighbor tried to take advantage of the lack of serious consequences in what was in place, topping an ancient redwood with the intention of removing many trees. We were able to stop him as our community spent untold hours and resources to protect the unique beauty of our 1 square mile neighborhood from commercial logging and felt that what we'd worked so hard was securely in place.

I was advised by my realtor regarding the protection of the giants when I purchased my property. It was one of the reasons why I did, because this area had protections and I would never have to look at a clear cut or listen to the noise of logging. This has great value to me and others. I was also reminded that if I sold it, I was obligated to disclose that these protections were solidly in place to the next buyer.

I am acutely aware of the potential danger of living under these trees and my property has sustained damage from falling limbs. It is a risk I chose to take. This is 1 square mile. If the risk is unacceptable to someone, I respectfully suggest that it would make sense to buy and live elsewhere.

It is nearly impossible to express my disappointment and horror regarding the complete disregard of this ordinance and quite clearly the circumvention of the Cal Fire protections *already in place for decades* that occurred with the recent logging of the parcel within the Q Zone. The blatantly visible scar is a painful reminder that this can never be 'undone'.

We are trusting that Cal Fire will investigate this on their end.

What I believe most of us want to know is, will you as our representatives in Humboldt County, enforce this zoning and make absolutely certain that the proper channels, notifications etc are honored so that it will never happen again? Will you be certain that the appropriate fines designated in the zoning are levied against this owner for this illegal removal? We need to know that we can rely on you to protect our communitie's investment in our uniquely beautiful neighborhood.

Thank you,

Karie Hillery

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Redway CA

Q zone comment for 4-21

From mmck@asis.com <mmck@asis.com>

Date Fri 4/17/2026 6:49 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>


Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Thank you for your attention to the issue of inappropriate tree removal in Redway's Q-zone.

One simple addition to the ordinance could make it much better and help ensure any removals are legitimate. It would also help preserve the affordability of homes in the Q-zone by negating the timber value of trees standing on the properties when properties are sold thus removing the impetus for bad actors to bid beyond what honest people who want a home, not a TPZ, can afford.

Please add a line to it that states that all proceeds from the sale of logs generated by Q-zone removals be deposited in a County fund dedicated to maintenance (but not removal of) of trees on County property.

Thank you, Michael McKaskle, Redway resident.

 Outlook

RE: Board of Supervisor meeting April 21, 2026

From Alan Linzer <alz@karie.com>

Date Sat 4/18/2026 10:02 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

 1 attachment (14 KB)

April 18.docx;

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Clerk of the Board:

Please distribute the attached letter to the members of the Board to be included in this Tuesday April 21 meeting regarding Lower Redway and the Q Zone.

Thank you,

Alan Linzer - Lower Redway Property Owner

April 18, 2026

To the Board of Supervisors:

I am a property owner in Lower Redway.

Respectfully, it is inexcusable that the Q Zone ordinance that was established for Lower Redway was allowed to be circumvented by a potentially "inside job" – a Cal Fire manipulation of the letter and intent of that Ordinance.

It is further inexcusable that a property owner, knowing full well the existence and intent of that Q Zone ordinance, be allowed to profit from the cutting and extraction of those protected redwoods.

The tragedy and potentially criminal result of this action (has the DA been notified?) is that it is irreversible. There is no ability to bring the trees back that were growing there for hundreds of years, and there is no ability to make the community whole.

Of course, the existing tree is now a hazard, a hazard that was created by the felling of the attached and surrounding trees. At least require that the homeowner donate the proceeds from the inevitable removal of that tree to an organization that promotes the preservation of old growth redwoods or to a community fund in Redway that acknowledges the harm done to the community.

Thank you,
Alan Linzer

Item 26-274

From Don Naylor <donnaylor7@gmail.com>

Date Sun 4/19/2026 9:06 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

To: Hum. Co. Board of Supervisors

Fr: Don Naylor, Redway

Re: Logging in Lower Redway

Decades ago, the supervisors created rules so people can't log in a residential neighborhood like Redway. Yet, people just did. This needs to be fixed so it won't happen again.

In the past, the rules worked. Years ago, a guy in Lower Reway claimed all his trees were hazardous and had to go. However, that was shut down. This time something failed and now the lot has no trees. Please fix that so It won't happen again in residential neighborhoods

Thank you.

From Linda Sutton

From Sue M <suesorganics17@gmail.com>

Date Mon 4/20/2026 7:24 AM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

 2 attachments (1 MB)

Examiner1978.pdf; SacBee1978.pdf;

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

Dear Supervisors:

I'm hoping you will find time to read these two newspaper articles that reported on the illegal commercial logging in Lower Redway in 1978. I plan to attend the hearing on Tuesday, April 21st.

I don't have e-mail, so my friend Sue Moloney is sending this for me.

Thank you for your time and attention,
Linda Sutton

Redway, CA 95560

Environment

Two Parables Of The Timber Trade

By Paul McHugh

Photography: Fran Ortiz



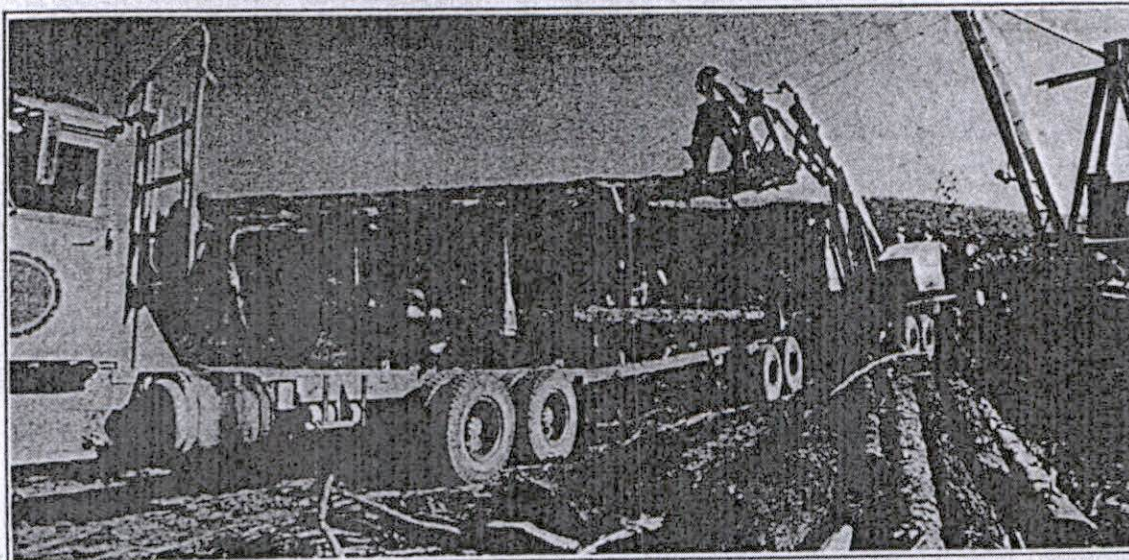
"The echo of chainsaws was an alarm clock, awakening residents to the fact the North Coast's heaviest industry had dropped in for a visit."

