



**NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS  
Board Agenda Memo**

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**MEETING DATE:** April 14, 2026

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Alex Keeble-Toll – Director of Emergency Services

**SUBJECT:** Resolution authorizing the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services to submit a grant application to the National Forest Foundation (NFF) Directed Grant Program for a total not to exceed \$7,000,000.00 and authorizing the Director of Emergency Services to execute all additional documents required to fulfill the requirements of the grant application on behalf of the County of Nevada.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Adopt the attached Resolution.

**FUNDING:** There is no funding impact currently.

**BACKGROUND:** The County of Nevada is 612,900 acres, of which 198,419 acres are Tahoe National Forest (TNF). TNF comprises most of the County's recreation assets and natural resources, and visitation to the forest is an important driver of the local recreation economy. The forest also represents a significant wildfire hazard to the 101,000 residents of Nevada County. In 2025, the Office of Emergency Services completed a comprehensive County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), which identified significant areas on TNF as being a high priority for projects.

Treatment of roadside fuels on TNF to improve evacuation outcomes for Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) communities is a shared objective between TNF and Nevada County OES. On July 9, 2024 the County of Nevada executed the first-ever Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) with USDA Forest Service, Tahoe National Forest (Res. 24-411) to begin addressing roadside fuels in popular East County recreation corridors that are a location of frequent fire starts.

On January 14, 2025 a second GNA was executed (Res. 25-031) for work along Cruzon Grade, a critical evacuation route for San Juan Ridge residents identified as a priority in the 2024 Evacuation Study. To date, 117 acres of roadside fuel mitigation has been

completed in East County, and 364 acres of roadside fuel mitigation has been completed in West County under the two respective GNAs.

In 2026, TNF instructed the National Forest Foundation (NFF) to allocate \$7,000,000.00 in USFS funds to their Directed Grant Program so that Nevada County OES may apply for these funds. The NFF Directed Grant funds would support fuel mitigation activities across approximately 2,735 acres on TNF, primarily in District 5. Grant funded activities would include thinning of small diameter trees, removal of surface and ladder fuels, mechanical methods, manual methods, and targeted herbicide for invasives.

Grant funded activities would be paired with the 2026 GNA. The 2026 GNA would give County of Nevada the authority to conduct the fuel mitigation actions funded by the NFF Directed Grant and would additionally give County of Nevada the authority to remove, cut, haul, and sell merchantable diameter timber. Under the 2026 GNA, County of Nevada would receive all revenue associated with the timber sales, which could be reinvested in projects of watershed benefit, including additional fuels reduction, road improvements, and recreation enhancements. The NFF Directed Grant would be a joint project with the 2026 GNA, with the GNA providing authority and NFF providing funding.

At this time, Nevada County OES is requesting permission to apply to the NFF Directed Grant Program in an amount not to exceed \$7,000,000.00. If NFF Directed Grant funds are awarded, Nevada County OES would bring these funds to the Board of Supervisors for fund acceptance. The 2026 GNA would be brought to the BOS for approval alongside acceptance of the NFF Directed Grant funds. The Board would need to both accept the grant funds and approve the GNA for the project to move forward.

**Item Initiated and Approved by:** Alex Keeble-Toll, Director of Emergency Services