

# Environmental Clearance for Hazardous Fuel Reduction Projects

Board of Supervisor's Meeting  
May 27, 2025



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# Fuel Reduction Projects



## Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1

Funder: CAL FIRE

Amount: \$2,178,000.00



FEMA

## South Yuba Rim Phase 1

Funder: FEMA/HMGP

Amount: \$901,599.82



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# Fuel Reduction Projects



## Ponderosa Phase 1 Maintenance

Funder: USFS

Amount: \$750,000 (+\$750,000 ARPA Match)



## Ponderosa Phase 2

Funder: USFS

Amount: \$750,000 (+\$750,000 GF Match)



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# Environmental Compliance

## Consultants

- Dudek
- Mason, Bruce and Girard
- Panorama
- Under the Trees
- Ascent



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# CalVTP Program EIR

- **Statewide Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)**
- **Prepared by the Board of Forestry and CAL FIRE in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**
- **Addresses the potential impacts of vegetation treatment and fuels reduction projects throughout California**

**Purpose is to increase the pace and scale of vegetation treatments to reduce wildfire risk while conserving natural**

**resources**



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# What is a Program EIR?

- A PEIR may be prepared for a series of actions that are related/similar
- Future activities with similar environmental effects that can be mitigated in similar ways can be evaluated under a PEIR
- Allows for an expedited CEQA review process to reduce delays and excessive paperwork

**There must be no new or more severe impacts than found in the PEIR**



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# Project Specific Analysis



- **A Project Specific Analysis checklist is used to evaluate the project for potential environmental impacts**
- **Standard Project Requirements and Mitigation Measures to be incorporated into treatment design**
  - Best Management Practices

