



OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



EXHIBIT F-6
8 Pages

FUELS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

DATE: July 30, 2024

TO: District Board Members

FROM: Brad Chisholm, Fire Chief; Jessica Asher, Program Manager & Board Secretary

SUBJECT: Fuels Management Program – Update

BACKGROUND: The Board of Directors has instructed staff to provide progress reports regarding Fuels Management at its monthly meetings for items not otherwise addressed within the Board agenda. Comprehensive information about the program can be found on the Department's Prevention website under the Wildfire Preparedness and Wildfire Prevention tabs.
<https://www.ovpsd.org/ovfd/prevention>

DISCUSSION: OV-1: Olympic Valley Fuel Reduction Project
Cross Check Services completed OV-1 project in July, successfully reducing fuel loading on a total of 120 acres in accordance with the project's prescription. All equipment, trucks and materials have been removed and the Contractor has demobilized from the site. Permanent erosion control measures and BMPs have been installed as governed by CAL FIRE Exemption 14 CCR 1038.

OV-4 Community Buffer Project Update

The OV-4 project will address wildfire risk by creating a minimum 150-foot-wide shaded fuel break surrounding the perimeter of residential properties, buildings, and other structures in the Valley. The implementation of the project has been fully funded with \$400,000 committed by the Truckee Tahoe Airport District (TTAD) and \$300,000 recently approved by the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation's Board. Staff, in collaboration with Registered Professional Forester (RPF) Bradfield, plan to release bid documents for Phase 1 of the project by the end of July and will continue to work to design phase 2, the north side of the Valley, to bid this fall. Implementation for both phases must be completed by the end of 2025.

Green Waste Days

The Friends of Olympic Valley (FoOV) and OV Firewise Community have committed to staffing the site with volunteers to monitor waste disposal. Palisades Tahoe will stage the event on Olympic Valley Road, across from the Fire Station. District staff collaborates with the FoSV/Firewise Community to publicize the events and provides the labor and equipment necessary to clean up and load the green waste into dumpsters on the Monday following each event.

	GREEN WASTE COLLECTED (CU. YD)	
Event	2023	2024
June	210	150
July	150	90
August	120	
September	120	
October	60	
	660	240

Green Waste-Only Dumpster Rebate Program

In July 2021, following the termination of curbside green-waste collection by TTSD, the PSD Board approved a rebate program to fully reimburse the expense of renting a six-cubic-yard green-waste-only dumpster. This program has been continued through FY '24. The program is first-come, first-served and has a cap of \$10,000 for FY '24, allowing one rebate per garbage customer per year. The funds are primarily from the Garbage Fixed Asset Replacement Fund (FARF) and property tax for non-garbage customers

		FY '21-22	FY '22-23	FY '23-24
Rate		\$128.93	\$136.67	\$146.03
Number of rebates		18	30	34
Reimbursed Expense	Valley	\$1,524	\$3,144	\$3,959
	River Rd.	\$523	\$950	\$1,022
	Total	\$2,046	\$4,094	\$4,981

Since the rebate was introduced in 2021, **82 rebates** have been provided for a total expense of **\$11,121**.

Defensible Space Inspections (DSI):

Crews continue to conduct commercial/HOA and short-term rentals DSI and began individual residences DSI on June 24th. Crews are making slower progress than in past years but are systematically working from east to west in the Valley. OVFD will enforce PRC 4291 and note zone zero violations and home hardening opportunities aiming to complete inspections for 100% of all single-family residences in OVFD response area.

FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS: The District has been awarded almost \$1.4M in grant funding to plan and implement fuels management projects, as summarized below.

