

RESOLUTION No. 23-420

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION RETROACTIVELY AUTHORIZING THE NEVADA COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM (HMGP) FOR THE PREPARE CALIFORNIA MATCH: LOWER DEER CREEK – PENN VALLEY HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$5,000,000 WITH NO REQUIRED MATCH AND AUTHORIZING THE DIRECTOR OF OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES TO EXECUTE ALL ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO FULFILL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE GRANT APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Services is responsible for mitigating wildfire hazards in the County; and

WHEREAS, the County of Nevada has a severe and present danger of wildfire presenting a threat to public health and safety; and

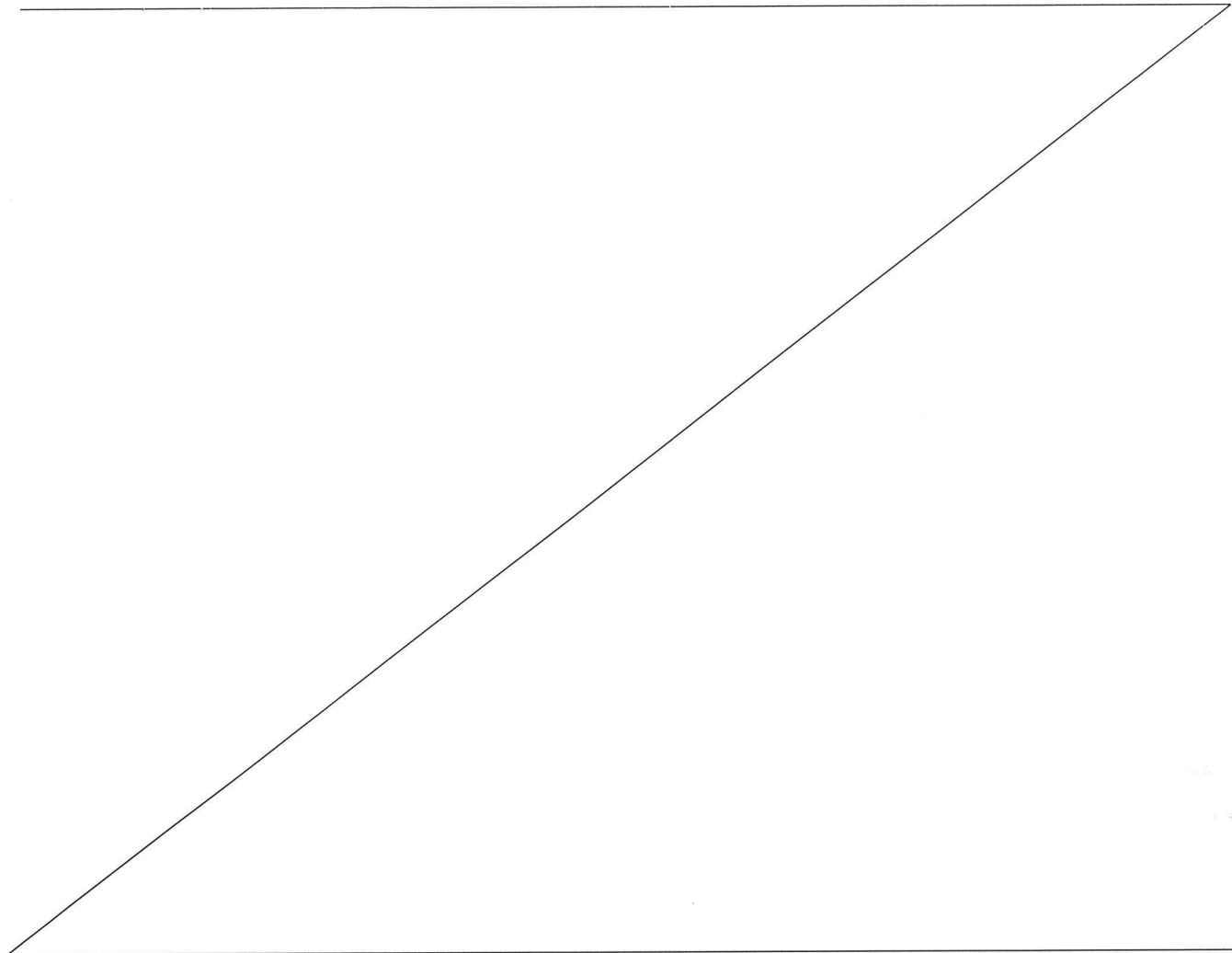
WHEREAS, the Lower Deer Creek – Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project is strategically located to reduce the risk of wildfire in heavily populated, socially vulnerable, and high hazard risk communities; and

