RESPONSE TO GRAND JURY REPORT FORM

Report Title: Wildfires – Partners in Prevention

Report Date: June 24, 2003

Response by: Anita Tyrrell-Brown **Title:** Acting Chief

FINDINGS

- I agree with the findings numbered: 1, 2, 4 and 7. I am unfamiliar with finding 3.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- While I agree that recommendation ***1*** would strongly encourage private landowners to maintain defensible space around their properties, the Bolinas Fire Protection District has been unable to aggressively enforce and cite landowners for several reasons. Being a mostly volunteer department we do not have the staff or the funds to implement such a program. It is important to us to maintain a friendly, open relationship with the public that we serve and to not set an adversarial tone. We would prefer to educate the residents, and use citations only when necessary. Many residents are unable to comply with 4291 due to lack of funding to have the work done. The District has been pursuing grant monies to help with hazardous fuel mitigation in neighborhoods and would like to work with surrounding fire agencies on an overall program.

- Recommendation ***2*** will be implemented into our current grade school prevention program. We are currently seeking funding to implement a program for neighborhoods.

- I am not familiar with the implications of recommendation ***3*** but our District would avail itself of the resource should it become available.

- Recommendation ***4*** is a procedure we follow currently. In coordination with Marin County Fire Department and Bay Area Air Quality, we only authorize prescribed burns of vegetation waste in our area for fuel hazard reduction when there are no other alternatives and all safety requirements are met.

- Recommendation ***7***: The Bolinas Fire Protection District would participate in such meetings.