



# CALFIRE FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES IN EL DORADO COUNTY

El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Meeting  
Tuesday January 15, 2019





# CALFIRE FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

- ▶ Fuels Reduction Projects
- ▶ Defensible Space Inspections (PRC 4291) & Fire Prevention Education
- ▶ Prevention Signs
- ▶ Forest Practice Enforcement





# Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ County Tree Mortality Mitigation –

Pursuant to the Governor’s Emergency Declaration on October 30, 2015 Directive #2.

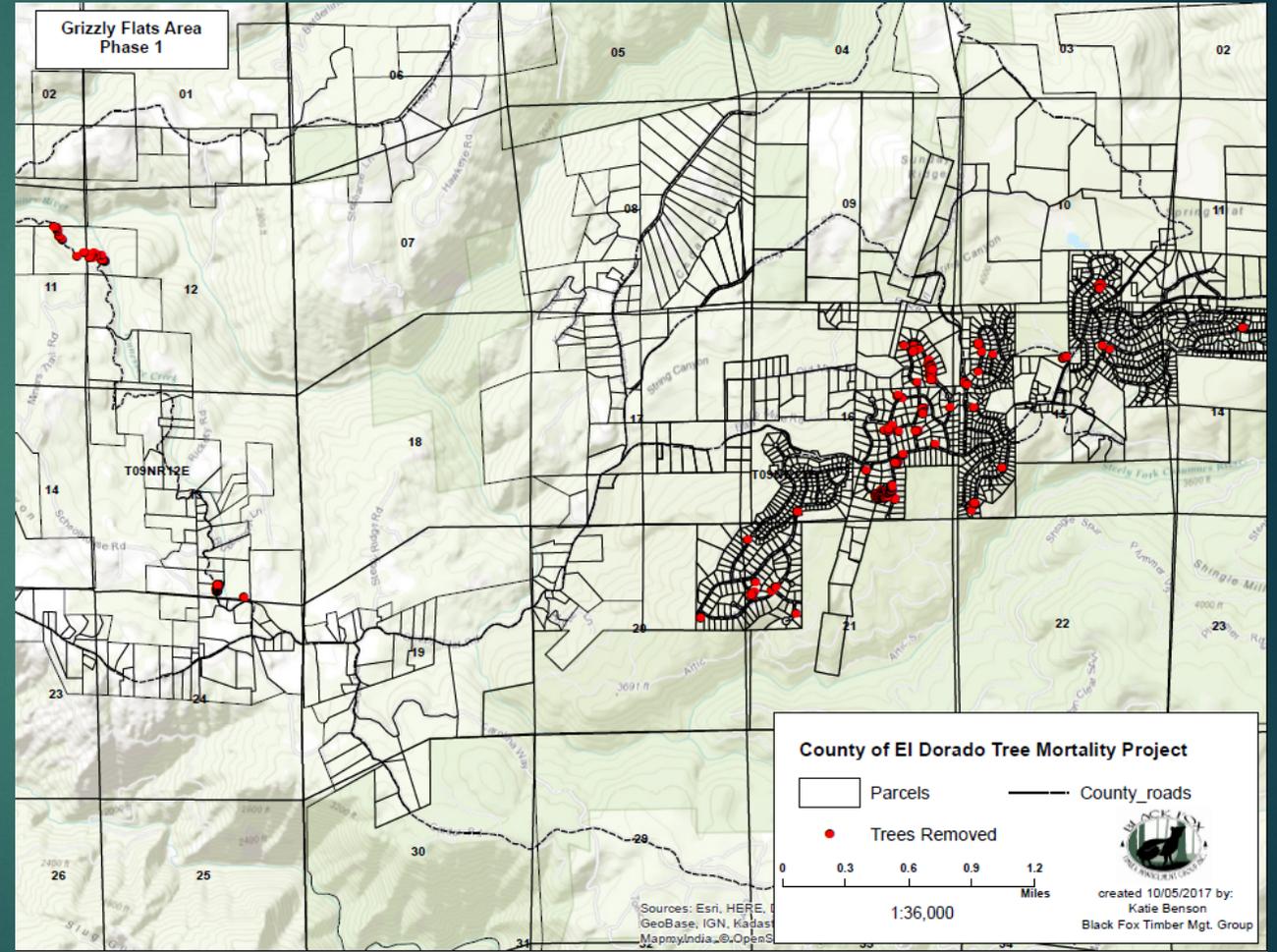
- ▶ *“Directs that available resources be used to help remove dead and dying trees that pose threats to life safety and critical infrastructure.”*





# Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ Growlersburg Camp crews assist County Tree Mortality Contractor (Black Fox Timber Management) with tree slash mitigation resulting from the removal of dead and dying trees. Fuels treatment mitigation consists of piling and burning, chipping and/or mastication.
- ▶ Phase 1 – Grizzly Flats Area
- ▶ Phase II – Grizzly Flats Area
- ▶ Phase III – Camino Area





## Fuels Reduction Projects

### Vegetation Management Plans (VMPs)

- ▶ The Vegetation Management Program (VMP) is a cost-share cooperative program that focuses on the use of prescribed fire, and mechanical means, for addressing wildland fire fuel hazards, firefighter training and resource management issues (noxious weed reduction) on State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands.
- ▶ VMP allows private landowners and other cooperators to enter into a contract with CAL FIRE to use fuels treatments to accomplish a combination of fire protection and resource management goals. Implementation of VMP projects is by CAL FIRE Units.
- ▶ **VMPs are approved for a 10 year period**, then must be renewed.