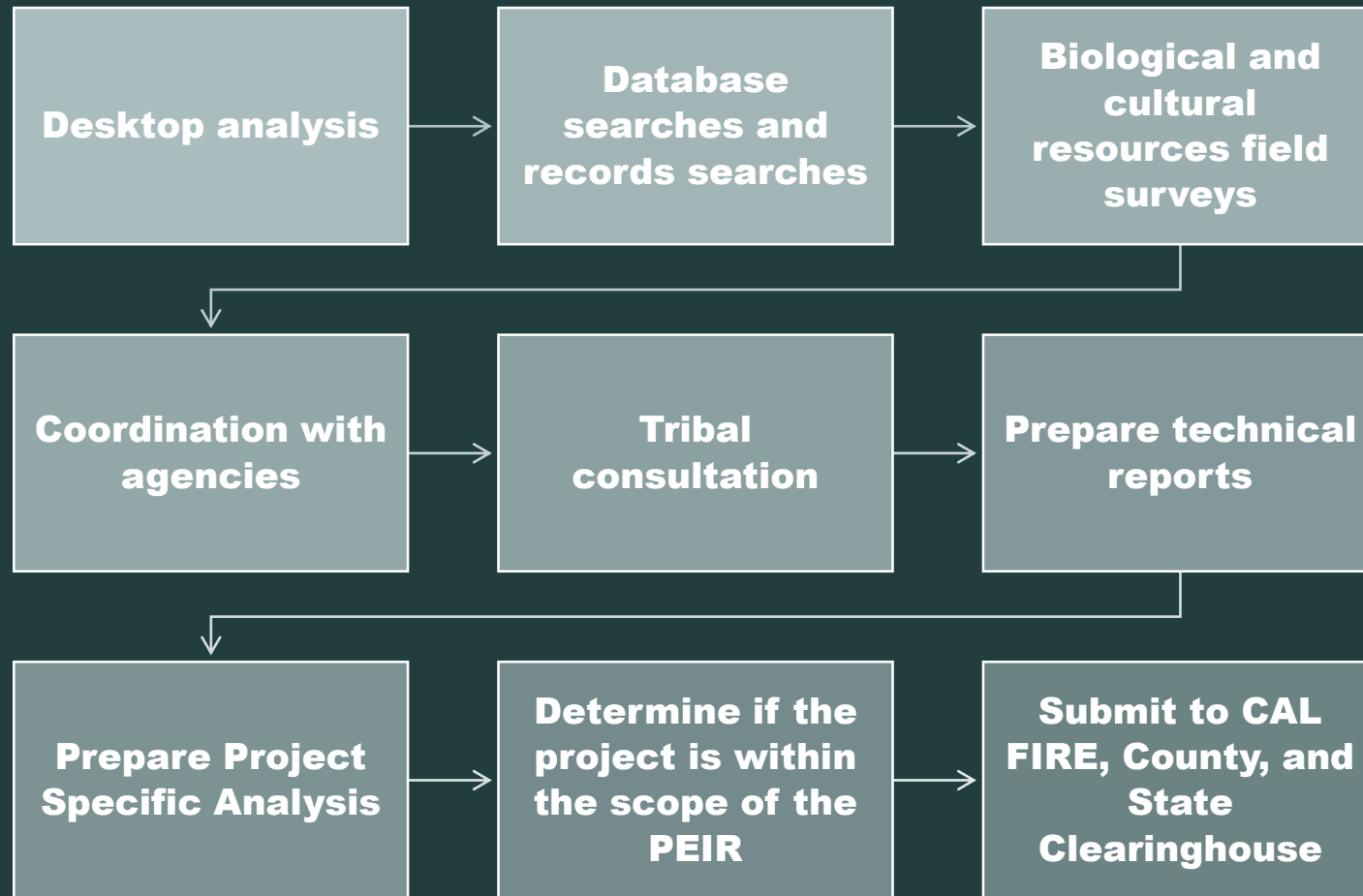


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# Environmental Review Process



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# Next Steps: Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1

May 2025	June 2025	December 2025
Environmental Compliance Complete	Work Begins	Work Complete



# Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1

Planning  
Area  
410 Acres



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FIGURE 2

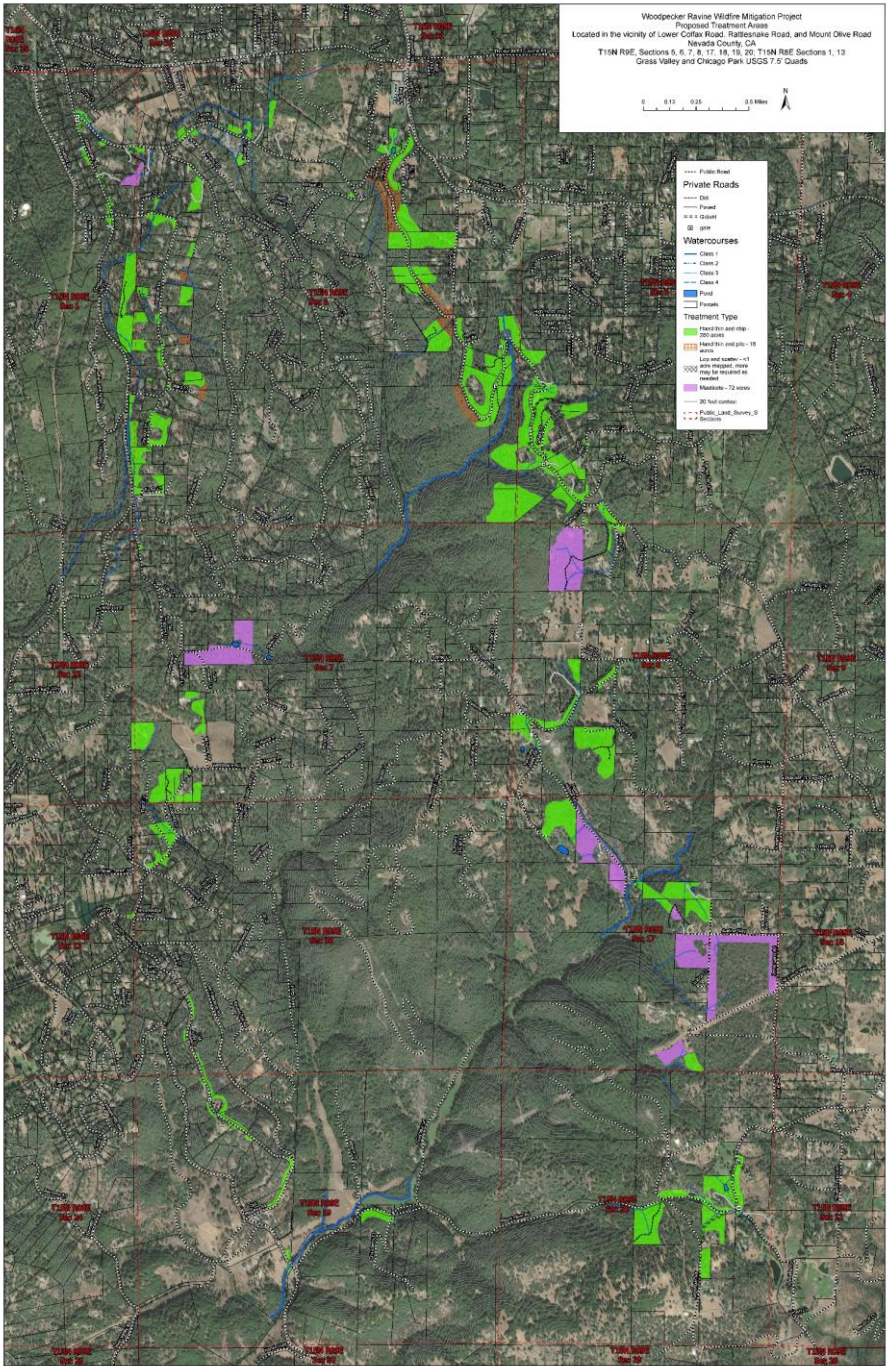
Project Site

Woodpecker Ravine Shaded Fuel Break Phase I



# Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1

Treatment  
Area  
370 Acres





