RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2021-115

MEETING: March 9, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

RE: Title III Project Funding

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve Three of Four Title III Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 Funding Proposals in an Amount Not to Exceed $28,500; Approve the Three Proposal Related Agreements; and Authorize the CAO to Sign the Agreements (Subject to Approval as to Form by County Counsel).

Secure Rural Schools (SRS) Title III is federal funding available for the following uses:

1. to carry out activities under the Firewise Communities program;

2. to reimburse the participating county for search and rescue and other emergency services, including firefighting and law enforcement patrols;

3. to cover training costs and equipment purchases directly related to the emergency service; and

4. to develop and carry out community wildfire protection plans.

In Mariposa County, Title III funds have been used entirely to implement wildfire protection plans including support for the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council and the Southwest Interface Team (SWIFT) project.

On January 12, 2021, four projects were proposed and approved for noticing:

1. $10,000 for Mariposa County Resource Conservation District to construct a fuel break above El Portal Elementary School (this project has been withdrawn);

2. $10,000 for the Southwest Interface Team (SWIFT) project to continue development and acquisition of resources for fire breaks in the northern portion of the county; and

3. $12,000 for Mariposa County Fire Safe Council to write grants and construct the Alta Vista fuel break; and
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4. $6,500 for Mariposa County Fire Safe Council to provide reflective house number signs to residents across the county.

Mariposa County Resource Conservation District has withdrawn their fuel break proposal for El Portal, but plans to return with another project in the near future. The remaining projects are consistent with our community wildfire protection plan and recommended for approval at this time. More information about the requirements for SRS Title III can be found at https://www.fs.usda.gov/working-with-us/states/secure-rural-schools/title-3.

Mariposa County currently has $80,905 available for Title III projects. Though it has been renewed several times in the past, the authority to initiate Title III projects currently terminates on September 30, 2022. Any funds not obligated by September 30, 2023, must be returned to the Treasury of the United States.

Before using Title III funds, the County is required to publish a proposal that describes the proposed use of funds and solicits public comment for a minimum of 45 days. The proposal must also be submitted the Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties Resource Advisory Committee managed by the Stanislaus National Forest. This notice is attached for reference.

This meeting represents the conclusion of the 45-day comment period. Staff is unaware of any comments submitted in favor or opposition to these projects. The Board may now consider and formally approve or deny the use of Title III funds as proposed. Staff will move forward with formal agreements for approved projects.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
The Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties Resource Advisory Committee last met in 2015. Staff has been advised that they will be meeting again in 2021.

On September 8, 2020, the Board considered the final budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 (FY21). That budget did not explicitly include funding for the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, Southwest Interface Team, or Mariposa County Resource Conservation District. Rather, the budget allowed for any of these entities to leverage SRS Title III funds for projects initiated in the fiscal year. It was also recognized that the County needed to return to compliance with regard to noticing whether Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties Resource Advisory Committee continued to meet or not. This item is the culmination of those efforts and project discussions with the respective organizations mentioned.

Annual agreements to fund the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council were approved in 2017 (Resolution 17-568, $66,141), 2018 (Resolution 18-626, $66,141), and 2019 (Resolution 19-483, $66,141). An agreement has not yet been entered for the current fiscal year.

Agreements to fund the Southwest Interface Team in the amount of $10,000 per year have been approved annually each year since 2016. An agreement for the current
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Mariposa County Resource Conservation District has not previously been funded through SRS Title III, but the County has provided general funds ranging from $20,000 - $60,000 annually over the last several fiscal years.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Do not tentatively approve the proposed projects. Staff will not notice the proposals. Other proposals that meet the funding criteria will need to be solicited or the funding will be returned to the United States Treasury.

ATTACHMENTS:
2021 SRS Title III Notice(PDF)
SWIFT Agreement FY 21-22 (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey
AGREEMENT FOR WILDFIRE PREVENTION SERVICES

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into this 7th day of April, 2021, by and between the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, ("County"), and the Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, ("Contractor"), pursuant to the following terms and conditions.

