

The Board of Directors of the Truckee Fire Protection District met in Regular Session on Tuesday December 18, 2018 in the Truckee Sanitary District Boardroom located at 12304 Joerger Drive, Truckee, California at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman Wilford called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

Directors Present: Botto, Hernandez, Herrick, Prado, and Wilford

Directors Absent: None

Employees Present: Chief Seline, Division Chief Brock, Finance Director Holoday, Battalion Chief Wadsworth

Others Present: District Legal Counsel Brent Collinson

Chairman Wilford requested all Board Members in attendance to put their iPads in airplane mode for the duration of the meeting. The Board Members complied.

The meeting commenced with the pledge of allegiance led by Chief Seline.

CLEAR THE AGENDA – ITEM 4

Chairman Wilford asked for comments from the public. There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – ITEM 5

Members of the public shall be allowed to address the Board of Directors on items not appearing on the agenda that are of interest to the public and are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, provided that no action shall be taken unless otherwise authorized by California Government Code Section 54954.3. Each speaker will be limited to one (1) appearance and be limited to three (3) minutes, but speaker time may be reduced at the discretion of the Board Chairman if there are a large number of speakers on any given subject. There shall be no assignment of speaking time from one member of the public to another member of the public.

Chairman Wilford asked for comments from the public. There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR – ITEM 6

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Board member, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent calendar for discussion.

The Board reviewed the Consent Calendar.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comment. There was none.

Director Hernandez moved to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Chairman Wilford seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously 5/0.

For the record the Consent Calendar includes the following:

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of November 8, 2018, November 20, 2018. The November 2018 Check Registers: General Fund check numbers 31857-31938 including CalPERS EFTs; Plumas ACH Retiree Health Wire Transfer; Ambulance account check numbers 1289-1292, and Payroll manual check number 1133 totaling in the amount of \$463,909.34. November 2018 reports including: Finance Statements; District Balance Sheets; Fund Balance Reports; Monthly Call Reports; Training Reports; and Personnel Status Report.

STAFF REPORTS– ITEM 7

Chief’s Report – Item A

Chief Seline reviewed his report with the Board, which is located in the agenda packet.

Chief Seline informed to the Board that it appears the USFS Big Jack East 2000-acre fuels reduction project is in the final stages of approval. If it is approved work can begin as soon as next summer.

Chief Seline updated the Board on the Regional Fire Training Center. A new location has been proposed off of Joerger Dr. next to the proposed new site of the agricultural aquatic invasive species inspection station allowing some sharing of infrastructure. The proposed site requires a land swap between multiple agencies and the Town has hired a consultant to help work through the process. More to follow as progress is made.

Chief Seline informed the Board that locations for the budgeted community AED’s has been sought. It was not as easy as presumed to find a location but 2 were found in centralized locations in the Pioneer Commerce Center.

Chief Seline updated to the Board on the status of the initiative he mentioned last month regarding defensible space inspections at the point of sale. He reviewed 3 considerations to achieve awareness and compliance (1) create a buyer’s disclosure form informing the buyers about the risk of wildfire and the various laws around creating and keeping a defensible space on their property. (2) require a defensible space inspection during the escrow period so that buyers and sellers would know if and what work would need to be completed to be in compliance. Could be a negotiating point. (3) require work to be completed prior to close of escrow. Our research has not found a fire department with this requirement. He and Chief Harvey have met with the local realtor’s association to get their feedback on the concept and while the understand the risk and reasoning they are flatly opposed to any additional point of sale requirements. This would also put demands on the District for inspections, which needs to be considered. We have more research to do before bringing a draft of a proposed ordinance before the Board.

Chief Seline informed the Board that it is worthy to mention that discussions regarding Donner Pass Rd. improvements from Hwy 89 South to Gateway and I80 are heating up again in light of

evacuation concerns. While we are not traffic experts and don't manage evacuations, we are engaged as stakeholders and will stay involved in the process. Chief Seline reviewed proposed plans and informed the Board that Tahoe Donner may engage in a traffic study regarding evacuating the subdivision.

Chief Seline answered questions from the Board.

Chairman Wilford asked for any public comments. There were none.

Fire Marshal's Report- Item B

The Board reviewed Chief Harvey's report, which is located in the agenda packet.

Chief Harvey reported to the Board that in addition to the construction information provided in his report he has received many applications for solar installations. Which has increased the solar inspection volume.

Chief Harvey answered questions from the Board.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments or questions. There were none.

Division Chief Report – Item C

No report.

Battalion Chief Report – Item D

Battalion Chief Wadsworth

Battalion Chief Wadsworth reported to the Board that there have been 180 calls since the November 20, 2018 Board meeting. He reviewed the call type breakout and significant calls with the Board. He further reported on recent trainings.

Chief Seline recognized Battalion Chief Wadsworth for his recent work on the Captains hiring assessments.

Chief Wadsworth answered questions from the Board.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Chairman Wilford asked for Board comments. There were none.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – ITEM 8

Report from any standing or Ad Hoc Committee – Item A

Finance – Item 1

Nothing to report.

Martis Valley 0% Tax Rate Area – Item 2

Chief Seline reported that he met with Director Herrick, Pat Davison and Chris Parker of the citizens committee, to update them on the most recent progress on the discussion with Placer County. The plan as of now is to wait until after the new Supervisors gets oriented and request a meeting sometime in the Spring.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comment. There was none.

OLD BUSINESS – ITEM 9

No items

NEW BUSINESS – ITEM 10

Discussion with Possible Action: Resolution 23-2018; Discussion with Possible Action: Resolution 23-2018; A Resolution Approving the Filing of an Application for the California Climate Investment Fire Prevention Grant Administered by the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) – Item A

Chief Seline reported to the Board that this project is located in the Alder Hill Estates, comprised of 10 properties encompassing 157 acres. Fire Prevention Inspector Belden has been working with the Alder Hill HOA for a while recommending that fuels management work be done on their large properties. He introduced the HOA to Rachael Norton, a Registered Professional Forester, to write a Cal Fire grant for financial assistance to manage the fuels reduction project. Since Cal Fire will not award a grant directly to an HOA, much like the Glenshire project the District would be awarded the grant and Rachel Norton would manage the project within Cal Fire's guidelines, she would submit bills for payment, the District would pay the vendors and submit Cal Fire an invoice for reimbursement. The project scope ties into existing work the Tahoe Donner HOA has done and some they plan on doing. He further informed the Board of the project timeline.

Chief Seline answered questions from the Board.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Director Botto made a motion Adopt Resolution 23-2018; Discussion with Possible Action: Resolution 23-2018; A Resolution Approving the Filing of an Application for the California Climate Investment Fire Prevention Grant Administered by the State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and waive the reading. Director Herrick seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Director Herrick- Yes, Director Botto- Yes, Director Hernandez- Yes, Chairman Wilford- Yes, and Director Prado-Yes.

Discussion with Possible Action: Opt-In Addendum to the Agreement for Administrative Services – Item B

Finance Director Holoday reported to the Board that PARS (Public Agency Retirement Services) manages the District's part-time employee's retirement plan. PARS has developed additional services to benefit their members including a Portal to view their account. In order for this benefit to be extended to the District's members the District needs to adopt the opt-in addendum to the agreement for services. This is a good benefit for our members at no cost to the District.

Chairman Wilford made a motion to approve the Opt-In Addendum to the Agreement for Administrative Services with PARS. Director Herrick seconded the motion.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Motion passed unanimously 5/0.