■ The site was a small residential lot in Redway, a town near Garberville, just a few quiet miles off 101. What made the site special were its trees: stately old-growth redwoods that soared up to dwarf the homes scattered among their cool shadows. The man who answered the O'Kanes' ad seemed likeable and sincere. He introduced himself — Walt Wilkinson of Miranda — and said he'd been doing some carpentry and wanted to put in a house as an investment. The land had been in the O'Kane family for three generations. Val and Rhonda appreciated its beauty, but also had become aware that difficulty in obtaining a septic permit meant they'd have to sell the lot in order to finance their home building elsewhere. Walt said that would be no problem for him, he had the equipment to put in fill and would it be all right to take down a couple of trees to make room for a foundation? Val told him to contact the powers-that-be; apparently strict ordinances governed tree cutting in this residential area. The O'Kanes were happy they'd found a buyer with the means and desire to use the land carefully. Walt's down payment was accepted, escrow closed April 27, 1978.

On June first, a Thursday, the logging equipment of Carl Richardson clanked and rattled up to the lot. Skilled timber fallers climbed up the huge, shaggy trunks and began dropping limbs — first step in the process by which living trees are transformed into board feet. The echo of their chainsaws was also an alarm clock, awakening residents to the fact that the North Coast's heaviest industry had dropped into their supposedly secure neighborhood for a visit. By Friday, the general alarm and confusion were evolving into a reaction. While a crowd of people of various beliefs, appearances, and persuasions gathered at the site to engage in spirited shouting matches with the loggers and each other, a few local residents and realtors bounced back and forth between the Sheriff's office, California Division of Forestry, and County Planning, trying to find out what was going on and to get it stopped.

Richardson, hired by Wilkinson for the logging, maintained he was just clearing for a homesite. But there was no record of even a permit application to begin such construction. There was, however, dated and filed on May 16th, an Exemption from filing a Timber Harvest Plan. Granted because the lot was under three acres, the Exemption meant that Wilkinson could cut down as many trees in any manner that he liked.

That afternoon, as opposition mounted to having this occur, a hurried conference was held at the Sheriff's in Garberville. Participants included Stan Gold from Humboldt County Planning, Richardson, law officers, and Mike Selfen, an unlicensed forester with the California Division of Forestry. Despite the Exemption, there were prohibitive county ordinances about commercial cutting in a residential zone. After phone calls to various sources, it was decided that the logging could continue if a loophole in the ordinance was used, which permitted the cutting of "diseased or dangerous trees." Mike Selfen's document, signed that afternoon shortly before state and county



offices closed for the weekend, read, "In light of recent wind damage to personal property by wind blown trees in and about the town of Redway as well as throughout Humboldt County, it is my opinion that the trees on Ap 77-073-05 in the most part because of there (sic) height and size are potentially dangerous to the adjacent property and the main county road traversed by many people traveling this area."

Val O'Kane says, with almost more awe than bitterness in his voice, that no tree has ever fallen in the memory of his family on that lot, and in the high windstorms that hit the North Coast last Christmas, maybe one limb came down. The topper now cutting on the site was overheard to say that these were among the healthiest he had seen.

There was no strong wind on Saturday, June 3rd, but limbs were falling fast and furious. And the first tree was felled. Someone finally notified the O'Kanes about the happenings on this lot where they still had a two-thirds interest, and they drove out. The site reportedly looked like a joint logger's/ecologist's demonstration crossed with a northwoods primal encounter group. There were CDF men, loggers, residents, environmentalists, deputies, CHP's, realtors, and old-timers who just came to criticize or applaud the delicate expertise needed to fall huge trees that stood near to homes and powerlines.

The O'Kanes tried desperately to reach officials of the closed offices, tried arguing and reasoning with Richardson, tried even to buy back Wilkinson's interest in the land, all to no avail. As the tense scenario unfolded at the site, spreading eddies of sympathetic and antagonistic reaction out through the county, the immense and venerable trees continued to crash to the ground.

Finally, on Monday, the O'Kanes obtained three restraining orders on the grounds that Wilkinson and his logger were laying waste to the land in which they still had an interest. Rhonda O'Kane served one on Carl Richardson at the logging site, while her husband Val went off to hand another to Wilkinson, if he could find him, and another to the company buying the logs. Richardson dropped his in the dirt and walked away. The Sheriff's Department told Rhonda they couldn't enforce the restraining order unless they got another order ordering them to. The cutting continued.

It's hard to believe Rhonda did what she did next. She is a slight, dark, soft-spoken woman, but there is an intensity of feeling in her eyes that belies the gentle manner. She drove her car up under the next tree to be cut, threw her keys into the brush, and sat, refusing to budge, despite yells of "Get out of here, bitch!", and "Drop a limb on her!" She was dragged away by a Highway Patrolman, who told her he was protecting her, and who scolded her for breaking the law. When she demanded to know why he couldn't enforce the law against the loggers as well, telling him about the ignored restraining order, things began taking a different turn. The operation ground slowly to a halt.

