

## **“From Fire-kill to Fuelbreaks”**

Proposal to rehabilitate burned-over roadsides by removing fuel and establishing shaded fuelbreaks.

**Proposal Project area**—Public roads, including National Forest system roads, within Fork, Mad River, River, Route and South Complexes on Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests, plus South Fork Mountain ridgetop along Route 1 and south of Highway 36 .

### **Rationale**

- a. Keep roads safe by removing adjacent dead trees
- b. Reduce heavy fuel loading along roads
- c. Create conditions for establishing shaded fuelbreaks along roads
- d. Reduce fuel loading and establish shaded fuelbreak on South Fork Mountain ridgetop.

### **Proposed Actions**

**Reduce heavy fuels:** Remove all dead merchantable trees (no green foliage at time of harvest) from 300' wide strip along all roads, using ground-based or cable systems as terrain allows. The distance from one side of the treated area to the other at any point will be 300' plus the width of the road (shoulder to shoulder), regardless of where the road falls within the treated area.

**Reduce lighter fuels:** On slopes 35% or less, cut all submerchantable dead conifers 4" diameter and above, to be piled for chipping or burning, leaving portion onsite where beneficial for erosion control.

**Provide surface erosion protection by improving runoff infiltration:** Dozers to rip soils 12-18" deep with the contours, 20' between dozer passes, outside of drip line of remaining green trees, on slopes 10-35%.

**Provide control lines for future fuelbreak maintenance using prescribed fire:** Construct dozer fire trail one blade wide at outside edges of fuelbreak where terrain allows.

**Provide for future shade:** Plant mixed conifers (40-50 trees per acre at approximately 30' spacing between planted trees. Utilize management methods to provide the best opportunity for these planted trees to be resilient to introduced fire including hand grubbing to minimize competing vegetation, pruning to reduce ladder fuel effects and favoring hardwood tree species sprouts to re-occupy the site versus brush species.) where needed to establish future shading.

**Establish South Fork Mountain ridgetop fuelbreak** to same specifications as above, except that ridgetop is centerline of 300' treatment areas.

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