Presentation: Wildfire Disaster Preparedness – Item C

Chief Seline presented his Wildfire Disaster Prevention presentation to the Board. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Chief Seline’s presentation included the following key points: components of a wildfire disaster – fire, fuels, weather, response unable to stop spread, and homes/people in it’s path; alignment of the components; what has changed – 100 years of firefighting = lots of fuel, drought, population growth in the wildland urban interface; preventing disasters and personal responsibility; fire prevention and community education; fuel reduction – homeowner and large land managers; examples of recent fuels reduction projects; district and law enforcement personnel training exercises; webcams and new technology; concluding with improvement opportunities.

Chief Seline answered questions from the Board.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Elect Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the 2019 Calendar Year – Item D

Director Hernandez was nominated for the position of Chairman and Director Herrick was nominated for the position to Vice-Chairman. Both accepted the nomination and Director Botto seconded the nominations.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Nominations passed unanimously 5/0.

Discussion with Possible Action: 2019 Meeting & Finance Calendars – Item E

Finance Director reviewed the proposed calendars with the Board noting the proposed changes to work around the November and December holidays.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Director Herrick made a motion to approve the 2019 Board Meeting and Finance Committee Meeting Calendars as presented. Chairman Wilford seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously 5/0.

CLOSED SESSION-ITEM 11

No items.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION-ITEM 12

No items.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS-ITEM 13

No items.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS-ITEM 14

Director Prado stated that she is looking forward to the arrival of Boat 92 next month. She expressed her gratitude to BC Wadsworth for his work on the Captains assessment. She congratulated to all the candidates that participated in the assessment. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. 2018 has been a great year, she has appreciated being part of the Board and learning. She announced that her family has baby (her brother's) on the way in the new year, which is 6 in the last 4 years.

Director Hernandez thanked and expressed his appreciation to Chief Seline and all those involved in helping with the Sierra College EMT program and the increased requirements, as well as, the wilderness EMT presentation. He has seen some of his students go on and further their career by being hired as part-time firefighters. The Truckee Airshow was recognized and given the Gold Pinnacle Award at the International Council of Airshows. They won based on their working with EMS and the emergency response plan, as well as, their work with law enforcement and Homeland security, and the local airport. This is a very prestigious award for such a small show. Glad to hear about the defensible space program and the presentation was fabulous. He expressed his appreciation for all the work that was done in 2018 by staff, counsel, and fellow Board Members. He thanked Director Wilford for his leadership as Chairman for 2018. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Director Herrick commented that in his travels abroad he was surprised to see as many public AED's as he did. He expressed his appreciation and is continually impressed by Bill (Chief Seline) and all the work that staff does for the District. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Director Botto commented on the value of the AED program and how good it is for the community. He commented that the point of sale defensible space requirement is a good idea and is interested in receiving community input. He expressed his appreciation for the Captains assessment commenting that chance of upward mobility gives employees something to strive for. He further thanked BC Wadsworth on his work in planning and coordinating the assessment. He thanked Chief Seline for the wildfire disaster prevention presentation, great work! He congratulated Director Wilford on a great year as Chairman and Director Hernandez as Vice-Chairman. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Chairman Wilford stated that it has been a privilege being Chairman this past year and he thanked the Board for the opportunity. He expressed his wish to have a formal Board recognition for Paul Spencer in the next few months thanking him for his service as he moves into retirement. He thanked Director Prado for breaking barriers and joining the Board, it has been a pleasure serving with her. He thanked Finance Director Holoday for her work on the budget. He recognized BC

Wadsworth for his work on the Captains assessment. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

ADJOURNMENT – ITEM 15

Having no further business on the agenda to come before the Board, Chairman Wilford made a motion to adjourn. Director Botto seconded the motion.

Chairman Wilford asked for public comments. There were none.

Motion passed unanimously 5/0.

Adjournment: 7:42 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Joyce Engler

Administrative Officer / Clerk of the Board

Wildfire Disaster Prevention



Components of a wildfire disaster

- Fire starts
- Fire fuels
- Fire weather
- Fire response unable to stop
- Homes & People in the path

Alignment (perfect storm)

- Fire starts, high winds, lots of fuel, initial resources can't stop it and there are people & homes in the way.

What has changed?

- 100 years of firefighting = lots of fuel!
- 5+ year drought
- Population growth in the wildland urban interface
- Largest, most destructive, most deadly fires have occurred in last 5 years

Preventing a disaster

Components of a disaster	What we do...
Fire Starts	Fire Prevention Activities
Fire Fuels	Facilitate fuels reduction, CWPP, grants
Fire Weather	Communicate RED FLAG and Critical Fire Weather
Fire agencies unable to stop fire	Robust fire response
Homes and People in the way	Communicate evacuation instructions to Law

Personal responsibility

Components of a disaster	What we do	What residents do (Personal Responsibility)
Fire Start	Fire Prevention	Prevent fires
Fire Fuels	Facilitate fuels reduction, CWPP, grants	Reduce fuels around your home
Fire Weather	Communicate RED FLAG and critical weather	Know RED FLAG, be ready
Fire agencies unable to stop fire	Fire response	Report smoke
Homes & People	Communicate evacuation instructions to Law	“Opt in” to tools. Know the way out. Go early. Have a “go bag” ready, Have a plan.

Fire prevention – Community education

- **Connect with people**
 - 50 events annually
 - CERT Volunteer program
- **Media**
 - Newspaper articles like “Chiefs’ Corner”
 - Radio & print media, 10 radio topics June-October
 - Web site self-help & emergency info
 - Coordinated message, Ready for Wildfire.org
 - Social media consistent messaging
 - Cal Fire spends advertising dollars locally
- **Public Communication**
 - Nixle periodic fire safety messages, RED FLAG and Critical Fire Weather days
 - Facilitate PIO’s annual spring meeting
- **Leverage HOAs**
 - Meet regularly with HOAs
 - Facilitating Grant funding opportunities
 - FIREWISE Communities Recognition
- **Arson Prevention**
 - Investigators (Local and State)
 - Fire Setter Program

CERT – Community Emergency Response Team.
“Neighbors helping neighbors”



Ready, Set Go!





FIREWISE USA[®]
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

- NFPA (National Fire Protection Association).
- Teaches people how to adapt to living with wildfire and encourages action.
- Engages the smaller community.
- Good housekeeping stamp of approval. Insurance recognizes.
- STEPS
 - Risk assessment by County or State Official
 - Form a Board or Committee
 - Action Plan
 - Educational Outreach
 - Wildfire risk reduction investment \$25 per home
- Completed: Tahoe Donner, Glenshire, Serene Lakes, Martis Camp.
- In progress: Lahonton, Shaffers Mill, Ponderosa Palisades.
- Need: Sierra Meadows, Prosser Lakeview, Armstrong, Olympic Heights (weak HOAs)