The chainsaws were silent Tuesday. But Tuesday afternoon, an attorney for Wilkinson handed a check for the balance on the land to an attorney retained by the O'Kanes, and the last lever they had on the situation evaporated. Within a few days the clearcut was complete, and eighteen big stumps sat surrounded by bare and dusty ground.

It had been a good week for some. Walt Wilkinson had paid \$18,500 for the lot; rumored profits from the lumber were upwards of

\$50,000. After it was all over, a "For Sale" sign appeared on one of the stumps. When confronted by someone who wanted to know if the barren lot was really to be resold, Richardson laughed and said, "Oh no, it just must be that stump!"

Later, another sign appeared on the site. It read, "Quarantined: The Disease Is Greed."

A week later the County Supervisors locked the barn door by changing the ordinance which had provided a loophole big enough for Wilkinson & Co. to drive a logging truck through. CDF increased the requirements for the certification of diseased or dangerous trees. Meanwhile, the loggers, in a final flourish of indifference, dumped the slash and debris from the site on a steep bank of the Eel, where the first rain would wash it down, adding its bit to the problems of the second-fastest eroding watershed in the world. (They were cited for this by the Department of Fish and Game, but charges were later dropped. In late October, the Water Quality Control Board issued a clean-up and abatement order to be executed by November 30.)

Another story, another attitude.

On the Albion River, about seventy miles south of Redway as the crow flies, many more miles if one tries to follow the winding roads, a crew of local people is working to repair the river, to restore it to a semblance of free-flowing health. By any standard, the Albion has been ravaged by old logging practices. Up and down the river and its tributaries, huge jams of logs and debris left or dumped in the river block its flow, and behind them siltation from active slides, overcut banks, and poorly built roads chokes the spawning gravel of steelhead and salmon. In some places, the

continued

Sacramento Bee July 30th, 1978

Redwoods On Lot

Redway Residents Irate Over Logging Action

By BILL ISRAEL
Bee Correspondent

REDWAY, Humboldt Co. — When logger Walter Wilkinson bought a three-quarter-acre residential lot here it had 800-year-old redwood trees on it.

That was a month or so ago.

Today, the lot appears bare; the town of Redway is outraged; a state official has been reprimanded; two loggers have pleaded guilty to charg-

es connected with the cutting; the county supervisors have tightened logging regulations; the grand jury has been asked to get into the fray, and the people who sold the lot are heartsick.

The incident began earlier this year when Val and Rhonda O'Kane of Garberville decided to sell the lot that had been in the family 50 years; they wanted to buy a larger parcel elsewhere.

Wilkinson and the O'Kanes agreed on a price of \$18,500; he made a 25 per cent down payment, saying he was going to build a house on the lot. Mrs. O'Kane recalls.

She says they learned Wilkinson was a logger only when friends reported they'd seen logging under way on the lot.

"We drove down there and just couldn't believe it," Mrs. O'Kane says. "We trusted him completely,

foolishly. We never would've sold it if we'd thought it was going to be logged."

They made the discovery on a Saturday; the next Monday, the O'Kanes, still legal owners of the lot, obtained a court order to halt the operation.

Mrs. O'Kane says she served the loggers with the order while her husband served papers on the sawmill and purchasers of the timber, but the loggers threw her paper on the ground and continued with the cut.

"I felt pretty desperate at that point," she says. "We'd exhausted all the legal channels, and I'd thought there was a possibility that the rest of the trees could be saved."

At that point things got hectic, she recalls:

She pulled her car up under one of the trees being prepared for felling, then threw the keys away so that it could not be moved, only to have a highway patrolman tell her she had to roll the car downhill, out of the way.

So she sat down directly under one of the trees to be felled only to have persons apparently allied with the loggers drive first a car, then a pickup truck, toward her at high speed, swerving away only six inches from her in one case.

But her actions stopped the logging for the rest of the day.

By the next day, however, Wilkinson had completed the purchase transaction by paying off the balance, and logging resumed.

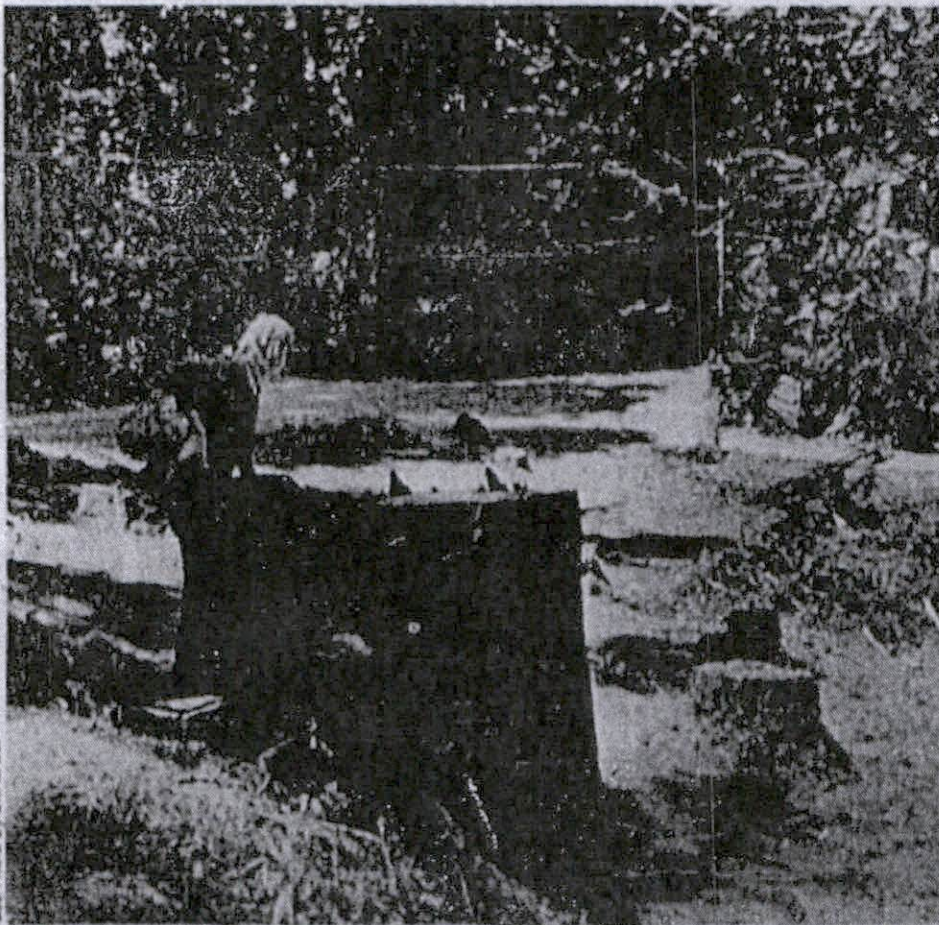
Meanwhile, even before the O'Kanes' futile attempt, Humboldt County officials had tried and failed to stop the cutting.

