

# South Lane County Fire & Rescue

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January 10, 2023

To: Lane County Commissioners

Dear Commissioners:

The Row River Valley Special Fire District Committee is working to create a Special Fire District protecting the communities of Dorena, Culp Creek, and Disston. These communities neighbor the South Lane Fire District and are in a river valley much like the McKenzie River Valley which burned two years ago in the Holiday Farm Fire destroying countless homes and businesses.

The Row River Valley has little or no fire protection. As a neighbor, the South Lane Fire District does what it can to help; but we are simply too far away to provide effective coverage. And so, the Special Fire District Committee is proactively working to protect their homes and the surrounding forests.

The need to establish a legal entity for the purpose of providing fire protection to the upper Row River area has been demonstrated over and over. On behalf of the Board and I, please consider funding the grant request to help get fire protection formally established in the upper Row River area.

Sincerely,

***John R Wooten***

John Wooten, M.S.  
Fire Chief

***"We protect life, property and the environment through quality service"***