



California Fire Safe Council
21 CALFIRE Evacuation Route Planning and Development Grant Program
Deadline: 12/15/2021

County of Lake
Soda Bay Corridor Evacuation Route Planning and Maintenance Project

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\$ 380,000.00 Requested

Project Contact

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Additional Contacts

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County of Lake

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County Administrative Officer

Carol Huchingson
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EIN	94-6000825
DUNS	071554760
(N)CAGE	69pv6
SAM Expires	

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County Information

1. Which county government do you represent?

Please note: only counties can apply.

County of Lake

2. List the individuals who will be part of your grant project team.

Identify the project manager; the director in charge of evacuation route planning; the contacts for programmatic and financial reporting.

Project Manager - Carol Huchingson; Director of Evac Route Planning - Scott De Leon; Programmatic and Financial Reporting - Alicia Ayala

3. Which department(s) within your county government is responsible to plan, designate, build, maintain, and operate wildfire evacuation routes?

Department of Public Works

4. Please describe your county (e.g., population, demographics, fire history, etc.)

Established in 1861, Lake County is a general law county governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors. The County encompasses 1320 square miles and is divided into five supervisorial districts. Policy making and legislative authority rests with the five-member County Board of Supervisors who serve four-year staggered terms.

The Board of Supervisors uses the appointed County Administrative Officer organizational structure to carry out policies set forth by County Ordinance and Resolution. Other elected officials of the County of Lake are the Assessor-Recorder, District

Attorney, Auditor-Controller/County Clerk, Sheriff-Coroner and Treasurer-Tax Collector. The voters of Lake County choose these public officials for four-year terms. Additional management consists of sixteen department heads appointed by the Board of Supervisors, one appointed by the University of California, and one appointed by the Lake County Superior Court Judges.

Lake County is located a 2 hour drive time from the San Francisco Bay area and the Sacramento metropolitan area. It is approximately 127 road miles north of San Francisco, 126 road miles west of Sacramento, and 80 road miles east of the Pacific Coast. Lake County is bordered by the counties of Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, Glenn, Colusa and Yolo and covers an area of approximately 803,840 acres.

Lake County's population is estimated, as of January 1, 2020, to be 64,040. The population for the two incorporated cities in Lake County, Clearlake and Lakeport as of January 1, 2020, is estimated to be 14,297 and 4,677 respectively.

Since 2015, Lake County has been ravaged by wildfire, burning more than 60% of our total land mass and a loss of more than 5% of our total housing stock:

Starting with the Rocky Fire on July 29 2015, we lost 96 structures of which 43 were homes.

Not long after the Rocky Fire came the Jerusalem Fire, on August 9, 2015, and we lost 27 structures, of which 6 were homes.

On September 12, 2015, the Valley Fire struck, far surpassing the magnitude of the two preceding fires. The Valley Fire destroyed 1,280 homes and was declared a federal disaster. A total of nearly 2000 structures were lost in the Valley fire.

On August 13, 2016, the Clayton Fire ignited just south of the community of Lower Lake, destroying 300 structures, including 189 residences.

On October 9, 2017, the Sulphur Fire erupted during red flag fire conditions, burning 2500 acres in and around Clearlake, for a loss of 162 structures, of which 138 were homes.

On June 23, 2018, the Pawnee fire broke out in the small rural community of Spring Valley and another 22 structures, of which 13 were homes, were lost to wildfire.

On July 27, 2018, the Mendocino Complex fire, also known as the River and Ranch Fires, burned an additional 277 structures of which 157 were homes.

On August 18, 2020, the LNU Complex broke out in South Lake County, incinerating another 9 homes.

Exactly a year later, on August 28, 2021, the Cache Fire erupted on the border of the City of Clearlake and unincorporated Lake County, burning yet another 56 homes in the City.

5. Latitude and Longitude

Enter the latitude and longitude of your county's administration building. Your response must be in decimal format to six places, for example: 39.375097 Latitude and -122.54454 Longitude.

39.043545	Latitude
-122.91658	Longitude
-83.87	TOTAL

6. Address of County's Administration Building

Example: 123 Main St, Sacramento, CA 95814
255 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport, CA 95453

Current Evacuation Route Planning and Implementation Status

7. Please describe your county's current efforts with evacuation route planning, construction, and maintenance, including recent (notable) evacuation route projects and/or accomplishments.

