

Appendix B-8

LAKE TAHOE RESTORATION PROJECTS ESTIMATED DIRECT COSTS & KEY MILESTONE DATES

Project Name: Fireshed Assessment and Fuels Reduction Environmental Analysis Agency: USFS – LTBMU
 Prepared by: Scott Parsons Phone: 530-543-2687 EIP #: 10179.06
 SNPLMA Project #: _____

Identify estimated costs of eligible reimbursement expenses:

<p>1. Planning, Environmental Assessment and Research Costs (specialist surveys, reports, monitoring, data collection, analysis, NEPA, etc.)</p>	\$ <u>900,000</u>	<u>32</u> %
<p>2. Direct Labor (Payroll) to Perform the Project</p>	\$ _____	_____ %
<p>3. Project Equipment (tools, software, specialized equipment, etc.)</p>	\$ _____	_____ %
<p>4. Travel (including per diem where official travel status required to carry out project, such as serve as COR, experts to review reports, etc.)</p>	\$ _____	_____ %
<p>5. Official Vehicle Use (pro rata cost for use of Official Vehicles when required to carry out project)</p>	\$ <u>90,000</u>	<u>3</u> %
<p>6. Cost of Contracts, Grants and/or Agreements to Perform the Project</p>	\$ <u>1,488,000</u>	<u>54</u> %
<p>7. Other Direct Costs (direct labor for agency personnel to do project procurements; COR; PI; personnel assigned as NEPA lead; personnel assigned to review contracted surveys, designs/drawings, reports, etc.; project manager and/or project supervisor; and contracted costs for project manager and/or project supervisor if contracted separately)</p>	\$ <u>300,000</u>	<u>11</u> %
TOTAL*:	\$ <u>2,778,000</u>	<u>100</u> %

Estimated Key Milestone Dates:

Milestones/Deliverables:	Date:
Finish Basin-wide Fireshed Analysis	03-31-2006
Collect Field Data, Conduct Surveys for Environmental Analysis	Summer 2006
Prepare Contract for Environmental Analysis	11-2006
Start Environmental Analysis	1-2007
Finish Environmental Analysis, Sign Decision	12-2007
Final Completion Date:	12-31-2008

COMMENTS:

Fireshed Assessment will be completed by Forest Service staff. NEPA work will be accomplished by a combination of Forest Service staff work and private contractor.

Appendix I-2 GENERAL TAHOE PROJECT PROPOSAL

**Project Name: Fireshed Assessment and Fuels Reduction
Environmental Analysis**

EIP # 10179.06

Lead Agency: USFS - LTBMU

Contact: Scott Parsons

Phone Number: 530-543-2687

Threshold: Vegetation (V)

Email Address: sparsons@fs.fed.us

Threshold Standard: Common Veg/Hazardous Fuels

Total Project Cost: \$2,778,000

Round 6 Funding requested: \$2,778,000

Is this a multi-year project? Yes

Project Descriptions:

COMPONENT 1 - Finish work on a basin-wide fireshed assessment that will identify and prioritize areas in need of fuels reduction treatments by March 2006. A fireshed assessment is the new Forest Service regional direction for designing and scheduling site-specific fuels reduction projects. It consists of an interdisciplinary and collaborative process consistent with the goals of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, National Fire Plan, and national forest land and resource management plans. Identification of site-specific areas for implementation will be coordinated with the recently approved Lake Tahoe Community Wildfire Protection Plans. The completion of the fireshed assessment process is expected to cost approximately \$30,000 of the total proposal cost of \$2,778,000.

COMPONENT 2 –Prioritize projects identified through the Fireshed Assessment for environmental analysis.

COMPONENT 3 – Conduct required resource surveys and environmental analyses (combination of environmental assessments and categorical exclusions) to support a portion of the fuels reduction projects identified through the basin-wide fireshed assessment.

COMPONENT 4 - Conduct required resource surveys and environmental analyses (combination of environmental assessments and categorical exclusions) to support a portion of the fuels reduction projects on National Forest System lands identified through the Lake Tahoe Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

COMPONENT 5 – Implement projects with completed environmental analysis and signed decisions to proceed. (Subject to future funding in future SNPLMA “Rounds”.)

These environmental analyses for fuel reduction treatments would cover National Forest System lands throughout the Lake Tahoe Basin and would focus on the Urban Wildland Interface. These treatments would reduce the level of hazardous fuels within the defense and threat zones and would include the use of mechanical harvesters and chainsaws for thinning to reduce live tree densities, the use of prescribed fire for fuels reduction, and a combination of mechanical chipping and biomass utilization to reduce the amount of existing dead and down biomass to reduce fire hazards.

Describe the purpose and need for the project:

Conduct resource surveys and environmental analyses for reduction of fuel ladders, standing and down fuel accumulations, and canopy densities by modifying vegetation structure and fuel loads. Restore healthy, diverse, fire resilient forest structure through tree thinning, and introduce prescribed fire for fuels reduction purposes to restore fire regimes that were historically part of the ecosystem. Begin on-the-ground project implementation in 2008. Existing forest vegetation and fuel accumulations in many areas of the Lake Tahoe Basin pose a heightened risk for high intensity wildfire around private property (Lake Tahoe Watershed Assessment, 2000). The US Forest Service is directed to prioritize areas that have significant wildland fire risk to private property, watershed and wildlife habitat for fuel reduction treatments that will restore them to a healthy, diverse, fire resilient forest structure (National Fire Plan, 2000; Healthy Forest Initiative, 2002; Healthy Forest Restoration Act, 2003; Community Wildfire Protection Plans, 2005; Lake Tahoe Fireshed Assessment, in works).

Describe the goals and objective of the project (for Science & Research Projects describe Key Management Questions being addressed):

The *goals* of this project are to conduct environmental planning (resource surveys and environmental analyses) for projects that restore fire dependent ecosystem, enhance fire suppression capabilities, and protect life and property.

The *objectives* of this project are to conduct appropriate resource surveys and complete environmental analyses to designate and prioritize areas needing fuels reduction treatments within the defense and threat zones of the urban wildland interface. These treatments would modify the existing fuel profile to reduce fuel ladders, standing and down fuel loads, and vegetation so that treated areas would be able to withstand a wind-driven wildfire event without causing significant damage to residual trees; thin stands of trees so that growth and vigor of residual trees is maintained or increased to favor the development of large tree forest structure.

Describe the anticipated project accomplishments:

Complete a basin-wide fire assessment, resource surveys, and environmental analyses for a portion of the defense and threat zone fuels reduction treatments within National Forest System lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

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

The fire assessment is scheduled to begin in early summer of 2005 and should be finished by the end of 2005. This fire assessment will prioritize areas where environmental analyses for fuels reduction treatments are most needed. Environmental analyses would be scheduled for completion in 2007 and project implementation could begin in 2007/2008.

Describe partnerships for this project (include documentation):

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, North Tahoe Fire Protection District, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, Tahoe-Douglas Fire Protection District, and the Tahoe-Basin Fire Safe Council, for the implementation of a portion of the Tahoe Basin Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

For non-Science & Research Projects (i.e. restoration, planning efforts etc.) describe the anticipated project effectiveness monitoring program for use with adaptive management framework:

Project level monitoring will be identified as part of the environmental analysis process and will include elements of soil and water quality effects, Best Management Practices (BMP) effectiveness monitoring, and overall effectiveness monitoring of fuels reduction prescriptions.