Fire fuel reduction

The Problem

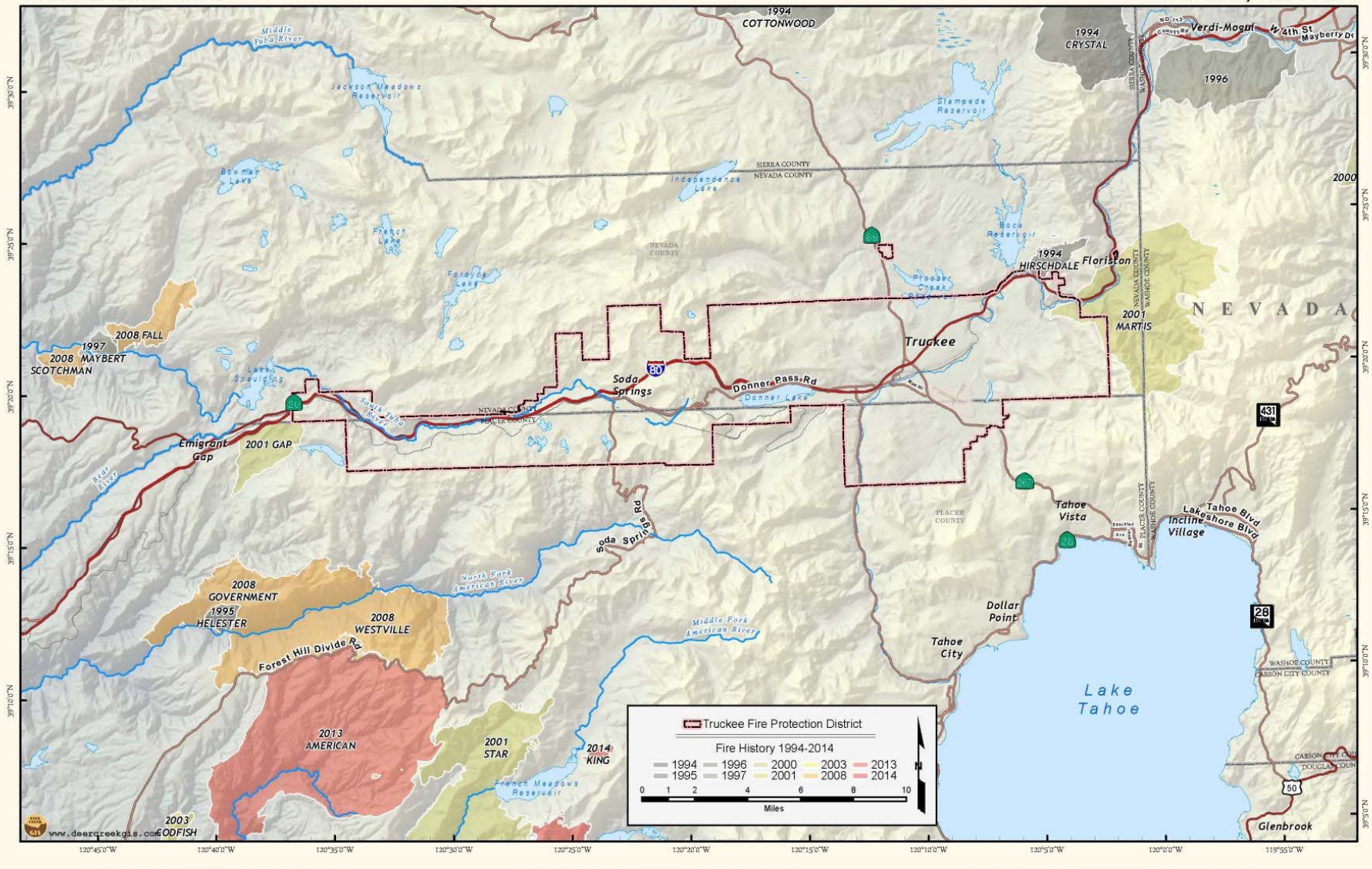
- 100 years of Excellent Firefighting has changed the forest
- Vegetation grows back (3-5 years)
- Doesn't matter on really windy days
- Structures on fire = fuel on the fire

The Strategy – Remove Fuels (*i.e. Trees, brush and grass*)

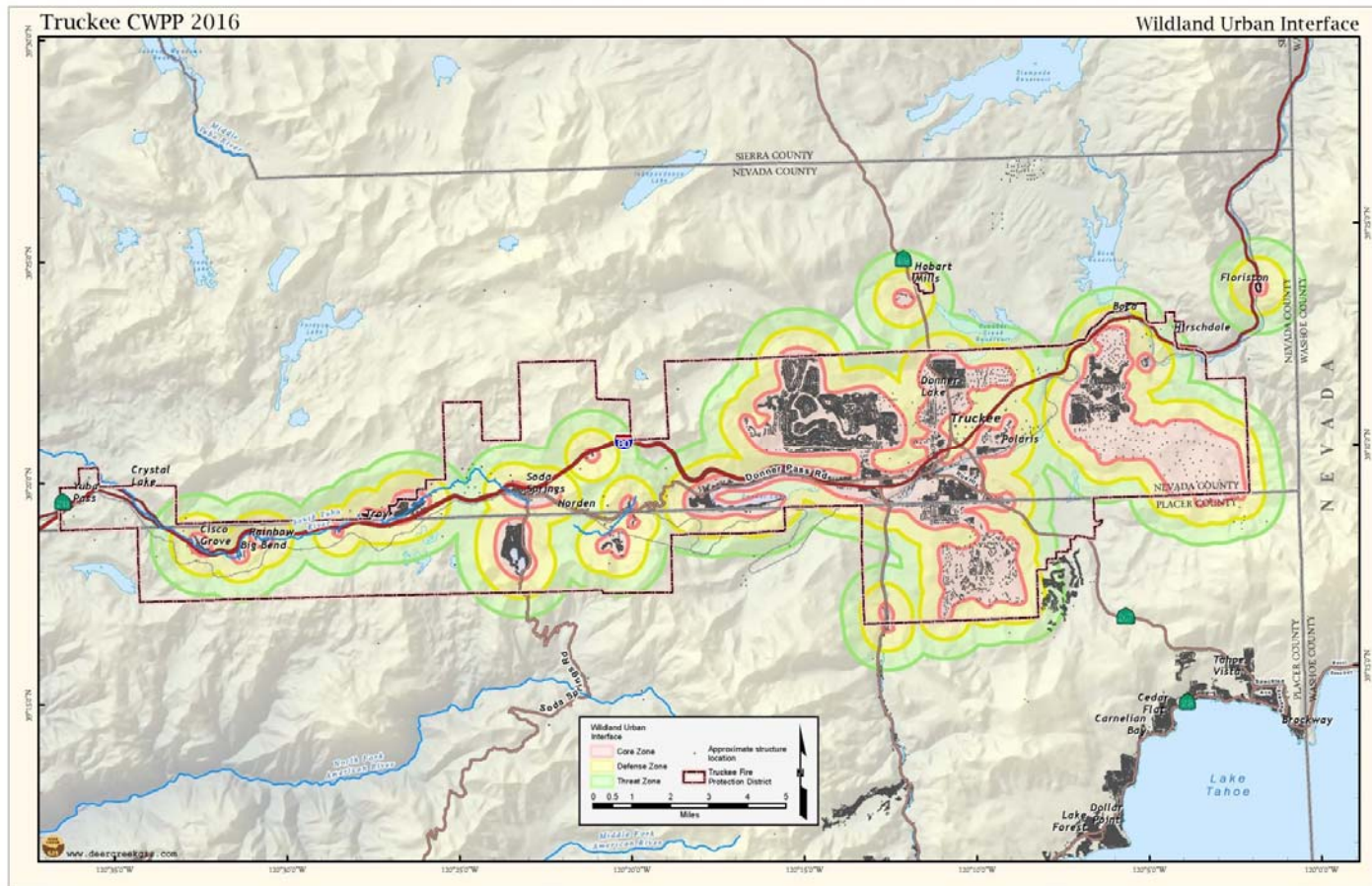
- Proven to reduce spread and intensity
- Homeowners – within 100 feet of the home
- Larger properties – reduce fuel, thin trees, restore natural forest
- Challenges – costly, environmental, limited contractors, bio mass disposal
- People moved here for the beauty – remove trees?

