



**MEMORANDUM  
OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
COUNTY OF PLACER**

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** David Boesch, County Executive Officer  
By: Brett Storey, Senior Management Analyst

**DATE:** April 07, 2015

**SUBJECT: FUEL REDUCTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FUNDING  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2015 AND 2014 RESULTS**

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approve staff funding recommendations related to the Fuel Reduction Management Program and authorize the County Executive to negotiate and sign funding agreements with recommended agencies in an amount not to exceed \$96,000. Funding for these requests is available pursuant to the Middle Fork Project (MFP) Memorandum of Agreement with Placer County Water Agency, at no net County cost. In addition, the results from the completed projects in 2014 are attached for the BOS review.

**BACKGROUND**

At the June 3, 2014 Board of Supervisors meeting, your Board approved the Fuel Reduction Management (FRM) Program. The FRM program will award available funds to projects that perform fuel management activities supporting a reduction in potential fire in the MFP nexus area. This area is a critical forested watershed and protection of it is of paramount importance. The FRM program allows for the application period to be twice annually; once in January and one in June. This allows each organization the opportunity to obtain the required contributing funds based upon known other grant timelines.

The MFP is a multi-purpose water supply and hydro-generation project designed to conserve and control waters of the Middle Fork American River, the Rubicon River, and several associated tributary streams. Beginning in 2014, and for the duration of the federal license for the MFP, an annual amount of funds will be made available to organizations that propose projects or have programs that 1) have a direct nexus to the project area and 2) show the potential to reduce fire danger through some form of fuel management projects. Staff anticipates the ability to fund projects to a not to exceed total of \$150,000 for 2015.

**RECOMMENDATION FUNDING SUMMARY**

The following two projects have been found to meet all of the FRM criteria and directly support the MFP area for fuel reduction and are recommended for funding by staff for this first phase of the program during 2015:

- 1) Foresthill/Iowa Hill Firesafe Council: \$48,000 for MFP portion of Mosquito Ridge Shaded Fuel Break

- 2) Foresthill/Iowa Hill Firesafe Council: \$48,000 for MFP portion of Todd Valley Pond Shaded Fuel Break

The total recommended funding of the first phase for the FRM program projects for 2015 is \$96,000. Remaining unallocated funds will remain in the account and be made available for the second phase funding requests.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no net County cost associated with the action requested. The funds related to MFP nexus "projects" are available in the Community and Agency Support appropriation as part of the approved FY 2014-15 Budget.

cc: Holly Heinzen, Chief Assistant CEO  
Rob Sandman, Deputy County Counsel

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Fuel Reduction Management Program Recommendations for 2015
- Marina Project Final Report
- Tamaroo Project Final Report
- Baltimore Mine I Project Final Report
- Baltimore Mine II Project Final Report



Middle Fork Project Area Fuel Reduction Program

***Fuel Reduction Management Program Recommendations for 2015***

***Background:*** The Placer County Board of Supervisors adopted the Fuel Reduction Management (FRM) Program in 2014 to implement a program that funds projects that perform fuel management activities that support a reduction in potential fire in the Middle Fork Project (MFP) nexus area. The funding available is pursuant to the Middle Fork Project Memorandum of Agreement with Placer County Water Agency and based upon a nexus to the MFP area.

***Process:*** The BOS Adopted FRM program allows for the application period to be twice annually; once in January and one in June. Two applications were received by one organizations and were reviewed by a joint County/PCWA staff panel and the following recommendations for projects have been proposed.

***Individual Projects Recommendations:*** The following projects were reviewed by staff to meet all FRM program qualifications and are recommended for funding in the FRM Program. Staff is recommending a total of \$96,000 in funding to the Placer County Board of Supervisors.

**Project Recommendation #1**

Title: Mosquito Ridge Shaded Fuel Break

Applicant: Foresthill/Iowa Hill Firesafe Council

County Plan project references: 1) Western Slope Placer County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), 2) DMA 2000 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (FEMA approved), 3) Cal Fires unit fire plan, and 4) the Foresthill/Iowa Hill Risk Assessment Mitigation Systems Plan.