WITNESSETH:

1. TERM

The term of this Agreement shall commence on March 9, 2021, and terminate when projects are completed or on June 30, 2022, whichever is sooner.

2. SERVICES

Contractor shall conduct fire prevention services as described in Exhibit A, "Scope of Work," which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. Contractor shall provide all staffing and materials necessary to perform the Scope of Work.

3. COMPENSATION

Contractor shall be reimbursed for services performed in an amount not to exceed $18,500. Contractor may submit invoices for actual expenses incurred on a monthly basis. The County shall pay Contractor within thirty (30) days of receipt of an approved invoice.

4. INSURANCE

Contractor shall procure and maintain for the duration of the agreement insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, or employees.

A. MINIMUM SCOPE AND LIMIT OF INSURANCE

Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

(1) Commercial General Liability (CGL): Insurance Services Office (ISO)Form CG 00 01 covering CGL on an “occurrence” basis, including products and completed operations, property damage, bodily injury and personal and advertising injury with limits no less than $2,000,000 per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this project/location (ISO CG 25 03 or 25 04) or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.
(2) Automobile Liability: ISO Form Number CA 00 01 covering any auto, (Code 1), or if Contractor has no owned autos, hired (Code 8) and non-owned autos (Code 9), with limits no less than $1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage.

(3) Workers’ Compensation insurance as required by the State of California, with Statutory Limits, and Employer’s Liability Insurance with limit of no less than $1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.

If the Contractor maintains broader coverage and/or higher limits than the minimums shown above, the County requires and shall be entitled to the broader coverage and/or higher limits maintained by the Contractor. Any available insurance proceeds in excess of the specified minimum limits of insurance and coverage shall be available to the County.

B. OTHER INSURANCE PROVISIONS

The insurance policies are to contain, or be endorsed to contain, the following provision:

(1) Additional Insured Status: The County, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers are to be covered as additional insureds on the CGL policy of with respect to liability caused in whole or in part by the work or operations performed by the Contractor including materials, parts, or equipment furnished in connection with such work or operations. General liability coverage can be provided in the form of an endorsement to the Contractor’s insurance (at least as broad as ISO Form CG 20 10 11 85 or if not available, through the addition of both CG 20 10 and CG 20 37 forms if a later edition is used). The insurance afforded to such additional insured only applies to the extent permitted by law.

(2) Primary Coverage: For any claims related to this Agreement, to the extent caused by its breach of this Agreement, and/or its negligence or willful misconduct, the Contractor’s insurance coverage shall be primary insurance as respects the County, its officers, officials, employees, and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the County, its officers, officials, employees, or volunteers shall be excess of the Contractor’s insurance and shall not contribute with it.

(3) Notice of Cancellation: Each insurance policy required above shall state that coverage shall not be canceled, except with notice to the County.

(4) Waiver of Subrogation: Contractor hereby grants to County a waiver of any right to subrogation which any insurer of said Contractor may acquire against the County by virtue of the payment of any loss under such insurance. Contractor agrees to obtain any endorsement that may be necessary to affect this waiver of subrogation, but this provision applies regardless of whether or not the County has received a waiver of subrogation endorsement from the insurer.

(5) Deductibles and Self-Insured Retentions: Any deductibles or self-insured retentions must be declared to and approved by the County. The County may require the Contractor to purchase coverage with a lower deductible or retention or provide proof of ability
to pay losses and related investigations, claim administration, and defense expenses within the retention.

(6) Acceptability of Insurers: Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a current A.M. Best’s rating of no less than A: VII, unless otherwise acceptable to the County.

(7) Verification of Coverage: Contractor shall furnish the County with original certificates and amendatory endorsements or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required by this clause. All certificates and endorsements are to be received and approved by the County before work commences. However, failure to obtain the required documents prior to the work beginning shall not waive the Contractor’s obligation to provide them. The County reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.

(8) Subcontractors: Contractor shall require and verify that all subcontractors maintain insurance meeting all the requirements stated herein, and Contractor shall ensure that County is an additional insured on insurance required from subcontractors.