Truckee CWPP 2016

Fire History 1994-2014



WUI – Threat and Defense Zones



In most fires, defensible space matters



Defensible space – don't be fuel to the fire!



Fire fuel reduction - Homeowner

It's the Law

- Public Resource Code 4291 – 100 feet from home
- TFPD Ordinance 02-2012 - vacant lots, within 100 feet to any structure
- Mandated, no regular grants, Firesafe Council focus

What we do

- 2000 defensible space inspections annually (1/5th of homes annually)
- Insurance is driving too
- Self-Inspection form on web site
- Central database (collector ap)
- Enforcement, citations and fines (abatement and tax lien)
- Coordinated with Cal Fire
- Debris disposal opportunities are important.
- House-to-house ignition

2007 – “80 Incident”



Fire fuel reduction - Large land managers

Why do it?

- No mandates – land stewardship
- Local CWPP (Community Wildfire Protection Plan) in 2015
- 20 Stakeholders – identified opportunities for projects
- No money – grant or privately funded

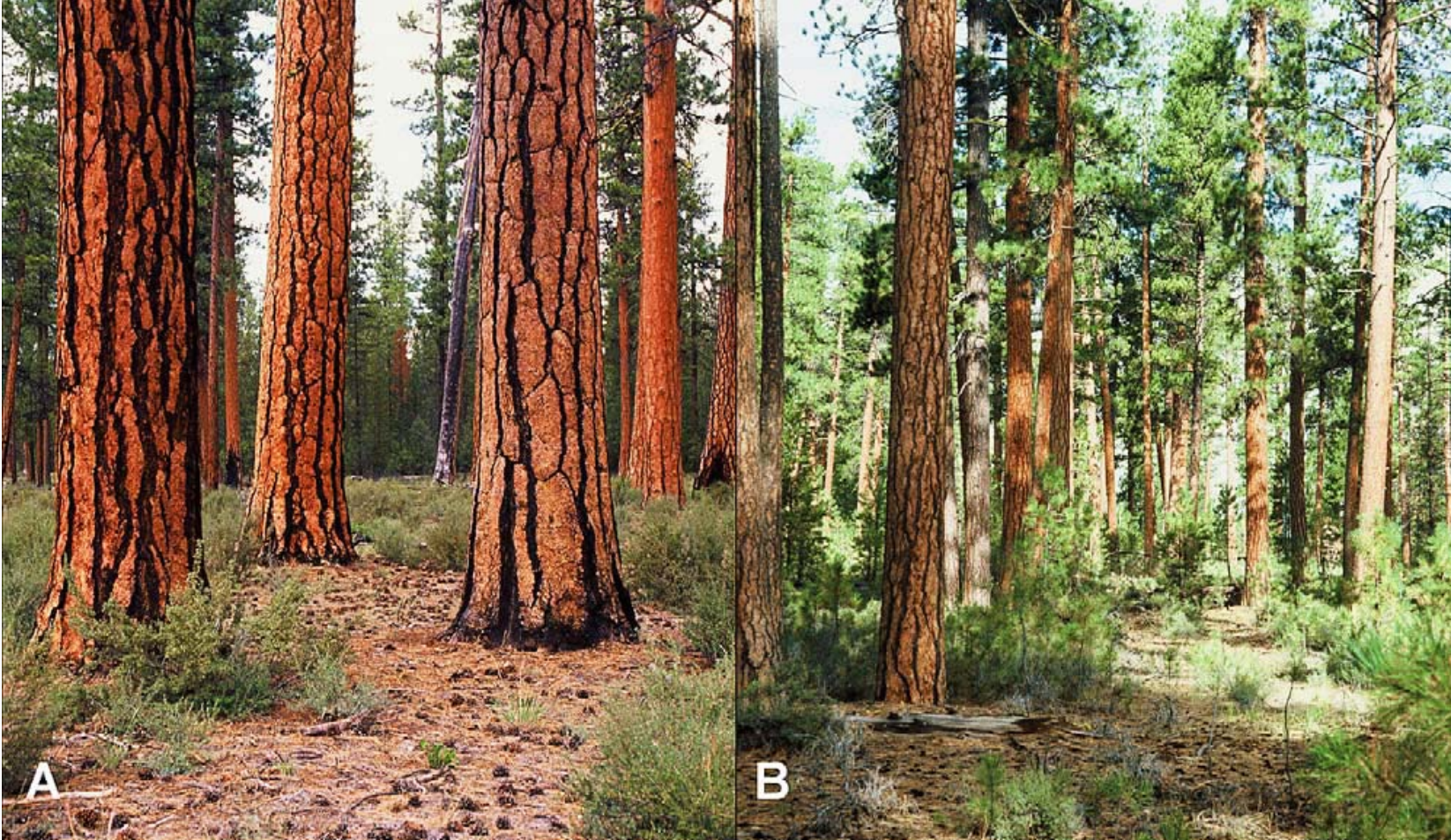
Truckee Fire as facilitators

- Glenshire 9 acres
- Martis Camp 30 acres
- Glenshire HOA 40 acres
- National Forest Foundation East firebreak 1.3 million

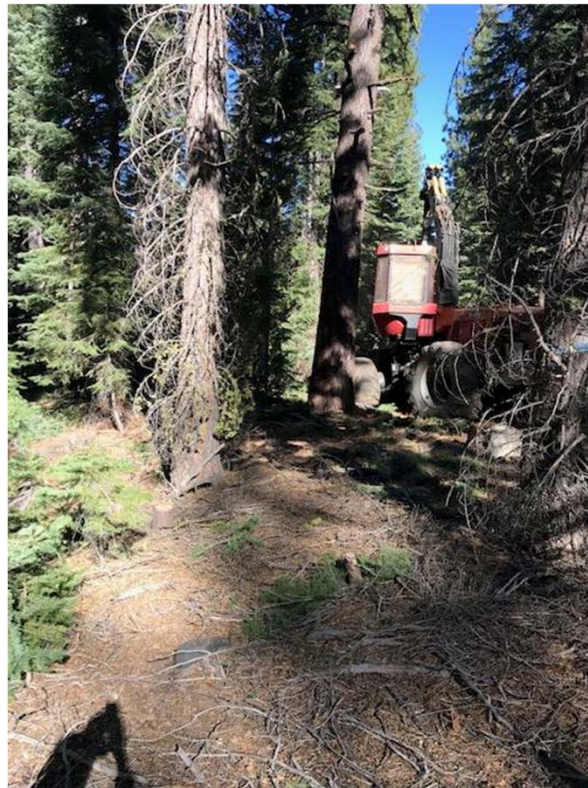
Other land managers

- Tahoe Donner, Airport, PUD, State Parks, Nature Conservancy
- USFS (Big Jack East)
- Road right-a-ways. 38 mile Nevada County Grant in progress

Thinned vs Unthinned



Fuel reduction -Before, during and after...

