



OLYMPIC VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT



EXHIBIT F-1
5 Pages

FUELS MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

DATE: September 26, 2023

TO: District Board Members

FROM: Brad Chisholm, Fire Chief; Mike Geary, General Manager; and Jessica Asher, Program Manager

SUBJECT: Fuels Management Program – Update

BACKGROUND: The Board of Directors directed staff to provide progress reports regarding Fuels Management at its monthly meetings for items not otherwise addressed within the Board agenda. 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: Olympic Valley Fuel Reduction Project (OV-1)
The Forest Fire Prevention Exemption Permit (FFPE) has been approved by CAL FIRE and Cross Check Services plans to begin work on the OV-1 project the week of September 18th. Work will continue for approximately 4-6 weeks.

Staff worked with Placer County to clarify ownership of the affected parcels. One of the parcels, which appeared to be owned by Placer County, is owned by The Poulsen Foundation, a charitable trust. The Placer County Public Administrator is the court-appointed receiver of the trust. The District has learned that several parcels within the Valley are held in this manner. Understanding this ownership structure will be helpful for future fuel reduction projects. The Public Administrator required a right of entry (ROE), which Mr. Geary signed. Following execution of the ROE agreement, the County signed the FFPE on behalf of the Poulsen Foundation, and the permit was submitted to CAL FIRE.

While securing the permit took longer than expected, the timing has worked well with Cross Check Service's schedule.

Olympic Valley Community Buffer (OV-4) Design and Permitting Project:

A community meeting has been scheduled for September 28th at 3:00 PM, flyer attached. Information about the meeting has been posted at the post office, sent out via email, posted on Next Door, and provided to the Firewise Community for distribution. Direct letters were also mailed and e-mailed to each landowner who owns property that is eligible for grant funding.

The anticipated schedule will have RPF Bradfield and Chief Chisholm meeting property owners, performing site reconnaissance, and completing archeological surveying this fall. Completion of layout and design, and preparation of the CEQA Notice of Exemption and CAL FIRE Forest Fire Prevention Exemption permits (as needed) will be completed this winter. Next year, staff expect to have a shovel-ready project, that will be competitive for implementation funding through grants.

O.V. Evacuation Corridor – S-Turns Fuels Reduction

The meadow is beginning to have conditions favorable for a resumption of fuels reduction work. If the project site is dry enough to advertise the project soon, fuels thinning work may be completed this fall. In September 2022, the Board authorized the General Manager to execute contract documents with the successful bidder for an amount not-to-exceed \$50,000, an amount equal to the grant funds received from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation.

Green Waste Disposal Days

The District is hosting five Green Waste Days in 2023, all scheduled for the second Sunday of each month, June – October. The Friends of Olympic Valley (FoOV) and OV Firewise Community have committed to staffing the site with volunteers on the Green Waste Days and Palisades Tahoe has agreed to staging the event on Olympic Valley Road, across from the Fire Station. District staff works with the FoOV/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.

EVENT	GREEN WASTE COLLECTED (CU. YD)	
	2023	2022
1. May	0 – Canceled, Snow	150
2. June	210	150
3. July	150	60
4. August	120	90
5. September	120	120
6. October		60
TOTAL	600	660

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 to rent 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. One rebate per garbage customer per year is allowed. The funds are primarily from the Garbage Fixed Asset Replacement Fund (FARF). For non-garbage customers, the source of funds is property tax revenue.

		July 1, 2021- June 30, 2022	July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023	July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024
Rate		\$128.93	\$136.67	\$146.03
Number of rebates		18	29	3
Reimbursed Expense	Valley	\$1,524	\$3,007	\$438
	River Rd.	\$523	\$950	\$146
	Total	\$2,046	\$3,957	\$584

Since the rebate was introduced in 2021, **51 rebates** have been provided for a total expense of **\$6,587.43**.

Placer County Chipper Days

The first of six residential chipping service days were scheduled with Placer County for July 25th, July 26th, August 29th, and August 30th. As of the date of this report, no property owners have reserved the service. While this might initially be viewed as a disappointment, it is believed these numbers are low only due to the success of the Green Waste Days. The final dates for the chipper program will be September 26th and 27th.

Defensible Space Inspections / Fire Aside:

Residential: Completed 100% of inspections of initial inspections and 130 second inspections in Olympic Valley. Completed roughly 50% in the River Corridor.