The area being requested (Soda Bay Corridor) has had a few projects that have assisted with evacuation route planning and maintenance. Two notable projects include a volunteer effort coordinated by the areas then-supervisor called the "1000 Hands Project", which got hundreds of volunteers to clear roadside vegetation along a portion of the corridor. The County Public Works Department supported the effort by providing dump trucks and loading equipment to haul away the debris. A second project was undertaken by Caltrans and Calfire to remove vegetation along the corridor. Both of these projects were performed in 2019.

8. Does your county have an evacuation plan in place?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ In progress
- ☐ Unknown
- ☐ Not applicable

9. If yes, enter the date the evacuation plan was last updated, or anticipated to be approved, and a link if it's available to view online.

Enter N/A if your county does not currently have an evacuation plan.
-no answer-

10. How many miles of evacuation routes are in your county? (estimated)

<input type="text"/>	# miles evacuation routes completed
<input type="text"/>	# miles evacuation routes incomplete or under construction
<input type="text"/>	# miles evacuation routes not started/in planning phase
<input type="text" value="0.00"/>	TOTAL

11. Does your county use any standards and practices to guide the identification, design and construction of evacuation routes?

- ☐ Yes
- ☒ No
- ☐ Unknown

12. If yes, describe where we can obtain a copy of the standards.

Please provide a link if the standards are available online or attach a copy to this application in the Documents tab. Enter N/A if standards are not available or not applicable.
-no answer-

13. Has this planning been done in coordination with any of the following, and if so which ones?

- ☐ County Office of Emergency Services
- ☐ County Sheriff
- ☐ Cal Fire or county fire authority
- ☐ Other:

Evacuation Needs

14. Looking ahead, how much funding would your county need to complete your evacuation goals and plans?

Enter dollar amounts in whole numbers. Do not include the dollar symbol (\$).

<input type="text" value="37000"/>	Planning
<input type="text" value="333000"/>	Fuels treatment/Road clearance
<input type="text"/>	Road construction
<input type="text" value="5000"/>	Signage
<input type="text" value="5000"/>	Public outreach/Education
<input type="text" value="380,000.00"/>	TOTAL

15. Describe the projects, in order of priority, that could be completed with the funding amount listed above in question 14.

1. The top priority project would be the removal of hazardous trees within the corridor that are dead, dying, distressed, or poised to fall onto the road - thereby blocking the evacuation route. This work would be accomplished by a contractor, hired to complete the work based on a competitive bidding process.
2. The second project proposed for this funding is the hiring of a consultant to prepare a comprehensive Wildfire Evacuation Route Plan (Plan) that would coordinate the various emergency responding agencies along with the Homeowner Associations (HOA's) of the multiple communities along the corridor. This plan would identify the evacuation procedures for various fire scenarios, together with identifying emergency notification plans and other pertinent details.

3. Using the consultant-prepared Plan, create signage and a public outreach plan to inform the residents of the various subdivisions about the evacuation plan.

4. Continued maintenance of the road right-of-way using county forces to perform vegetation management.

16. What additional resources, beyond funding if applicable, would you need to complete the projects listed above?

Enter N/A if not applicable

There will be a moderate level of effort required by county staff to complete the projects listed above. Tasks such as preparation of Requests for Proposals, environmental clearance documents, bid documents, and grant monitoring and fiscal accounting

17. What is the total amount (in dollars) of deferred maintenance for your evacuation routes?

Enter dollar amount in whole numbers. Do not include the dollar symbol (\$). Leave field blank if you don't know the amount.

Total amount of evacuation route deferred maintenance

TOTAL

GIS Capacity

18. Are your evacuation routes GIS mapped?

☐ Yes

☒ No

19. If yes, provide a link to any available information online.

Enter N/A if no link is available.

-no answer-

20. Does your county currently have access to GIS software?

☒ Yes

☐ No

21. If yes, what software do you currently use?

Select N/A if your county does not have access to GIS software.

☒ ESRI

☐ QGIS

☐ N/A

☐ Other:

22. If other, does it provide the ability to export .shp files?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ N/A

23. Does your county have professional GIS staff available to assist with this project?

☒ Yes, full-time staff

☐ Yes, part-time staff

☐ Yes, contracted staff

☐ No

Project Information

24. Executive summary

Provide a brief summary (2-3 sentences) of your proposed project.