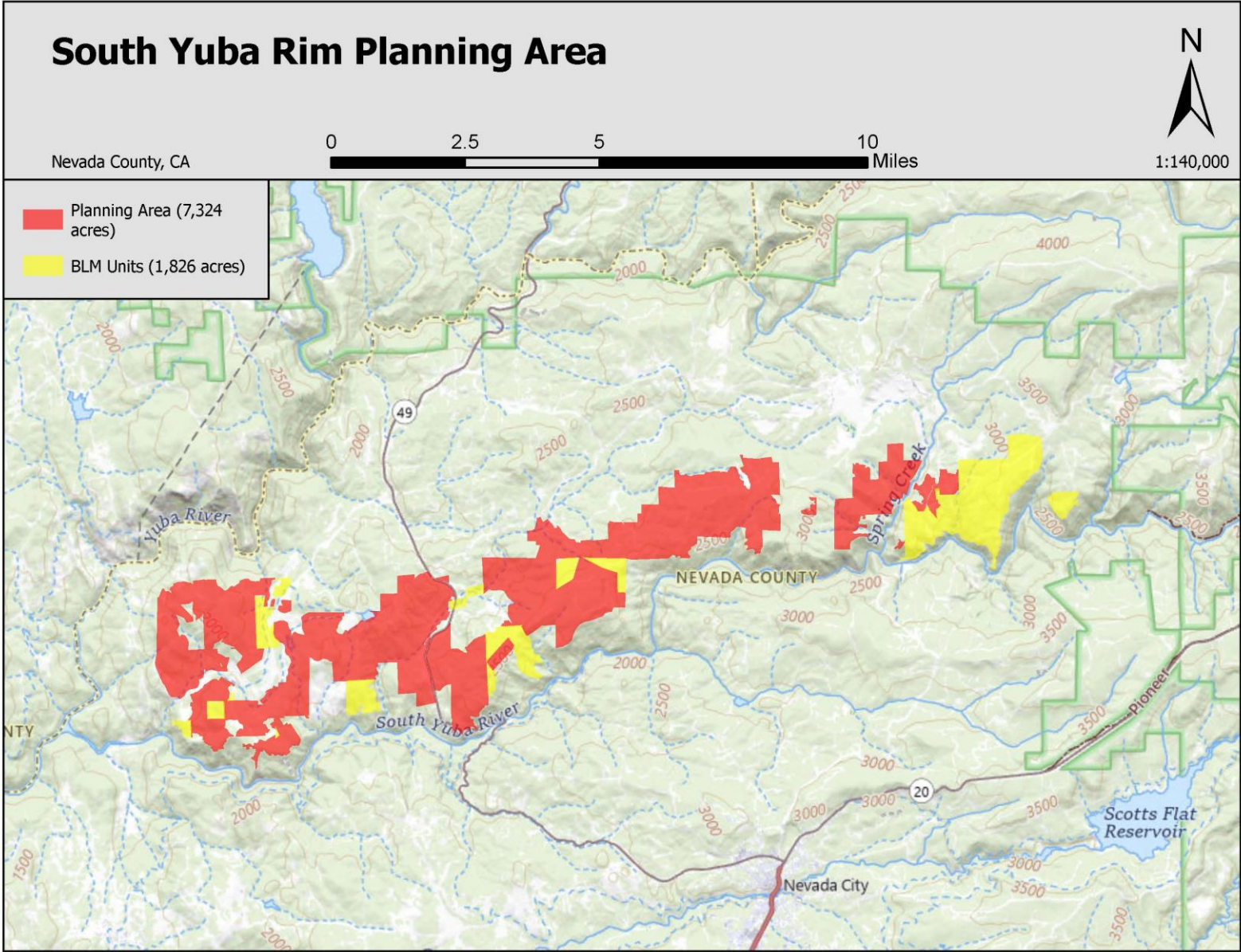
# Next Steps: South Yuba Rim

May 2025	July 2025	July 2025 - TBD	TBD
Environmental Compliance Complete	Phase 1 Ends	Between Phases	Phase 2 Awarded, Work Begins



# South Yuba Rim

Planning  
Area  
7,324 Acres



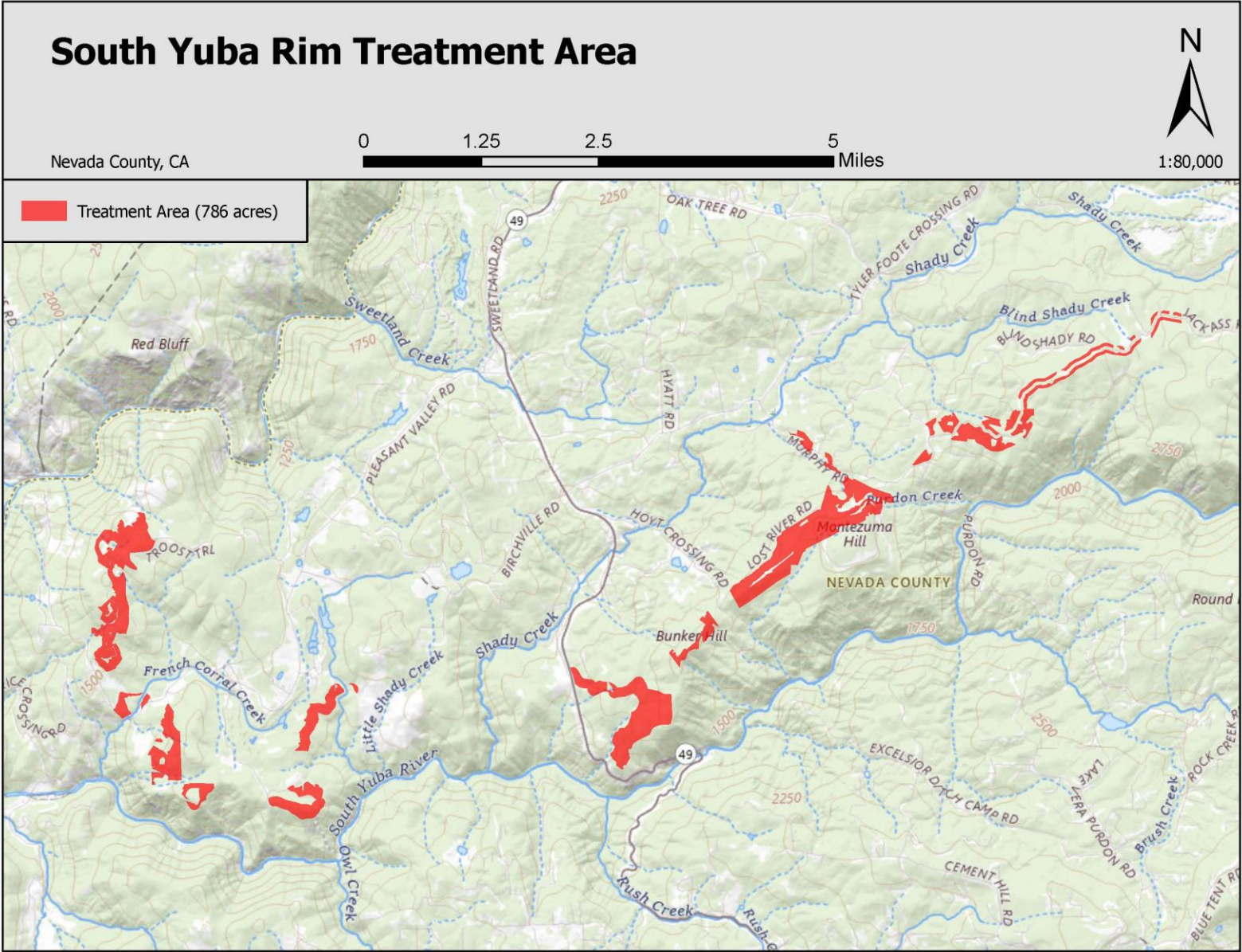
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# South Yuba Rim