Currently CAL FIRE has 4 active VMPs (10,723 acres), 1 (Ladies Valley - renewal) and 3 proposed for development (Blodgett, Shake Omo & Tahoe) in EL Dorado County

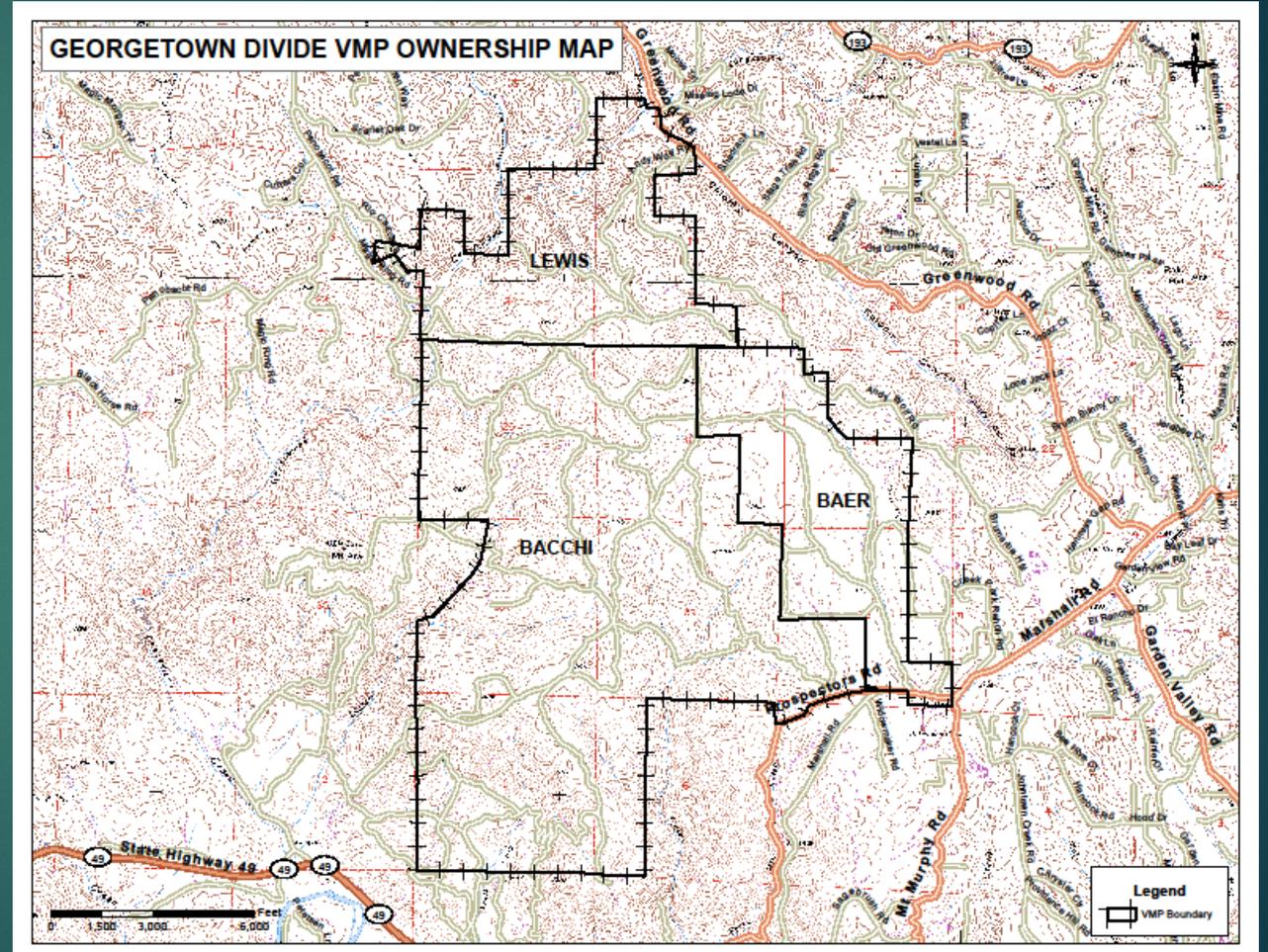




# Fuels Reduction Projects

## Georgetown Divide VMP

- ▶ Cooperators: Bacchi, Lewis and Baer Families
- ▶ Active for 8 years
- ▶ Total project area is 4888 acres
- ▶ Total acres treated 1045
- ▶ Expires November 1, 2019
- ▶ Vegetation/fuel type – grass, brush and timber
- ▶ Battalion 2
- ▶ Heavy Fire Equipment Operator (HFEO) training class.