This project would provide strategic planning for a coordinated plan to improve the ability to quickly and safely evacuate the citizens in this area in the event of an encroaching wildfire.

25. Which category of funding are you seeking?

Select all that apply

☒ Planning

- ✓ Fuels treatment/Road clearance
- ⊖ Road construction
- ✓ Signage
- ✓ Public Outreach and Education

26. Describe your project.

The Soda Bay Corridor consists of three main arterial roads: Point Lakeview Road, State Route 281 and Soda Bay Road which serve as the sole evacuation routes for the communities of Soda Bay, Kelseyville Riviera, Riviera Estates, Konocti Shores, Riviera West, Buckingham and Riviera Heights. These rural, two-lane roads extend for a length of nearly ten (10) miles along the south shores of Clear Lake. Within these communities, more than 15 connecting streets provide egress from unincorporated residential areas. Kelseyville Riviera, Riviera West, Buckingham and Riviera Heights are all Firewise Communities and the four homeowner associations comprise the Konocti Area Fire Safety Council. Taken as a whole, the geographic area included in this project comprises the second highest population area in Lake County. For this entire region, the Soda Bay Corridor is the only evacuation route.

27. Will this project hire new employees or contractors? Please describe.

This project will hire contractors for two phases of the work - development of the Evacuation Plan and the removal of roadside vegetation.

28. Describe the plan(s), documents, materials, signs, fuels treatments, etc. that will be created through this project. Who will implement the work plan?

Using the priority projects described in Question 15 above, the following are the expected items to be created or achieved by this project:

1. The top priority project would result in the removal of hazardous trees within the corridor that are dead, dying, distressed, or poised to fall onto the road - thereby blocking the evacuation route. This work would be accomplished by a contractor – or contractors - hired to complete the work based on a competitive bidding process. Continued maintenance of the public road easement would be accomplished by the County Road Department
2. The second project proposed for this funding would result in the preparation of a comprehensive Wildfire Evacuation Route Plan (Plan) that would coordinate the various emergency responding agencies along with the Homeowner Associations (HOA's) of the multiple communities along the corridor. This plan would identify the evacuation procedures for various fire scenarios, together with identifying emergency notification plans and other pertinent details. This plan would be developed by a consultant under contract with the County of Lake.
3. Though specific details would be provided by the consultant who prepared the evacuation plan, it is expected that the public outreach would involve roadside signage, informational mailers, social media outreach, and print/radio media efforts to inform the residents of the various subdivisions about the evacuation plan. These documents would be implemented by the County, with the consultant providing guidance on each effort.

29. Do you anticipate any permits or approvals will be required to complete your project? If so, please describe.

It is expected that environmental review of the vegetation removal portion of the project will be required to satisfy California Environmental Quality Act(CEQA) requirements. If ground disturbance is minimized, the CEQA clearance should be straightforward

Project Outcomes and Evaluation

30. Please describe the anticipated outcomes of the Wildfire Evacuation Route Planning and Development Grant?

The anticipated outcomes include:

A roadway corridor that is free from hazardous trees that have the potential to fall and block the escape route during a wildfire.

A roadway corridor that is cleared of heavy flammable materials and then maintained to not only provide a safe evacuation route but also a fire-break by virtue of the low fuels.

A comprehensive plan that coordinates the various emergency response agencies along with the Homeowner Associations (HOA's) of the multiple communities along the corridor. This plan would identify the evacuation procedures for various fire scenarios, together with identifying emergency notification plans and other pertinent details.

Informed residents who understand the details of the plan and know how to respond in the event of an emergency.

31. How will you measure the success of the Wildfire Evacuation Route Planning and Development Grant?

The success of this project will take several forms, to include:

A roadway corridor that is cleared of heavy flammable materials and then maintained to not only provide a safe evacuation route but also a fire-break by virtue of the low fuels. Final payment to the contractor, or contractors, for this work will signal the

successful completion of this portion of the project.

Completion of the plan that coordinates the various emergency response agencies along with the Homeowner Associations (HOA's) of the multiple communities along the corridor and that provides evacuation procedures for various fire scenarios, together with identifying emergency notification plans and other pertinent details.

Ultimate success would be measured by a successful evacuation of the area for a given wildfire emergency - preferably demonstrated in a coordinated drill and not a real emergency.