Project	Grantor	Date Awarded	Funding	% Complete
Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)	CAL FIRE	Oct. 2021	\$31,898	100%
Fuels Reduction: North Ridge – OV-1 (120 acres)	CAL FIRE	Nov. 2022	\$539,888	99%
Fuels Reduction: Evacuation Corridor O.V. Road – OV-3 (3 acres)	Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF)	July 2022	\$50,000	0%
	Trout Unlimited / Friends of Squaw Creek	Nov. 2021	\$19,000	100%
Fuels Reduction: Community Buffer – OV-4 (127 acres)	Design and Permitting - TTCF / CAL FIRE	July 2023	\$45,125	65%
	Implementation – Truckee Tahoe Airport District	April 2024	\$400,000	0%
	Implementation - TTCF / CAL FIRE	July 2024	\$300,000	0%

The District has an on-call contract with Danielle Bradfield, a Registered Professional Forester and founder of Feather River Forestry, for grant writing and consulting services. This contract has a not-to-exceed amount of \$20,000 annually. Staff dedicate significant time to developing our Fuels Management Program and administering grant contracts.

Expenses related to the Green Waste Days (GWD) are funded through rates and the Garbage Fixed Asset Replacement Fund (FARF), which currently has a balance of approximately \$139,000. Estimated costs for this program include the Tahoe Truckee Sierra Disposal (TTSD) delivery, pick-up, and disposal of three 30-cubic yard containers per GWD, along with administration and labor. These costs are expected to be approximately \$3,300 per event, assuming Friends of Olympic Valley (FoOV) and the Firewise Community can provide volunteers for the six District-sponsored GWDs.

Noteworthy:

The National Forest Foundation has entered into a grant agreement with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy which will provide \$2,450,000 for the implementation of the Alpine Meadows and Olympic Valley Fire Protection Project (AMOVFPP). Please see attachment for details.

*“With funding now secured, our goal is to begin unit delineation and boundary layout this summer/fall, advertise and award a contract for implementation in winter/spring, and begin fuel reduction treatments in field season 2025.
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-Dan Alvey

California Program Manager

Tahoe National Forest Foundation

RECOMMENDATION: This report is informational only; no action is requested from the Board.

ATTACHMENTS: AMOVFPP Exhibit A

DATE PREPARED: July 25
, 2024

Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Wildfire Recovery and Forest Resilience
Grant Program

EXHIBIT A

Grantee: National Forest Foundation
Project Title: Alpine Meadows and Olympic Valley Fire Protection Project
Agreement Number: 1692

PROJECT SCOPE / DESCRIPTION

The Alpine Meadows and Olympic Valley Fire Protection Project (Project) will provide strategic hazardous fuels reduction treatments within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Defense and Threat Zones to mitigate wildfire risk for the communities of Alpine Meadows and Olympic Valley. This Project is located in eastern Placer County between Truckee and Tahoe City, primarily to the west of Highway 89. The Project will use mastication, timber thinning, hand thinning and piling to treat at least 764 acres of National Forest System lands surrounding the community of Alpine Meadows. The National Forest Foundation (NFF) is the grantee in partnership with the Tahoe National Forest (TNF).

The Project area is currently characterized by overly dense timber stands with a high component of shade-tolerant red and white fir, many of which are of small diameter and are growing in thick patches under the canopies of larger trees. These over-dense stands throughout the project are more susceptible to insect- and disease-related outbreaks, especially during periods of extended drought leading to high levels of tree mortality and overall poor forest health. Surface and ladder fuels, and small trees (up to 16 inches DBH) will be mechanically thinned, masticated, grapple or tractor piled, and/or manually cut and piled for later burning or other disposal. Contractors will use mechanical mastication with ground-based, low-pressure, tracked equipment on slopes up to 50 percent (depending on suitable soils). When hand thinning, contractors will construct compact hand piles that are covered for efficient burning in suitable weather windows. Mechanical thinning will be used to remove excess biomass on a limited scale in areas where mechanical thinning, decking, and road access for transportation are feasible. About 400 tons of fuel wood will be hauled to the Washoe Tribe wood yard in Gardnerville, Nevada. The Project planning area encompasses a total of 1,080 acres, 950 acres of which have been identified for treatment within the WUI Defense and Threat Zones. SNC funding will support at least 764 acres of the highest priority hazardous fuel reduction.

