



Pacific Southwest Fuels Management Partnership

NFWF CONTACTS

Jim Bond

Senior Manager,
California Forests
jim.bond@nfwf.org
415-243-3107

Jessica Perla

Coordinator, Regional Programs
California Forests
jessica.perla@nfwf.org
202-595-2422

PARTNERS

- USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- Sierra Pacific Industries
- Pacific Gas and Electric

ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street, NW
Suite 1000
Washington, D.C., 20005
202-857-0166



Smoke billows from a California wildfire

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region (USFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI), and Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) announced a 2020-year round of funding for Pacific Southwest Fuels Management Partnership projects. Nine new or continuing fuels management grants totaling \$1.8 million were awarded. The nine awards announced generated \$1.2 million in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$3 million.

A century of widespread fire suppression and changes in forest management have resulted in numerous densely vegetated, overcrowded, and homogenous forests throughout California. These conditions have left many forests with an excess of combustible biomass, or fuels, and increased risks of tree mortality from insect infestation, disease, drought, and catastrophic fire. The buildup of fuels have also made wildfire events more intense and severe and fire response 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.

Fuels management projects treat overgrown forests and remove excess fuels from landscapes to restore a healthier forested environment via mechanical treatments, forest thinning, and prescribed fire. These actions reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire, increase resilience to future fire, and help protect and sustain wildlife habitat, water

(continued)



Wildfire encroaches on a foothill community

supplies, and long-term soil productivity. The 2020 slate of NFWF funded grants to advance fuels management in California include:

Fuels Management Treatments in Van Bremmer and Round Valley within the Klamath National Forest (CA)

Grantee: California Deer Association
 Grant Amount:\$165,995
 Matching Funds:\$189,325
 Total Project Amount:\$355,320
 Implement fuels management practices and improve wildfire resilience in the Van Bremmer and Round Valley areas within the Goosenest Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest. Project will reduce 396 acres of high fuel loads by treating canopy understory, removing invasive juniper and conifer, and reducing ladder fuels to reduce the risk of severe wildfire within the forest and neighboring communities.

Prescribed Fire Treatment in the Weaverville Community Forest on Shasta-Trinity National Forest (CA)

Grantee: Watershed Research and Training Center
 Grant Amount:\$74,775
 Matching Funds:\$75,000
 Total Project Amount:\$149,775
 Implement fuels reduction, utilizing prescribed fire treatments in the Weaverville Community Forest, on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Project will collaboratively implement fuels reduction targeting 157 acres to reduce the risk of future wildfires to surrounding communities, protect natural resources and forest health, and improve wildlife habitat for species including the Northern spotted owl.

Fuels Management within the Prather-Medusa Project Area on the Stanislaus National Forest (CA)

Grantee: The Mule Deer Foundation
 Grant Amount:\$346,815
 Matching Funds:\$20,000
 Total Project Amount:\$366,815
 Complete fuels reduction treatments within the Prather-Medusa project area on the Stanislaus National Forest to improve forest health and wildlife habitat for critical species including the California spotted owl. Project will treat and reduce fuels across 267 acres to increase stand resilience, reduce future fire intensity and severity, and improve important wildlife habitat.

Assessing Fuels Reduction Impact on Biomass Removal, Water and Greenhouse Gases (CA)

Grantee: California Trout, Inc.
 Grant Amount:\$206,000
 Matching Funds:\$170,750
 Total Project Amount:\$376,750
 Conduct feasibility studies to inform short-term and long-term planning for biomass removal and processing critical to large scale fuels management. Project will include model-based estimates of hydrologic and greenhouse gas benefits derived from fuels reduction efforts using June Mountain and Mammoth Lakes Basin projects on the Inyo National Forest as pilots, and extrapolate the results of these projects to the broader Owens watershed.

(continued)

Fuels Management and Somes Bar Community Protection on Six Rivers National Forest (CA) -II

Grantee: Karuk Tribe
 Grant Amount:\$277,579
 Matching Funds:\$138,789
 Total Project Amount:\$416,368
 Complete manual fuels reduction treatments along strategic fuel breaks in the Ti Bar and Donahue areas of the Six Rivers National Forest. Project will treat 250 acres to reduce the severity of future fires, increase fire safety around the local Somes Bar community, and prepare for future large-scale prescribed fire implementation.

Enhancing Elk Flat Late-Successional Reserve on Shasta-Trinity National Forest (CA)

Grantee: Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District
 Grant Amount:\$256,731
 Matching Funds:\$270,000
 Total Project Amount:\$526,731
 Enhance and ensure long-term sustainability of late-successional habitat in the Elk Flat Late-Successional Reserve on the Shasta-Trinity National Forest. Project will complete fuels reduction treatments across 254 acres to improve forest health and habitat for species such as the Northern spotted owl and Pacific fisher, as well as restore 676 acres of meadow habitat to enhance early seral species habitat.

Assessing Fuels Reduction Impact on California Spotted Owls in the Sierra Nevada (CA)

Grantee: University of Wisconsin - Madison
 Grant Amount:\$255,513
 Matching Funds:\$202,753
 Total Project Amount:\$458,266
 Assess data to characterize the effects of fuels treatments on California spotted owls in the Sierra Nevada. Project will provide support for continued demographic monitoring efforts and will assess the effects of fuels reduction treatments on California spotted owls using GPS tagging data and demographic studies, which will help inform future management efforts.



California Spotted owl



Fuels management in Los Padres National Forest | Credit: SCA

Fuels Reduction in Bishop Creek and Pine Creek on the Inyo National Forest (CA)

Grantee: The Student Conservation Association, Inc.
 Grant Amount:\$42,025
 Matching Funds:\$25,353
 Total Project Amount:\$67,378
 Conduct fuels management within the Bishop Creek and Pine Creek watersheds within the Inyo National Forest. Project will support a five-person crew to implement fuels reduction treatments across 75 acres in order to improve forest health and recreational areas.

Forest Restoration in the Indian Creek Watershed (CA)

Grantee: Trinity County Resource Conservation District
 Grant Amount:\$165,050
 Matching Funds:\$85,000
 Total Project Amount:\$250,050
 Restore forest vegetation in the Indian Creek watershed to promote biological diversity, and improve wildfire resilience and wildlife habitat in the Indian Creek watershed of Trinity County. Project will complete thinnings across 50 acres to improve forest stand health and diversity and protect habitat for sensitive species such as the Northern spotted owl.