

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
North Tahoe Fire Protection District
North Tahoe Fire Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Defensible Space Project
PDMC-PJ-09-CA-2010-019

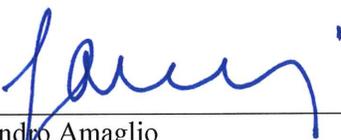
The North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD) has applied to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), for Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program funds to implement a fuels reduction project on the north and west shores of Lake Tahoe in Placer County, California.

NTFPD proposes to conduct fuels reduction on up to 1,013 "urban lot" parcels owned by the California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC), totaling up to 238 acres, within and adjacent to subdivisions within NTFPD boundaries. The proposed project would be accomplished using a "thin from below" method where smaller trees and brush are targeted for thinning and removal and larger trees are generally retained. Fuels reduction activities include tree salvage and thinning, brush treatment and removal, and removal of downed logs and other woody materials where the quantity creates a hazard. These activities would remove dead and dying trees, as well as smaller live trees which grow in the understory and sometimes larger trees as necessary, to achieve tree spacing goals. Fuels reduction treatments would be implemented by hand crews supervised by NTFPD and ongoing maintenance would be performed by CTC.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, FEMA prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate the impacts of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative on the quality of the human environment. The EA includes measures that would be implemented to mitigate, minimize, and avoid impacts to the human environment. FEMA prepared a Final EA after making a Draft EA available for public review and comment. FEMA received three pieces of correspondence during the 30-day Draft EA public review/comment period. The Final EA, which was specifically prepared to address comments received on the Draft EA, is available at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/117686> and the following locations: Tahoe City Branch Library, 740 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City (530-583-3382) and Kings Beach Branch Library, 301 Secline St., Kings Beach (530-546-2021).

Based on the information contained in the Final EA, a review of applicable environmental laws and orders, and in compliance with FEMA Instruction 108-1-1, the following is concluded for the Proposed Action:

A Finding of No Significant Impact. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared. For more information, contact the undersigned at (510) 627-7027 or fema-rix-ehp-documents@fema.dhs.gov. In accordance with 44 CFR Part 9 (Floodplain Management and Protection of Wetlands), no action will be allowed to occur until 15 days after the publication of this Finding of No Significant Impact.


Alessandro Amaglio
FEMA Region IX Environmental Officer

09/09/16
Date