

**DATE:** 02/15/19

**BALLOT NUMBER:** BB19-01

**SUBJECT:** Donation

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**REQUESTED BY:** Vicki Jo Harrison, RD, South Central and Liz Hansen, RD, Great Lakes

**BALLOT:** TICA shall support the feline victims of the wildfires of the Mid Pacific Region with an amount of \$2,000 US to a rescue group in the Region. \$2,000 will be donated to the FieldHaven Feline Center in Lincoln, CA (Tax ID 300240425).

**RATIONALE:** In November, the Camp Fire, which has been recorded as the most deadly and destructive wildfire in history, has left more pets in shelters than people (ABC News, November 22, 2018). More than 12,000 homes were destroyed, tens of thousands of people were displaced and an estimated 50,000+ animals impacted. Many of those displaced animals needed extensive medical treatment, along with housing. During the fire, people fled for their lives or were not home at the time and could not return. In most cases, they had no time to search for their pets. In the weeks following the fire, over 1,000 cats were rescued but it is estimated there are hundreds of cats still in need of rescue. FieldHaven operated an evacuation center for cats in Sutter County for over three weeks starting on the day of the fire. That facility was closed on November 30. Since then FieldHaven has been working with individuals and groups, assisting in reuniting trapped cats with their family. With the announced closure of the emergency pet shelters in Butte County there is a need for ongoing support. Much of the work thus far has concentrated on finding lost pets and returning them to their family, they will also prioritize meeting the needs of community cats. Community cats, sometimes called feral cats, are unowned and live in their outdoor homes. "Untold numbers of community cats have been displaced or injured by the fires," Robinson said. "We will work to find them and ensure they will receive medical treatment and ongoing care into the future." FieldHaven Feline has partnered with Alley Cat Allies to create a Recovery Center. The Recovery Center is a shelter for cats that are continuing to be rescued from the burn areas. Trappers who rescue cats and are not able to immediately identify the owner can bring the cats to the Recovery Center. They will be sheltered and receive any necessary medical attention. See more about the fires and FieldHaven's assistance to the cats in need: <https://youtu.be/J5BpkXsrxK0>.

**YES** - Antenucci, Brooks, Corneille, Faccioli, Hansen, Harrison, Hutcherson, Kuo, Kuroda, Mahan, Mullem, Rudge, Stadter

**NO** - Crockett, Lawson

**NON VOTING:** Fisher

**COMMENTS FOR THE TREND:**

TA: TICA is an international feline advocacy body that promotes that health and welfare of cats around the world; a fiduciary responsibility clearly outlined in our mission statement. As such, we need to consider how we can contribute to efforts such as this on a fair, consistent and global basis. I vote in favour of this ballot - as a starting point for further discussion on how we can logistically and financially contribute to feline welfare efforts in all regions, on an equitable basis, moving forward.