Stan Gold of the planning department stopped the logging for a time the day before the O'Kanes got word of the situation.

But he says he was told by a deputy county counsel that he would have to let the logging proceed if the loggers obtained a statement from a state forester that the trees being removed were "potentially dangerous."

That statement was produced late Friday from Michael Saifen, a forester for the state Department of Forest-

See Page B1, Col. 1



San Franciscan Steve Baker views clear-cut area where redwoods once stood.

See Photo by Bill Israel

Redway

Continued From Page B1

ry, and there was nothing else the county could do, says Gold.

Salsen apparently has been reprimanded for his action.

Two of his superiors, Verne Osburn and Bill Harrington, both have said the trees cut probably were no more dangerous than any other 800-year-old redwoods.

And Harrington has added that he would have preferred that Salsen had not made the declaration that the trees were potential dangers. He refuses to say what discipline Salsen faces, except to say he will not be fired.

Salsen has commented with a terse, "You might say I got my ass in a sling."

But any action against Salsen is after the fact, and the citizens of the community are expressing outrage.

Don Hunt, who commutes to an advertising job in Eureka, says, "Everybody in lower Redway — 80 to 90 per cent of the people, I'd say — is ready to put money in the pot to do something about this."

Adds John Winzler, a Eureka civil engineer who spends his summers in Redway, "This is what makes Sierra Clubs."

Redway, 65 miles south of Eureka, is a popular second home community for Eurekaans who want to escape the fog that grips that city in the summer-time.

Bob Madsen, a summer home owner who is a Eureka real estate man and a former mayor of the city, charges, "There's a lot of egg on the county's face."

He blames both the county and state for failing to act to halt the cutting when Wilkinson filed a required timber harvest exemption notice.

But state officials counter that they have no jurisdiction on logging in areas smaller than three acres.

And Gold, the county planning official, acknowledges that his department received such a notice, but it was apparently just filed routinely and not even noticed until the uproar began

after the loggers moved in.

In the wake of the incident, the county supervisors have adopted an emergency ordinance requiring a use permit to fell even dangerous and diseased trees, with board chairman Ery Renner denouncing "unscrupulous gyppo loggers."

And according to a spokesman for the county grand jury, at least one Redway resident has asked the jury to look into the situation.

The only legal action to have arisen from the incident came when two men who contracted to clean up following the logging, one of them Wilkinson's brother, William, pleaded guilty to charges they dumped debris down a bluff over the south fork of the Eel River.

Wilkinson, 25, appears surprised that the logging created such a stir, but he points out confidently, "Everything I did was within the law."

He denies rumors that he sold the timber for \$50,000 or more, but he refuses to disclose the amount.

The high potential profit, however, may be part of the reason the logging created such a stir.

One long-time Redway observer, who asks to remain unidentified, points out that the O'Kanes sold a residential lot to Wilkinson, but Wilkinson bought virgin redwood timber.

"This is a moral issue," says the observer. "These guys made a helluva deal. They bought at ground prices and sold at virgin redwood prices."

Lassen Appoints Game Commissioners

SUSANVILLE — Lassen County supervisors have named James A. Gaumer and Fred Roberts, both of Susanville, to the Lassen County Fish and Game Commission.

 Outlook

Old growth redwoods being logged

From Cathy Miller <cathymiller50@gmail.com>

Date Thu 4/16/2026 11:49 AM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

To the Clerk of the board:

Being a resident of Southern Humboldt County in CA, home to some of the last living old growth redwoods in the country, I was very upset when I saw that a property owner had logged them. These redwoods were supposed to be protected! How were they so easily taken out? Who is responsible for approving this? Why do we have laws to protect them when they can be so easily broken? These laws should be strengthened so that this can not happen again.

Cathy Miller

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Catherine Miller



April 20, 2026

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
Room 111 of the County Courthouse
825 5th Street in Eureka
cob@co.humboldt.ca.us

Humboldt County Planning and Building Director
jford@co.humboldt.ca.us

Re: Logging ancient redwoods in Redway in violation of Q zoning

Dear Humboldt County Supervisors and Planning and Building Director John Ford,

Siskiyou Land Conservancy is a non-profit land trust based in Arcata that serves the counties of Humboldt, Del Norte, and Mendocino. In 2011, Siskiyou Land Conservancy recorded a Conservation Easement to protect wildlife habitat on 73 acres of second-growth redwood forest on private land that abuts the John B. DeWitt Redwoods State Natural Reserve, in Redway, on the South Fork Eel River. Of all the properties that Siskiyou Land Conservancy either holds in fee title or protects via a conservation easement, this parcel is the smallest. We accepted this conservation easement understanding that, once recorded, it would increase by approximately 7 percent the amount of protected land along this small reach of the South Fork Eel River—giving the land a high level of desirability in its direct augmentation of existing protected habitat.

We also understood that, less than one mile away and directly across the river stood a small but irreplaceable old-growth redwood habitat standing on 157 privately held lots along one mile of South Fork Eel River frontage, in the county's R1B3Q zoning. Overall, this small but largely cohesive redwood forest—the State Reserve, the riverside old-growth in the Q zoning, and the forest protected by Siskiyou Land Conservancy—stands as the third-largest protected habitat on the entire South Fork Eel


River, after Humboldt Redwoods State Park and the Cahto Peak-Elkhorn Ridge wilderness reserve.