## Treatment Area 786 Acres



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# Next Steps: Ponderosa Phase 1 Maintenance

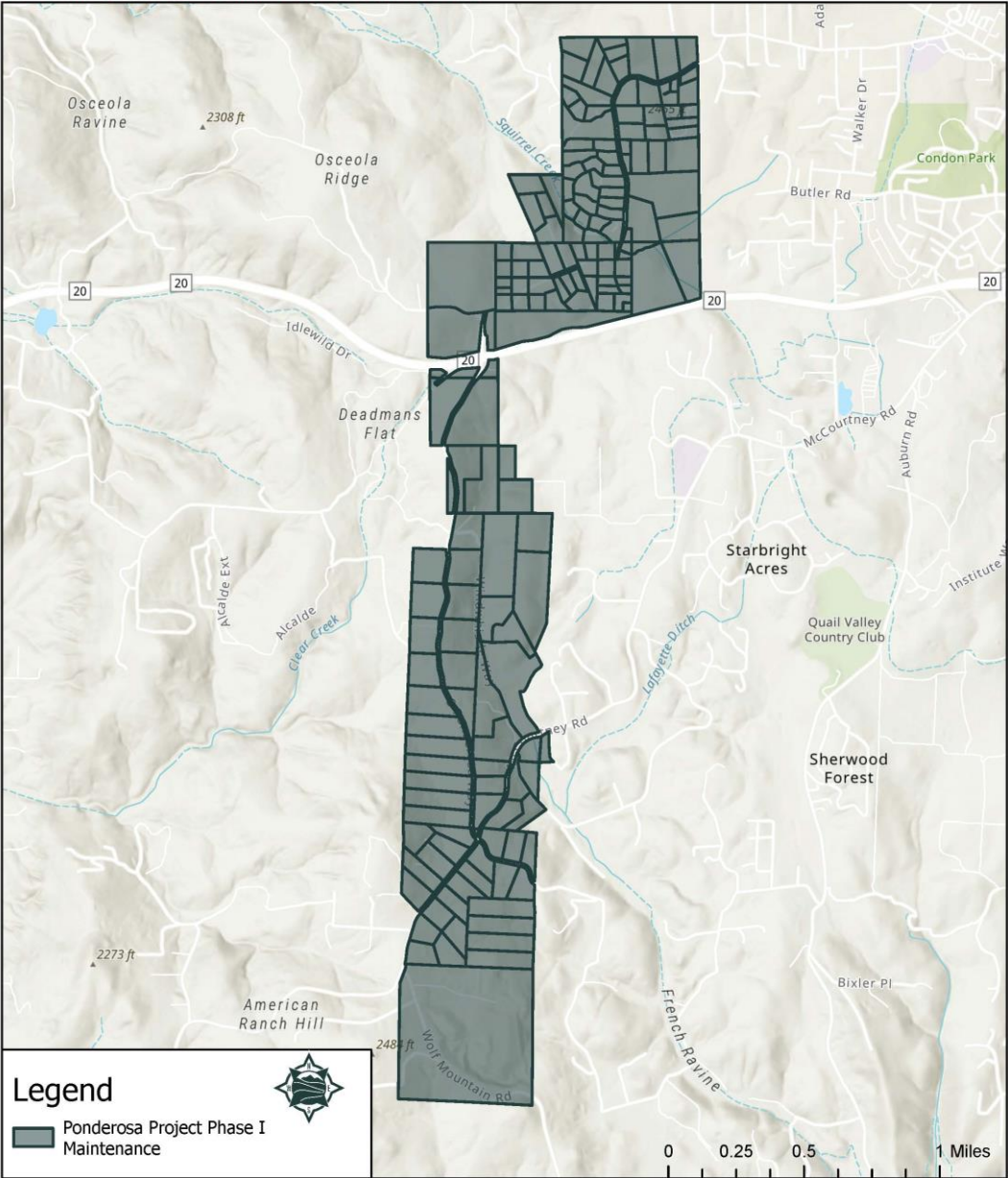
May 2025	June 2025	October 2025	December 2025	August 2027
Environmental Compliance Complete	*Draft RFP for Treatment	*Award Contract for Treatment	*Work Begins	*Work Complete



# Ponderosa Phase 1 Maintenance

Planning Area  
1,225 Acres

Ponderosa Project Phase I Maintenance  
USDA Forest Service - Grant #23-DG-11052012-154



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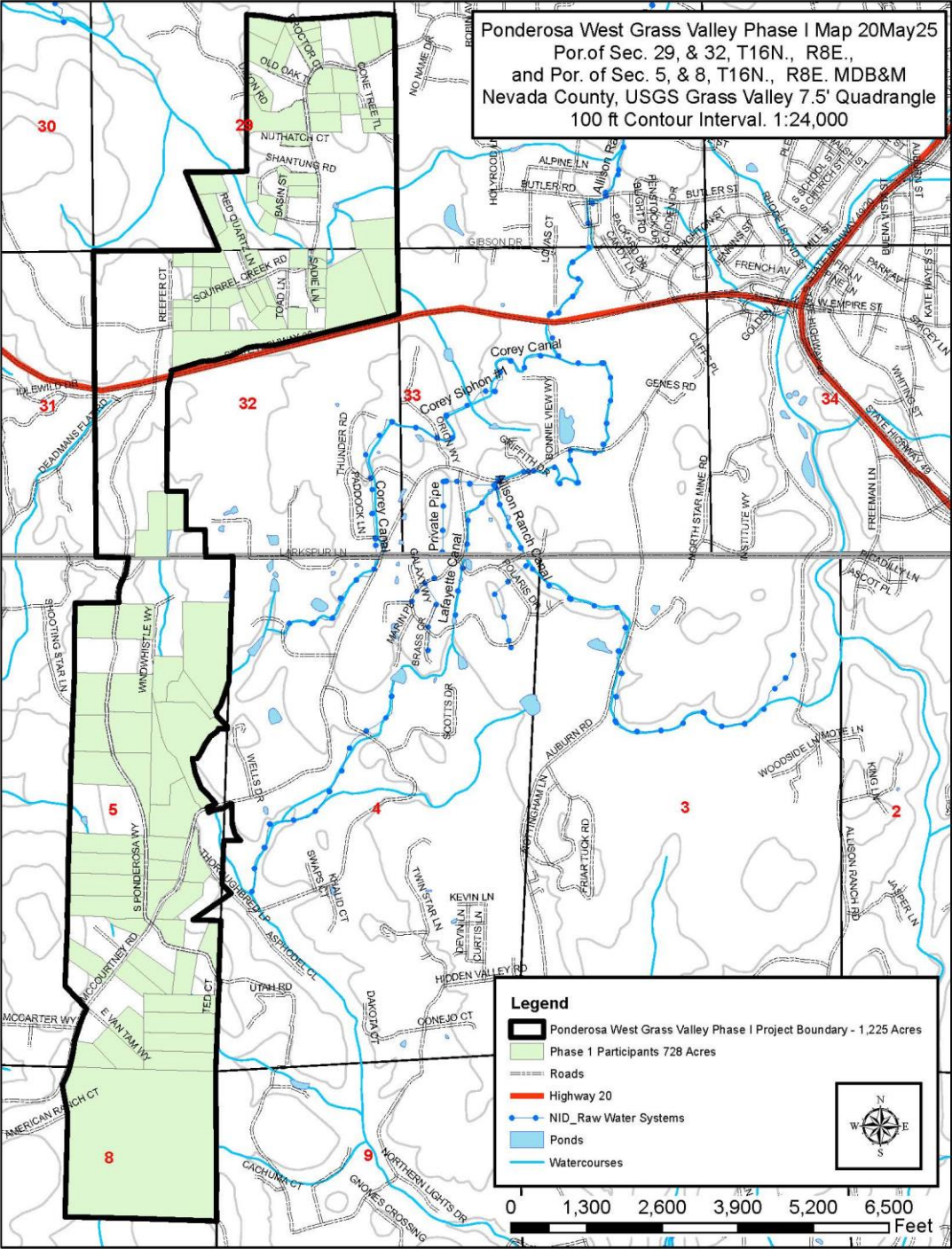


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# Ponderosa Phase 1 Maintenance