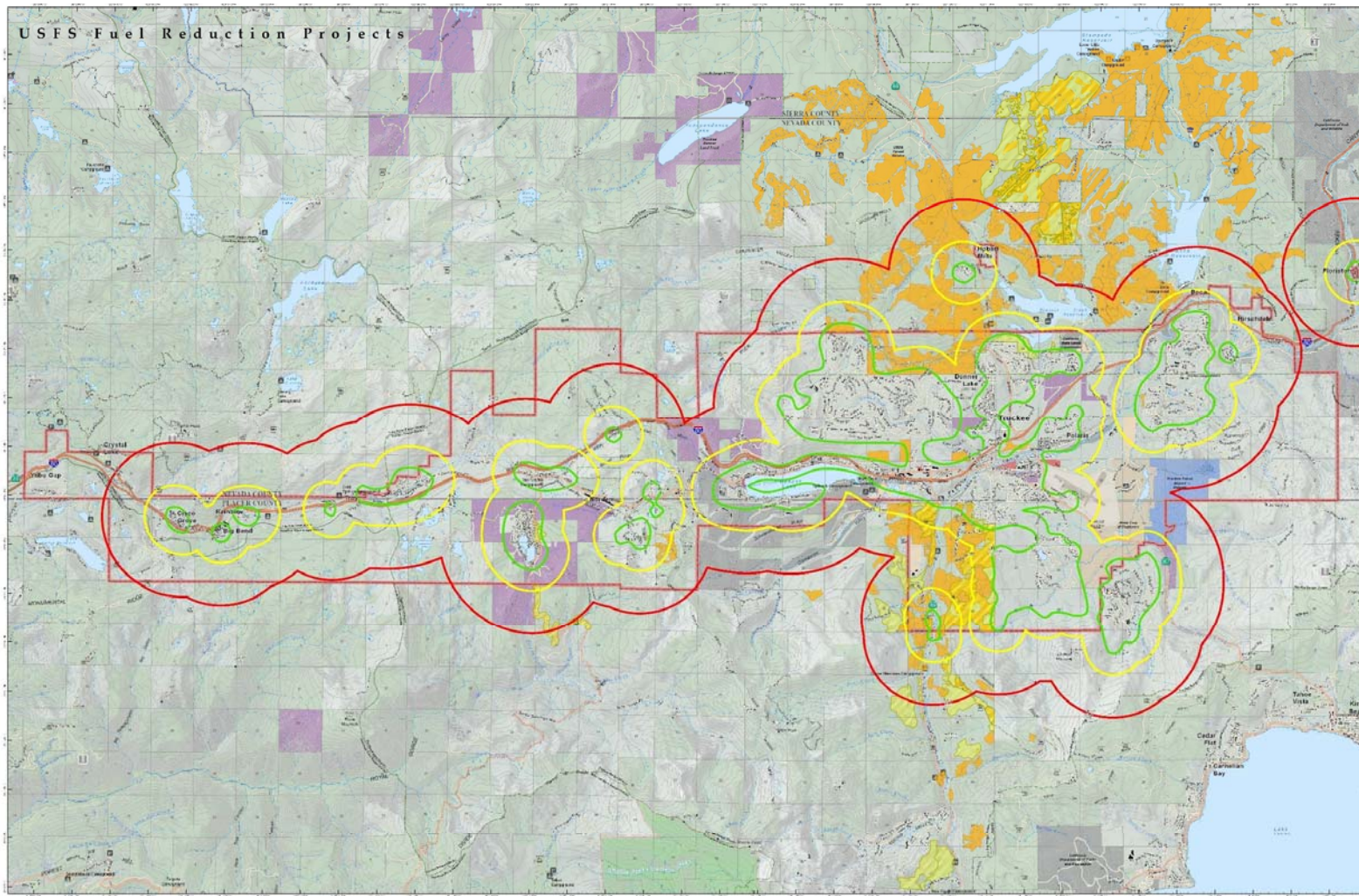


Mastication





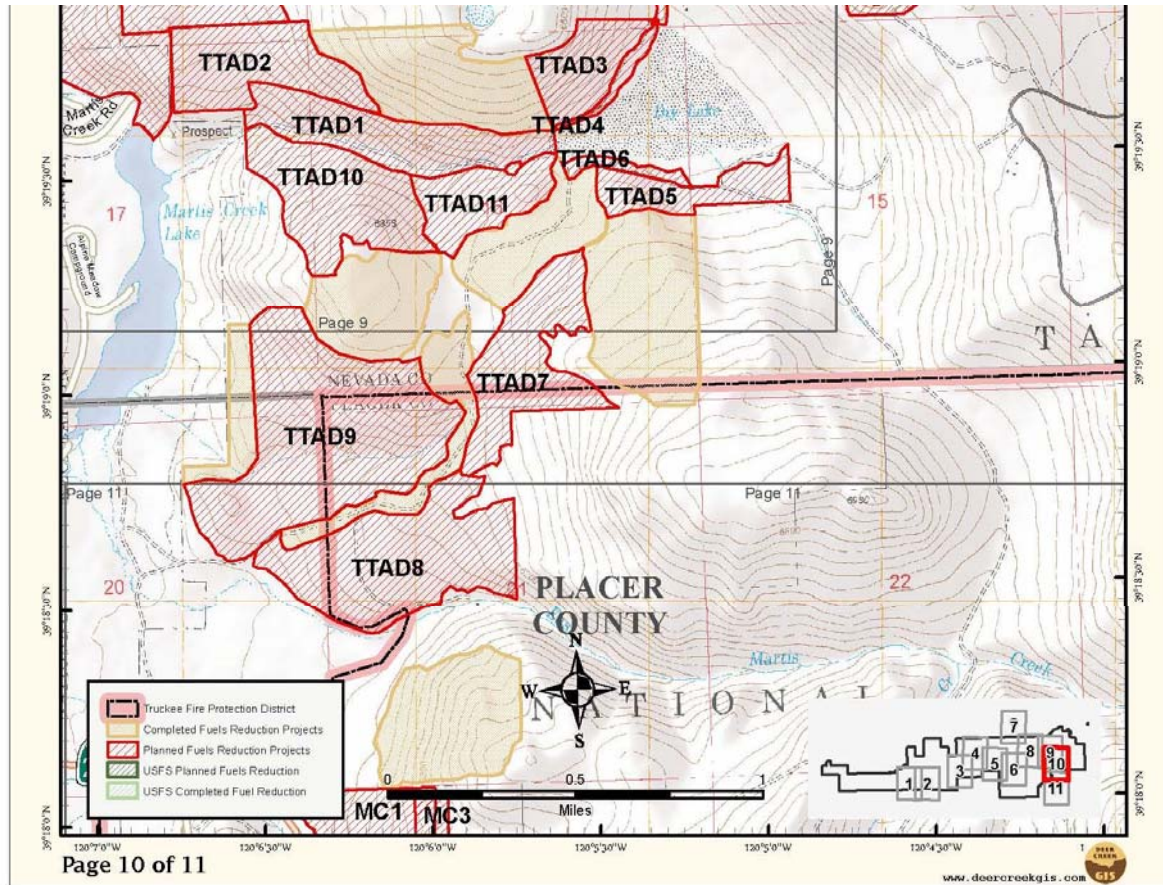
USFS Fuel Reduction Projects



Truckee CWPP 2015

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FS Private Road Marker Fire Lockout Symbols Building Compass 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campsite Panel Service Facility Range Area Range District Office Trailhead Parking Intermediate Contour, 40 ft intervals Index Contour, 200 ft intervals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appalachian Trail Appalachian/Preserve - Undergrowth Condition/Ditch Channel in Water Area Dam Carrying Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dam or Wall - Masonry Flow or Elevated Pipeline Ditch Stream - Intermittent Stream - Perennial Major Highways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highways Major Roads Local Streets Ramps, Traffic Circles Alleys, On-ramps, Walkways Main Rail Line 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanitary Ditch/ Water Filter Scheduled - Road or RR Dam - Masonry Mud/Silt/Runoff/Leaking Open Water - Perennial Open Water - Intermittent PLSS Sections County FS Wilderness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ranger Districts Truckee Fire Protection District USFS Completed Fuel Reduction USFS Planned Fuel Reduction 	<p>Wildland Urban Interface Zone</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core Defense Threat <p>Ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Army Corp of Engineers Forest Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Truckee Donner Land Trust Nevada Irrigation District North Tahoe Public Utilities District Tahoe City Public Utilities District Truckee Tahoe Airport Truckee-Donner Recreation and Park District State of California
--	--	--	--	--	---	--	--	---