Siskiyou Land Conservancy was deeply disturbed to learn that a landowner cut down five of the precious, privately-held ancient redwood trees in violation of the Q zoning area, on the east side of the South Fork Eel River. The county's failure to protect these trees is grievous, the harm inescapable and irremediable. We understand that the county's Planning and Building Director John Ford has "apologized" for the lapse of oversight and enforcement that allowed a shortsighted landowner to illegally cut down these trees. Clearly, apologies are not enough. Exactly 30 years ago Humboldt County adopted the Q zoning specifically to protect these ancient redwood trees. Yet neither John Ford nor anyone else at the county, when informed of the logging, stepped in to halt the abuse of the irreplaceable habitat, this grand and allegedly protected gateway to the Lost Coast.

In light of these facts, Siskiyou Land Conservancy here echos the requests of the Old Growth Neighborhood Association:

- Review all Q-Zone records to ensure they are complete, accurate, and fully accessible to county staff, landowners, and members of the public.
- Establish a clear, enforceable implementation process including:
 - Qualified hazard evaluation & alternatives analysis prioritizing limb removal.
 - A special permit requirement for old-growth removal.
 - Effective neighbor notification, responsiveness to complaints and adequate enforcement.
- Ensure sufficient technical advisory assistance is available to county staff.
- Do not simply defer to CalFire for tree removal in the Q Zone by taking a hands-off approach.
 - Conduct a post-mortem of the recent old-growth redwood tree removals and assess what should have been done and learn from evaluation of the site.
 - Evaluate why staff took a hands-off approach and identify weaknesses in the Ordinance's enforcement.
 - Place a full agenda item before the Board to clarify Q Zone protections and strengthen the county's oversight process.

Sincerely,



Greg King
Executive Director



Outlook

Old-growth tree removal, Lower redway

From Grant Johnson <grant@grantjohnson.net>

Date Mon 4/20/2026 11:47 AM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

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Humboldt County Board of Supervisors:

I am a relatively new member of the Lower Redway community and I've invested over \$1M in my property because of its rare and unique, old-growth environment. I am distressed and dismayed that individuals are allowed to log their lots in a residential area. Especially because it is unique, in all the world, for its giant trees that may precede the birth of Christ in age.

Whatever policy is permitting this is antiquated and misguided governance. My understanding is that considerable time and energy was spent in crafting protection for this area in the form of Qualified Zone Overlay that was drafted, by the community, specifically to prevent this sort of private profiteering. As elected representatives I would hope that your perspective aligns with the majority of the property owners in lower Redway who created the Q Zone, for their own protection.

The removal of these trees devalues my property because we have legal, permitted, vacation rentals that we pay the county taxes on every quarter. They are very popular because of the environment. Driving through a clear-cut to reach them is depressing, and devaluing my guest's experience. I would hope the board would consider the economic value of tourism in Southern Humboldt which is in need of economic revitalization. Extracting the most valuable resource for a quick profit is exactly why Southern Humboldt is economically depressed now. This needs to change.

This so called "hazard exemption" is a red herring.

Yours truly,

Grant Johnson

Lower Redway




Outlook

Letter to BOS: Lower Redway Q-Zone – Agenda Item I

From Adona White <adonacwhite@gmail.com>

Date Mon 4/20/2026 3:47 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

 1 attachment (114 KB)

260420_BOS_Letter_LowerRedwayQZone.pdf;

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Good afternoon, I am submitting the attached letter to the Board of Supervisors on behalf of the Old-growth Neighborhood Association, regarding the Lower Redway Q-Zone Ordinance and Agenda Item I. Thank you! *Adona White

To: Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
From: Old-growth Neighborhood Association
Date: April 20, 2026
Subject: Lower Redway Q-Zone – Agenda Item I

The Old-growth Neighborhood Association is a group of residents concerned with the protection of old-growth redwood trees in the Lower Redway Q-Zone and the recent removals that occurred without appropriate County action. Supporters first raised these concerns during public comment on February 10, 2026. We appreciate Supervisor Michelle Bushnell and Planning & Building Director John Ford for placing this item on the Board's agenda and including our March 3, 2026, letter to the Board of Supervisors in the Staff materials.

Despite our efforts to obtain information and clarification from Staff, many of our questions remain unanswered. We respectfully request that the Board provide direction to Staff to thoroughly review, document, and clarify the history, intent, and implementation of the Q-Zone Ordinance, and seek appropriate legal and technical guidance to ensure its proper enforcement.

Chronology and Previous Requests

January–March 2026: In January, regarding the removal of old growth within the Lower Redway Q-Zone, Staff indicated that it was not their lane. Local reporting and community concern highlighted harvesting of old-growth redwoods in Lower Redway. [January 7, 2026: [\[Update\] Weighing the Choices: Balancing Safety and Redwood Preservation in Lower Redway - Redheaded Blackbelt](#); January 30, 2026: [Calls for Old-Growth Redwood Protections Follow Tree Removal in Lower Redway - Redheaded Blackbelt](#); March 5, 2026: [Outcry Over Alleged Old-Growth Redwoods Cut in Redway Reaches Supervisors - Redheaded Blackbelt](#)].

During this period, we requested the following actions from the County:

1. Ensure all Q-Zone records are complete, accurate, and accessible.
2. Establish a clear, enforceable Q-Zone implementation process consistent with Ordinance 2112, that includes hazard evaluation by qualified professionals, alternatives analysis prioritizing limbing over removal, special permit requirements for old-growth removal, and effective public notification and enforcement. Ensure adequate technical support for Staff.
3. Avoid deferring oversight to CalFire where County jurisdiction applies. Evaluate why the County took a hands-off approach and identify enforcement weaknesses.
4. Conduct a post-incident review of the recent tree removals to determine what should have occurred and how to prevent future errors.

