
ELSINORE FRONT COUNTRY FUEL BREAK PROJECT

October 2021

A big **"Thank you!"** to all our participating landowners! Because of you, we will be able to move forward with a treatment plan to reduce fuels in the area and help keep your community safe from wildland fires!

Project Progress and Timeline:

Environmental studies in the area have been completed. This includes biological and archeological reviews as well as review by our Registered Professional Forester (RPF) to formulate a treatment plan. Environmental documentation is scheduled to be submitted for approval in mid October.

Ground crews have started marking preliminary boundaries with pink flagging on the participating parcels of land. This flagging work will continue as final marking is determined and updated. Information on the flagging colors and their meaning can be found on the Flagging Flyer.

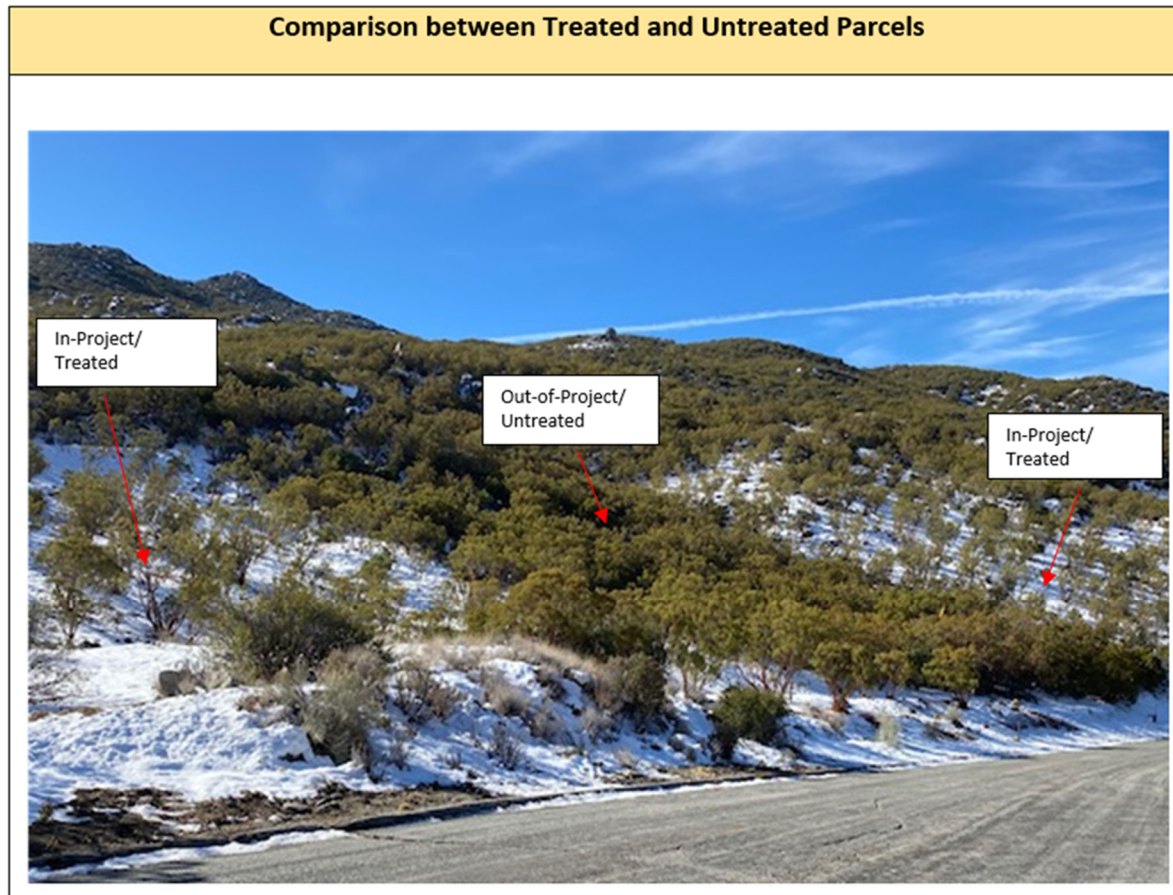
County is in the process of contracting with a Licensed Timber Operator that will be doing the groundwork for treatment of vegetation under the direction of the RPF. This will include removal of dead brush, pruning, chipping, rebroadcasting of biomass over exposed soil and other work which will take into consideration environmental needs, erosion concerns, special treatment areas, and aesthetic values. All work will be done in accordance with California Forest Practice Rules.

We will be notifying participating landowners of the work scheduled in your area once a project timeline is finalized. Anticipated timeline for groundwork to begin this Fall starting late October / early November depending on weather conditions.

FUEL BREAK INFORMATION AND EXAMPLES:

Fuel breaks are intended to change the amount of fuels (vegetation) in each area. In breaking up the fuel's continuity, this reduces the amount of fuel available for consumption in a wildland fire as well as allows firefighters ease of access for fire suppression activities in the event of a fire. In addition, this technic allows for healthy vegetation to thrive by removal of invasive species which are competing for water resources.

Pictured below is an example of a treated area versus an untreated area in a recent project completed in the Springcrest community of Mountain Center near Pinyon. This comparison shows the reduction in fuels in the area.



FUELS REDUCTION METHODS:

Fuel reduction work is conducted through both manual and mechanical operations. Hand tools, such as chain saws, axes and shovels are used as well as equipment such as woodchippers.

