

Appendix B-8

LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION PROJECTS ESTIMATED NECESSARY EXPENSES & KEY MILESTONE DATES

Project Name: Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction – Phase 3, Round 9 Agency: USFS – LTBMU
 Prepared by: Brian Garrett Phone: 530-543-2617 EIP #: 10183
 SNPLMA Project #: _____

Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:

1. Planning, Environmental Assessment and Research Costs (specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, NEPA, etc.)	\$ <u>0</u>	<u>0</u> %
2. FWS Consultation – Endangered Species Act	\$ <u>0</u>	<u>0</u> %
3. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project	\$ <u>600,000</u>	<u>30</u> %
4. Project Equipment (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)	\$ <u>25,000</u>	<u>1</u> %
5. Travel (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)	\$ <u>15,000</u>	<u>1</u> %
6. Official Vehicle Use (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)	\$ <u>70,000</u>	<u>3.5</u> %
7. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project	\$ <u>900,000</u>	<u>45</u> %
8. Other Direct and Contracted Labor: Agency payroll for the Contracting Officer to do project procurement, COR, Project Inspector, Sec. 106 Consultation if required, NEPA Lead, Project Manager, Project Supervisor, and subject experts to review contracted surveys, designs/drawings, plans, reports, etc.; Also covered is the cost to contract for a Project Manager and/or Project Supervisor if contracted separately from other project contracts)	\$ <u>150,000</u>	<u>7.5</u> %
9. Other Necessary Expenses (see Appendix B-9)	\$ <u>240,000</u>	<u>12</u> %
TOTAL:	\$ <u>2,000,000</u>	<u>100</u> %

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

Milestones/Deliverables:	Date:
Prepare Contracts/Agreements	10/1/2009
Award Contracts/Agreements	7/15/2010
Complete Hand thinning treatments	11/30/2010
Complete Mechanical Treatments	11/30/2012
Final Completion Date:	12/31/2012

COMMENTS:

**APPENDIX K:
URBAN FOREST RESTORATION AND FUELS REDUCTION, PHASE 3
LAKE TAHOE CAPITAL PROJECT PROPOSAL
ROUND 9**

Consistency with Lake Tahoe nomination criteria:

Project nominations must qualify as an Environmental Improvement Program (EIP) project and be the responsibility of the federal government (federal share responsibility); and have a willing and ready federal sponsor.

Project nominations must be consistent with one of the focus areas in the June 2006 Federal Vision (pp. 8-9) (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/lbmu/documents/lbmc/revised-FV-Final.pdf>) and fit into at least one category.

Capital Focus Area (as described in the 2006 Federal Vision): *Forest Health*

Circle a minimum of one category:

1. Continued emphasis on fuels reduction in coordination with projects funded under the 2006 SNPLMA amendment (the “White Pine” amendment).

2. Continued implementation of projects approved in Rounds 5 through 8 which implement the EIP. Project proposal should clearly describe the phase/product being produced along with the consequence of not completing the project phase proposed for Round 9.

List project(s): Rounds 7 & 8 – Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction, Phases 1 and 2

3. Project is consistent with and contributes toward TMDL pollutant reductions within the four source categories (atmospheric, urban & groundwater, forested uplands, and stream channel).

List category(ies): Forested Uplands

4. Control of aquatic invasive species and prevention of new aquatic invasive species.

Project Name: Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction, Phase 3 of 4

EIP #: 10183

Lead Agency: USFS - LTBMU

Contact: Brian Garrett

Threshold: Vegetation

Phone Number: (530) 543-2617

Threshold Standard: Common Veg/Hazardous Fuels
bdgarrett@fs.fed.us

Email Address:

Funding Requested in this Round: \$2,000,000

Total Project Cost: \$7,000,000

Is this a multi-year Project? (If “Yes”, describe in the Detailed Project Description below number of years or phases and which year the requested funding will cover): Yes.

Project Summary (maximum 200 words): (applicable ONLY to this Round 9 project):

This proposal is a continuation (phase 3) of the Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction project. The project is focused on implementing initial treatments on the south shore of Lake Tahoe and will accomplish approximately 250 acres (180 urban forest parcels). This project also includes implementation of maintenance level treatments to address soil disturbance, invasive species control, hazard trees, insect and disease outbreaks, and second entry fuels treatments designed to complement defensible space treatments occurring on adjoining private lands (Community Wildfire Protection Plan projects). Approximately 200 acres (200-400 urban forest parcels) will receive maintenance treatments in the phase 3 project. Many of these projects will be implemented through cooperative agreements with local fire districts.