5. Bring a full agenda item to the Board to strengthen Q-Zone protections and oversight.

On March 13, 2026, we met with Supervisor Bushnell and Director Ford. The discussion of hazards by Supervisor Bushnell became more related to defensible space and fire. We followed up with a March 26 letter requesting the following but did not receive a response:

- The code section referenced by Supervisor Bushnell that she claimed requires tree removal within 30 feet of structures.
- A facilitated meeting with CalFire to discuss Q-Zone regulation, the Forest Practice Rules (FPRs), and hazard assessment on residential lands, as offered by Supervisor Bushnell.
- Responses to the information requests from our March 3 letter.
- An update on the planned Board agenda item and an opportunity to discuss the County's strategy and concerns.

We also met with State Assembly Member Chris Rogers and his staff, requesting recognition of rare-resource protection needs, defensible space alternatives to old-growth removal, mandatory alternatives analysis, and independent evaluations. Assembly Member Rogers elevated the matter to CalFire Chief Joe Tyler, who initiated internal review.

Concerns Regarding the Staff Report

1. Insufficient discussion of Q-Zone requirements: The Staff Report provides only a brief reference to the Q-Zone and does not address its purpose, history, or enforcement process.
2. Incomplete Ordinance materials: The version of Ordinance 2112 included in the Staff Report is missing two of the four pages. The inclusion of an incomplete ordinance is concerning and impairs meaningful analysis. More complete and accurate documents exist on the County website: Lower Redway Q-Zone Ordinance 2112, as last amended in 1996 [Ordinance-No-2112-PDF](#); and information regarding the basis, adoption and maps [Redway-Q-Zone-Ordinance-PDF](#).
3. Characterization of "PG&E situation" as comparable to the Lower Redway Q-Zone: Reference to a 2021 incident at the PG&E substation on Harris in Eureka lacks documentation, context, or explanation. The circumstances near Redwood Acres are materially different from Lower Redway, where a legislated Q-Zone clearly establishes County jurisdiction.

The Staff report indicates the topic of the PG&E situation was sent to the Forest Review Committee. A web search indicates that the topic was discussed on [May 11, 2021](#) with the item agendized as "Discussion of County requirements and process for evaluating timber harvest exemptions relative to County land use ordinances." The meeting minutes were adopted on [February 8, 2023](#); no minutes are available for review.

4. Misinterpretation of relevant Forest Practice Rules: The Staff Report cites portions of FPR §4516.5 while omitting subsection (f), which states the section does not apply to parcels under three acres that are not zoned Timber Production. Lower Redway Q-Zone parcels are residential, and local ordinances remain fully applicable.

FPR §4584(i)(4) explicitly requires compliance with county ordinances when working under exemption permits. Further, the Lower Redway Q-Zone Ordinance is not in conflict with defensible space, which can be achieved both vertically and horizontally without removing old-growth redwoods.

5. Need for improved Staff understanding of FPRs and local ordinances: The analysis in the Staff Report suggests confusion regarding County jurisdiction, the applicability of timber regulations, and the relationship between exemptions and local ordinances.

We strongly support Staff obtaining legal and technical guidance to clarify these issues and avoid further mishaps and vague references.

Concerns Regarding the Scarlett Tree Hazards

- The initial hazard inspection that was done by a CalFire inspector identified trees that pose a safety hazard to structures associated with falling limbs and tops and did not identify any trees as hazards for tree fall.
- No alternatives analysis was conducted to attempt to avoid tree removal.
- The CalFire Exemption did not require that a tree is in imminent danger of falling to justify removal nor require special protection of old-growth redwoods.
- The Exemption allowed removal of trees within 150 feet of structures, including the residence, a shed, and a house on an adjacent parcel. The adjacent landowner did not want the trees removed under the guise of protection of their residence. Following approval of the Exemption and before logging, Scarlett burned the shed, boards and all, in a large bonfire at night.
- Under the Exemption, commercial sale of removed logs is allowed, incentivizing removal of old-growth redwood for landowner profit. This allowed Scarlett to buy the property at a low price due to being distressed, sell the old growth logs containing substantial board footage, and pay for the whole affair, potentially even making a profit. The Staff report discussion indicates significant confusion over this topic, as if commercial activities un-exempt the exemption. Just because he can sell the logs removed under the Exemption, it does not give him a right to circumvent local ordinances.
- During the falling of the trees, on January 13, 2026, the faller dropped a limb on the line resulting in an unplanned power outage that PGE found was caused by third-party damage. The outage affected many people, including loss of power for a full day in lower Redway, and loss of internet for two full days. We understand the faller was required to cover the cost of crews to make repairs. Following the outage, a PG&E spokesperson was interviewed on the KMUD local news and

stated that they were familiar with the tree, that they knew of some top damage, which could be addressed by targeted limbing for hazard mitigation, and that they had no plans to remove the tree.

Following our March 13 meeting, Director Ford issued a Stop Work Order (SOW) to Mr. Scarlett until he demonstrates the remaining tree is hazardous, described in the Staff report as due to potential Q-Zone implications. We sought a copy of the SOW and the required elements of the assessment but did not get a response.

The Staff report provides a copy of the hazard assessment of the remaining tree that was not removed following the unplanned power outage. The hazard assessment subsequently provided identifies issues partially created or exacerbated by the January 2026 old-growth tree removals. The report identifies four hazards to the tree:

1. A drone scan indicates the tree is approximately 250 feet tall, and 200 feet up there is a 15-foot section with a cavity with rot. Unfortunately, no drone images are provided of this hazardous feature. It sounds like the hazard could possibly be addressed by topping the tree at 200 feet and removal could be avoided.
2. The remaining tree is the largest of what was a clump of three trunks; the removal in January removed the small two trees and left the remaining tree with a chunk out of its base. The assessment indicates that disease could enter the exposed section at some point, and at that time could contribute to hazard. Presently, no disease is detected. This hazard was created by Scarlett's actions.
3. Tree roots are present on the surface near the driveway, suggesting that poor health of the root system is a significant structural defect. CalTrans just got the final authorization to cut roots in Richardson Grove, saying root damage wasn't going to cause an impact to the old growth redwood trees there, likely under heavier treatments for highway construction.
4. The tree now stands on its own and will be directly subject to greater wind events. This hazard was worsened by Scarlett's actions and will cause altered wind patterns to trees on adjacent parcels.