WHEREAS, due to benefit to eligible and socially vulnerable communities this project qualifies for submission as a Prepare California Match Project, whereby Prepare California Match can be used to meet HMGP's 25% non-federal (local match) requirement; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Emergency Services submitted a Notice of Interest (NOI) to Cal OES for this project and funding opportunity and was invited to submit a full sub-application for consideration of funding by the deadline of August 4, 2023; and

WHEREAS, if awarded, acceptance of this grant will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval per County Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Nevada County does hereby authorize the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to retroactively submit a grant application to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) in an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 with no required match and authorizes the Director of Office Emergency Services to execute all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant application on behalf of the County of Nevada.



PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 8th day of August, 2023, by the following vote of said Board:

- Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward C. Scofield, Lisa Swarthout, Susan Hoek and Hardy Bullock.
- Noes: None.
- Absent: None.
- Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

JULIE PATTERSON HUNTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 


Edward C. Scofield, Chair

**Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
DR-4683: Wildfire and Vegetation Management Projects**

Project Number: PA-00002318

Prepare California Match: Lower Deer Creek - Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Project Duration: 36 months

Location Coordinates: 39.222133, -121.199096

Project Budget: Not to Exceed \$5,000,000

- Federal Share Request: \$3,750,000
- Required Applicant Match: \$1,250,000

Project Match: Since the proposed action will directly and primarily benefit eligible socially vulnerable and high hazard risk communities this project qualifies for submission as a Prepare California Match Project, whereby Prepare California Match can be used to meet HMGP's 25% non-federal (local) match requirement.

Problem Statement: The greatest threat to life and property in California is wildfire. Years of drought and a century of fire suppression have resulted in millions of acres of stressed, desiccated, overly-dense forests that are ripe for devastating wildfire.

Six of the seven largest fires in California history have occurred in the last three years, including two that exceeded one million acres in size and two that crossed from one side of the Sierra to the other-- something that had never happened in recorded history. From 2000-2019 California lost an average of 600 thousand acres per year to wildfire; in the last three years over seven million acres have burned – a six-fold annual increase. The pace and scale of wildfire has risen exponentially in California and demands immediate action to prevent future loss of life and property.

The *Prepare California Match Lower Deer Creek - Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project* is a Wildfire and Vegetation Management project that aims to reduce the risk of wildfire in a heavily populated, socially vulnerable, and high hazard risk community. This project is strategically located in the lower reach of the Deer Creek watershed in Nevada County, within one of the United States Forest Service's (USFS) top 10 priority fireheds for the Pacific Southwest Region. This area is covered by CAL FIRE Battalion 14, which since 1980 has had over 30 fires that exceeded 100 acres in size. Any wildfire in the project area impacts the CAL FIRE Air Attack Base at the Nevada County Airport, one of only 13 Air Attack Bases in California.

In sum, the project will serve to protect four communities housing over 15,000 residents, including the communities of North San Juan (Census Tract 06057000900), Penn Valley (Census Tract 06057000404), Rough and Ready (Census Tract 06057000404), and Lake Wildwood (Census Tract: 06057000401). North San Juan, Rough and Ready, and Penn Valley are all considered to be socially vulnerable.

Project Summary: The *Prepare California Match Lower Deer Creek - Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project* is a Wildfire and Vegetation Management project that has been scoped as two 18-month phases.

Phase 1: The implementation plan for Phase 1 is to conduct the necessary community outreach, technical planning, cost assessments, and environmental permitting to have a shovel-ready implementation project with an accurate budget and benefit/cost analysis at the end of 18 months. The planning area for the project is approximately 1,500 acres and a key step for the Phase 1 Mitigation Action will be to identify the appropriate treatment prescription that will protect critical infrastructure and vulnerable communities through deployment of nature-based solutions that will mitigate the risk of future devastating wildfires.