Detailed Project Description (focuses on what Round 9 is funding; list the number of years or phases the Round 9 requested funding will cover; if phased, briefly describe how this project links into previously phased projects including what remains for Rounds 10 and beyond):

This proposal is a continuation (phase 3) of the Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction project. Phase 1, funded at \$1,650,000 was approved in Round 7 and phase 2, funded at \$1,500,000, was approved in Round 8 under the Lake Tahoe SNPLMA. Phase 3 would begin in February 2009, with most of the project implementation occurring during the 2009 and 2010 field seasons.

This project is focused on the implementation of urban forest restoration and fuel reduction treatments on National Forest System urban forest parcels. The treatments being implemented under this project are included in the Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy.

This project will implement integrated resource management treatments as outlined in Alternative 3 of the LTBMU Urban Lot Environmental Assessment. This project will also implement fuels reduction treatments on National Forest System urban forest parcels that are currently being analyzed in the South Shore Fuels Reduction project (environmental analysis is expected to be completed in 2008). The analysis area includes 425 acres (220 urban forest parcels) located on the south shore of Lake Tahoe. These urban forest parcels are included in the South Shore Fuels Reduction project in order to adequately address hazardous fuels conditions in stream environment zones not analyzed in the Urban Lot EA. In addition, some larger parcels >5

acres required additional analysis, including new botany and wildlife surveys, to implement fuels reduction treatments and to analyze opportunities to use mechanized harvesting systems not analyzed in the Urban Lot EA.

It is anticipated that initial fuels reduction treatments on all National Forest System urban forest parcels on the North, East and West shores of Lake Tahoe will be completed by the end of 2008 (funded in phase 1 and 2). It is also anticipated that the bulk of initial fuel reduction treatments on National Forest urban forest parcels located on the South shore will be completed or under contract by the end of 2008 (funded in phase 2), with the exception of urban forest parcels being analyzed under the South Shore Fuels Reduction Project. This project (phase 3) will complete initial treatments on any remaining parcels analyzed under the Urban Lot EA and will begin implementation of the treatments analyzed by the South Shore Fuels Reduction project. A fourth and final project (phase 4) will be requested, in a future SNPLMA round, in order to complete all remaining treatments, approximately 180 acres.

The project is focused on implementing initial treatments on the south shore of Lake Tahoe and will accomplish approximately 250 acres (180 urban forest parcels). This project also includes implementation of maintenance level treatments to address soil disturbance, invasive species control, hazard trees, insect and disease outbreaks, and second entry fuels treatments designed to complement defensible space treatments occurring on adjoining private lands (Community Wildfire Protection Plan projects). Approximately 200 acres (200-400 urban forest parcels) will receive maintenance treatments in the phase 3 project. Many of these projects will be implemented through cooperative agreements with local fire districts.

Describe the goals and objectives of the project (those applicable ONLY to this Round 9 project):

The goals for the implementation effort are to facilitate the protection of life and property, the restoration of fire dependent ecosystems, the enhancement of fire suppression capabilities, enhancement of forest health, and enhance defensible space work occurring on adjacent private lands.

The major deliverables for Phase 3 of the Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction project are:

- Complete field exams for final determination of parcels to be treated, including “maintenance” projects (field season 2009)
- Complete field preparation of treatment areas, including final evaluation of hand vs. mechanical treatment opportunities (field season 2009)
- Award and complete hand thinning treatments (contracts, partnership agreements and force account projects) including contract inspections, field season 2009 and 2010
- Award and complete mechanical thin and biomass removal service contract, including contract inspections, begin as early as field season 2009 (could require up to 3 years to complete this phase, due to the need to coordinate with other mechanical harvesting projects)
- Complete pile burns from hand thinning contracts (beginning in field season 2010, with all burning expected to be completed by December of 2012).

The major milestones of this project are expected to be completed by the end of the 2010 field season. This would include project preparation work, hand thinning projects (initial treatment and maintenance projects, including partnership agreement work with local fire districts and the Fire Safe Chapter) and all contract awards. Any mechanical harvest contract may require up to 3

years to be completed (2012) and completion of pile burning could take up to December of 2012 to be completed. This project is estimated to be finalized around the end of 2012.

Describe the anticipated project accomplishments (i.e. products or identifiable environmental benefits being produced or implemented under this project):

This project will result in initial fuel reduction treatments of up to 250 acres (approximately 180 urban forest parcels) and maintenance treatments, including fuel reduction, timber stand improvement/hazard tree removal, restoration, and revegetation of disturbed areas, and invasive species control on up to 200 acres (200-400 urban forest parcels).