Total Project Cost: \$120,000

Application agency contribution: \$72,000

Request of funds: \$49,500

**Recommendation of funds: \$48,000 (maximum amount 40% of total project)**

Summary of Project: This project will construct a modified shaded fuel break: a defensible location to be used by fire suppression resources in the control of oncoming wildfires and



### Middle Fork Project Area Fuel Reduction Program

prevent wildfire spread by removing hazardous fuels in a tactical area just east of the historical town of Foresthill and above Mosquito Ridge Rd.. The shaded fuel break, approximately 25 acres will be constructed on private lands adjacent to Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) lands, U.S. Forest Service Tahoe National Forest (USFS) lands and the PCWA Middle Fork Project area. Property valued at greater than \$853 million dollars will be protected once this fuel break is completed. Fire Safe and defensible space information will be distributed to over 7000 residents in these communities. The project will demonstrate landscape scale community protection in our area, including publication and presentation of methods and results.

### **Project Recommendation #2**

Title: Todd Valley Pond Shaded Fuel Break

Applicant: Foresthill/Iowa Hill Firesafe Council

County Plan project references: 1) Western Slope Placer County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), 2) DMA 2000 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (FEMA approved), 3) Cal Fires unit fire plan, and 4) the Foresthill/Iowa Hill Risk Assessment Mitigation Systems Plan.

Total Project Cost: \$120,000

Application agency contribution: \$72,000

Request of funds: \$49,500

**Recommendation of funds: \$48,000 (maximum amount 40% of total project)**

Summary of Project: This project will construct a modified shaded fuel break: a defensible location to be used by fire suppression resources in the control of oncoming wildfires and prevent wildfire spread by removing hazardous fuels in a tactical area in the vicinity the Todd Valley Pond south of Foresthill. The shaded fuel break, approximately 25 acres will be constructed on private lands adjacent to Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) lands, U.S. Forest Service Tahoe National Forest (USFS) lands and the PCWA Middle Fork Project area. Property valued at greater than \$853 million dollars will be protected once this fuel break is completed. Fire Safe and defensible space information will be distributed to over 7000 residents in these communities. The project will demonstrate landscape scale community protection in our area, including publication and presentation of methods and results.

**Individual Projects declined:** There were no applications declined during this first phase of 2015.

**MFP Nexus area Fuel Reduction Management Funding program  
Project Completion Report**

**Grantee Name:** City of Auburn Fire Department

**Project title:** American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break-Marina Drainage

**Submittal Date:** 12/20/2014

**Report Preparer:** Mark D'Ambrogi Phone #: 530-823-4211

**Report Summary:**

All ground work has been completed using allocated funds for the project. This includes hand crew work for vegetation removal, tree cutting, chipping of removed products, staff coordination, oversight of project, and grant administration. Meetings were conducted prior to the start of the project with stakeholders and four (4) property owners. A post project meeting was conducted to review outcomes of the project and to evaluate future approaches to maintenance of the project and the responsibility of each land owner.

**Deliverables or Outcomes Achieved:**

Approximately 5.5 acres received treatment in some form or another and it is estimated that 45% of the fuel loading has been reduced in the project area. The project was completed over a five (5) day period where weather provided ideal conditions for work to be performed. This project enabled a contiguous application of the American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break that was applied to adjacent Public Lands funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy of which is contiguous to each one of the four properties.

**Actual Costs and Budgeted Costs:**

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>MFP Project Dollars</b>	<b>Actual Dollars Spent</b>	<b>In-Kind Dollars</b>
Contractor- Vegetation removal and chipping services	\$21,000.00	\$21,000.00	
Administrative Expenses			\$2000.00
SNC Project #567			\$36,000.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,000.00</b>	<b>\$21,000.00</b>	<b>\$38,000.00</b>

**Capacity-Building Results and Collaboration and Cooperation with Stakeholders:**

This project achievement was directly a result of the collaborative effort on multiple government agencies and the private citizens and organizations of the community. The American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break is a well-known “item” and more importantly its value to the community in fire protection, watershed enhancement, cultural preservation, and recreational enhancement. This project brought in another stakeholder element; the County of Placer through the Middle Fork Project Fuel Reduction Management Funding Program. This now brings a collaboration of the following agencies committed to the American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break: Auburn Fire, Cal Fire, State Parks, Bureau of Reclamation, the Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, County of Placer and Placer County Water Agency.