Phase 2: The Phase 2 Mitigation Action (also 18-months) is to conduct the on-the-ground hazardous vegetation abatement actions that are identified through Phase 1.

PROJECT TASKS

PHASE I

Task 1: Phase I Project Management

Deliverables:

- Progress Reports and Invoices
- RFPs/Procurement Materials
- Vendor Contracts

Task 2: Outreach and Engagement

Deliverables:

- List of Contacts
- List of Meetings/Outreach Events Attended
- Meeting Notes and Agendas
- Social Media Posts, Print Articles, Radio Interviews

Task 3: Project Design

Deliverables:

- Landowner Right of Entry Agreements
- Treatment Area Maps
- Treatment Prescriptions Developed by RPF
- Landowner Approval of Treatment Prescriptions
- Parcel List
- Photos of Treatment Areas
- Final Project Design
- Updated Cost Estimate, if applicable
- Updated BCA, if applicable

Task 4: Environmental Permitting (State)

Deliverables:

- Reconnaissance-Level Biological Survey (California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and USFWS data)

- Cultural Resource Records Search (CHRIS info data sheets or other information obtained from SHPO)
- Cultural Resource Site Surveys
- Pre-Treatment Biological Surveys
- PSA, Addendum, and MMRP under CalVTP
- Visual Impact Survey
- EPA Environmental Justice Analysis

Task 5: Phase I Finalization and Submission

Deliverables:

- Updated FEMA Environmental Checklist
- CEQA Documentation
- Provision of Applicable Data to FEMA for NEPA

PHASE 2

TASK 1: Hazardous Fuels Abatement to Protect Densely Populated Areas

- NEVCO Private Property Lake
- Lake Wildwood Campground

TASK 2: Ingress and Egress Improvements

- Mooney Flat Road
- Back Side of Lake Wildwood
- Additional County Road Miles (mileage in vicinity of project area not included in 300 miles of current FEMA HMGP Phase I)

TASK 3: Hazardous Fuels Abatement in Deer Creek Canyon

- Hazardous Fuels Abatement Above Lake Wildwood (tie into Ponderosa Phase 2 Project)
- Hazardous Fuels Abatement Below Lake Wildwood (to fuels abatement along Mooney Flat)

TASK 4: Protection of Critical Infrastructure

- Minnow Way Water Treatment Plant
- Pleasant Valley Road Sewage Treatment Plant

TASK 5: Defensible Space and Community-Led Fuels Abatement

- Lake Wildwood
- Adjacent Firewise Communities
- Lake Wildwood Green Waste

TASK 6: Wildfire Mitigation Outreach and Education

- Wildfire Preparedness Community Education
- Vegetation Abatement Maintenance Education

Proposed Action: The acceptable and proposed action to mitigate risk is to secure FEMA HMGP and Prepare California Match funding for a phased project to reduce hazardous fuels and thus wildfire potential in the Lower Deer Creek/Penn Valley area of Nevada County, California. Implementation of

this project supports six integrated outcomes: (1) abate hazardous fuels to protect densely populated areas; (2) improve ingress and egress; (3) abate hazardous fuels in Deer Creek Canyon; (4) protect critical infrastructure; (5) create defensible space in communities; and (6) increase public understanding of wildfire risk.

The Phase 2 implementation area would consist of hazardous fuels abatement across approximately 1,000 acres, including areas around critical infrastructure and along key ingress and egress routes. The outcome of this project will be to increase the visibility of the need for hazardous fuels reduction in and around infrastructure and along evacuation routes among residents and to implement a project that will directly reduce risk for four rural communities including three classified as socially vulnerable and over 15,000 people.

From: [No Reply - HMA](#)
To: [Alex Keeble-Toll](#); [Craig Griesbach](#); [Paul Cummings](#)
Subject: Status of your NOI Request
Date: Wednesday, May 17, 2023 9:27:09 AM

CAUTION: This email is from an external sender. If you are not expecting this email or don't recognize the sender, consider deleting.

Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. If you have more questions search for Cybersecurity Awareness on the County InfoNet.

Hi Alex Keeble-Toll,

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) has received the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Notice of Interest (NOI) submitted by your agency.

Project Number: PA-00002318

Subapplicant Name: Alex Keeble-Toll

Activity Title: Prepare California Match: Lower Deer Creek - Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

Federal Share Request: \$3,750,000.00

Required Applicant Match: \$1,250,000.00

Your NOI was reviewed by Cal OES staff and determined to represent an eligible HMGP activity.

This email is the formal invitation for your organization to submit a full subapplication for consideration of HMGP funding.

Please refer to the [HMGP webpage](#) for the following:

- Subapplication due date
- HMGP project and planning subapplication forms
- Subapplication Development and Benefit Cost Analyst (BCA) training resources

Subapplications received after the posted due date may not be considered for the current funding opportunity. Subapplications received after the

posted due date will be considered for future funding opportunities.

Please direct any questions to HMA@caloes.ca.gov.

Thank you for your interest in the Hazard Mitigation Assistance program.

Sincerely,
Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance Branch



DRAFT SUB-APPLICATION

FEMA HMGP: AP-01084

Prepare California Match: Lower Deer Creek – Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

OVERVIEW

Brief Summary. 395/2500

The Lower Deer Creek - Penn Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project is a Wildfire and Vegetation Management project that aims to reduce the risk of wildfire in a heavily populated, socially vulnerable and high hazard risk community by planning (Phase 1) and implementing (Phase 2) fuels reduction actions around densely populated areas, critical infrastructure, and along key evacuation routes.

Describe how the proposed project is eligible for FEMA HMGP funding as defined by the eligible activities contained in the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance Guidance document. 0/2000

PROJECT ALTERNATIVES

No Action. 0/2500

Proposed Action. 0/2500

Second Action Alternative. 0/2500

Provide a detailed narrative of the hazards to be mitigated against and the impact the hazards present to the community and/or property. 0/2500

Provide a detailed description of the area and population that will be impacted by this project. 0/2500

Number of People or Project(s) Impacted by the Action:

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Describe the problem to be mitigated. 0/2500

Trigger event for loss avoidance analysis. 0/2500

SOLUTION DESCRIPTION

What is the mitigation action for Phase 1? 0/2500

What is the mitigation action for Phase 2? 0/2500

How will this action provide protection from future natural hazards? 0/2500
PROJECT DELIVERABLES

List the Deliverables for Phase 1 of the proposed project. 0/2500

List the Deliverables for Phase 2 of the proposed project. 0/2500

UPLOAD Upload as a separate document (PDF)

Scope of Work Documentation

WORK SCHEDULE Fill out schedule in portal.

- Work schedule should mirror the Scope of Work and Cost Estimate.
- Columns include Phase, Task Name, Description, Start Month, Duration (Months).
- Describe each of the major work elements and milestones in the description.
- Project Close-Out should be included which must be 3 months in duration.
- A GANNT chart may be provided as supplemental documentation.
- Total project duration must not exceed a 36-month period of performance.

UPLOAD Upload excel GANTT chart as separate file.

Work Schedule GANNT Chart

HMGP – WILDFIRE & VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Describe who will be implementing the project and financial arrangements in place. 0/255

Describe how the proposed project is designed to protect residential buildings, neighborhoods, non-residential buildings, structures and/or infrastructure from future wildfire hazards or post-wildfire hazards. 0/255

Describe the wildfire mitigation treatments proposed, and type of equipment to be used to accomplish the activities. 0/2500

Describe the existing wildfire mitigation local building, land use, land development codes for the project area. 0/2500

Provide a narrative describing how the proposed action meets the purpose and need of the project. 0/2500

Describe how the proposed mitigation activities significantly reduce the vulnerability of target structures or facilities to the identified hazards. 0/2500

Provide a statement that a draft of the Operations and Maintenance Plan (OMP) to maintain the treatment area throughout the useful life of the project will be provided at close-out. 0/2500

How many structures are proposed to have defensible space treatments in each project area? 0/2500

What is the total combined acreage for all treatments included in the project area?

Describe the treatment and distance (Best Management Practices) which will be used to inform how defensible space will be performed. 0/2500

UPLOAD Upload Wildfire and Vegetation Documents.

Photos of all sides of each building. Provide photos of all sides of each building to be treated.

How action meets purpose and need. Provide a narrative describing how the proposed action meets the purpose and need of the project.

Attach Best Management Practices document. Attach Best Management Practices document if available.

Maps of all project components. Provide a map(s) of all components of the project in relation to the structures or facilities to be mitigated.

PROJECT SITES

Have all specific sites where project work will be conducted been identified?

What is the percentage level of design?

If you do not know all of the specific projects where work will be completed, or if you design level is below 60% this will need to be a Phased Project. You will need to submit a new NOI. Contact your HMA grants Specialist or send an email to hma@caloes.ca.gov, referencing this subapplication by the AP # and request a conversation about phasing the project.

SITE INVENTORY

Complete the site inventory for all project sites, please ensure to add the required photos to each project site as uploaded files.

Fill out chart in portal. Columns include #, Site Name, Site Address, Action.

PROJECT COST ESTIMATE

Fill out chart in portal. Columns include #, Phase, Cost Type, Item Name, Unit Quantity, Unit of Measure, Unit Cost, Cost Estimate Total, Pre Award Cost, Cost Estimate Narrative, Action.

COST REVIEW

Phase 1 Project Costs.

Phase 2 Project Costs.

Total Project Cost.

Non-Federal Cost Share (Match).

Non-Federal Cost Share (Match) Percentage.

Federal Share Request.

UPLOAD Cost Review Documentation

Cost Estimate Supporting Documentation. Provide supporting documentation to substantiate your cost estimate, including documentation that demonstrates the pre-award costs incurred within the authorized period for pre-award. The pre-award period is after the disaster declaration date and before the FEMA award date. For example, documentation could include contractor quotes, RS Means, and similar project information.

MAINTENANCE AND REPORTING COMMITMENT

Maintenance and Reporting Commitment Letter Date.

Entity Responsible.

Number of Years of Maintenance.

Project Building/Facility/Area. Provide the name(s) of the building(s), facility(ies), area(s), structure(s), or infrastructure to which the maintenance applies.

Annual Maintenance Amount.

What are the Past Maintenance Tasks Involved? 0/2500

What are the Future Maintenance Tasks Involved? 0/2500

Future Maintenance Schedule. (Frequency of maintenance).

Future Cost of Maintenance.

Source of Maintenance Funds.

RESPONSIBLE REPRESENTATIVE CONFIRMATION Fill out in portal.

Columns include #, Title, First Name, Last Name, Phone Number, Email, Signature Status, Action.

UPLOAD M&R Commitment Supporting Documents

Maintenance and Reporting Commitment Documentation. Please upload documents that support your Maintenance and Reporting Commitment, if needed.

MATCH COMMITMENT LETTER

Match Commitment Letter Date.

Name of Funding Source(s).

Funding Type.

Non-Federal Share (Match) Availability Start Date.

CONFIRMATION Fill out in portal.

Columns include #, Title, First Name, Last Name, Phone Number, Email, Signature Status, Action.

UPLOAD Supporting Documentation

Match Commitment Documentation. Documentation supporting the commitment and availability of funding.

BENEFIT COST ANALYSIS

Note: use pre-calculated benefits for cost-effectiveness determination. Use Post Wildfire for pre-calculated benefits approach.

UPLOAD Benefit Cost Analysis Documentation

Benefit Cost Analysis. Upload the BCA Toolkit Excel File.

HMGP GRANT MANAGEMENT COST APPLICATION

Capped at 5% of the final project cost. Activities to manage the grant (Subapplication Development, Quarterly Reporting, Reimbursement Submission); any indirect cost, and direct administrative cost, and any other administrative expenses associated with a specific project under a major disaster, emergency, or disaster preparedness or mitigation activity or measure.

Total Federal Cost Share.

Maximum Eligible Management Cost.

Fill out in portal.

Columns include #, Expense Name, Amount, Description, Action.

Categories include Pre-Award, Staff Time, Travel, Equipment, Supplies, Indirect Cost, Other.

ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Existing habitat – Identify and describe any existing, observed in the field, or known or expected to exist flora and fauna species at the project site and immediately surrounding the site. 0/2500

UPLOAD EHP Documentation

FEMA Environmental Checklist. Provide the completed FEMA Environmental Checklist.

Visual Impact Assessment. Provide a Visual Impact Assessment.