Describe the “readiness” of this project to move forward (urgency, capacity, capability, environmental documentation etc.):

This is an implementation project. The environmental analysis for this project was completed under the Urban Lot EA (1995/2002) and additional analysis under the South shore Project is scheduled for completion in summer 2008. This project has been identified as a high priority project for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.

Describe partnerships for this project. (if applicable, project should identify partner funding [committed/secured] and how it is integrated into the project): This project will partner with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA), Lake Valley Fire Protection District, South Lake Tahoe Fire Department, Fallen Leaf Fire Department, and the Lake Tahoe Basin Region of the Nevada Fire Safe Council for the implementation of a portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy 10 year plan.

The Forest Service is working with local agencies through the use of cost-share agreements for use of crews to help provide assistance on Urban Forest Restoration projects. The Forest Service also is working closely with the Nevada Fire Safe Council, Lake Tahoe Region to closely coordinate Urban Forest Restoration projects on National Forest lands with projects occurring on adjoining private lands. Treatments on National Forest urban forest parcels are included in priority treatments areas within the Community Fire Protection Plans for all seven fire protection districts within the Lake Tahoe Basin. Treatments implemented by phase 3 of this project are located within several of these areas.

Describe the project monitoring that will be implemented as part of this project including:

1) The questions the monitoring program is designed to answer.

What is the condition of individual urban lot parcels as it relates to vegetation, fuels, watershed and property management?

2) The monitoring approach (describe the methods and strategies [i.e. monitoring, research, or both] that will be used to verify whether the project goals and objectives have been met. A detailed monitoring/research plan is not required, but enough detail must be provided to allow someone that is unfamiliar with the project to understand and evaluate the proposed methods and strategies.):

Qualitative evaluation of condition is performed on each parcel every 3 to 5 years to determine management needs. Annually approximately 1200 urban intermix parcels are monitored. In addition, BMPEP monitoring is conducted where soil and water protection BMPs are applied as part of urban lot management, and ocular monitoring of smoke related to visibility and human health during prescribed burn activities.

3) Whether this project monitoring fits into a larger monitoring or research program (including how information from the monitoring and research will be used to improve the continued performance of the proposed project or improve future similar projects):

Part of the LTBMU Project level monitoring program as described in the LTBMU 5 Year Plan, 2006.

Describe these two items which will be considered along with the above project monitoring information by the Tahoe Science Consortium related to research and monitoring resource areas and the effectiveness of environmental restoration activities:

1) Describe the specific goals and objectives of the project and describe how fulfilling those objectives will contribute to the achievement of one or more environmental thresholds:

The *goals* of this project are to restore fire dependent healthy forest ecosystems, enhance fire suppression capabilities, and protect life and property; and restore areas of existing disturbed or damaged soils. The objectives are to reduce standing and down fuel loads, thin dense forest stands, reforest and revegetation existing disturbed areas, and control and prevent the spread of invasive weeds on National Forest acquired urban intermix parcels.

Maintaining remnant forest stands within developed areas (urban intermix parcels) is a critical element to maintaining the ecological integrity of the Lake Tahoe Basin and plays a direct role for attainment of TRPA's environmental thresholds through protection and restoration of these acquired lands. Acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands helps to mitigate the negative impacts of development on Lake Tahoe's watersheds by reducing the amount of impervious surfaces (roads and buildings) and maintaining the natural hydrologic function of undisturbed forest lands. These lands also increase the amount of valuable, less fragmented habitat necessary for the proliferation of Lake Tahoe's native plant and animal communities. Acquired urban parcels provide open space amongst development, enhancing Tahoe's renowned scenic beauty, great recreational opportunities, and quality of life.