The Project is part of a larger 10-year Vegetation Management Plan co-developed by the Middle Truckee River Watershed Forest Partnership (MTRWFP) with a goal to treat

up to 50,000 acres across the 315,000-acre watershed, with the Project as a top-tier priority for forest health and community protection. The Truckee Ranger District will contribute \$12,000 in-kind staff to project implementation. A wildfire in this area would threaten private property including single-family homes, condominium and apartment complexes, business complexes, restaurants, and a major ski resort. The planned treatments would provide direct protection for 653 habitable structures/units that are immediately within the community of Alpine Meadows and significantly mitigate risk for roughly 1,600 habitable structures/units in Olympic Valley.

TASKS AND TIMELINE

Detailed Project Tasks	Approximate Project Timeline	Budget Category
Task 1: Funding Acknowledgement Signage 1.1: Draft sign design 1.2: Submit to SNC for review 1.3: Install sign	December 2027	A
Project management	July 2024 – December 2027	A
Implementation layout	August – November 2024	B
Implementation oversight	May 2025 – December 2027	A, B
Fuels reduction treatments	May 2025 – December 2027	C
Hauling of fuel wood to the Washoe Tribe wood yard	May 2025 – December 2027	D
Completion of Project Tasks *	January 1, 2028	

*This is the date the Grantee anticipates completing the above project tasks. This date might be significantly earlier than the *Key Deadlines: Project Implementation Completion Date* on the agreement signature page, and can change as Project implementation proceeds.

Required Reporting	Due Date, Received by SNC	Budget Category
Six-Month Progress Reports with the following reporting periods: January 1 – June 30. July 1 – December 31	Aug 1 and Feb 1 through the life of the project [†] .	A

Request for Payment of Final Expenditures	60 days from Completion of Project Tasks or no later than the Key Deadlines: Payment Request for Final Expenditures identified on the signature page of the Agreement, whichever is sooner.	A
Final Report, Including Performance Measures		

[†]Six-Month Progress Reports are required through the Completion of Project Tasks. The last Six-Month Progress Report may cover fewer than six months.

PROJECT BUDGET

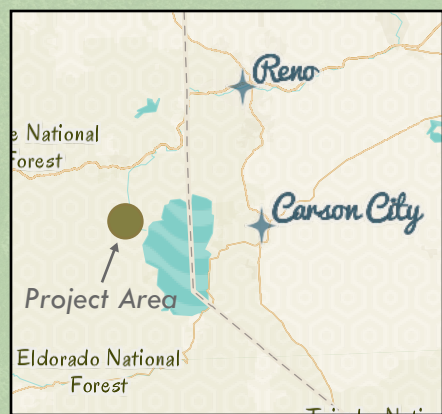
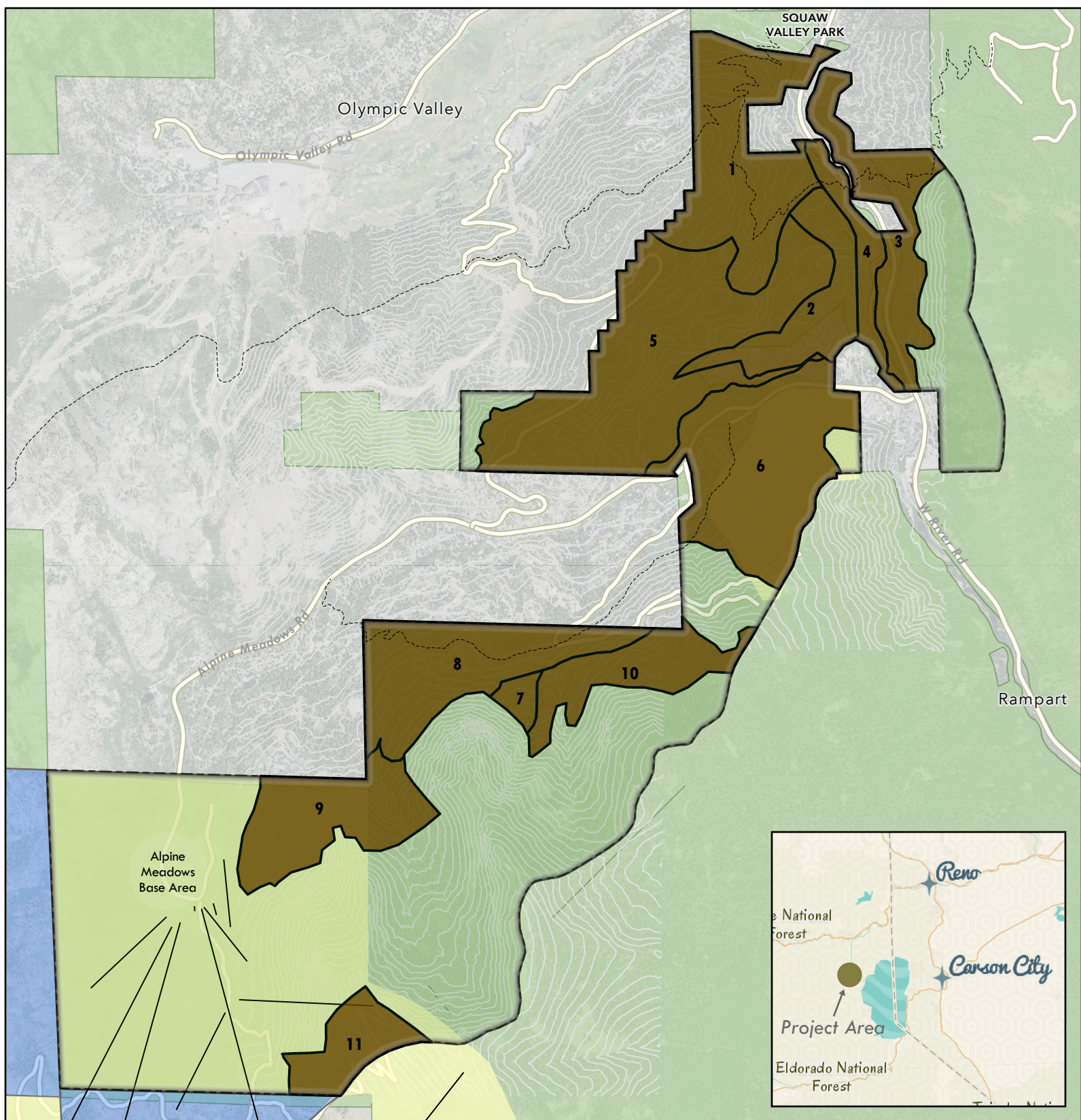
Project Budget Categories	SNC Funding
A) Project management and reporting, inc. travel	\$127,400
B) Forestry layout and oversight	\$125,380
C) Implementation of mechanical thinning, mastication, and hand thinning and piling	\$1,858,318
D) Hauling of fuel wood to Washoe Tribe wood yard	\$18,900
Administrative Costs	\$319,500
TOTAL	\$2,449,498

PROJECT DELIVERABLES**







Deliverable	Format	Date Due
Six-Month Progress Reports	SNC Report Templates	<i>August 1 and February 1 of each year. [†]</i>
Funding Acknowledgement signage	Picture / Location Map	Upon Project Completion
Updated Geospatial Files	See Geospatial Requirements in Project Reporting Requirements, below.	Upon Project Completion
764 acres of forest thinning	Map, GIS shape files	Upon Project Completion
400 tons of fuel wood delivered to Washoe Tribe	Truck tickets	Upon Project Completion
Request for Payment of Final Expenditures	SNC Request for Payment Worksheet	60 days from Completion of Project

Alpine Meadows Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project



Scoping Figure




- Existing**


 -  National Forest System Land
 -  Alpine Meadows Special Use Permit Area
 -  Alpine Sierra Ventures LLC
-  Major Roads
 -  National Forest System Trails
 -  Lifts

- Proposed**

 -  Treatment Units
 -  Analysis Area



0 0.5 Mile



Prepared October 2023 by 