ITEMS AND THOUGHTS THAT MAY INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF SURVIVING A MAJOR FOREST OR BRUSH FIRE

Have a plan in place for all that live with you, to meet up. Choose a place that is familiar to all in your family. Make sure all know where this place is located and everyone has the means to get to that place. Make sure someone is able to drive to that place or have someone that can give them a ride. Preferably located in the lower foothills away from heavy brush and timber or any flash fuel ie. standing grass. If your children are going to a local school — make sure the people in charge know that you will be picking up your children —so they don't end up being transported to another location to be picked up.

Practice your plan often so it becomes second nature.

Items that need to be stored in a mini storage downtown or that is in a safe location away from a fire potential. These items would be insurance papers, trusts, marriage certificate, passports, photographs CD's. Birth Certificates, Family heirlooms or items that can't be purchased again.

If the items you want to protect are needed on a daily basis have them in a place that is very accessible and can be grabbed in a short moment and thrown in the car. Important papers can be stored in a drawer in a desk and can be pulled out and put in the car upon leaving.

These items would be a change of clothes toilet, article kits – medications etc. a portable phone.

Plan an escape route – make sure your vehicle has plenty of gas in it or some extra gas in the garage. Your escape route should work with where the fire is, don't get locked into the four lane for the fire may have jumped the road already making the escape near impossible. Especially if people in the local camp grounds get word of the fire and pack up and head for the four-lane, remember you have a leg up on the people visiting here and you are aware of where certain roads go to and how safe they may be.

It may be difficult to get out of Dogwood as the road heading towards the four lane may be pack so you may have to turn right and go with the flow and the first opportunity to head the other way could get you to your get away point. The lake is a very large body of water and could give you protection from the advancing fire — you may even have a boat that is located there or could rent one to go out on the lake till the fire passes.

KNOW WHERE THE FIRE IS AT ALL TIMES AND ADJUST YOUR PLANS ACCORDINGLY. The following are people that may have first hand knowledge of the fire conditions —wind direction or other information that would help you stay safe.

Fire conditions and locations – this is a low priority number and you could get put on hold 559-294-6825 be patient.

Sheriff Dispatcher 559-488-3111

Fire dispatcher 559294-2009

Sierra Nat. Forest dispatcher 559-269-2259

Dinky Creek CDF 559-841-3360