



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

2018 JUN 21 PM 3:33

CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF SUPERVISORS

DIANNE JACOB
VICE-CHAIRWOMAN
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: June 26, 2018

17

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT

REDUCING THE FIRE THREAT NEAR DONOHOE MOUNTAIN (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

In May 2017, the "Gate Fire" was accidentally started by a group of shooters near the Donohoe mountain area in Dulzura. The fire burned over 2,000 acres, caused evacuations of nearby residents, and required a comprehensive and exhaustive response by fire officials and first responders to fight the fire and keep the public safe.

Recreational shooting is currently allowed during select months of the year in this specific area of Donohoe Flats, which is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). However, in recent years BLM has begun to prohibit the use of firearms in this area during "high fire risk" months, citing the extreme public safety risk.

Over the past several years, I have met with residents who live in the surrounding area, public safety officials, and BLM representatives in an effort to address the public safety issues on this specific area of BLM property. In addition to the risk of starting a fire, shooting in this area has led to issues involving bullets traveling close to residences and excessive trash being left in the area by shooters.

We live with a year-round fire threat in San Diego County. I have repeatedly called upon BLM and other Federal officials to do what is necessary to prohibit shooting in this specific area year round until a permanent solution is implemented to eliminate the life and safety risk.

An existing memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the San Diego Sheriff's Department and the Bureau of Land Management allows the County to take action to prohibit shooting on lands managed by BLM. Furthermore, the MOU allows BLM officers to enforce the County shooting ordinance. In discussions with BLM, it was agreed that it would be easier for BLM officers to enforce County ordinances instead of going through the difficult Federal process of closing BLM land each year.

**SUBJECT: REDUCING THE FIRE THREAT NEAR DONOHOE MOUNTAIN
(DISTRICTS: ALL)**

Today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to work with the Bureau of Land Management, the Sheriff's Department, and affected residents, to define the exact boundaries of the Donohoe Flats area, draft an ordinance that would restrict shooting on this specific area of Donohoe Flats year-round, and return to the Board of Supervisors within 120 days.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

VICE-CHAIRWOMAN DIANNE JACOB

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to work with the Bureau of Land Management, the Sheriff's Department, and affected residents, to define the exact boundaries of the Donohoe Flats area, draft an ordinance that would restrict shooting on this specific area of Donohoe Flats year-round, and return to the Board of Supervisors within 120 days.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact related these recommendations

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT

N/A

BACKGROUND

In May 2017, the "Gate Fire" was accidentally started by a group of shooters near the Donohoe mountain area in Dulzura. The fire burned over 2,000 acres, caused evacuations of nearby residents, and required a comprehensive and exhaustive response by fire officials and first responders to fight the fire and keep the public safe.

Recreational shooting is currently allowed during select months of the year in this specific area of Donohoe Flats, which is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). However, in recent years BLM has begun to prohibit the use of firearms in this area during "high fire risk" months, citing the extreme public safety risk.

I am a supporter of recreational shooting, and it is important to note that there are vast areas of BLM land available for recreational shooters to enjoy in the back country. This specific area of Donohoe has a history of public safety issues involving wayward bullets flying near residences, excessive trash left by shooters, and fires. Over the past several years, I have met with residents who live in the surrounding area, public safety officials, and BLM representatives in an effort to address the public safety issues on this specific area of BLM property.

We live with a year-round fire threat in San Diego County. I have repeatedly called upon BLM and other Federal officials to do what is necessary to prohibit shooting in this specific area year round until a permanent solution is implemented to eliminate the life and safety risk.

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**SUBJECT: REDUCING THE FIRE THREAT NEAR DONOHOE MOUNTAIN
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LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO STRATEGIC PLAN

Today's proposed action supports the Safe Communities Strategic Initiative of the County of San Diego's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan by reducing the risk of wild fire in the back country region.

Respectfully submitted,



DIANNE JACOB
Vice-Chairwoman, Second District

ATTACHMENT(S)

N/A

**SUBJECT: REDUCING THE FIRE THREAT NEAR DONOHOE MOUNTAIN
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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED

 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

**ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION
NUMBER(S):**

N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: District 2, Board of Supervisors

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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