(9) Special Risks or Circumstances: County reserves the right to modify these requirements, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.

5. HOLD HARMLESS/INDEMNIFICATION

Each party agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other party, its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers from and against any liability, loss, expense, cost, or damage of any kind (including reasonable outside attorneys’ fees) to the extent caused by its breach of this Agreement, and/or its negligence or willful misconduct.

6. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

It is the expressed intention of the parties that Contractor is an independent contractor and not an employee, agent, joint venturer or partner of County. Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted or construed as creating or establishing the relationship of employer and employee between County and Contractor or any employee or agent of Contractor. Both parties acknowledge that Contractor is not an employee for state or federal tax purposes. Contractor shall retain the right to perform services for others during the term of this Agreement.

7. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CALPERS)

In the event that Contractor or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Contractor providing services under this Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or the Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) to be eligible for enrollment in CalPERS as an employee of the County, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County for the payment of any employee and/or employer contributions for CalPERS benefits on behalf of
Contractor or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions, which would otherwise be the responsibility of County.

8. **STATE AND FEDERAL TAXES**

As Contractor is not County’s employee, Contractor is responsible for paying all required state and federal taxes. In particular:

a. County will not withhold FICA (Social Security) from Contractor’s payments;
b. County will not make state or federal unemployment insurance contributions on behalf of Contractor;
c. County will not withhold state or federal income tax from payment to Contractor;
d. County will not make disability insurance contributions on behalf of Contractor;
e. County will not obtain workers’ compensation insurance on behalf of Contractor.

9. **ASSIGNMENT**

It is understood and agreed that this Agreement contemplates personal performance by the Contractor and is based upon a determination of its unique personal competence and experience and upon its specialized personal knowledge. Assignments of any or all rights, duties or obligations of the Contractor under this Agreement will be permitted only with the express written consent of the County.

10. **NOTICE**

Any and all notices, reports or other communications to be given to County or Contractor shall be given to the persons representing the respective parties at the following addresses:

**CONTRACTOR:**
Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, Inc.
P.O. Box 1182
Mariposa, CA 95338
Phone: 209-966-7700

**COUNTY:**
County of Mariposa Administration
P.O. Box 784
Mariposa, CA 95338
Phone: (209) 966-3222

11. **COMPLIANCE**

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state and local laws, codes, ordinance and regulations applicable to Contractor’s performance under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, laws related to prevailing wages. Specifically, Contractor shall not engage in unlawful employment discrimination, including, but not limited to, discrimination based upon a person’s race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, gender, citizenship or sexual orientation, as prohibited by state or federal law.
12. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Contractor is aware that this Agreement and any documents provided to the County may be subject to the California Public Records Act and may be disclosed to members of the public upon request. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to clearly identify information in those documents that it considers to be confidential under the California Public Records Act. To the extent that the County agrees with that designation, such information will be held in confidence whenever possible. All other information will be considered public.

13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND MODIFICATION

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement and supersedes all prior agreements and representations with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may only be modified by a written amendment hereto, executed by both parties; however, matters concerning the scope of services which do not affect the agreed price may be modified by mutual written consent of the Contractor and the County Administrative Officer. If there are exhibits attached hereto, and a conflict exists between the terms of this Agreement and any exhibit, the terms of this Agreement shall control.

14. ENFORCEABILITY AND SEVERABILITY

The invalidity or enforceability of any term or provisions of this Agreement shall not, unless otherwise specified, affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision, which shall remain in full force and effect.

15. TERMINATION AND RIGHTS UPON TERMINATION

A. This Agreement may be terminated upon mutual written consent of the parties, or as a remedy available at law or in equity. In the event of the termination of this Agreement, Contractor shall immediately be paid all fees earned as of the effective date of termination.

B. Either party may terminate this Agreement for convenience upon 30 calendar days’ written notice to the other party. Upon termination for convenience, Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for services performed acceptably up to the effective date of termination.

