

United States Forest Service  
Firefighter Use of Marble Mountain Ranch  
Marble Mountain Ranch-Cole Public Hearing

I David Markin and hold the position of District Fire Management Officer with the United States Forest Service (or other agency the person works for). As part of our fire suppression efforts, we have used in the past and presently use Marble Mountain Ranch (“Ranch”), owned and operated by Douglas and Heidi Cole, as a base of operations. As part of those activities we use water from the diversion ditch that provides water to the Ranch at its full capacity of three (3) cubic feet per second (“cfs”). The Ranch also serves as a staging and lodging area for crews of firefighters when needed.

Signed on this 30 day of September, 2017.

By: /s/ David Markin

Title: DFMO

## Kerry Fuller

---

**From:** Marble Mountain Ranch <guestranch@marblemountainranch.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 02, 2017 12:05 PM  
**To:** Kerry Fuller  
**Subject:** Fwd: documenting use at Marble Mountain Ranch

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Coots, Curtis H -FS" <[chcoots@fs.fed.us](mailto:chcoots@fs.fed.us)>  
**Subject:** RE: documenting use at Marble Mountain Ranch  
**Date:** October 2, 2017 at 11:49:55 AM PDT  
**To:** Marble Mountain Ranch <[guestranch@marblemountainranch.com](mailto:guestranch@marblemountainranch.com)>

Greetings Doug,

Thank you for allowing my team to set up water drafting equipment on your property. Although we did not use any water, we were ready to provide structure protection defense measures during the Orleans Complex. The dates of our teams deployment was September 6<sup>th</sup> through September 20<sup>th</sup> 2017. The fire was close to your property as it backed down from the eastern slope and our immediate concern was to set up hose lays and tanks around your property. We were able to eventually go direct with fireline construction above your property. Hope this helps you with your future endeavors..



**Curtis H. Coots**  
**Forest Fire Management Officer**  
**Forest Service**  
Mendocino National Forest  
Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument

p: 530-934-1155 x1155

c: 530-305-9805

f: 530-934-2326

[chcoots@fs.fed.us](mailto:chcoots@fs.fed.us)

825 N. Humboldt Ave

Willows, CA 95988

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



Caring for the land and serving people

---

**From:** Marble Mountain Ranch [<mailto:guestranch@marblemountainranch.com>]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 29, 2017 6:28 PM  
**To:** Coots, Curtis H -FS <[chcoots@fs.fed.us](mailto:chcoots@fs.fed.us)>  
**Subject:** documenting use at Marble Mountain Ranch

Hi Curtis, I hope your current assignment is going well for you.

We have a longstanding conflict with the California Water Board over our existence here at Marble Mountain Ranch. In a nutshell, I need to document beneficial uses of the water that we divert in operation of our ranch.

One of the noteworthy beneficial uses I claim is that we provide support service to the USFS in the course of fire suppression. Historically, this has been through providing helitech facilities, lodging and camping facilities, meal service, laundry services, and access to water for re-filling engines, water tenders, and pumping for direct suppression efforts.

This last year in particular, while we did not provide any meals or lodging related services, we did allow access to our ditch and pond for the purpose of pumping to the hose lines laid around the ranch and up the Marble fire lines. The ditch was used daily for refilling water tenders and engines and priming the hose lays.

I have a need to immediately document this activity for presentation to the water board as one of our beneficial uses. Do you think you can sign the enclosed document as a person in authority that can witness these uses? We bring our ditch to its full capacity of 3 cfs when we pump from it for fire suppression or need to fill the ranch with fire crews occupants. This is a document I need to submit by Monday noon.

Here is the document:

Thanks in advance,  
Doug Cole

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.