32. How will your county work to sustain your project after the close of the grant term?

As previously discussed, the County Road Department will perform vegetation management on that portion of the corridor that is within the County road right of way.

Additional support for continued outreach and education of homeowners will be accomplished through various efforts, such as: Risk Reduction Authority, County Office of Emergency Services and the Lake County Disaster Council.

Budget [top](#)

Matching Funds Sources (optional)	Funds
-none-	\$ 0.00
Evacuation Route Project Expenses	Budget
Personnel	\$ 10,000.00
Fringe Benefits (if not included in Personnel)	
Travel	
Supplies	\$ 33,000.00
Contractual	\$ 327,000.00
Other	\$ 10,000.00
Indirect	
Total	\$ 380,000.00

Budget Narrative

Using the Item Description categories above, please find the following narratives:

Personnel - this is expected to account for County staff time required to develop the Request for Proposals, bidding documents, contracts and perform other associated tasks related to the contracting of professional services to create the Evacuation Plan and to remove hazardous vegetation from the corridor. Also included is staff time for grant billing, oversight, and preparation of reports as required.

Supplies - this line item is expected to reimburse the County Road Department for the purchase of a Masticator Head for their John Deere Excavator. This equipment will be used to maintain the corridor following the removal of the hazardous vegetation by the contractor. Staff time to install the equipment onto the excavator as well as perform maintenance within the corridor will be borne by the Department of Public Works.

Contractual - this line item represents the contracted work for the project - which includes a consultant to prepare the Soda Bay Corridor Evacuation Route Plan and a contractor (or contractors) to remove the existing hazardous vegetation within the corridor.

Other - this line item represents costs related to signage and public outreach materials

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Work Plan

Task #	Activity	Timeline	Responsible Party	Expected Outcome/Result
1	Preparation of a Request for Proposals for professional services to prepare the Soda Bay Corridor Evacuation Response Plan		County of Lake	Selection of a consultant to prepare the report and approval of a professional services agreement with the selected firm.
2	Preliminary Engineering to determine the scope of work for the project,		County of Lake with assistance from	Completion of a thorough inspection of the corridor to identify hazardous trees

	including: location and type of tree to be removed, affected property owner, project description memo	members of the Konocti Area Fire Safe Council	together with determining property ownership for trees outside the County right of way. Obtain rights of entry for trees to be removed on private property
3	CEQA review based on project description memo	County of Lake	Environmental clearance for the project with either Categorical Exemption or Mitigated Negative Declaration
4	Develop bid documents for removing identified trees and solicit prices from contractors for removal of identified hazardous trees	County of Lake	Bids from responsible bidders for the removal of hazardous trees
5	Award contracts - one for professional services for the development of the Evacuation Response Plan and the other contract for removal of hazardous trees	County of Lake	Hiring of a professional consultant to prepare the Evacuation Response Plan and hiring of a contractor to perform the work required to remove hazardous trees within the corridor
6	Preparation of an Evacuation Response Plan - which is expected to include: public meetings to solicit information for a draft plan, public review of the plan, and public meetings to inform the various homeowner groups of the details of the plan	Professional Consultant	Completed Soda Bay Corridor Evacuation Plan and public outreach and education about the details of the plan. This will likely also include a simulated evacuation drill.
7	Removal of hazardous trees within the Corridor	Licensed Contractor (or Contractors)	Removal and disposal of hazardous trees within the corridor
8	Maintenance of Evacuation Area (within the Road Easement)	ongoing County of Lake	Control of vegetation within the corridor area to maintain the cleared area
9			
10			
11			
12			
Total			

Documents [top](#)

Documents Requested *

Government Information Letter from IRS (Consult your finance/business department or see template for instructions on how to request the letter)

[download template](#)

Organization by-laws

Board of Directors OR Board of Supervisors roster



Three years or most recent 990 or 990EZ form

Copies of the last five years' audit reports and management letters received from an independent auditor, if applicable

Copies of reports of government agencies (Inspector General, state or local government auditors, etc.) resulting from audits, examinations or monitoring procedures performed in the last three years

Certificate of insurance



Non-Applicable Documents Memo - County applicants only

[download template](#)

Other Documents - Upload any additional or optional documents here

Required? Attached Documents *

** ZoomGrants™ is not responsible for the content of uploaded documents.*

Application ID: 378786

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