Airport district



Total Completed Projects

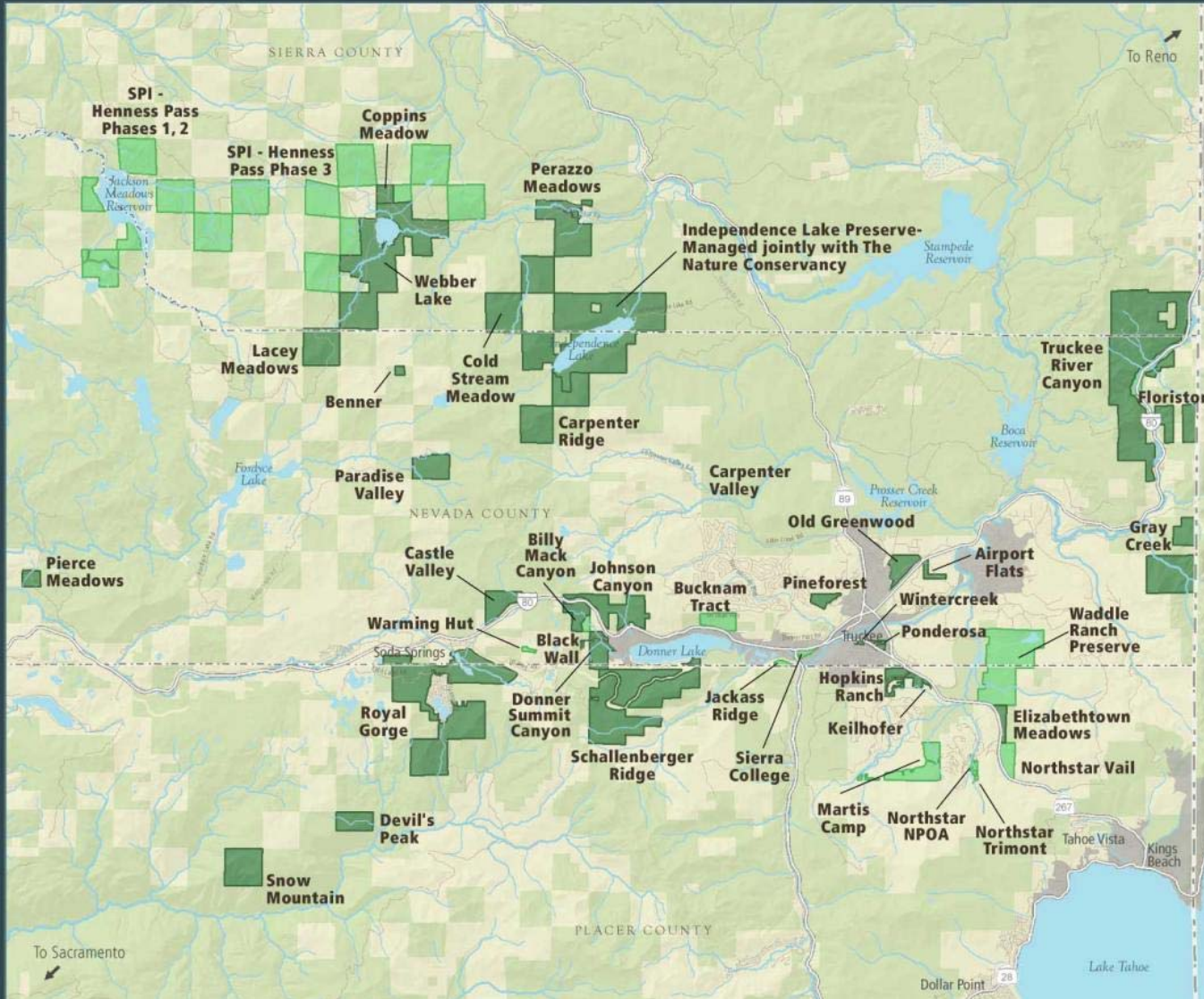


TDLT Projects

- Completed Acquisitions
- Conservation Easements

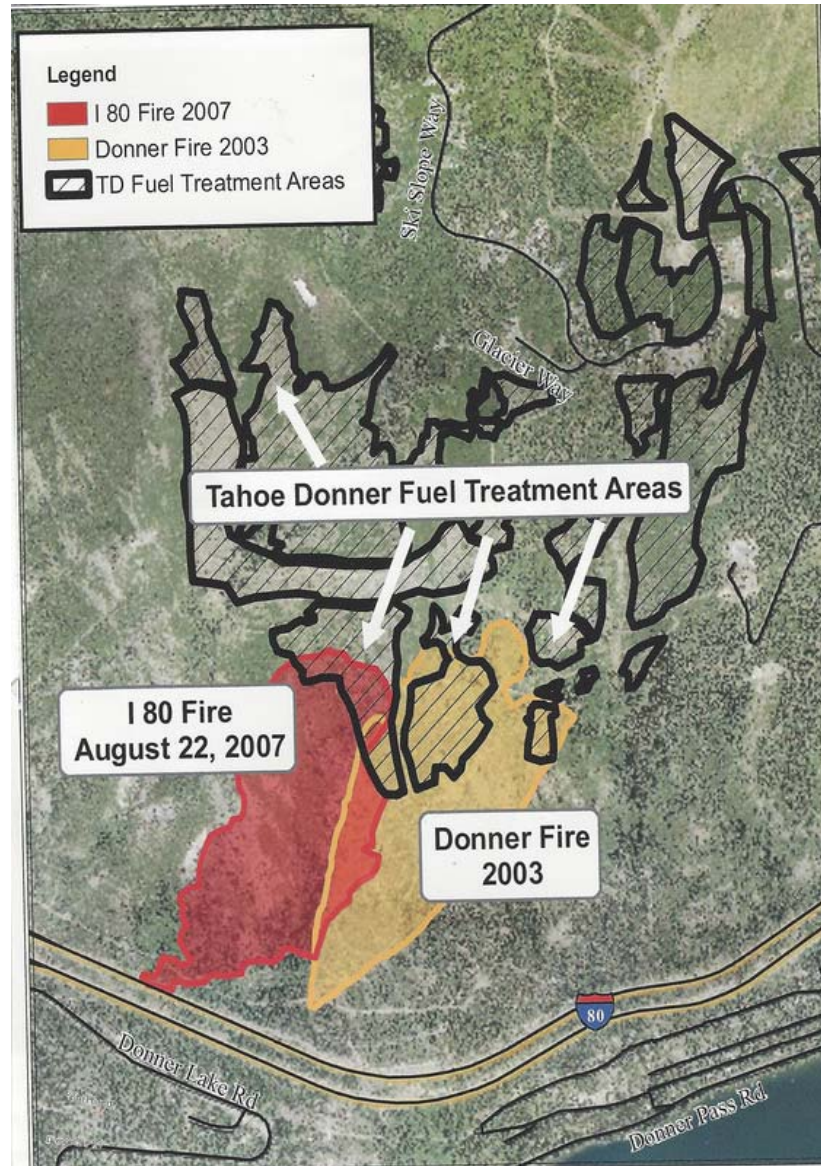
Other Features

- Other Protected Lands
- Urban Area
- County Boundary



0 1 1/2 3 Miles

Data Source: Truckee Donner Land Trust, CPAD 2014
 Map template by GreenInfo Network www.greeninfo.org Map updated 5/2/2016