C. Should Contractor default in the performance of this Agreement or materially breach any of its provisions, County, at its option, may terminate this Agreement by giving written notification to Contractor. The termination date shall be the effective date of the notice. For the purposes of this subsection, default or material breach of this Agreement shall include, but not be limited to, any of the following: failure to perform required services in a timely manner, willful destruction of County property, dishonesty, or theft.

16. NO WAIVER

The failure to exercise any right to enforce any remedy contained in this Agreement shall not operate as to be construed to be a waiver or relinquishment of the exercise of such right or remedy, or of any other right or remedy herein contained.
17. DISPUTES

Should it become necessary for a party to this Agreement to bring an action in connection with this Agreement, the prevailing party in any claim or action shall be entitled to reimbursement for all expenses so incurred, including reasonable attorney’s fees.

It is agreed by the parties hereto that unless otherwise expressly waived by them, any action brought to enforce any of the provisions hereof or for declaratory relief hereunder shall be filed and remain in a court of competent jurisdiction in the County of Mariposa, State of California.

18. CAPTIONS

The captions of this Agreement are for convenience in reference only and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.

19. NUMBER AND GENDER

In this Agreement, the neutral gender includes the feminine and masculine, the singular includes the plural, and the word “person” includes corporations, partnerships, firms or associations, wherever the context so requires.

20. MANDATORY AND PERMISSIVE

“Shall” is mandatory. “May” is permissive.

21. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

All representations, covenants and warranties specifically set forth in this Agreement, by or on behalf of, or for the benefit of any or all of the parties hereto, shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of such party, its successors and assigns.

22. COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed simultaneously and, in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

23. OTHER DOCUMENTS

The parties agree that they shall cooperate in good faith to accomplish the object of this Agreement and, to that end, agree to execute and deliver such other and further instruments and documents as may be necessary and convenient to the fulfillment of these purposes.

24. CONTROLLING LAW

The validity, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be controlled by and construed under the laws of the State of California.
25. AUTHORITY

Each party and each party’s signatory warrant and represent that each has full authority and capacity to enter into this Agreement in accordance with all requirements of law. The parties also warrant that any signed amendment or modification to the agreement shall comply with all requirements of law, including capacity and authority to amend or modify the Agreement.

26. NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT

This Agreement has been arrived at through negotiation between the parties. Neither party is to be deemed the party which prepared this Agreement within the meaning of California Civil Code section 1654. Each party represents and warrants that in executing this Agreement it does so with full knowledge of the rights and duties it may have with respect to the other party. Each party also warrants and represents that it has received independent legal advice from its attorney with respect to the matters set forth in this Agreement and the rights and duties arising out of this Agreement, or that such party willingly foregoes any such consultation.

27. NO RELIANCE ON REPRESENTATIONS

Each party warrants and represents that it is not relying and has not relied upon any representation or statement made by the other party with respect to the facts involved or its rights or duties. Each party understands and agrees that the facts relevant, or believed to be relevant to this Agreement, have been independently verified. Each party further understands that it is responsible for verifying the representations of law or fact provided by the other party.

28. WARRANTY

County has relied upon the professional ability and training of Contractor as a material inducement to enter into this Agreement. Contractor hereby warrants that all work shall be performed in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and standards as well as the requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws, it being understood that acceptance of Contractor’s work by County shall not operate as a waiver or release.

29. FUNDING AVAILABILITY

It is mutually agreed that if the County budget of the current fiscal year and/or any subsequent fiscal years covered under this Agreement does not appropriate sufficient funds for this Agreement, this Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force and effect upon the day notice is provided by County to Contractor of such event. Upon termination of this Agreement, the County shall have no liability to pay any funds whatsoever to Contractor or to furnish any other considerations under this Agreement except for services rendered prior to such termination and Contractor shall not be obligated to perform any provisions of this Agreement. Contractor’s assumption of risk of possible non-appropriation is part of the consideration for this Agreement. County budget decisions are subject to the discretion of the Board of Supervisors.

If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the County budget for purposes of this Agreement, the County shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the County, except County must reimburse Contractor for services rendered prior to
such reduction or modification of the County budget, or offer an Agreement amendment to Contractor to reflect the reduced amount.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

COUNTY OF MARIPOSA

Jay Dallin Kimble
County Administrative Officer

MARIPOSA COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL, INC.