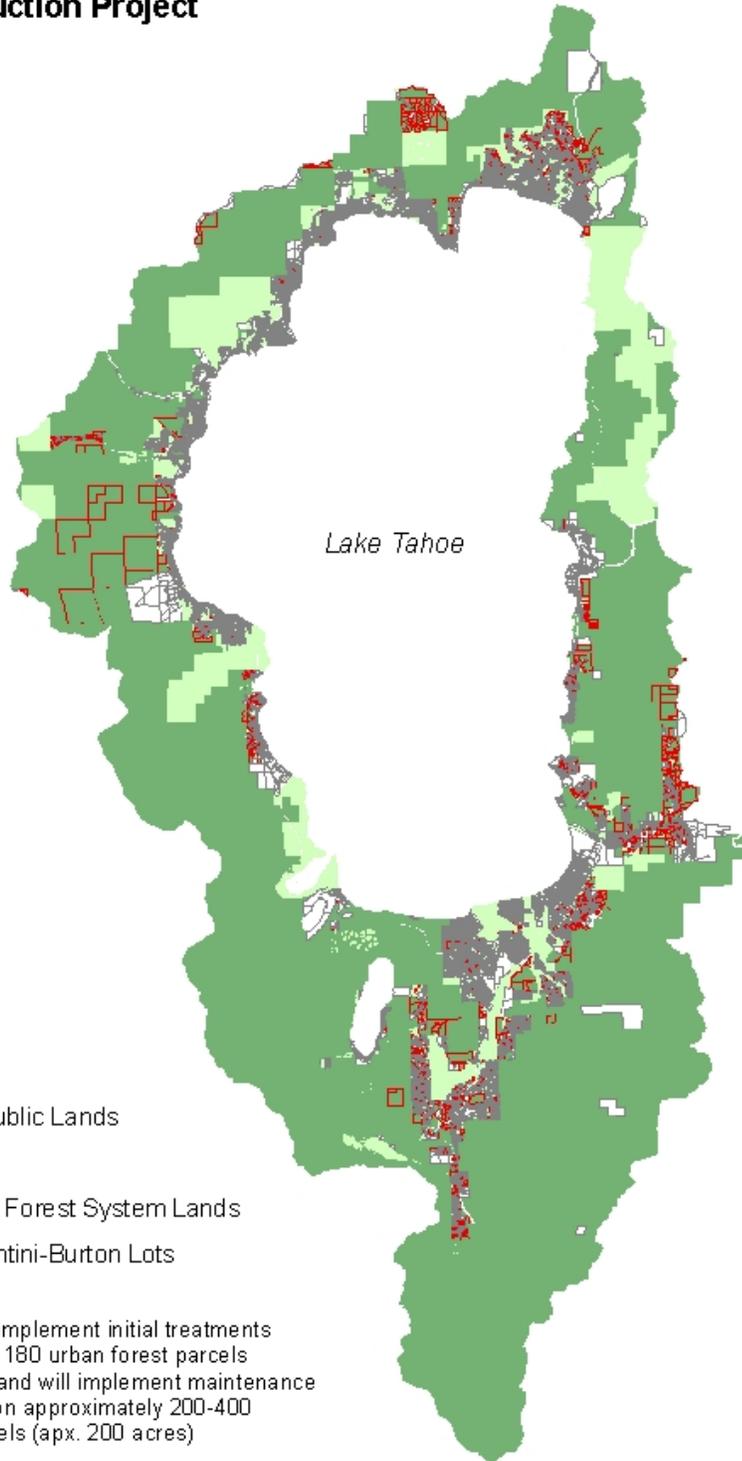
2) Describe the risk to the environment from failure of the proposed project (i.e. if the project fails what is the environmental consequence):

If the project fails to be funded, the risks or environmental consequences would be for those treatment areas to remain at risk to catastrophic wildfire should the area burn as well as remain at risk from increased insect and disease due to the present overstocked stands with very high fuel loads. Proposed stands could be partially treated by using timber sales to remove only the commercial portion of the treatment units, but the desired condition would not be reached and treatment stands would be left with fuel ladders from small live conifers as well as heavy fuel loads from standing dead and down trees. In addition, the treatments being implemented under this project improve defensible space effectiveness for adjoining private lands, protect life and safety through removal of potentially dangerous trees, stabilize and improve soils through BMP and restoration efforts, and control and reduce the spread of non-native invasive plants. These restoration activities are critical to creating healthy and fire resilient urban forest stands.

Describe how the project results will be communicated and made available to the public:
Forest Service website, PAO announcements and through annual accomplishment reporting, as well as the Annual Forest Monitoring Program Report.

PROJECT LOCATION MAP (all phases):

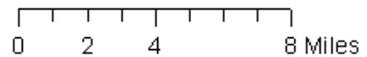
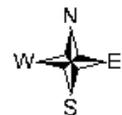
Lake Tahoe Urban Forest Restoration and Fuels Reduction Project



Legend

-  Other Public Lands
-  Private
-  National Forest System Lands
-  NFS Santini-Burton Lots

Phase 3 of 4 will implement initial treatments on approximately 180 urban forest parcels (apx. 250 acres) and will implement maintenance level treatments on approximately 200-400 urban forest parcels (apx. 200 acres)



Project Map 2: South Shore Fuels Reduction Project includes 220 urban forest parcels (425 acres) within the analysis area with will be partially implemented under this proposal.