Fire weather

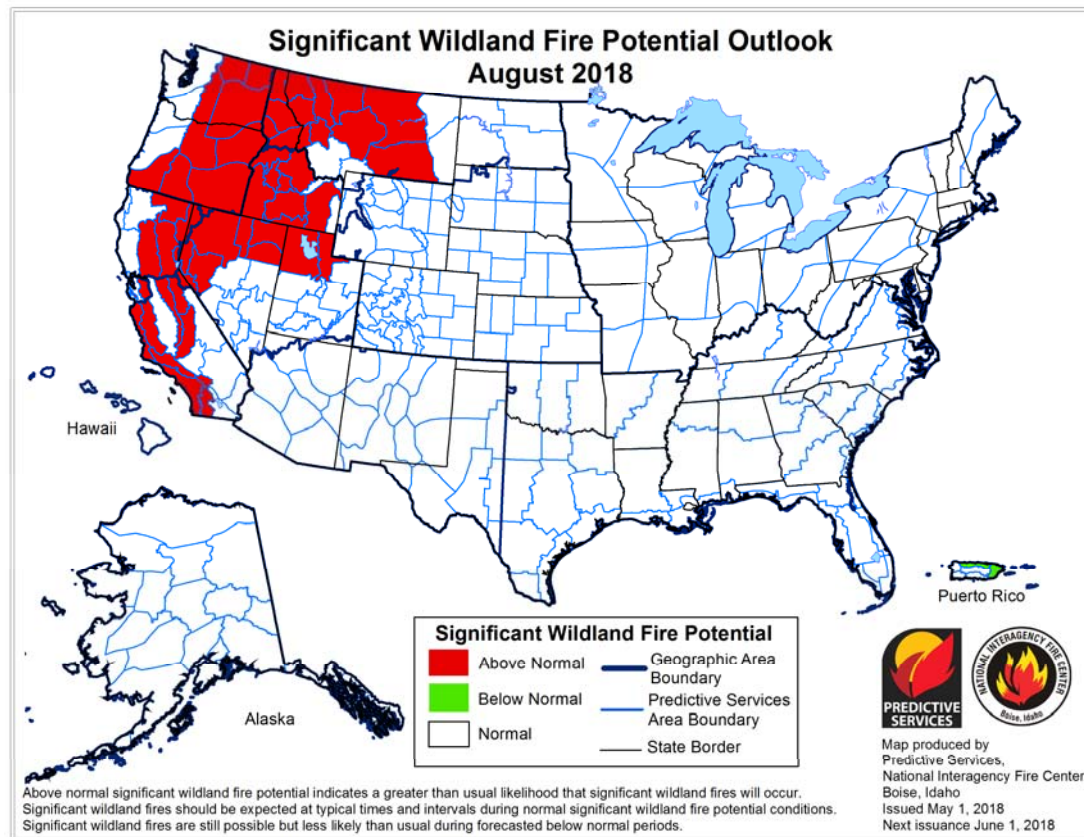
Fire weather well vetted. Warm temps, low humidity, high winds

- WIND is biggest factor in rapid fire growth
- NOAA has best tools to predict RED FLAG
- NOAA Becoming more targeted
- Lightning tools like WeatherBug
- Spot weather forecasts
- National Predictive Services - trends

Advanced warning to residents and visitors is vital

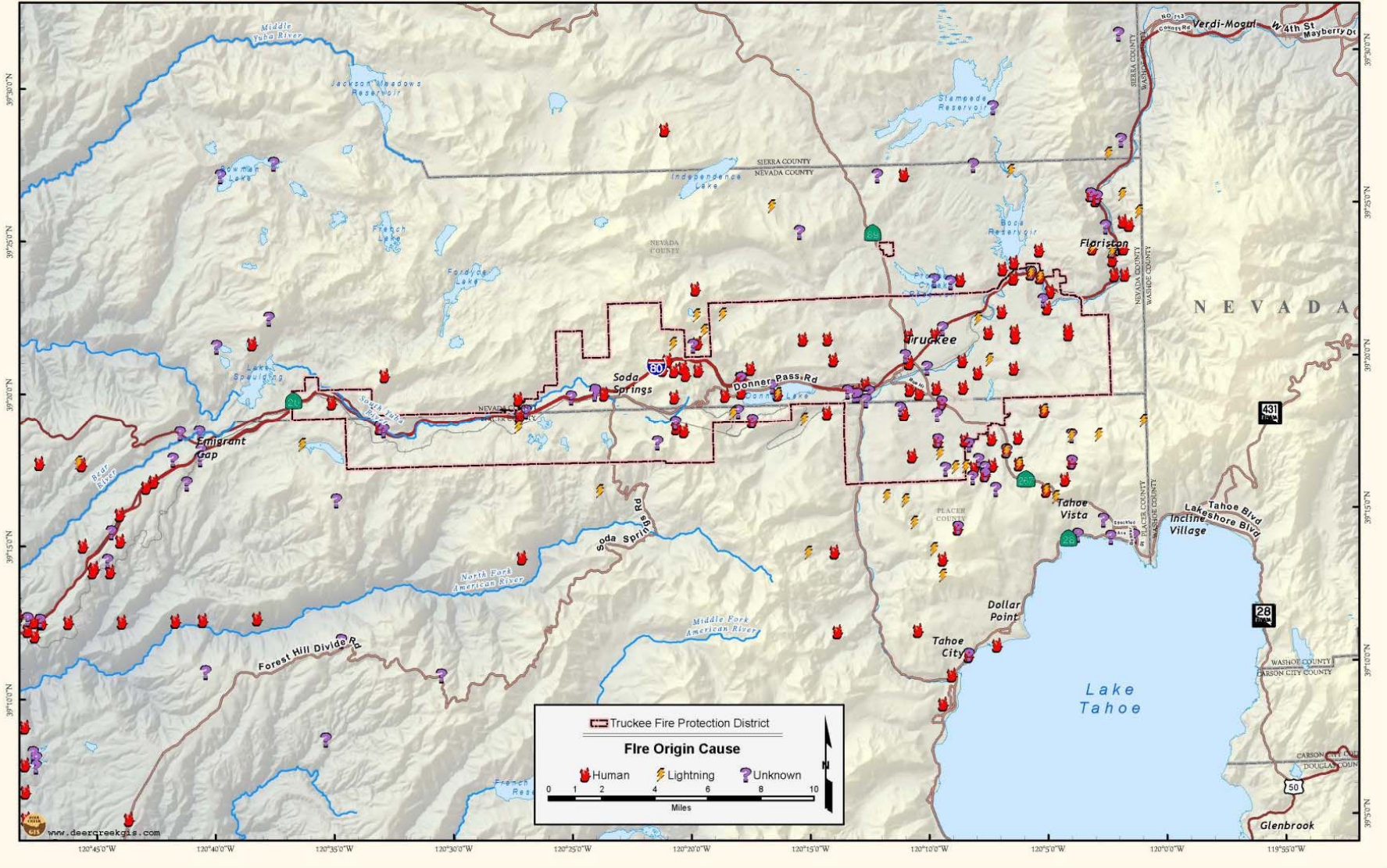
- Communicate RED FLAGS or HIGH Fire Danger days via Nixle
- Signage - CMS, magnetics on vehicles, 6 DANGER signs
- Fire Resources ramp up in Truckee (Cal Fire, TFPD, State OES)