# Fuels Reduction Projects

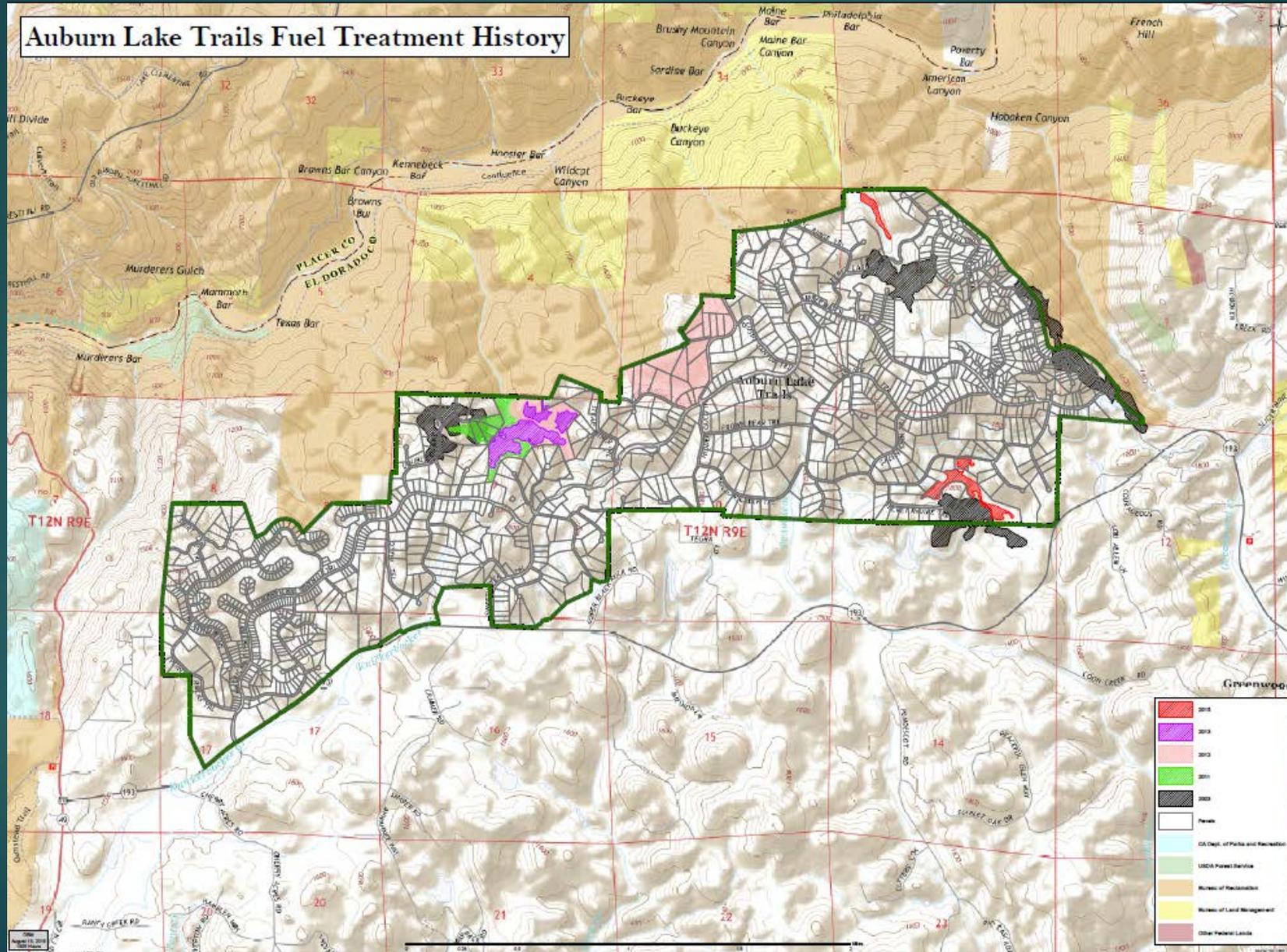
## Auburn Lake Trails VMP

- ▶ Cooperators – Auburn Lake Trails Homeowners Association – private landowners
- ▶ Active for 19 years
- ▶ Total project area is 426 acres
- ▶ Total acres treated 100
- ▶ Expires May 31, 2019
- ▶ Vegetation/fuel type – Chaparral / Oak Woodland
- ▶ Battalion 2
- ▶ **California Conservation Corps (3C's)**





# Fuels Reduction Projects





# Fuels Reduction Projects





# Fuels Reduction Projects

## Lyons VMP

- ▶ Cooperators - Lyons Family
- ▶ Active for 2 years
- ▶ Total project area is 1500 acres
- ▶ Total acres treated 110
- ▶ Expires March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020
- ▶ Vegetation/fuel type  
Oak/brush
- ▶ Battalion 2
- ▶ **California Conservation Corps (3C's)**