**Overview of Treated Lands**



The private lands as identified above were treated during this project  
Public Lands have been treated through SNC #567 project

**Photos of Marina Project 2014**

Marina Project 2014

Top of project looking south (Bottom of project meets the BOR Shaded Fuel Break)

**Before**



**After**



Marina Project 2104  
Mid Project looking north

**Before**



**After**



**Marina Project 2014**

**Bottom of project looking west (Bottom of project meets the BOR Shaded Fuel Break)**

**Before**



**After**



**MFP Nexus area Fuel Reduction Management Funding program  
Project Completion Report**

**Grantee Name:** City of Auburn Fire Department

**Project title:** American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break-Tamaroo Drainage

**Submittal Date:** 10/07/2014

**Report Preparer:** Mark D'Ambrogi Phone #: 530-823-4211

**Report Summary:**

All ground work has been completed using allocated funds for the project. This includes hand crew work for vegetation removal and chipping of removed products, staff coordination and oversight of project, and grant administration. Meetings were conducted prior to the start of the project with stakeholders and property owner. A post project meeting was conducted to review outcomes of the project and to evaluate future approaches to maintenance of the project.

**Deliverables or Outcomes Achieved:**

Approximately 4 acres received treatment in some form or another and it is estimated that 50% of the fuel loading has been reduced in the project area. The project was completed over a three (3) day period where weather provided ideal conditions for work to be performed. This project enabled a contiguous application of the American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break that was applied to adjacent Public Lands funded by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

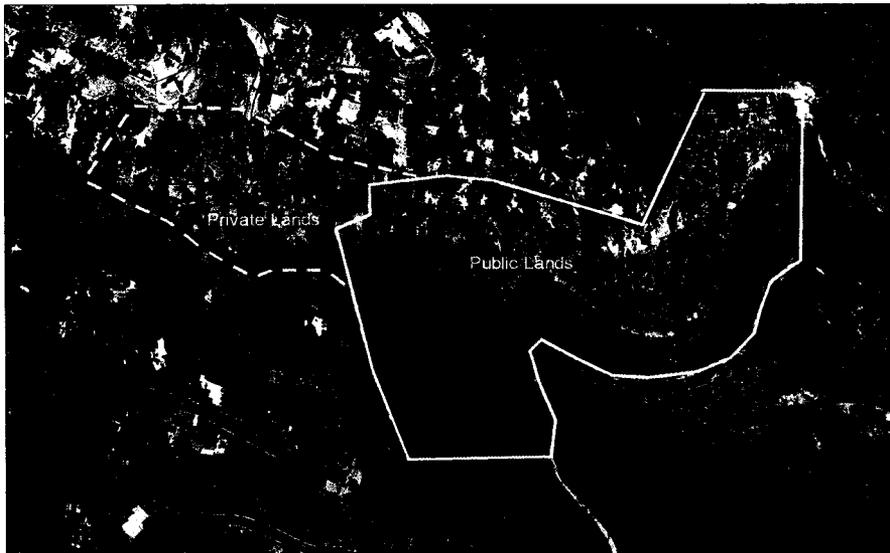
**Actual Costs and Budgeted Costs:**

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>MFP Project Dollars</b>	<b>Actual Dollars Spent</b>	<b>In-Kind Dollars</b>
Contractor- Vegetation removal and chipping services	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00	
Administrative Expenses			\$900.00
SNC Project #567			\$32,000.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>\$11,000.00</b>	<b>\$32,900.00</b>

**Capacity-Building Results and Collaboration and Cooperation with Stakeholders:**

This project achievement was directly a result of the collaborative effort on multiple government agencies and the private citizens and organizations of the community. The American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break is a well-known “item” and more importantly its value to the community in fire protection, watershed enhancement, cultural preservation, and recreational enhancement. This project brought in another stakeholder element; the County of Placer through the Middle Fork Project Fuel Reduction Management Funding Program. This now brings a collaboration of the following agencies committed to the American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break: Auburn Fire, Cal Fire, State Parks, Bureau of Reclamation, the Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council, Sierra Nevada Conservancy, County of Placer and Placer County Water Agency.