Treatment  
Area  
728 Acres



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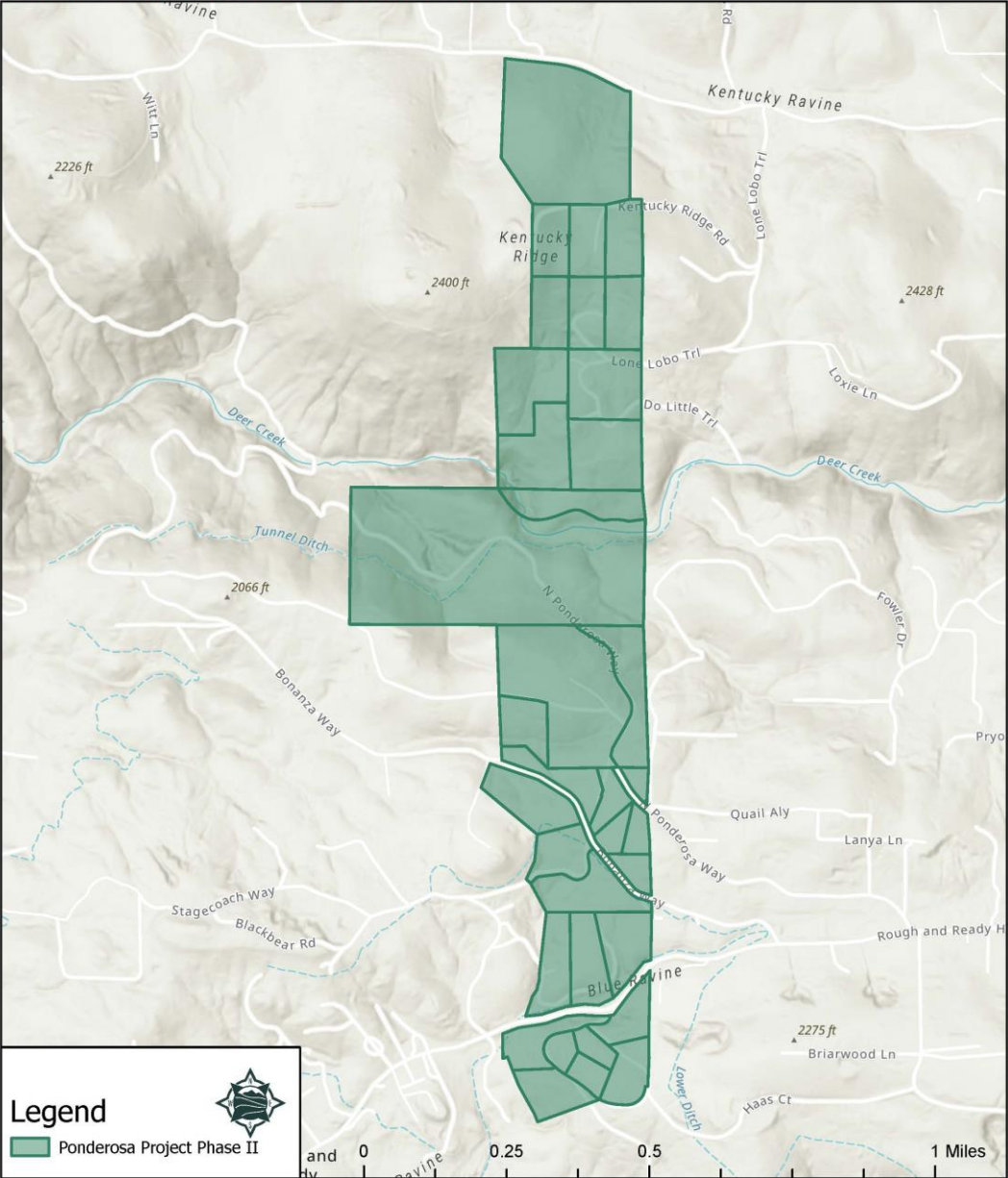
# Next Steps: Ponderosa Phase 2

May 2025	June 2025	October 2025	December 2025	August 2027
Environmental Compliance Complete	*Draft RFP for Treatment	*Award Contract for Treatment	*Work Begins	*Work Complete