As indicated in the Staff Report, the SOW has been lifted. Under the CalFire Exemption Mr. Scarlett has identified a new Licensed Timber Operator, John Miranda. We are concerned that removal of this magnificent giant may proceed without having followed the protections afforded by the Q-Zone Ordinance.

Funding and Ordinance Updates

The Staff Report estimates \$15,000 to update the ordinance and have it adopted through the Board of Forestry. Staff have not demonstrated that updates are necessary. Without a strong reason, we do not want the Q-Zone Ordinance to be altered, and then it should only be done surgically and to avoid backsliding. County-specific FPRs are not needed for residential parcels already governed by local zoning. We ask that the County focus first on implementing and enforcing the existing ordinance.

Other Agency Involvement

We support engagement with County Counsel, UC Cooperative Extension, the Forest Review Committee, and CalFire, and believe clearer documentation and coordination would strengthen implementation. We especially support a memorandum of understanding with CalFire to define roles and procedures.

1. County Counsel - we are hopeful that such a consultation will clear up some of the jurisdictional confusion identified in the Staff report.
2. UC Cooperative Extension - we would remind Staff and this Board that Kim Rodriguez of UC Cooperative Extension was on the Forest Review Committee during the 1996 amendment to Ordinance 2112 and supported it. We believe that her historic perspective and relevant experience would be helpful to dispel confusion by Staff. Further, Yana Valacovich, also of UC Cooperative Extension is an expert in home hardening and defensible space and would likely be helpful in Staff understanding fire hazards and appropriate treatments within the Q-Zone characteristics.
3. The Forest Review Committee - The PGE Situation went to them; we believe there would need to be a record and clear assignment.
4. CalFire - we are disappointed that the Staff report offers no documentation of CalFire's concerns, if any, with the Q-Zone Ordinance. Staff agreed to provide us with contacts and facilitate a meeting but did not do either. We would support a memorandum of understanding with CalFire to provide jurisdictional and procedural clarity on future tree work within the Q-Zone.

Response to Staff Recommendations

We respectfully request that the Board reject the Staff Report's recommendations because:

- The Staff Report does not provide an adequate update on the county jurisdiction in the Q-Zone.
- The Staff Report did not include a complete copy of the Ordinance and lacked analysis of the Ordinance.
- Jurisdictional confusion has overshadowed the County's clear responsibility to enforce its own ordinance.
- Development of county-specific FPRs is unnecessary for Q-Zone enforcement on residential parcels.

Instead, we request the Board direct Staff to:

- Improve understanding of local jurisdiction and relevant regulations.
- Obtain legal counsel regarding land use and enforcement authority.
- Coordinate with CalFire and our group to establish a consistent Q-Zone process.

- Implement the existing ordinance effectively before pursuing an unnecessary, expensive, and time-consuming process with the risk of backsliding.

Conclusion

The Lower Redway Q-Zone provides longstanding protections for unique old-growth redwoods that enrich property values, contribute to the tax base, support tourism, and benefit residents. Strong and transparent implementation is essential to preserving these iconic and irreplaceable old-growth redwood trees.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this agenda item. We appreciate the Board's attention to this issue. We are disappointed that, despite our outreach and communication efforts about the Q-Zone, we have not yet achieved greater understanding of the Ordinance or the County's implementation and enforcement strategy.

We will continue to keep attention to this important topic and hold the County accountable to implement and enforce the Lower Redway Q-Zone Ordinance.

Sincerely,

The Old-growth Neighborhood Association

Dear Humboldt County Board of Supervisors,

I am the owner of: _____ Redway CA 95560.

This letter is regarding the Q-Zone in Lower Redway and the related agenda item on the upcoming April 21 BOS meeting.

I recommend that the BOS **postpone acceptance of the staff report**, thereby giving staff time to provide crucial additional information.

First I wish to bring up a point that's may be overlooked by many: jobs for locals.

Given the depressed local economy, when jobs are increasing scarce and many businesses have closed, ecotourism means even more for our local economy.

Airbnb, hotels, local restaurants, retreat centers, grocery, stores, contractors and shops rely on tourist spending.

Please think about so many locals whose businesses have closed or jobs have lost in the past few years.

Lower Redway, with its trees and river, is a major attraction for the visitors.

Another major consideration is home value and community safety. Given the increased foreclosures in our town, we want more people come to purchase retirement homes or vacation homes so our town is not filled with foreclosed and abandoned properties.

Imagine half of the redwoods are cut down? Or even the idea that those trees may be cut down using the Calfire loophole?

These trees are bread and butter for the birds, snails, ferns and another hundred species, but also local people.

They are, literally, part of the biological ecosystem and economic ecosystem.

To leave a 370 year old tree alive for the next 50 to 200 years instead of lumber cash today, is a much wiser and fair way for the common good of our community.

Now about the **postpone acceptance of the staff report:**

I believe the staff report, as currently written, contains a claim that is dubious and probably incorrect. This probably incorrect claim is central to the entire report. Namely, the probably incorrect claim is the following:

"This section [section 4516.5 of the Forest Practices Act] states that a county has no jurisdiction over tree removal covered under the Forest Practices Act except in certain limited cases." And furthermore that: "[T]he property in lower Redway ... [falls] under this provision."

I believe the above claim in the staff report is probably incorrect because: Section 4516.5 of the FPA does, in some cases, limit a county's authority to regulate the removal of redwood trees. However, Section 4516.5 itself goes on to say in subsection (f) that: "This section does not apply to Timber Operations on any land area of less than three acres and which is not zoned Timberland production." In other words, if a land area is less than three acres and if that land area is not zoned Timberland production, then Section 4516.5 does not limit a county's authority in any way.

The land area in Redway where the trees were removed is less than one acre in size and is zoned Residential. Therefore, it seems likely to me that Section 4516.5 does not apply to the land area in Redway. And consequently, the county does, in fact, have authority to

regulate and control the removal of redwood trees in most of (perhaps even in all of) the Q-Zone.

Crucially, the staff report does not mention or address Section 4516.5 subsection (f) in any way.

