



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Begins Sending Out Notification For SRA Fee

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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September 19, 2012 -Eureka, CA –The County of Humboldt wants to let property owners know where to turn if they have recently received notification for what's called the State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee. The California State Board of Equalization, which began notifying local residents of the new fee in August, is the entity responsible for collecting funds and it will answer any questions you have regarding the fee.

The fee applies to those who own property within the SRA and is levied at a rate of \$150 per habitable structure. However, if your property already lies within the boundaries of a local fire protection agency will receive a reduction of \$35 per structure. The fee is not intended to support fire suppression activities, but it will support Cal-Fire in providing services like brush clearance and other preventative activities designed to help forests better withstand wildfire.

It is important to note that the SRA fee originates at the state level. The County of Humboldt and local fire agencies do not impose the fee, nor do they collect funds from the fee. Even though local fire departments will not collect these funds, they will continue to work side by side with Cal-Fire and provide exceptional service to our county.

The SRA is the area where the State of California is financially responsible for prevention and suppression of wildfires. According approximations from Cal-Fire, there are 15,824 individuals in Humboldt County who will pay the fee. To see if a parcel is within the SRA, visit the Board of Forestry and Fire Prevention's web site at www.firepreventionfee.com or call 1-888-310-6447.

If you have received notification for the SRA fee you must, within 30 days, either pay the fee or file a "Petition for Redetermination" to protest the fee. The petition is available at the web site above.

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