

No. \_\_\_\_\_



Filed \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

**RESOLUTION**

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE

- WHEREAS,** this August marks the 10-year anniversary of the Rim Fire, the largest wildfire in the Sierra Nevada and third largest in California's history at the time, which devastated over 257,314 acres of land, of which approximately 154,530 acres were national forest lands, thus causing significant and long-lasting damage to our forests, wildlife, and watersheds; and
- WHEREAS,** it can be said that the Rim Fire, now the 12th largest blaze by total acreage, marks the beginning of California's modern struggle with catastrophic megafires; and
- WHEREAS,** the Rim Fire emitted 11,352,608 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to the emissions of 3 million gas vehicles, and the 2020 wildfire season effectively eliminated 16 years of emission reductions between 2003 to 2019 in the State of California, highlighting not only the localized importance of protecting forest but the broader environmental significance of forest management and resources in meeting state climate goals; and
- WHEREAS,** the Rim Fire significantly impacted the local communities and economy, caused harm to the timber industry, the ecosystem, and presented serious challenges to public health and safety; and
- WHEREAS,** following the Rim Fire, the community, local and state government agencies, non-profit organizations, and private enterprises launched commendable efforts to reforest and restore the fire-ravaged landscape including landscape restoration work; and
- WHEREAS,** specific projects such as the Rim Fire Recovery (2014) and Rim Fire Reforestation (2016) have made significant strides in replanting thousands of acres with native tree species and removing hazardous fuels from the landscape; and
- WHEREAS,** these efforts have been supported by collaborative initiatives like the Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions (YSS), a diverse coalition of stakeholders, which has fostered an environment of cooperation and shared understanding about the importance of a healthy and resilient forest ecosystem; and
- WHEREAS,** the YSS collaborative serves as a model collaborative that has been instrumental in promoting the economic viability of the timber industry while maintaining an ecosystem approach towards managing the forests, watersheds, and habitats; and
- WHEREAS,** notwithstanding these efforts, more needs to be done to address the persistent and growing fire risk on national forest lands; and
- WHEREAS,** it is imperative to increase the pace and scale of fuel reduction projects, support the timber industry, strengthen partnerships, and encourage broader community involvement to ensure long-term forest health and resilience.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors:

- Recognizes the 10-year anniversary of the Rim Fire, pays tribute to the resilience of our community, and appreciates the tireless efforts of all stakeholders involved in recovery and restoration.
- Celebrates the sacrifices and dedication of first responders, emergency coordinators, community leaders, government officials, and private citizens in protecting their neighbors, communities, and properties.
- Reaffirms the County's commitment to forest restoration, forest management, and the reduction of catastrophic wildfire risk on national forest lands and the associated impacts to communities.

- Calls for an increased pace and scale of fuel reduction projects, through the expansion of existing projects and the initiation of new ones, to manage the accumulation of hazardous fuels and thereby reduce the intensity and severity of future wildfires.
- Advocates for the support and growth of the timber industry as well as new woody biomass industries, which play a crucial role in maintaining forest health and providing economic stability.
- Emphasizes the importance of working together with all partners, including government agencies, non- profit organizations, private enterprises, and the community at large, to leverage resources and expertise.
- Applauds the work of collaborative groups like Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions (YSS) in their collaborative, holistic, sustainable, and triple bottom line approach to forest management.
- Urges everyone to remember the devastation caused by the Rim Fire and to stay vigilant and prepared for the ever-present threat of wildfires, which will require both our collective effort to manage and the actions of individuals taking responsibility for their own preparedness.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE ON \_\_\_\_\_

AYES:	1st Dist. _____	NOES:	_____ Dist.
	2nd Dist. _____		_____ Dist.
	3rd Dist. _____	ABSENT:	_____ Dist.
	4th Dist. _____		_____ Dist.
	5th Dist. _____	ABSTAIN:	_____ Dist.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk of the Board of Supervisors