Armáando Ríos, Board Chair

ATTEST:

René LaRoche
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Steven W. Dahlem
County Counsel
Exhibit A

SCOPE OF WORK

This Agreement is supported by Federal Secure Rural Schools – Title III funds and is the result of a noticing process consistent with that program. Accordingly, Contractor acknowledges an understanding of that program and that no actions will be taken which are inconsistent with the guidelines of the program or the public notice that has been given.

1) Contractor will write grants for the Alta Vista fuel break as a priority implementation project of the Mariposa County Community Wildfire Protection Plan. A not-to-exceed amount of $12,000 may be dedicated to this activity.

2) Contractor will provide public outreach and assist low-income qualified households in Mariposa County with acquiring reflective house number signs. A not-to-exceed amount of $6,500 may be dedicated to this activity.

Contractor will provide a report on its activities including how funds were utilized, number of house signs installed, grant dollars received, and so on. Contractor understands that SRS-Title III funds are subject to local and/or federal audit, and will cooperate with any such inquiry. The scope of any audit will be limited specifically to the use of the SRS-Title III funds in relation to the performance of this agreement.
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MEETING: March 9, 2021

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Dallin Kimble, County Administrative Officer

RE: Title III Project Funding

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:

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ATTACHMENTS:
2021 SRS Title III Notice(PDF)
SWIFT Agreement FY 21-22 (PDF)

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Wayne Forsythe, District IV Supervisor
SECONDER: Rosemarie Smallcombe, District I Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Sweeney, Long, Forsythe, Menetrey
AGREEMENT WITH ALLEN JOHNSON

THIS AGREEMENT ("Agreement") is made and entered into this 9th day of March, 2021, by and between the County of Mariposa, a political subdivision of the State of California, ("County"), and Allen Johnson, a Project Coordinator for the South West Inter-Face Team (SWIFT), ("Contractor"), pursuant to the following terms and conditions.

WITNESSETH:

1. TERM

The term of this Agreement shall commence on July 1, 2021 and terminate on June 30, 2022 unless extended as provided by this Agreement.

2. SERVICES

Contractor shall plan and implement a strategic fire defense system, as described in Exhibit A, "Scope of Work," which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference. Contractor shall provide all staffing and materials necessary to perform the Scope of Work.

3. COMPENSATION

Contractor shall be compensated for services performed in an amount not to exceed $10,000.00. The Contractor’s hourly rates are listed in Exhibit B, "Cost Proposal." The County shall pay Contractor within thirty (30) days of receipt of an approved invoice.

4. INSURANCE

Contractor shall procure and maintain for the duration of the agreement insurance against claims for injuries to persons or damages to property which may arise from or in connection with the performance of the work hereunder by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, or employees.

A. MINIMUM SCOPE AND LIMIT OF INSURANCE

Coverage shall be at least as broad as:

(1) Commercial General Liability (CGL): Insurance Services Office (ISO)Form CG 00 01 covering CGL on an "occurrence" basis, including products and completed operations, property damage, bodily injury and personal and advertising injury with limits no less than $2,000,000 per occurrence. If a general aggregate limit applies, either the general aggregate limit shall apply separately to this project/location (ISO CG 25 03 or 25 04) or the general aggregate limit shall be twice the required occurrence limit.

(2) Automobile Liability: ISO Form Number CA 00 01 covering any auto, (Code 1), or if Contractor has no owned autos, hired (Code 8) and non-owned autos (Code 9), with limits no less than $1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury and property damage.
(3) Workers’ Compensation insurance as required by the State of California, with Statutory Limits, and Employer’s Liability Insurance with limit of no less than $1,000,000 per accident for bodily injury or disease.

If the Contractor maintains broader coverage and/or higher limits than the minimums shown above, the County requires and shall be entitled to the broader coverage and/or higher limits maintained by the Contractor. Any available insurance proceeds in excess of the specified minimum limits of insurance and coverage shall be available to the County.

