

Northshore Fire Protection District

Proposal:

Wildland Fire Fuels Crew



Impact



Fuels Crew will clear brush and fuels from risk identified areas and potentially conduct prescribed burns where appropriate within the County



Fuels Crew can take over mop-up on incidents allowing for EMS/FF personnel to be released from scenes quicker to respond to other calls.



Crew will conduct fuel mitigation projects to assist senior community members and/or be available for hire for clearing brush within the Northshore Fire District and throughout Lake County.

First Year Funding

\$1,183,779

- Payroll + Benefits \$662,000 **(FUNDED)**
 - FT Crew Captain
 - FT 10 Crew Members (12hr shifts x 4)
- Equipment \$473,779
 - Wildland PPE
 - Radios
 - Team Tools (Chain Saws, Chipper, Hand Tools)
 - Vehicles (Transport Van, Flatbed, Truck)
- Operating Costs \$48,000
 - Recruitment/Training
 - Fuel & Supplies
 - Crew Quarters

Source of Funds Pursued:

Major Donor Sponsorships

Grant opportunities

Partnerships with Lake County Organizations

Funding reserves for such project work

Fuels Crew Program Requirements



Prioritization

ESTABLISH RISK AND HAZARD CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITIES TO DETERMINE PRIORITY PARCELS.

PARTNERSHIPS WITH CLERC, RRA, FIRE SAFE COUNCILS, LC FIRE CHIEFS ASSOC., AND CODE ENFORCEMENT.



Mitigation

UNDERSTAND WHAT IS ALREADY BEING DONE BY CWPP (COUNTY WIDE PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM) AND HOW THE NORTHSORE FUELS CREW CAN FULFILL A ROLE IN THE PLAN.

ESTABLISH TREATMENT OPTIONS: CHIPPING, BIOMASS REMOVAL SERVICE, PRESCRIBED BURNS, FIRE LINES, ETC..



Community

DEVELOP INCLUSIVE COOPERATION WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND INCREASE AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

PROVIDE DEFENSIBLE SPACE ASSESSMENTS

OFFER HOME HARDENING EDUCATION
TRAIN RESIDENTS ABOUT THE FUELS CREW PROGRAM AND HOW THEY CAN PARTICIPATE OR REQUEST SERVICES.

Northshore Fuels Crew Members

- Recruitment

- Fuel Crew Teams (min age 18 yrs.)
- Meet Standard requirements of NFPD
- NFPD will train crew for the job

- Source of Recruitment

- Graduating Seniors
- Community Colleges
- Tribal Communities
- Hiring Agencies

- Training & Development

- Model how existing crews have had success
- Knowledge transfer with North Lake Tahoe Fire District with site training and onboarding opportunities
- Specialized training for fuel mitigation projects and established program details
- Ongoing training to fuels crew request/response activity and further qualify crew for core job functions

Potential Roadblocks



Initial development costs/funding

Not able to acquire the 1st Year costs for payroll, operating overhead, and equipment by target date to pilot a crew or to not successfully achieve the amount needed to launch program. Outstanding funds needed **\$521,779**



Community, District, and County Perception

Lack of awareness/understanding within the County of having a Wildland Fire Fuels Crew or working in isolated to only one area that lessens the impact and perceptions of communities and residents

Incapable of finding qualified Crew members that represents the Northshore Fire Protection District in a professional manner both on and off the fireline.



Sustainability

Failure to build partnerships or continuity for future sustainable funding or under-developed program that under utilized the Fuels Crew or having lack of work to keep fuels crew employed year round