# Fuels Reduction Projects

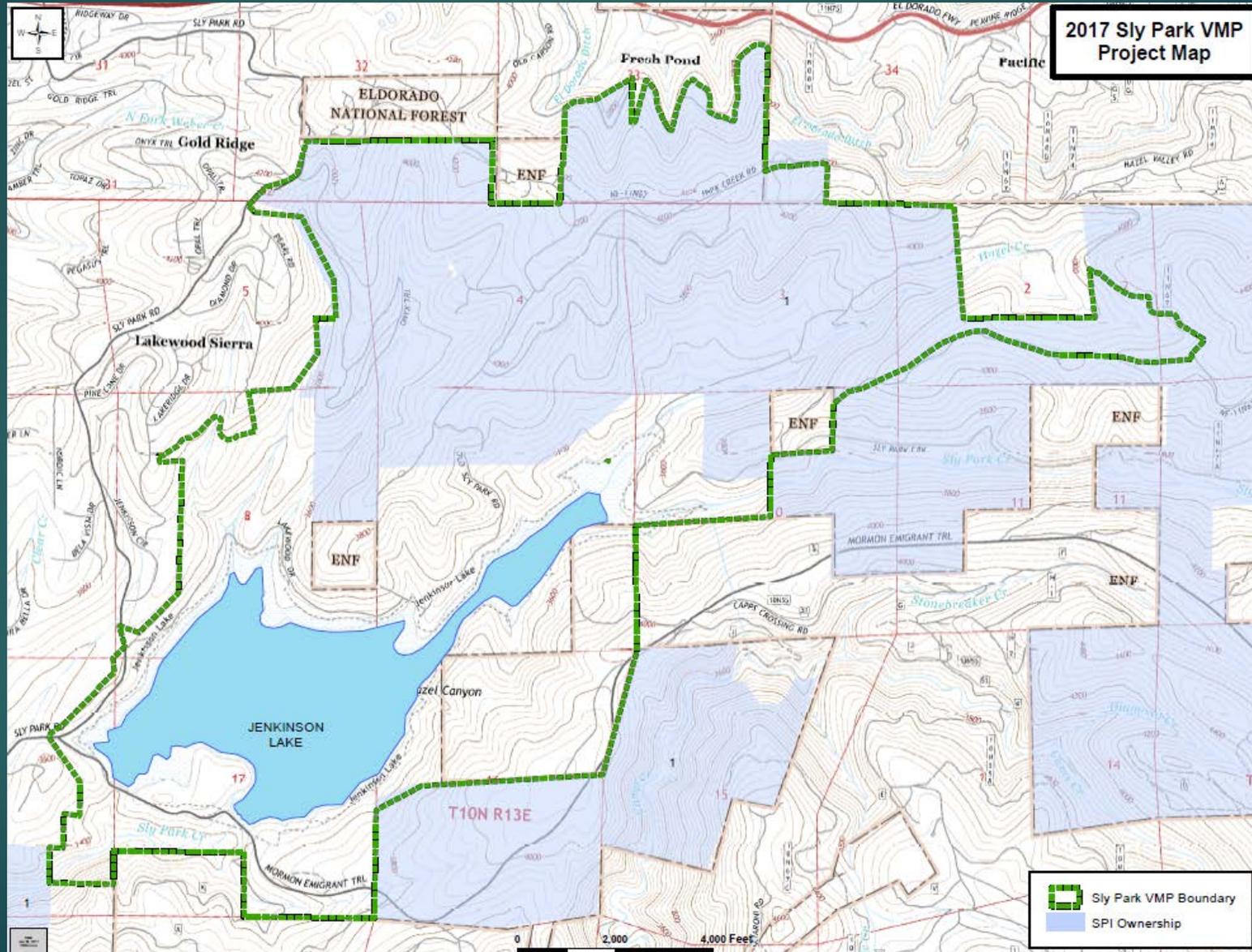
## Sly Park VMP

- ▶ Cooperators - Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) and El Dorado Irrigation District (EID)
- ▶ Active for 38 years, longest active VMP in California
- ▶ Total project area is 3909 acres
- ▶ Total acres treated 1250
- ▶ Expires November 30, 2028
- ▶ Vegetation/fuel type timber/brush
- ▶ Battalion 1
- ▶ **Fire Adapted 50 (FA50) phases I & 1.a**





# Fuels Reduction Projects





# Fuels Reduction Projects





## Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ AEU East Division (Tahoe Basin & Alpine County). CAL FIRE engine companies and Growlersburg Camp crews assist cooperators.
- ▶ CAL FIRE's remotely controlled tracked chipper being used in Lake Valley Fire Protection District.
- ▶ Pile burning at South Lake Tahoe Airport with assistance from California Conservation Corps (CCC) and California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC).





## Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ California State Parks – D.L Bliss, Sugar Pine Point and Emerald Bay with pile burning and broadcast burning





# Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ Biomass Removal on California Tahoe Conservancy lands by CAL FIRE.
- ▶ Logs will be utilized at the CAL FIRE Growlersburg Camp Sawmill.

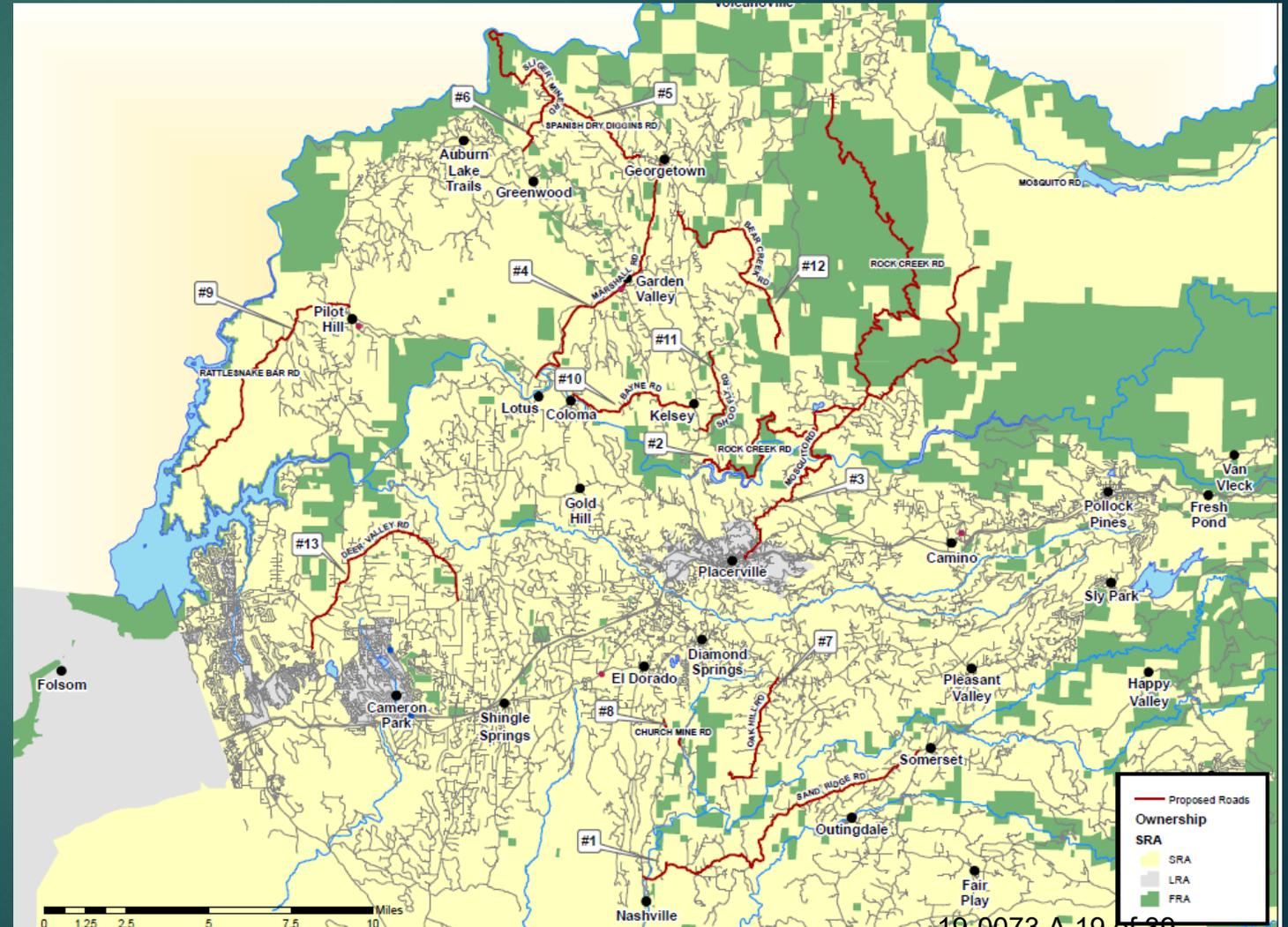




# Fuels Reduction Projects

## County Roads

- ▶ CAL FIRE engine companies & Growlersburg Camp crews assist the El Dorado County Department of Transportation with roadside clearance within the right of way.
- ▶ Maintenance
- ▶ Ingress/Egress for life safety
- ▶ Evacuation routes
- ▶ Approximately 21 miles to date
- ▶ Roadside clearance partially supported by CAL FIRE project fund dollars

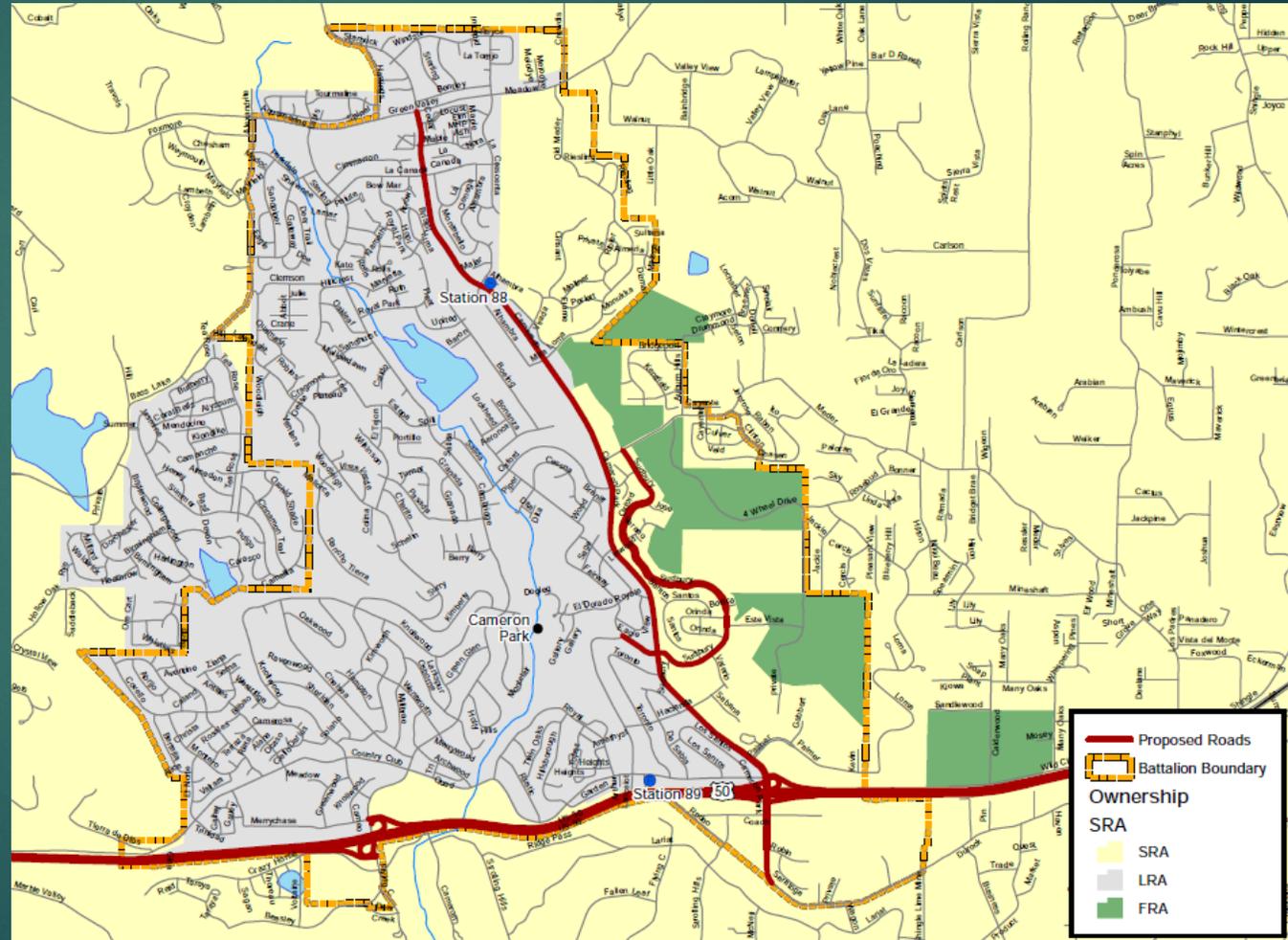




# Fuels Reduction Projects

## County Roads

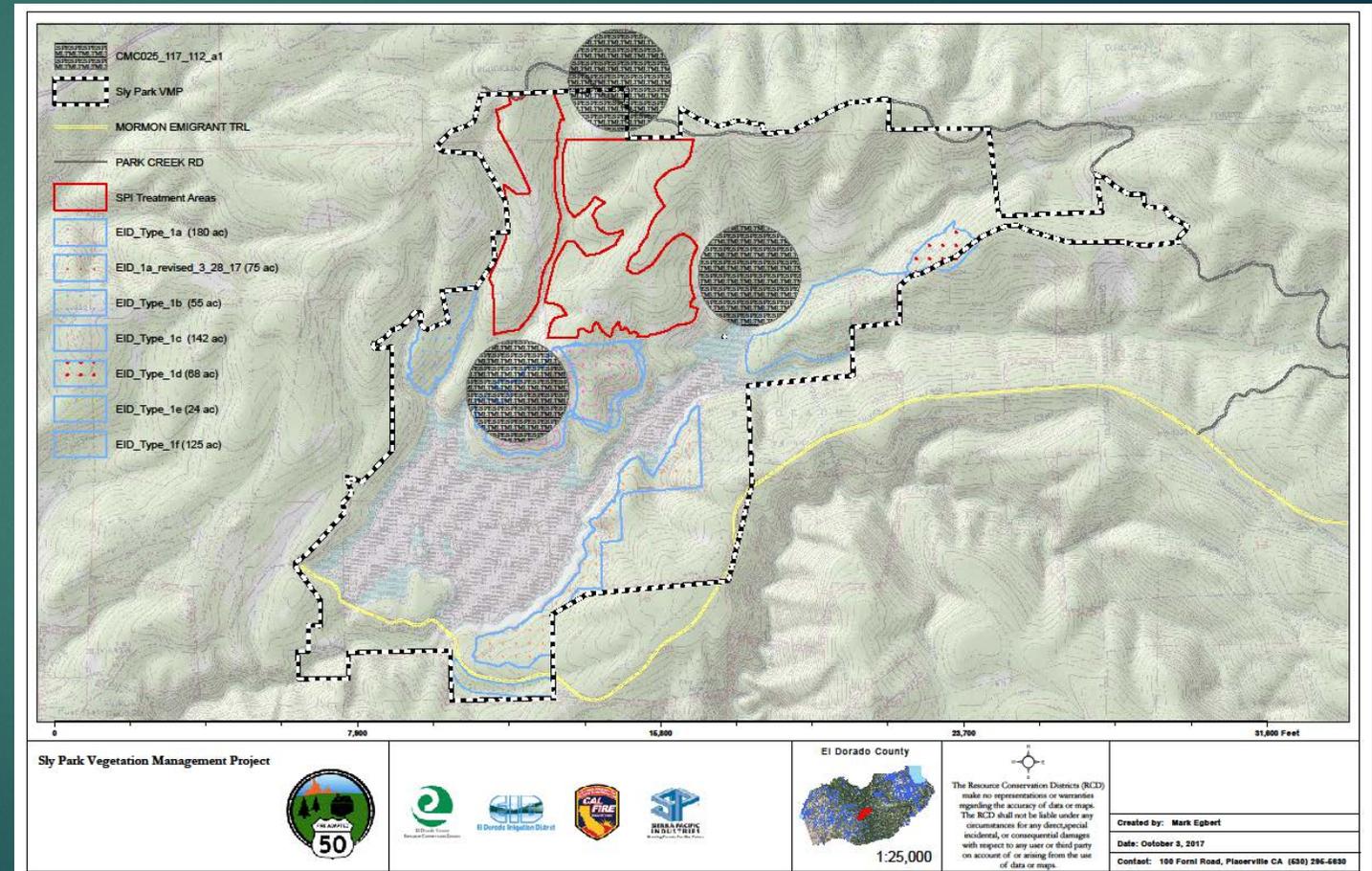
- ▶ Rattlesnake Bar
- ▶ Volcanoville Road
- ▶ Starkes Grade Road
- ▶ Sand Ridge Road
- ▶ Marshall Road
- ▶ Shoofly Road
- ▶ Garden Valley Road
- ▶ Mt. Murphy
- ▶ Cameron Park Drive
- ▶ Palmer Drive
- ▶ Grizzly Flat





# Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ Fire Adapted 50
- ▶ Landscape level pilot project across jurisdictional boundaries for fuels reduction in high fire hazard areas.
- ▶ Three goals: Forest Resiliency, Fire Adaptive Communities and Safe & Effective Wildfire response.
- ▶ Phase I - Around Jenkinson Lake and the Sly Park Recreation area. Approximately 645 acres completed. Cooperators EID and SPI.
- ▶ Phase I.a fuels reduction on approximately 1000 acres of EID and SPI land.
- ▶ CAL FIRE contracted with El Dorado County Resource Conservation District (RCD) to oversee, administer and implement fuels work. Funding provided by CAL FIRE.





# Fuels Reduction Projects

Before



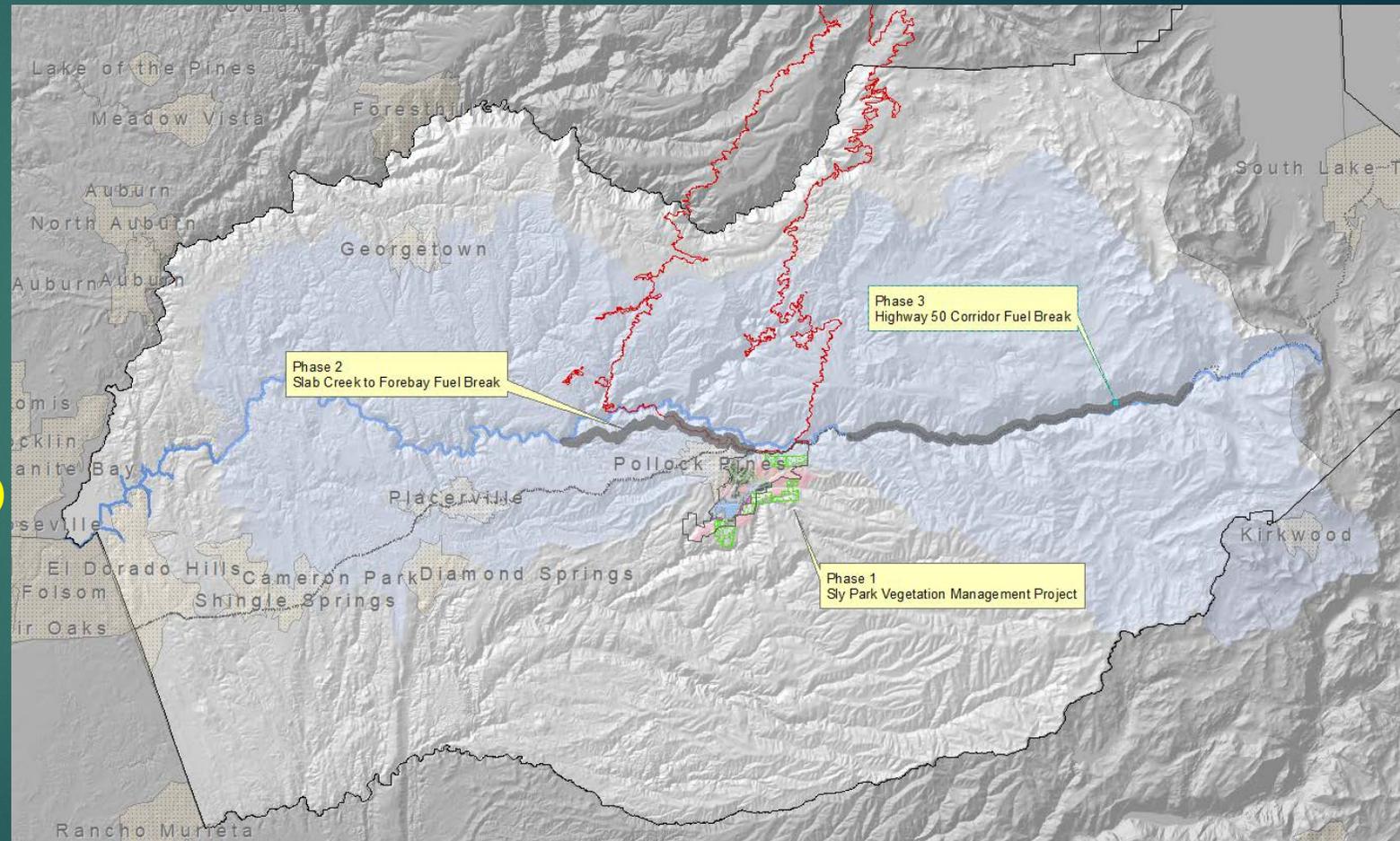
After





# Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ Fire Adapted 50
- ▶ Phase II – Slab Creek Dam to Pollock Pines ( King Fire suppression line)
- ▶ Approximately 1600 acres of fuels treatment.
- ▶ Phase III – Icehouse Road to Echo Summit.
- ▶ **Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) agreement with El Dorado National Forest.** Fuels reduction – 300 foot wide, north side of U.S. 50.
- ▶ Approximately 400 acres of fuels treatment.





## Fuels Reduction Projects

- ▶ **Cooperators, we can only be successful with your help.**
- ▶ U.S. Forest Service – El Dorado National Forest
- ▶ California State Parks
- ▶ California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- ▶ California Conservation Corp.
- ▶ El Dorado County Fire Safe Council and affiliates
- ▶ El Dorado County & Georgetown Divide Resource Conservation Districts – RCD's
- ▶ El Dorado Irrigation District
- ▶ Sierra Pacific Industries
- ▶ Black Fox Timber Management
- ▶ El Dorado County - DOT



# Defensible Space Inspections

- ▶ PRC 4291.
- ▶ (a) A person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining a mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or land that is covered with flammable material, shall at all times do all of the following.....
- ▶ Goal to break up both the vertical and horizontal continuity of fuels.

State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BOF)  
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Adopted by BOF on February 8, 2006  
Approved by Office of Administrative Law on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006

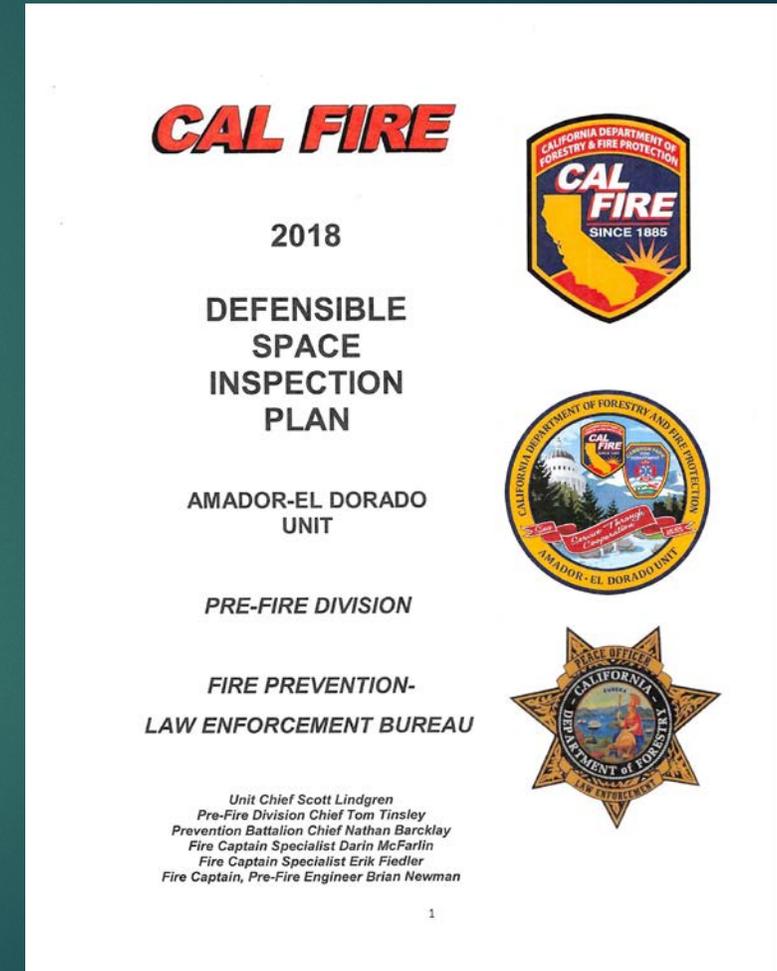




# Defensible Space Inspections

## Target Hazard Areas

- ▶ The following is a list of criteria Battalion Chiefs will consider when determining target hazard areas for defensible space inspections:
- ▶ • Number of calls run in a specific area within a Battalion (call volume)
- ▶ • **Number of SRA habitable structures in a specific area (structural density)**
- ▶ • Evacuation concerns (ingress/egress, dead-end roads, road clearance, etc.)
- ▶ • Fire Hazard Severity Zone rating (Very High, High, Moderate)
- ▶ • **Fire History/Ignition History and Ignition Cause (AEU Ignition Management Plan data)**
- ▶ • Assets at Risk (Infrastructure- hydro-electric power generation facility, EID ditch system, timber resource etc.)
- ▶ • Prevailing weather patterns
- ▶ • **Communities at Risk (WUI)**
- ▶ • Topography
- ▶ • **Existing fuels modification work (CAL MAPPER, CWPP, AEU Fire Plan, SRA Fire Prevention Fee/CCI Projects)**
- ▶ • Existing 4291 data (passes, fails, citations)







# Defensible Space Inspections

## Collector App.

- ▶ Easy to use.
- ▶ Download app. to a state phone and/or tablet.
- ▶ Electronic database of inspections, no more paper copies.
- ▶ Ability to use defensible space inspection data on initial and extended attack fires.
- ▶ **Education hours tracking:** Jan. 1 through Oct. 30, 2018 - 534 hours in entire Unit. Fairs, personal DSI contacts, and schools.