Additionally, the staff report contains numerous mentions of staff's lack of clarity on the matter of the county's authority (or lack thereof) in the Q-Zone. For example: "Until clarity could be achieved..." "The Forest Practices Act does not provide a clear pathway..." "It is unclear whether..." "Staff have not been able to define the line between..." "Staff will attempt to clarify this..." "If there is an avenue here to create greater clarity, this would be helpful for all."

Given both (a) the probably incorrect claim in the staff report (as described above) and (b) the extensive lack of clarity in the staff report itself (as enumerated above), I strongly urge the Board to **postpone accepting the staff report until greater clarity can be achieved.**

Furthermore, I urge the Board of Supervisors to **ask staff to comment on Section 4516.5 subsection (f)**, and how that subsection relates to the Q-Zone.

Finally, I urge the Board of Supervisors to **ask staff to provide either:**

(1) **A legal opinion by a practicing attorney** with relevant expertise on the Forest Practices Act regarding the FPA's implications on the County's powers under the Q-Zone ordinance, and/or

(2) A list of one or more court cases where a county in California attempted to regulate and permit the removal of trees on small Residential parcels of land, but **where said county was sued and lost in court** on the basis of the Forest Practices Act.

Respectfully submitted,

Runfang Zhang

Redway CA 9

Runfang@gmail.com

Board of Supervisor meeting for April 21 Redway Q Zone Ordinance, file#26274

From nancy johnson <myrtletheturtle707@gmail.com>

Date Mon 4/20/2026 4:44 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

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I submitted public comment by email today and may have entered an incorrect date of Board of Supervisors meeting. It is for April 21, 2026. file# 26274. Submitted by Nancy Johnson (email myrtletheturtle707@gmail.com) today, April 20, 2016. Redway Q zone Ordinance.

Richard Gienger
Box 283, Whitethorn
California 95589
Direct Contact via:
Mobile Phone 707-223-6474
Internet rgrocks@humboldt.net
21 April 2026

To the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
and to the attention of the BoF and CalFire – and others

Dear Supervisors:

Ordinance?, “smordinance” – the race for the prize[s] is/are on!! The situation in Lower Redway is a brutal reminder and example of human avarice -- the kind of unrelenting avarice that will try every move to block a conservation ethic, or stop ANY “mandate change”, especially when rare high monetary-value Redwoods can be cut.

Humans around here have been driven for – how many generations since 1850 [?] to remove the special magnificent Redwood and Douglas fir forests in a boom, boom, boom and then a dribble bust economy. Humans have been driven in comparable onslaughts around the world for millenia. Devil takes the hindmost it is said.

There’s a hella history between Ruby Valley and the Redwood Highway through Upper Redway. It’s way more than can be gone into here. Just some vignettes: The withstanding of huge floods in 1955 and 1964, and even the blockage of the South Fork Eel in 1981 from a huge debris torrent that took away big chunks of river bank. A 1978 approved THP on the westside of the river across from Lower Redway permitted the removal of leaning and downed old-growth from a deep landslide area in middle of the operation that was the heart of the torrent.

Can’t help but bring up a normal extreme example of ruthless behavior: When Georgia-Pacific was frustrated by the Appeal Court Stay on cutting the old-growth of the Sally Bell Grove between 1983 and 1986 they turned to taking down every remnant example outside the Grove that they could, trying to take away any reminder of the forest that once was. This included a giant Redwood right alongside the Usal Road that had a huge burned internal cavity/cave that extended far up into the darkness.

Ironically this so-invaluable Lower Redway Grove came about as a special summering place for generally wealthy folks from the more urban places of the region. Not-so-ironically a hard fought ordinance was eventually put together to protect that place as the times evolved and protection was necessary.

The record, though incomplete, should be made whole to enable corrections to be made that truly honor the implementation of Ordinance 2112, prevent abuse, and maintain the far-

Re: Lower Redway Q-Zone – Agenda Item: April 21, 2026

From Jay Moller <moller95628@gmail.com>

Date Tue 4/21/2026 8:25 AM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

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So'Hum Law Center Of
RICHARD JAY MOLLER

Redway, CA 95560-1669

April 21, 2026

Re: Lower Redway Q-Zone – Agenda Item: April 21, 2026

Clerk of the Board and Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

cob@co.humboldt.ca.us

Dear Clerk of the Board and Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

I write to you today about the unfortunate old-growth logging in Redway. Ordinance 2112 (the Q-Zone) should have protected these trees. It is a travesty that a landowner and an RPF, both employed by CALFIRE, conspired to obtain approval for this logging from CALFIRE, the agency they work for. They did this, I believe, by filing an application containing material, false information. It is unfortunate that this Board chose not to object to CALFIRE's unilateral and hasty approval before anyone looked into the facts supporting the application to cut down these irreplaceable trees. Bad faith is suggested by the unnecessary act of girding some of the trees to moot any attempt to save them.

I respectfully ask you to:

- 1) **Vote "No"** on the Staff's recommendations.
- 2) **Contact CALFIRE re: their interpretation of 4516.5 (f) which states that the Forest Practice Rules don't apply to areas that are less than 3 acres and not zoned timberland.**
- 3) **Agree to enforce the Q-Zone in the future**

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Outlook

Redway Q Zone April 21 2026 agenda file#:26274

From nancy johnson <myrtletheturtle707@gmail.com>

Date Mon 4/20/2026 3:20 PM

To COB <COB@co.humboldt.ca.us>

Caution: This email was sent from an EXTERNAL source. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments.

I am a 45 year resident of the Redway area. I suggest Chris Maranto, CDF/calFire"s Sustained Yield Forester for 17 years, as a contact for clarification of the Q Zone Ordinance. May I quote from his letter to the California Dept of Forestry, page 60: "I have concluded that ' Sacramento' cannot protect the interests of its citizens. Perhaps California's timber counties should start drumming up their own 'county rules' if Sacramento cannot make the necessary changes; I certainly would encourage them to do so." A google search by his name will show the entire letter and contact information. I have spoken with him directly a few times. Chris is highly respected in his field of SustainableYield Practices. His email: CHRIS.Maranto@fire.ca.gov. Phone: 916-653-5123 (Calfire, Sacramento)