

Georgia Forestry Commission

5003 Jacksonville Highway Waycross, Georgia 31503 Phone (912) 287-4915 / Fax (912) 284-2911 bcampbell@gfc.state.ga.us May 28, 2010 Sonny Perdue Governor

Robert Farris Director

Mr. Steve Johnson, Kut Kwick Corp. 1927 Newcastle Street Brunswick, Georgia 31520

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am writing this letter to express my appreciation for the work carried out by Kut Kwick in reducing hazardous fuels on properties within and along the perimeter of the Astoria Community in Ware County. The operator of the Kut Kwick machinery, Jimmy Hall, worked several days on this project and represented your company in an excellent manner.

The Georgia Forestry Commission obtained an American Reinvestment and Recovery Grant from the USDA Forest Service to reduce hazardous fuels in communities that were impacted by the 2007 Georgia Bay Complex Wildfire. Since Astoria had a very high rating of risk from wildfires, this community was chosen for treatment.

Underbrushing was carried out in a variety of conditions in forested areas and on lots within the community. Light fuels such as grasses and weeds were found on some sites; other sites had very heavy brush such as gallberry, palmetto, waxmyrtle, and vines. The Kut Kwick Brushmaster was versatile under all of these conditions and completed the hazardous fuel reduction on approximately 78 acres.

As a result of this operation, these sites can be evaluated next winter for prescribed burning since the vegetation has been reduced and lowered away from the tree canopies. In addition, landowners will have an opportunity to maintain some of these sites with smaller mowers since the dense vegetation and selected trees have been cut.

Please send me a list of Kut Kwick vendors who carry out underbrushing – we would like for them to bid on future hazardous fuel reduction projects. By donating this work in the Astoria Community, we will be able to carry out more fuel reduction projects in Ware County.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Campbell,

Fire Mitigation Specialist

cc: Ms. Gail Barron Boyd, Ware County Manager Mr. Nickie Jordan, Ware County Chief Ranger

Pobert F. Campbell