



Date: 2/23/2023

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Press Release Maple Creek Fuels Reduction Project

A fuels reduction project in the community of Cohasset began earlier this week to improve wildfire safety and forest resilience. The work will take place on Maple Creek Ranch and will consist of mastication of smaller trees, dead trees, and brush. Some of the material may be chipped and removed to a biomass plant where it can be used to generate electricity. The work is being conducted by the Butte County Fire Safe Council through a California Climate Investment (CCI) grant.

"Funding for this project provided by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Forest Health Program as part of the California Climate Investments Program."

The project will be implemented on 128 acres to mitigate wildfire risk, reduce hazardous fuels, and enhance the safety of the community of Cohasset and its residents. The purpose of this project is to reduce the rate that fire can spread, the intensity it which it burns, and the ignition of tree crowns by eliminating latter fuels, spacing trees to 18 to 25 feet, and removing material to create a forest that is more resistant to wildfire. Residents can expect to see truck traffic on Cohasset, Mud Creek, and Vilas Roads while operations are underway. The project is part of a larger community action plan to increase resiliency and reintroduce prescribed fire to the landscape.

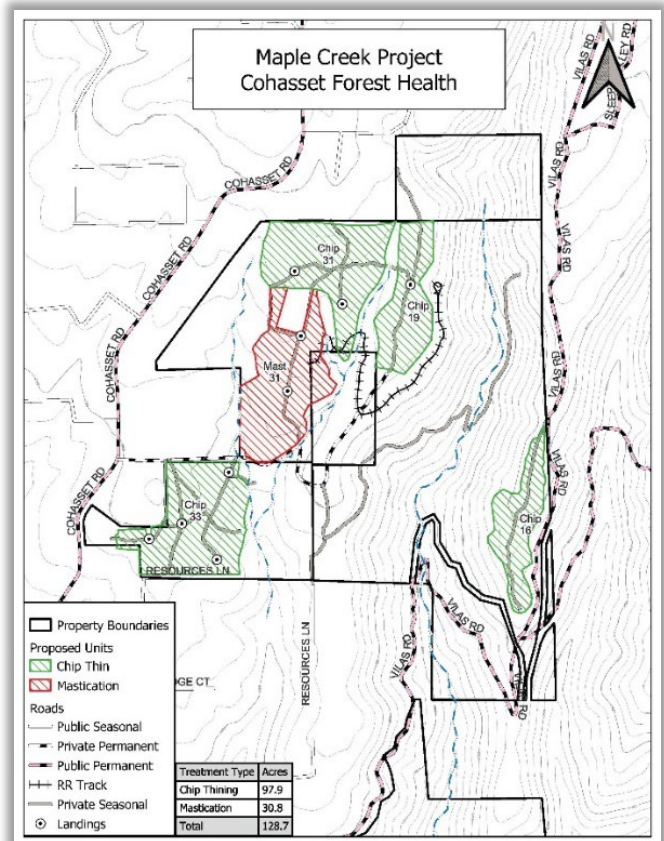


Figure 1 Project Map

The Butte County Fire Safe Council is a grass roots non-profit organization that has a variety of fuels reduction and forest health projects in operation around Butte County including Forbestown, Berry Creek, Forest Ranch, Cohasset, Paradise, Big Chico Creek Canyon, and Oroville Foothills. More information can be found on the organization website buttefiresafe.net or by phone (530) 877-0984.



"Forest Health and Upper Watershed Resilience, Butte County, is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide program that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing GHG emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities. The Cap-and-Trade program also creates a financial incentive for industries to invest in clean technologies and develop innovative ways to reduce pollution. California Climate Investments projects include affordable housing, renewable energy, public transportation, zero-emission vehicles, environmental restoration, more sustainable agriculture, recycling, and much more. At least 35 percent of these investments are located within and benefiting residents of disadvantaged communities, low-income communities, and low-income households across California. For more information, visit the California Climate Investments website at: www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov."