



News Release

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Eldorado National Forest chosen for new wildland fire project

Placerville, Calif.... The Eldorado National Forest is one of only two forests recently selected by U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Randy Moore to serve as a demonstration area that will implement the Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy). The South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy Project encompasses approximately 250,000 acres. The goals of this large scale project are 1) to restore and maintain landscapes resilient to wildland fire; 2) to create fire adapted communities and 3) to improve responsiveness to wildfires.

In the past 20 years, the fire season has become longer and fires have become larger and more intense. The Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act of 2009 directed the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy. This Cohesive Strategy takes a holistic view of fire on the landscape. The Cohesive Strategy was developed through a collaborative effort between federal and state land, fire managers, tribes, NGOs, and other stakeholders.

"This marks a new era of designing and analyzing through a collaborative process projects across a large scale landscape instead of smaller, targeted projects," said Forest Supervisor Laurence Crabtree. "The strength of the project lies in this collaborative approach. This project will require a joint effort by all in order to be successful. Additional information on engaging partners will be shared as we move forward with this project."

The Eldorado National Forest has received \$625,000 in funding which is being used for project planning, collaboration, and project work being accomplished this year.

Cohesive Strategy...

For more information regarding Cohesive Strategy please visit the following websites: <u>www.forestsandrangelands.gov/strategy</u> and <u>www.cohesivefire.nemac.org</u>. You can also follow the Cohesive Strategy on Twitter: @US Wildfire or Facebook: Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy.

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