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**LAKE COUNTY COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN
RELEASED FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

Public Meeting, June 8, 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Board of Supervisors Chambers, Lakeport

LAKE COUNTY, CA — The County of Lake and the Lake County Fire Safe Council have released the public draft of the Lake County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and are inviting public review and comment until July 1, 2009.

A public meeting to discuss the CWPP will be held on Monday, June 8, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the Lake County Courthouse, 255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport. The principal author of the plan, as well as others who played key roles in its development, will provide an overview of the plan and be available to answer questions about the CWPP.

The CWPP is a plan to reduce risks and hazards from wildfire while exercising due care of natural resources. The plan provides very specific strategies and recommendations on how to achieve these goals by identifying, prioritizing, and implementing fire protection and fuel hazard reduction programs and activities. It also takes into account the challenges of coordinating fire protection strategies across property boundaries and jurisdictions, as well as identifying ways to encourage the integration of private land management goals with community needs and expectations.

The CWPP is intended to benefit all of Lake County. As such, it was developed through the collaborative efforts of many stakeholders including the Lake County Board of Supervisors, local fire districts, Bureau of Land Management, CAL FIRE, U.S. Forest Service, the Cities of Lakeport and Clearlake, Resource Conservation Districts, tribal representatives, Lake County Air Quality Management District, and most important, residents throughout the County.

Development of the CWPP involved an extensive planning and development process, which was led by Registered Professional Forester Tracy Katelman of ForEverGreen Forestry. She was assisted by Linda

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Juntunen, the coordinator of the Lake County Fire Safe Council. Both Katelman and Juntunen will be presenting at the June 8 public meeting.

“I’m pleased with the draft of the CWPP,” Katelman said. “It appears this plan will be a model plan for other California counties, especially in our approach in integrating fire prevention planning with other community planning efforts here, including the new General Plan. I look forward to discussing the plan with interested residents on June 8.”

The CWPP process began with a series of 10 community meetings where input from residents was used to identify wildfire hazards and prioritize projects intended to mitigate such hazards. Thereafter, the process focused on engaging the technical expertise of the various stakeholders.

“The Fire Safe Council recognizes the importance of this project in prioritizing how we deal with the wildfire problem in Lake County,” Juntunen said. “I hope interested residents will attend the public meeting on June 8, comment on the draft plan, and be a part of this important process.”

The entire draft plan can be viewed and downloaded from the County’s web site at:

www.co.lake.ca.us/FireSafeCouncil.htm or at: www.forevergreenforestry.com/lakecwpp.html.

Free copies on CD, as well as reviewable hard copies, also are available at the following locations:

- **Upper Lake Library:** 310 2nd St., Upper Lake
- **Lakeport Library:** 1425 N. High St., Lakeport
- **Redbud Library:** 14785 Burns Valley Road, Clearlake
- **Middletown Library:** Corner of Calistoga & Callayomi streets, Middletown
- **Spring Valley Community Center:** 3000 Wolf Creek Road
- **Office of the Lake County Air Quality Management District:** 885 Lakeport Blvd., Lakeport
- **Lake County Administrative Office:** 255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport

Public comments may be submitted by e-mail to: LakeFSC@gmail.com

Comments also may be submitted in writing to the Lake County Administrative Office at 255 N. Forbes St., Lakeport, CA 95453. The public comment period on the draft plan will continue through July 1, 2009.

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