National Predictive Services. *Likelihood of significant fires, outlook.*



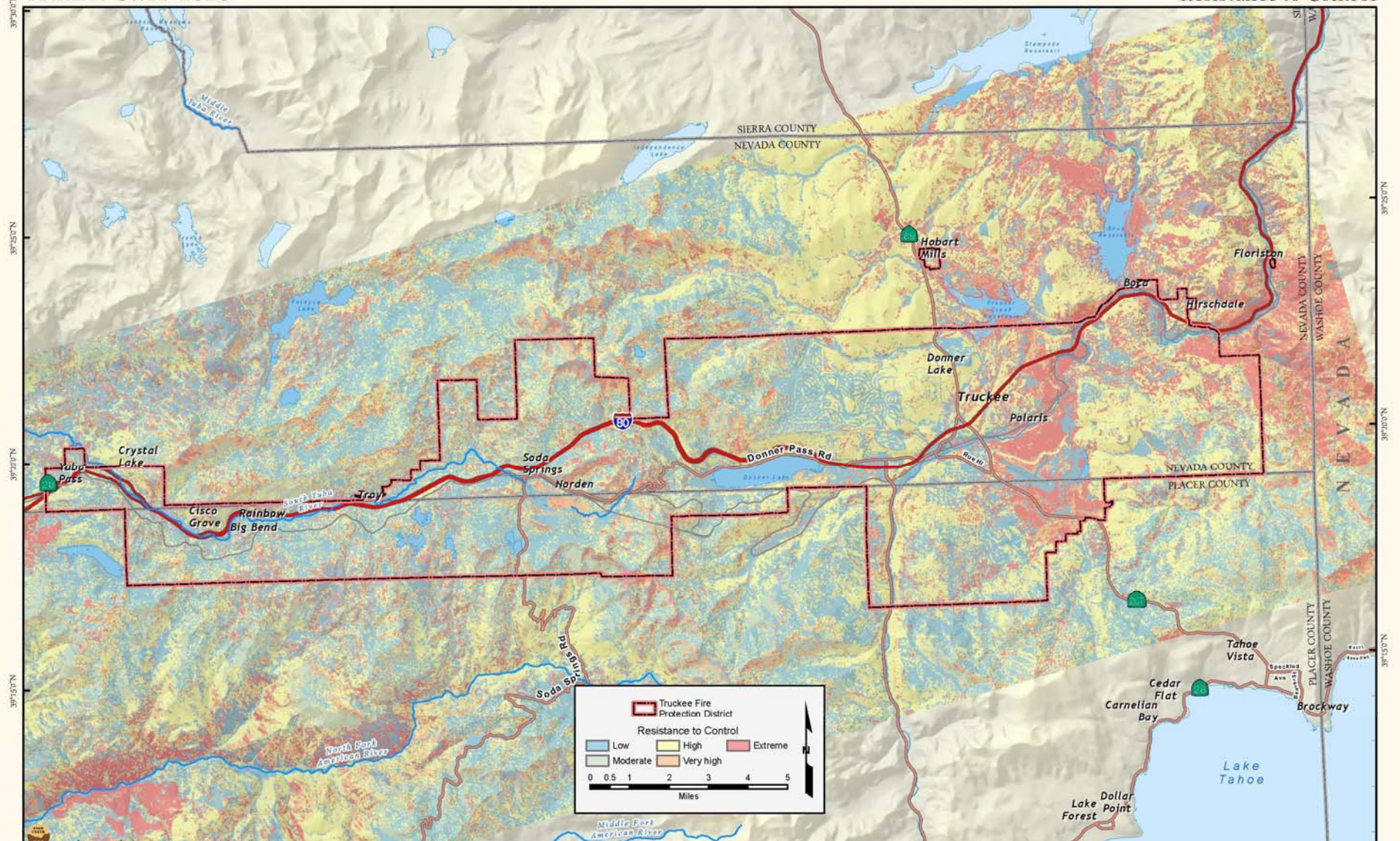
Fire response – early control

- Early detection, Alert Tahoe, Cell phones
- Grass Valley Command Center (not simple dispatch)
- Best situation with Local, USFS and Cal Fire (still rural)
- JPA Operationally consolidated (Northstar, North Tahoe, Squaw and Truckee Fire)
- Mutual Aid agreements with 30 regional agencies, Cal Fire, USFS and State OES resources
- Aircraft automatic dispatch 15 minutes
- Experienced Incident Commanders and Firefighters. (50% OES assignments)
- Train with other fire agencies and PD
- Large fire = Incident Management Team, Master Mutual Aid
- Fire in the community or approaching the community?



Truckee CWPP 2016

Resistance to Control



Home

Network Map

About

Partners

YouTube

DONATE!

Tahoe Cameras Current View Tweet



Axis-Martis X:-71.23 Y:-4.61 Z:1.0 System:Ready:4.0h © Nevada Seismo Lab 2018/12/18 14:53:00.12 Home



Leaflet | Map tiles by Stamen Design, under CC BY 3.0. Data by OpenStreetMap, under CC BY SA.

[BLM-NV Cams](#) | [SDG&E Cams](#) | [OR-ID-WA Cams](#) | [North Bay Cams](#) | [SoCal Cams](#) | [OrangeCo Cams](#)



Annual tabletop with Truckee PD



Homes and people threatened

WUI – Wildand Urban Interface

- Population has grown significantly in the WUI
- Developments may have been planned without current fire conditions in mind?

What is being done

- WUI building codes for new construction in high fire severity zones
- Process – IC Develops a “box” – LE Implements evacuation
- Fire managers need to be swift and make box large enough
- Obligation to communicate evacuation ASAP
- Delegate evacuation to Law Enforcement.
- Town and County's using best practices to develop plans
- People need to be connected and heed warnings quickly

Opportunities to improve

- Prevention
 - Message campaign (marketing)
 - PUD power management?
 - No backyard campfires most of the summer – ordinance
 - New communication channels – direct mail?
- Fuel Reduction - HOMEOWNER
 - Debris disposal next level, incinerator, chipping, bio mass plant...
 - More inspections?
 - Truckee or Truckee North Tahoe **Fire Safe Council** for homeowner focus?
 - Inspection at time of sale – ordinance
 - Debris burning ban?
- Fuel Reduction - LARGE LAND OWNER/MANAGER
 - More aggressive funding strategy. Grant money. Project management
 - Reduce fuels on more land, consistently
 - Roadside vegetation management for egress protection
- Homes and People
 - Continue to develop emergency communication strategy for maximum reach and target
 - Stay on cutting edge with quickly evolving wireless communication technology
 - Drill to simulate evacuation, involving stakeholders. Help everyone get the same mental model.