

Press Release

Notice of Fuels Reduction: Forest Ranch Roadside, 2023

Date: 10-11-2023

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Before: CCI Roadside Forest Ranch Homeplace / Hwy 32

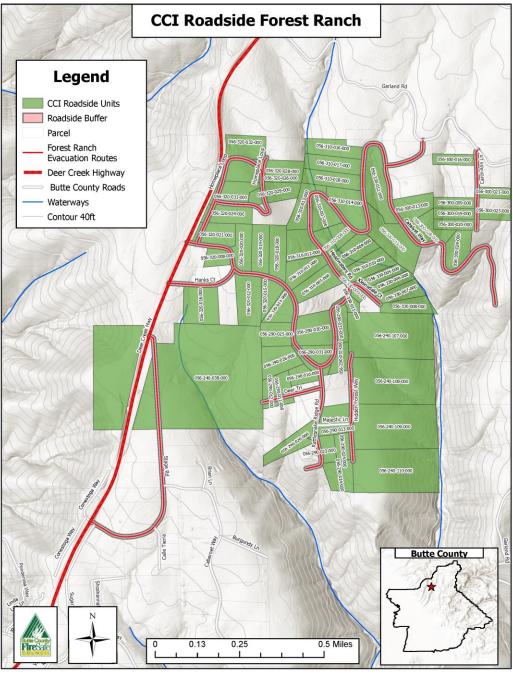
This project is part of a landscape level Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) fuels reduction project that will treat a total of 487 Acres located within the WUI communities of Cohasset, Forest Ranch, Forbestown, and Magalia, which includes four "Communities at Risk". There are three remaining ridges not yet been impacted by catastrophic wildfire - the communities of Cohasset, Forest Ranch, and Forbestown. The project fills an essential need by implementing fuels reduction along evacuation routes. In addition, effectiveness of adjacent shaded fuel breaks and hazardous fuels reduction projects will be strengthened by linking to roadside evacuation routes and access roads. The project leverages multiple partnerships to implement fuels reduction, increase fire prevention education, increase community resilience, improve public safety, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

As part of the ongoing effort to increase public safety and reduce hazardous fuels along evacuation routes, the Butte County Fire Safe Council (BCFSC) a non-profit, in partnership with CAL FIRE, funded by a California Climate Investments (CCI) Roadside Evacuation Hazardous Fuels Reduction grant, has started work in Forest Ranch. The project reduces wildfire hazards at a landscape level by improving and maintaining firefighter ingress and egress, improving evacuation, and protecting assets at risk. The scope of the project is to encourage and partner with WUI residents to reduce the horizontal and vertical continuity of forest fuel, specifically mature brush, overstocked young trees along evacuation routes, and access roads through thinning. Over time, effective reduction of vegetative fuels develops strong shaded fuel breaks, thereby reducing wildfire risk. The project is located along Headwaters Rd and several adjacent roads. The work is being completed by the BCFSC Fuels Crew and ties directly into previous Defensible Space work completed by our crews over the last year, with funding from the California Fire Safe Council.



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"Roadside Evacuation Hazardous Fuels Reduction, 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."