# Ponderosa Phase 2

Planning  
Area  
300 Acres

Ponderosa Project Phase II  
USDA Forest Service - Grant #22-DG-1105012-133



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# Treatment Area

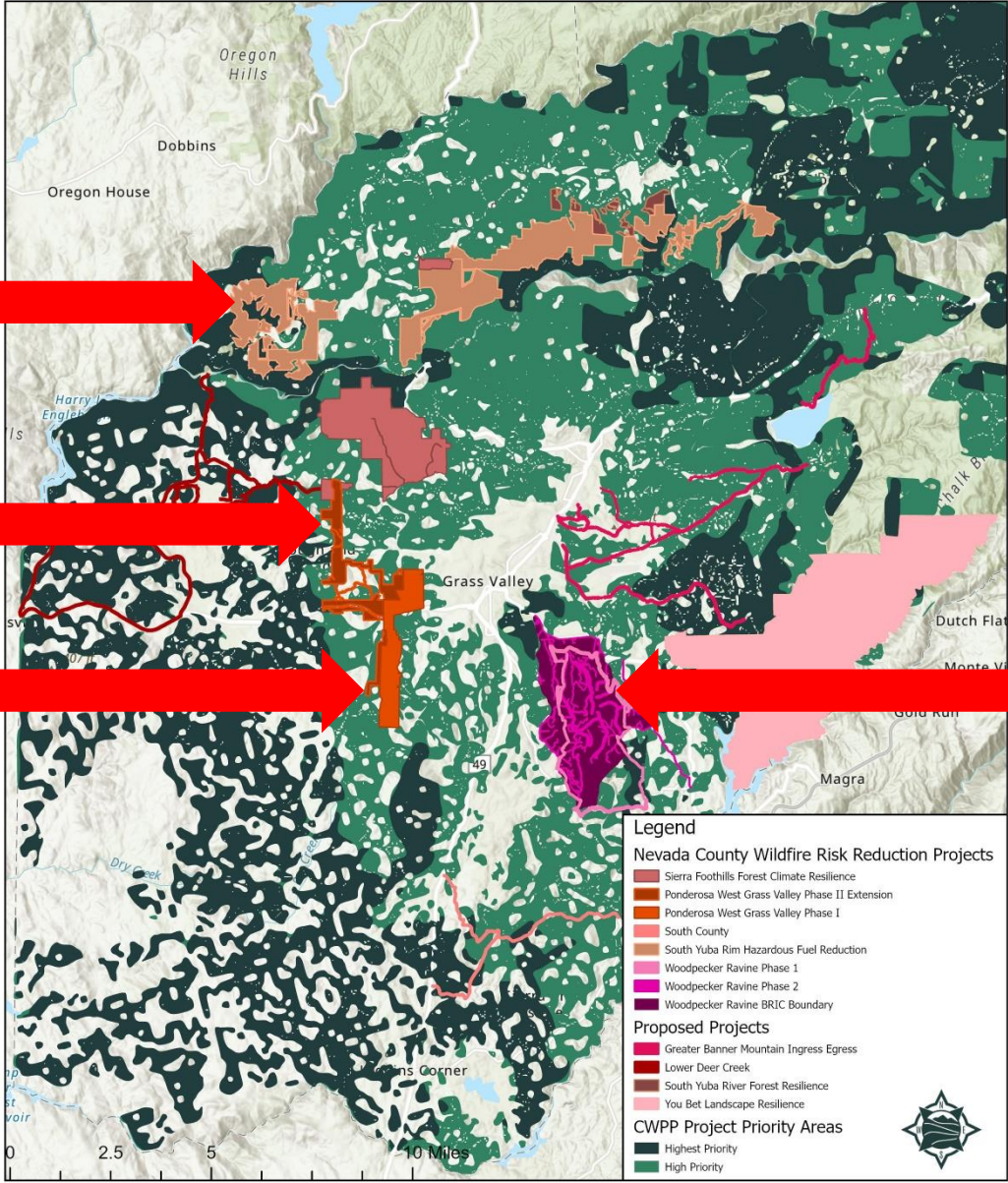
## 236 Acres



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# Nevada County Wildfire Risk Reduction Projects



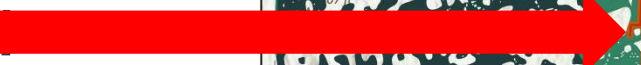
South Yuba Rim



Ponderosa Phase 2



Ponderosa Phase 1  
Maintenance



Woodpecker  
Ravine Phase 1





# Recommendation

**Authorize environmental clearance for the Woodpecker Ravine Phase 1 Shaded Fuel Break, South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project, and Ponderosa West Grass Valley Defense Zone Phase 1 Maintenance and Phase 2 Projects through the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR), and direct the Director of Emergency Services to sign and file the Notices of Determination (NOD) for the projects with the Nevada County Clerk Recorder's Office**



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# Questions



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