## Defensible Space Inspections

### Defensible Space Orientation Training

- ▶ Each year in the Spring CAL FIRE in conjunction with El Dorado Fire Safe Council puts on 4291 orientation training for council members and other volunteers
- ▶ Approximately 45 participants attended the training last year 2018
- ▶ Receiving 4291 evaluator forms from volunteers in the Auburn Lake Trails, Grizzly Flat, and Sierra Springs FSC's.





# Defensible Space Inspections





# Fire Prevention Signs

Prevention signs are for educational and/or informational purposes.

- ▶ Asking the public to do something – “Burn it where you buy it”
- ▶ Asking the public a question – “Wildfire is coming. Is your home READY?”
- ▶ Reminding the public – “100’ Defensible Space, Be FIRE SAFE”
- ▶ Direct/inform the public where to seek further information – websites: [preventwildfireca.org](http://preventwildfireca.org)





## Fire Prevention Signs

Prevention signs currently can be found in 4 location in El Dorado County.

- ▶ CAL FIRE's El Dorado(43) Station/Pleasant Valley Road
- ▶ Highway 49/Bacchi Road
- ▶ Highway 50 eastbound
- ▶ Highway 50 westbound
- ▶ 2 additional new sign locations have been identified
- ▶ E16/ Pioneer Fire Protection District
- ▶ Evergreen Road – Grizzly Flats





# Fire Prevention Signs





# Fire Prevention Signs

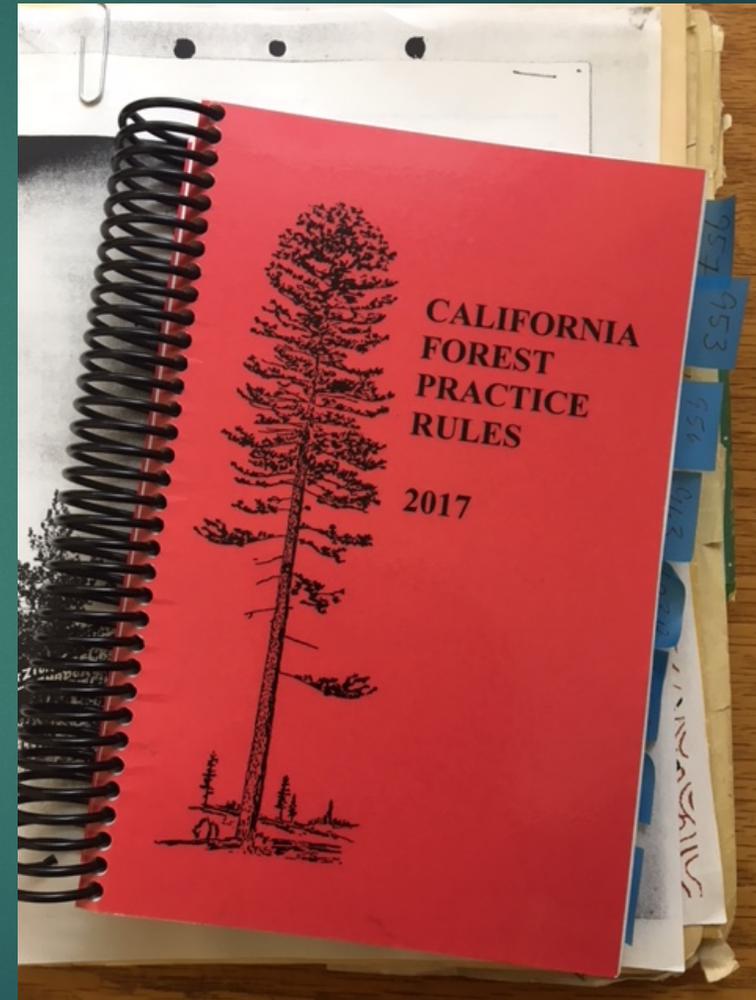




# Forest Practice Enforcement

## Forest Practice Rules and Regulations

- ▶ Pertain to the harvesting of timber/trees for commercial purposes on non-federal private land in California.
- ▶ Active timber management/the harvesting of trees is a form of fire prevention.
- ▶ Forest stands are manipulated through even-aged and non-even-aged harvest prescriptions to improve a stands overall condition/health. Making them more resistant/resilient to insect attacks, disease and fire.





# Forest Practice Rules and Regulations

- ▶ CAL FIRE Area Foresters inspect timber harvest operations in El Dorado County to ensure compliance with Forest Practice Rules and Regulations.
- ▶ Hazard Reduction rules provide standards for the treatment of snags and logging slash in order to reduce fire and pest safety hazards in the harvest area and surrounding area. **Timber operations are required to address slash (limbs, tops, branches) generated from harvest operations in close proximity to habitable structures, and public and private roads.**
- ▶ Slash must be lopped, removed, chipped, piled and burned or buried.





## Forest Practice Rules and Regulations

- ▶ Since the beginning of 2015 500 harvest documents have been filed in El Dorado County.
- ▶ CAL FIRE has conducted approximately 644 Forest Practice inspections during this time frame.





# THANK YOU

