

COUNTY OF EL DORADO
Board of Supervisors

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GEORGE TURNBOO
SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT II

February 23, 2023

Julie Howard Forest Health Program Manager

ForestHealth@fire.ca.gov

CAL FIRE – Climate and Energy, Forest Health Department

Subject: Support for the El Dorado Resource Conservation District CAL FIRE 2023 Forest Health Grant Application for the Caldor Community and Forest Recovery Project.

Dear Ms. Howard,

On behalf of the South Fork American River Cohesive Strategy (SOFAR), I would like to express support for the El Dorado Resource Conservation District's (District) Grant Application for the 2023 CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Application for the Caldor Community and Forest Recovery Project.

In August 2021 through October 2021 the Caldor Fire burned over 221,775 acres of land. Of the 14,000 acres of private, non-industrial lands effected by the fire approximately 2,000 +/- acres have been identified within the community of Grizzly Flats that are in need of restoration. These lands range in size from less than 1 acre to 160 acres. These owners suffered losses ranging from complete mortality of trees and destruction of homes and other structures to relatively minor losses of forest cover.

This project will include the following actions: 1) outreach and education to NIPF owners regarding restoration opportunities, 2) site assessment of fire damaged lands , 3) preparation of management plans and reforestation prescriptions of private land affected by the Caldor Fire; 4) fuel reduction activities including the removal of dead trees not utilized for salvage and other debris created by the fire and disposal through appropriate means; 5) additional site preparation as needed to ready the properties for planting; 6) planting with species appropriate to the sites, with seedlings from the appropriate seed zone and at densities commensurate with site class and residual stand conditions; and 7) monitoring planting to assess survival and filing of post-project stocking reports.

Objectives of the recovery efforts include: 1) treating small private landowners affected by the Caldor Fire and adjacent to post-fire restoration areas to reduce the potential for additional negative impacts from wildfire in the future by removing accumulated debris and dead trees; 2) conducting site preparation and reforestation actions to re-establish forest cover where appropriate; 3) increase potential carbon sequestration and achieve greenhouse gas emissions reduction through reforestation of the burned area; 4) identify measures and implement measures to protect watershed values and water quality in watersheds that are important sources of domestic and ecological water supply; and 5) utilize the project as an educational opportunity for informing others about community response to wildfire. To meet the objectives, recovery efforts focus on areas where hazard trees present the greatest risk to private property, watershed values, and fuel loading.

We strongly encourage CAL FIRE to award the Caldor Community and Forest Recovery Project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Turnboo', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

George Turnboo
District 2 Supervisor
El Dorado County