Commercial: 100% have been inspected. We had many fail the first inspection, primarily due to the new Zone 0 requirements. We are working with commercial properties and HOAs individually to bring all properties into compliance.

Short-Term Rental / AB-38: There has been a significant spike in requests ahead of the change in weather. Staff are diligently working to accommodate these requests. All defensible space inspections will end when the weather dictates.

We are noticeably behind in inspections compared with a typical year which is primarily the result of a late start due to snow melting, and the implementation of new software platform.

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

FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACTS: The District has been awarded \$685,911 in grant funding dedicated to planning and implementation of 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 - OV-1 (120 acres)	CAL FIRE	Nov. 2022	\$539,888	10%
Fuels Reduction – Evacuation Corridor- O.V. Road (3 acres)	Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF)	July 2022	\$50,000	0%
	Trout Unlimited / Friends of Squaw Creek	Nov. 2021	\$19,000	100%
Design and Permitting OV-4 (100 acres)	TTCF / CAL FIRE	July 2023	\$45,125	0%

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

Expenses related to the Green Waste Days are paid from rates and the Garbage Fixed Asset Replacement Fund, the current balance of the Garbage FARF is \$148,842. The costs estimated for this program include TTSD's delivery, pick-up, and disposal of three (3) 30-cubic yard containers per GWD, administration, and labor and expected to be approximately \$3,300/event if FoSV and the Firewise Community can provide volunteers on the five District-sponsored GWDs.

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

ATTACHMENTS: OV-4 Fuels Reduction Project Flyer - Community Meeting on Thursday, September 28th at 6:00.

DATE PREPARED: September 18, 2023

OLYMPIC VALLEY FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT

OV-4

What is OV-4?

OV-4 is a 150-foot shaded fuel break project surrounding the perimeter of the residential neighborhoods. The project as conceptualized encompasses approximately 130-acres.

Why do we need a Shaded Fuel Break?

The break will aid in fire suppression efforts and significantly reduce flame length, intensity, rate of spread and potential duration of wildfire in this area. Discontinuity of forest fuels will also improve forest health by increasing vigor and reducing damage from insects and disease.

Project Timeline

The current scope is for design and permitting only. After this phase, we hope the Project will be competitive for implementation funding from future grants.

COME LEARN ABOUT OV-4

September 28th at 3:00 PM

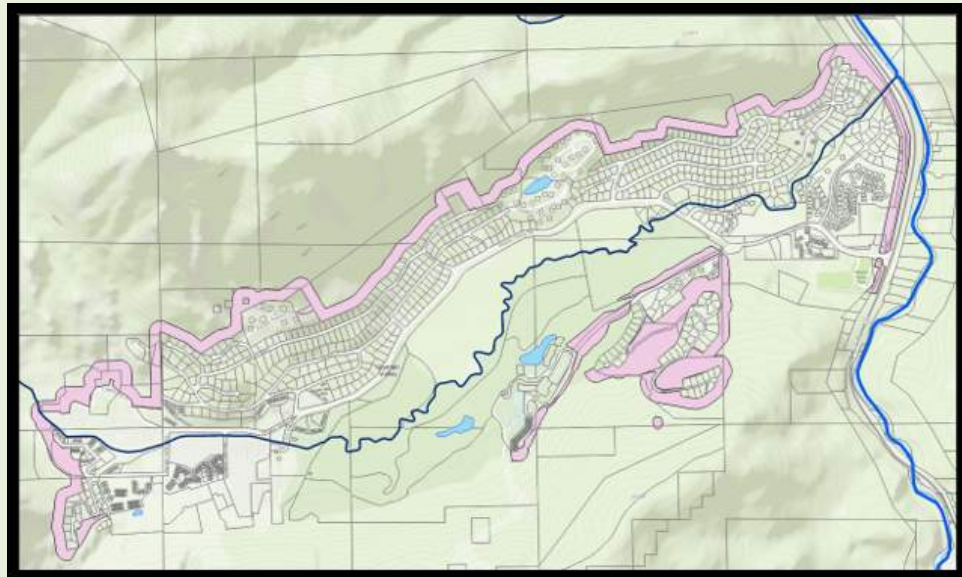
305 Olympic Valley Road

Or Join Via Zoom

<https://zoom.us/j/96567839668>

Meeting ID: 965 6783 9668

*There may be a field component, in person attendance is recommended



Learn more at www.ovpsd.org/ovfd/fuels-reduction-projects

Funding for this project provided by Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Wildfire Resilience Program