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(6) Acceptability of Insurers: Insurance is to be placed with insurers with a current A.M. Best’s rating of no less than A: VII, unless otherwise acceptable to the County.
(7) Verification of Coverage: Contractor shall furnish the County with original certificates and amendatory endorsements or copies of the applicable policy language effecting coverage required by this clause. All certificates and endorsements are to be received and approved by the County before work commences. However, failure to obtain the required documents prior to the work beginning shall not waive the Contractor's obligation to provide them. The County reserves the right to require complete, certified copies of all required insurance policies, including endorsements required by these specifications, at any time.

(8) Subcontractors: Contractor shall require and verify that all subcontractors maintain insurance meeting all the requirements stated herein, and Contractor shall ensure that County is an additional insured on insurance required from subcontractors.

(9) Special Risks or Circumstances: County reserves the right to modify these requirements, including limits, based on the nature of the risk, prior experience, insurer, coverage, or other special circumstances.

5. HOLD HARMLESS/INDEMNIFICATION

Contractor shall hold harmless, defend and indemnify County and its officers, employees, agents, and volunteers, from and against any and all liability, loss, damage, expense, costs (including without limitation costs and fees of litigation) of every nature arising out of or in connection with Contractor's performance of work hereunder or its failure to comply with any of its obligations contained in this Agreement, except such loss or damage which was caused by the sole negligence or willful misconduct of County.

6. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

It is the expressed intention of the parties that Contractor is an independent contractor and not an employee, agent, joint venturer or partner of County. Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted or construed as creating or establishing the relationship of employer and employee between County and Contractor or any employee or agent of Contractor. Both parties acknowledge that Contractor is not an employee for state or federal tax purposes. Contractor shall retain the right to perform services for others during the term of this Agreement.

7. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (CALPERS)

In the event that Contractor or any employee, agent, or subcontractor of Contractor providing services under this Agreement is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction or the Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) to be eligible for enrollment in CalPERS as an employee of the County, Contractor shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless County for the payment of any employee and/or employer contributions for CalPERS benefits on behalf of Contractor or its employees, agents, or subcontractors, as well as for the payment of any penalties and interest on such contributions, which would otherwise be the responsibility of County.

8. STATE AND FEDERAL TAXES
As Contractor is not County’s employee, Contractor is responsible for paying all required state and federal taxes. In particular:

a. County will not withhold FICA (Social Security) from Contractor’s payments;
b. County will not make state or federal unemployment insurance contributions on behalf of Contractor;
c. County will not withhold state or federal income tax from payment to Contractor;
d. County will not make disability insurance contributions on behalf of Contractor;
e. County will not obtain workers’ compensation insurance on behalf of Contractor.

9. ASSIGNMENT

It is understood and agreed that this Agreement contemplates personal performance by the Contractor and is based upon a determination of its unique personal competence and experience and upon its specialized personal knowledge. Assignments of any or all rights, duties or obligations of the Contractor under this Agreement will be permitted only with the express written consent of the County.

10. NOTICE

Any and all notices, reports or other communications to be given to County or Contractor shall be given to the persons representing the respective parties at the following addresses:

**CONTRACTOR:**

Allen Johnson  
11120 Merrell Road  
Groveland, CA 95321

**COUNTY:**  
County of Mariposa  
Administration  
P.O. Box 784  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
Tel: (209) 966-3222

11. COMPLIANCE

Contractor shall comply with all federal, state and local laws, codes, ordinance and regulations applicable to Contractor’s performance under this Agreement, including, but not limited to, laws related to prevailing wages. Specifically, Contractor shall not engage in unlawful employment discrimination, including, but not limited to, discrimination based upon a person’s race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, gender, citizenship or sexual orientation, as prohibited by state or federal law.

12. PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

Contractor is aware that this Agreement and any documents provided to the County may be subject to the California Public Records Act and may be disclosed to members of the public upon request. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to clearly identify information in those documents that it considers to be confidential under the California Public Records Act. To the extent that the County agrees with that designation, such information will be held in confidence whenever possible. All other information will be considered public.
13. ENTIRE AGREEMENT AND MODIFICATION

This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement and supersedes all prior agreements and representations with respect to the subject matter hereof. This Agreement may only be modified by a written amendment hereto, executed by both parties; however, matters concerning the scope of services which do not affect the agreed price may be modified by mutual written consent of the Contractor and the County Administrative Officer. If there are exhibits attached hereto, and a conflict exists between the terms of this Agreement and any exhibit, the terms of this Agreement shall control.

14. ENFORCEABILITY AND SEVERABILITY

The invalidity or enforceability of any term or provisions of this Agreement shall not, unless otherwise specified, affect the validity or enforceability of any other term or provision, which shall remain in full force and effect.

15. TERMINATION AND RIGHTS UPON TERMINATION

a. This Agreement may be terminated upon mutual written consent of the parties, or as a remedy available at law or in equity. In the event of the termination of this Agreement, Contractor shall immediately be paid all fees earned as of the effective date of termination.

b. Either party may terminate this Agreement for convenience upon 30 calendar days’ written notice to the other party. Upon termination for convenience, Contractor shall be entitled to compensation for services performed acceptably up to the effective date of termination.

c. Should Contractor default in the performance of this Agreement or materially breach any of its provisions, County, at its option, may terminate this Agreement by giving written notification to Contractor. The termination date shall be the effective date of the notice. For the purposes of this subsection, default or material breach of this Agreement shall include, but not be limited to, any of the following: failure to perform required services in a timely manner, willful destruction of County property, dishonesty, or theft.

16. NO WAIVER

The failure to exercise any right to enforce any remedy contained in this Agreement shall not operate as to be construed to be a waiver or relinquishment of the exercise of such right or remedy, or of any other right or remedy herein contained.

17. DISPUTES

Should it become necessary for a party to this Agreement to bring an action in connection with this Agreement, the prevailing party in any claim or action shall be entitled to reimbursement for all expenses so incurred, including reasonable attorney’s fees.
It is agreed by the parties hereto that unless otherwise expressly waived by them, any action brought to enforce any of the provisions hereof or for declaratory relief hereunder shall be filed and remain in a court of competent jurisdiction in the County of Mariposa, State of California.

18. CAPTIONS

The captions of this Agreement are for convenience in reference only and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.

19. NUMBER AND GENDER

In this Agreement, the neutral gender includes the feminine and masculine, the singular includes the plural, and the word “person” includes corporations, partnerships, firms or associations, wherever the context so requires.

20. MANDATORY AND PERMISSIVE

“Shall” is mandatory. “May” is permissive.

21. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

All representations, covenants and warranties specifically set forth in this Agreement, by or on behalf of, or for the benefit of any or all of the parties hereto, shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of such party, its successors and assigns.

22. COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed simultaneously and in several counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

23. OTHER DOCUMENTS

The parties agree that they shall cooperate in good faith to accomplish the object of this Agreement and, to that end, agree to execute and deliver such other and further instruments and documents as may be necessary and convenient to the fulfillment of these purposes.

24. CONTROLLING LAW

The validity, interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be controlled by and construed under the laws of the State of California.

25. AUTHORITY

Each party and each party’s signatory warrant and represent that each has full authority and capacity to enter into this Agreement in accordance with all requirements of law. The parties also warrant that any signed amendment or modification to the agreement shall comply with all requirements of law, including capacity and authority to amend or modify the Agreement.
26. NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT

This Agreement has been arrived at through negotiation between the parties. Neither party is to be deemed the party which prepared this Agreement within the meaning of California Civil Code section 1654. Each party represents and warrants that in executing this Agreement it does so with full knowledge of the rights and duties it may have with respect to the other party. Each party also warrants and represents that it has received independent legal advice from its attorney with respect to the matters set forth in this Agreement and the rights and duties arising out of this Agreement, or that such party willingly foregoes any such consultation.

