



NFWF

Pacific Southwest Fuels Partnership 2018 Grant Slate

NFWF CONTACTS

Jonathan Birdsong

Director,
Western Regional Office
jonathan.birdsong@nfwf.org
415-593-3101

Daley Burns

Coordinator,
Regional Programs
daley.burns@nfwf.org
202-595-2440

PARTNER



California spotted owl | Credit: Julio Mulero

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region, announced the 2018 round of funding for the Pacific Southwest Fuels Management Partnership. Three new fuels management grants totaling more than \$1.2 million were awarded, leveraging almost \$1.4 million in match from the grantees and generating a total conservation impact of more than \$2.6 million.

Fuels management projects involve removing excess vegetation from unhealthy forest landscapes, and may include prescribed burning to deliberately reintroduce lower-intensity fire to some areas. Fuels management activities can reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire and create safer conditions for the return of a historic fire regime, protecting healthy forest conditions that support fish and wildlife, recreation, water quality and carbon sequestration.

A century of widespread fire exclusion and changes in active forest management have resulted in an unnatural buildup of surface fuels, trees and ladder fuels in California's forests. The resulting forest health problems are widespread and increasing, affecting wildlife habitat, water supplies and long-term soil productivity. The buildup of flammable vegetation due to past management, drought conditions, and insect and disease-related tree mortality have made managing fire riskier, more complex, and more costly. As conditions contribute to longer annual fire seasons, agency capacity and resources to protect communities, natural resources and infrastructure are stretched thin. Properly designed and implemented fuels management treatments can decrease the intensity of future wildland fires within treated areas, increasing the safety of residents, recreationists and firefighters working to protect human life and natural resources.

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ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds. Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
202-857-0166



Northern goshawk

Washoe Tribe Meadow Restoration in Lake Tahoe, California

Grantee: Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California
Grant Award:..... \$448,230
Matching Funds: \$448,280
Total Amount:..... \$896,510

Restore 300 acres of meadow habitat in Meeks Meadow in Lake Tahoe, California through removal of encroaching conifers, thinning conifers in select areas, and prescribed fire. Project will allow for the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California Tribe to actively participate and manage aboriginal lands in a historic and traditional manner conjunctively with the U.S. Forest Service.

Fuels Management in Six Rivers National Forest, California

Grantee: Karuk Tribe
Grant Award:..... \$500,000
Matching Funds: \$500,000
Total Amount:..... \$1,000,000

Implement manual fuels reduction treatments across 350 acres of U.S. Forest Service land adjacent to private

property boundaries within the 5,500 total acreage of the Somes Bar Project in the Western Klamath Restoration Partnership planning area. Project will create a buffer of safety for nearby residences and properties in anticipation of future prescribed fire as well as unintended wildfires and incorporate key aspects of Karuk traditional ecological knowledge.

Low Divide, Hiouchi and Big Flats Fuels Management Project

Grantee: Tolowa Dee-Ni'Nation
Grant Award:..... \$287,643
Matching Funds: \$445,061
Total Amount:..... \$732,704

Treatment of 300 acres of vegetation located within four strategically placed fuel breaks around the communities of Low Divide, Hiouchi and Big Flat. Project will provide additional defensible space and will improve the overall health of the forest and protect private and public improvements by reducing risk to wildfires.