**Overview of Treated Lands**



The private lands as identified above were treated during this project

**Photos of Tamaroo Project 2014**



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Top of project looking south (Bottom of project meets the BOR Shaded Fuel Break)



Tamaroo Project 2104  
Bottom of project looking north



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Bottom of project looking north (Before)



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Bottom of project looking north (After)



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Top of project looking south (Before)



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Top of project looking south (After)



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Middle of project up the Tamaroo draw (Before)



Tamaroo Project 2014  
Middle of project up the Tamaroo draw (After)

# MFP Nexus area Fuel Reduction Management Funding program

## Project Completion Report

**Grantee Name:** Iowa Hill Community Club

**Project title:** Baltimore Mine I

**Submittal Date:** 12/30/2014

**Report Preparer:** Luana R Dowling      **Phone #:** 530-367-6159

### Report Summary:

All ground work has been completed using allocated funds for the project. This includes mastication and hand crew work for vegetation removal and chipping of removed products, CEQA documents, project management and oversight of project, and grant administration. Meetings were conducted by the Foresthill/Iowa Hill FSC, prior to the start of the project with stakeholders and property owners. A post project meeting was conducted to review outcomes of the project and to evaluate future approaches to maintenance of the project.

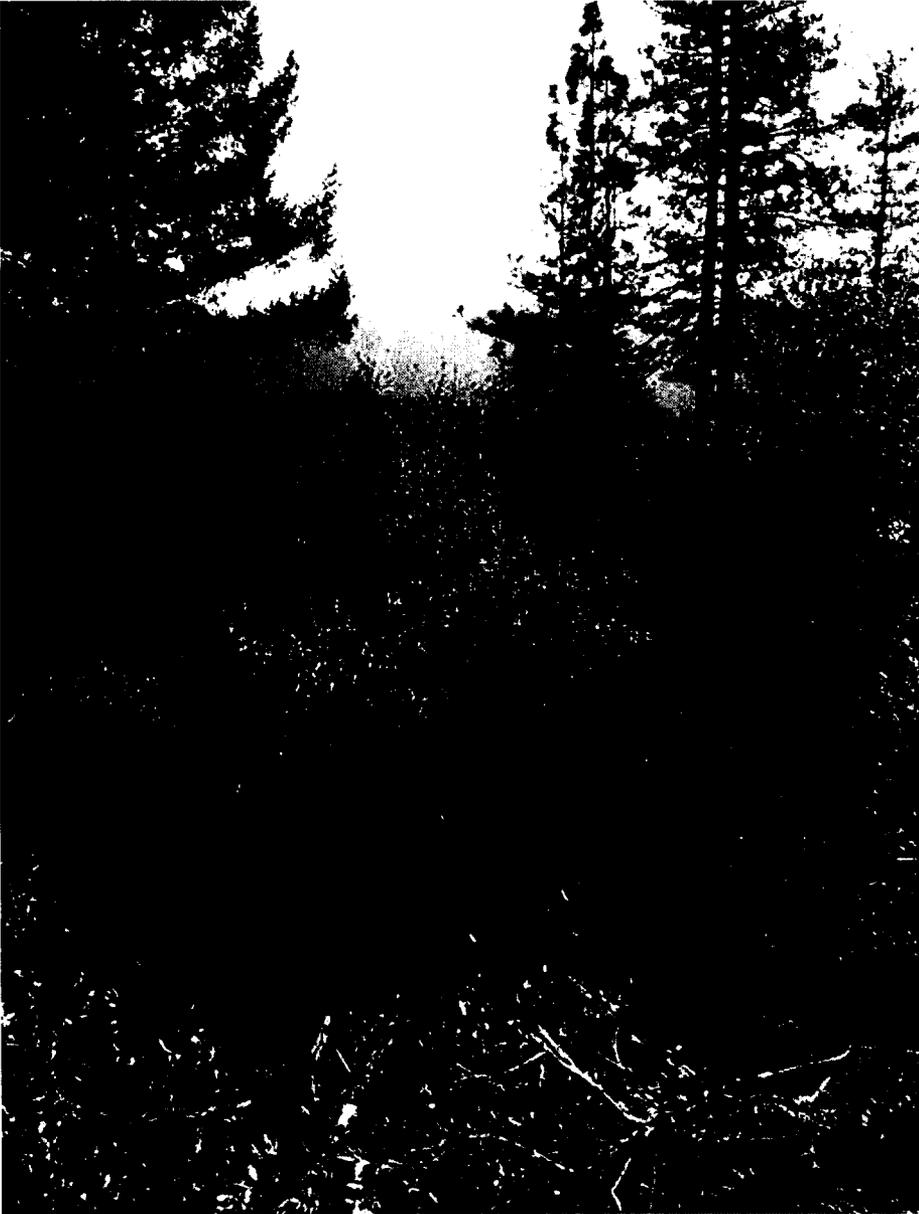
### Deliverables or Outcomes Achieved:

Approximately 35 acres received treatment via mastication and hand work, it is estimated that 75% of the fuel loading has been reduced in the project area. The project was completed over a 60 day period where weather provided ideal conditions for work to be performed. This project enabled a contiguous application of the Pipeline I Shaded Fuel Break that was applied to adjacent Private Lands funded by a grant from the California Firesafe Council Clearinghouse with BLM funds and the Pipeline II Shaded Fuel Break funded by a grant from PG&E.

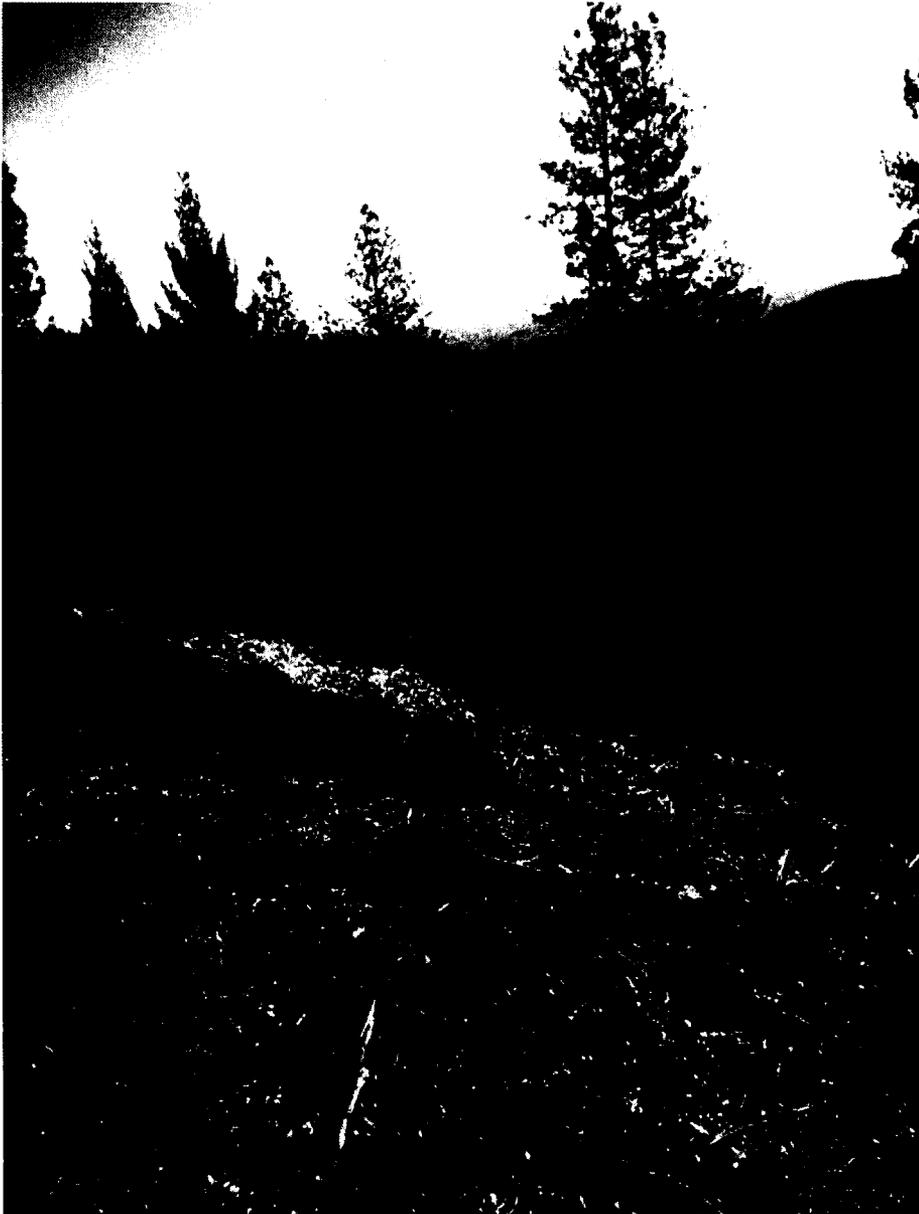
### Actual Costs and Budgeted Costs:

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	MFP Project Dollars	Actual Dollars Spent	In-Kind Dollars
Contractor- Vegetation removal and chipping services	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	
Environmental and Cultural Reports compliant with CEQA	\$5,290.23	\$5,290.23	
Project Management and Administrative Expenses	\$4,709.77	\$4,709.77	
Property Owner expense, NRCS grant funds and BLM grant funds			\$67,500.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$67,500.00</b>





Unit 1: Baltimore Mine I Project 2014: North End of Project above the Middle Fork American River and East of Foresthill Rd. at Baltimore Mine Rd. (Before)



Unit 1: Baltimore Mine I Project 2014: North End of Project above the Middle Fork American River and East of Foresthill Rd. Baltimore Mine Rd. (After)



Unit 1: Baltimore Mine I Project 2014: Just north of Worton's Market parking Lot (Before)



Unit 1: Baltimore Mine I Project 2014: Just north of Worton's Market parking Lot (After)



Unit 1: Baltimore Mine I Project 2014: Looking East toward the Middle Fork American River (Before)



Unit 1: Baltimore Mine I Project 2014: Looking East toward the Middle Fork American River (After)

# MFP Nexus area Fuel Reduction Management Funding program

## Project Completion Report

**Grantee Name:** Iowa Hill Community Club

**Project title:** Baltimore Mine II

**Submittal Date:** 12/30/2014

**Report Preparer:** Luana R Dowling      **Phone #:** 530-367-6159

### Report Summary:

All ground work has been completed using allocated funds for the project. This includes mastication and hand crew work for vegetation removal and chipping of removed products, CEQA documents, project management and oversight of project, and grant administration. Meetings were conducted by the Foresthill/Iowa Hill FSC, prior to the start of the project with stakeholders and property owners. A post project meeting was conducted to review outcomes of the project and to evaluate future approaches to maintenance of the project.

### Deliverables or Outcomes Achieved:

Approximately 35 acres received treatment via mastication and hand work, it is estimated that 75% of the fuel loading has been reduced in the project area. The project was completed over a 60 day period where weather provided ideal conditions for work to be performed. This project enabled a contiguous application of the Pipeline I Shaded Fuel Break that was applied to adjacent Private Lands funded by a grant from the California Firesafe Council Clearinghouse with BLM funds and the Pipeline II Shaded Fuel Break funded by a grant from PG&E.

### Actual Costs and

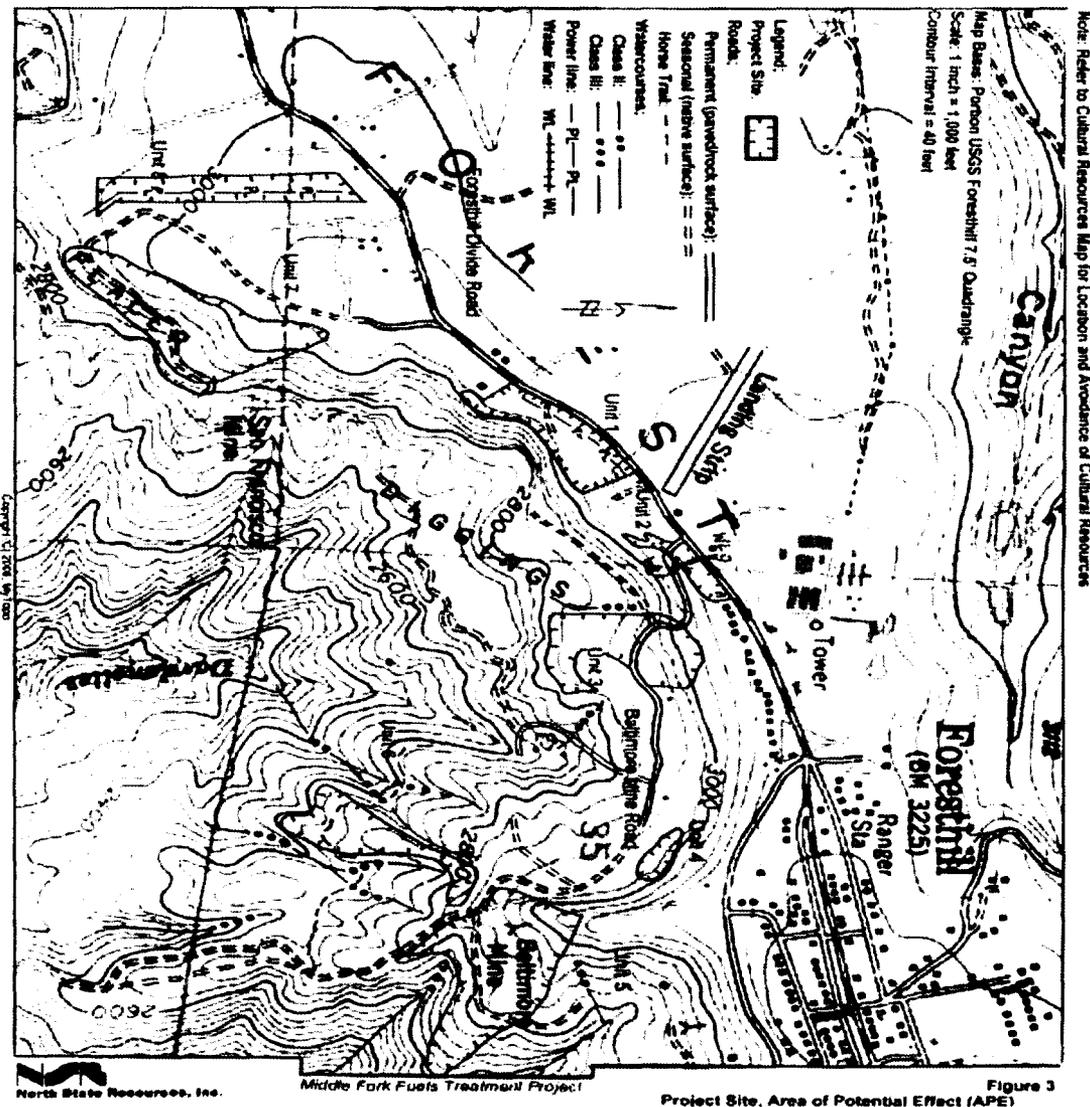
### Budgeted Costs:

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	MFP Project Dollars	Actual Dollars Spent	In-Kind Dollars
Contractor- Vegetation removal and chipping services	\$35,000.00	\$35,000.00	
Environmental and Cultural Reports compliant with CEQA	\$5,290.23	\$5,290.23	
Project Management and Administrative Expenses	\$4,709.77	\$4,709.77	
Property Owner expense, NRCS grant funds and BLM grant funds			\$67,500.00
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$45,000.00</b>	<b>\$67,500.00</b>

**Capacity-Building Results and Collaboration and Cooperation with Stakeholders:**

This project achievement was directly a result of the collaborative effort on multiple government agencies and the private citizens and organizations of the community. This project is a continuation of several strategically placed Shaded Fuel Breaks, more importantly its value to the community in fire protection, watershed enhancement, and cultural preservation.

This project brought in another stakeholder element; the County of Placer through the Middle Fork Project Fuel Reduction Management Funding Program. This now brings a collaboration of the following agencies committed to these Shaded Fuel Breaks: Foresthill/Iowa Hill Fire Safe Council, Cal Fire, Foresthill Fire Protection District, USFS American River Ranger District, Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, Pacific Gas and Electric, County of Placer and Placer County Water Agency.





Unit 7: Baltimore Mine II Project 2014: North End of Project above the Middle Fork American River and East of Foresthill Rd. at Sierra View. (Before)



Unit 7: Baltimore Mine II Project 2014: North End of Project above the Middle Fork American River and East of Foresthill Rd. at Sierra View. (After)



Unit 8: Baltimore Mine II Project 2014: Clark Property South of Foresthill Middle School (Before)



Unit 8: Baltimore Mine II Project 2014: Clark Property South of Foresthill Middle School (After)



Unit 7: Baltimore Mine II Project 2014: Between USFS American River Ranger District and the Middle Fork American River. (Before)



Unit 7: Baltimore Mine II Project 2014: Between American River Ranger District and the Middle Fork American River. (After)