27. NO RELIANCE ON REPRESENTATIONS

Each party warrants and represents that it is not relying and has not relied upon any representation or statement made by the other party with respect to the facts involved or its rights or duties. Each party understands and agrees that the facts relevant, or believed to be relevant to this Agreement, have been independently verified. Each party further understands that it is responsible for verifying the representations of law or fact provided by the other party.

28. WARRANTY

County has relied upon the professional ability and training of Contractor as a material inducement to enter into this Agreement. Contractor hereby warrants that all work shall be performed in accordance with generally accepted professional practices and standards as well as the requirements of applicable federal, state and local laws, it being understood that acceptance of Contractor's work by County shall not operate as a waiver or release.

29. FUNDING AVAILABILITY

It is mutually agreed that if the County budget of the current fiscal year and/or any subsequent fiscal years covered under this Agreement does not appropriate sufficient funds for this Agreement, this Agreement shall terminate and be of no further force and effect upon the day notice is provided by County to Contractor of such event. Upon termination of this Agreement, the County shall have no liability to pay any funds whatsoever to Contractor or to furnish any other considerations under this Agreement except for services rendered prior to such termination and Contractor shall not be obligated to perform any provisions of this Agreement. Contractor's assumption of risk of possible non-appropriation is part of the consideration for this Agreement. County budget decisions are subject to the discretion of the Board of Supervisors.

If funding for any fiscal year is reduced or deleted by the County budget for purposes of this Agreement, the County shall have the option to either cancel this Agreement with no liability occurring to the County, except County must reimburse Contractor for services rendered prior to such reduction or modification of the County budget, or offer an Agreement amendment to Contractor to reflect the reduced amount.
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the day and year first written above.

COUNTY OF MARIPOSA

Jay D. Kimble
County Administrative Officer

CONTRACTOR

Allen Johnson
S.W.I.F.T. Coordinator

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Steven W. Dahlem
County Counsel
Conformance to the Intent of SR 2008:

The SWIFT Project’s goal is to cooperatively plan and implement a strategic fire defense system designed to reduce the threat of loss to life, property, and natural resources in the Southern Tuolumne and Northern Mariposa County wild-land urban interface. Currently, County, State, and Federal agencies in addition to a number of other collaborative partners are working together to mitigate the fire problems in this specific area. The 132,000 acres project area has a significant history of repeated large catastrophic fires. The agencies and partners involved in the collaborative wildfire protection effort all have various protection responsibilities within the area, and have joined together in an interagency team effort to work on mitigating the wildfire problems. The team consists of representatives from Mariposa and Tuolumne County Fire Departments, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal FIRE) for the Tuolumne/Calaveras and Madera/Mariposa/Merced Units, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), United States National Forest Service – Stanislaus National Forest – Groveland Ranger District, Hetch Hetchy Water & Power, Mariposa County Fire Safe Council, Yosemite Foothills Fire Safe Council, Groveland Fire Department, Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District, Yosemite National Park, and the Pine Mountain Lake Association.

There are a total of 12 high value watersheds within the project area. These watersheds are significant based on their contributions to California’s need for abundant water and power supplies. There are 10 residential areas inside the project boundary.

Opportunities to support fire protection come from strategically placed and well planned thinning projects, biomass operations, and multi-product vegetation offerings. Efforts are made to utilize local contractors in work on such fire defense systems as fuel breaks, road corridor fuel treatments, and other hazard reduction operations.

The SWIFT project had been planned to enhance and benefit forest and watershed health by protection of existing ecosystems from damaging wildfires. Allen Johnson retired from the Forest Service have served as District Fire Management Officer. He is currently serving as the Project Coordinator. Duties include mapping, meeting coordination and agenda preparation, document development, collaborative work with all stakeholders, presentations and developing various reports, and attending all meetings that are relevant to SWIFT operations.
Exhibit B
COST PROPOSAL

The County of Mariposa join with the County of Tuolumne in support of the South West InterFace Team (SWIFT) Project Coordinator contract for services with Allen Johnson. The Mariposa County share of the Contract is to be for a one-year period, with 290 hours of work at $34 per hour for a total cost of $10,000.