



Steep Terrain Hazardous Fuels Treatment Demonstration

Fuels Treatment Demo

The USDA Forest Service, Cal Fire, the Watershed Research and Training Center, along with other partners, will be sponsoring a steep terrain fuels treatment demonstration 2Q 2018 in the American River watershed east of Sacramento. In the past several decades vegetation treatment equipment and techniques have evolved, becoming more versatile, and efficient with reduced impacts on the landscape. This demo will recruit and deploy equipment and techniques that are specifically designed to treat excess vegetation on steep terrain (30%+ slopes).

Target audiences for this demo include fire agencies, natural resource managers, electric utilities, elected officials, water and resource conservation districts, homeowner associations, fire safe councils, county and city planning departments, fuels treatment contractors, private landowners and other stakeholders. The treatment demo will be approximately four days in duration and provide equipment vendors the opportunity to demonstrate equipment and techniques. Once completed, results of the demo will be synthesized and disseminated to previously identified target audiences and others. Posted below are examples of equipment that may be deployed for the demo.



Steep Terrain Hazardous Fuels Treatment Demo - Project Overview



Equipment targeted for deployment includes track and rubber tire equipped prime mover platforms that are purpose built for steep terrain. Versatile equipment with ability to operate on steep terrain and accommodate a variety of attachments will be critical.

Objectives and Outcomes

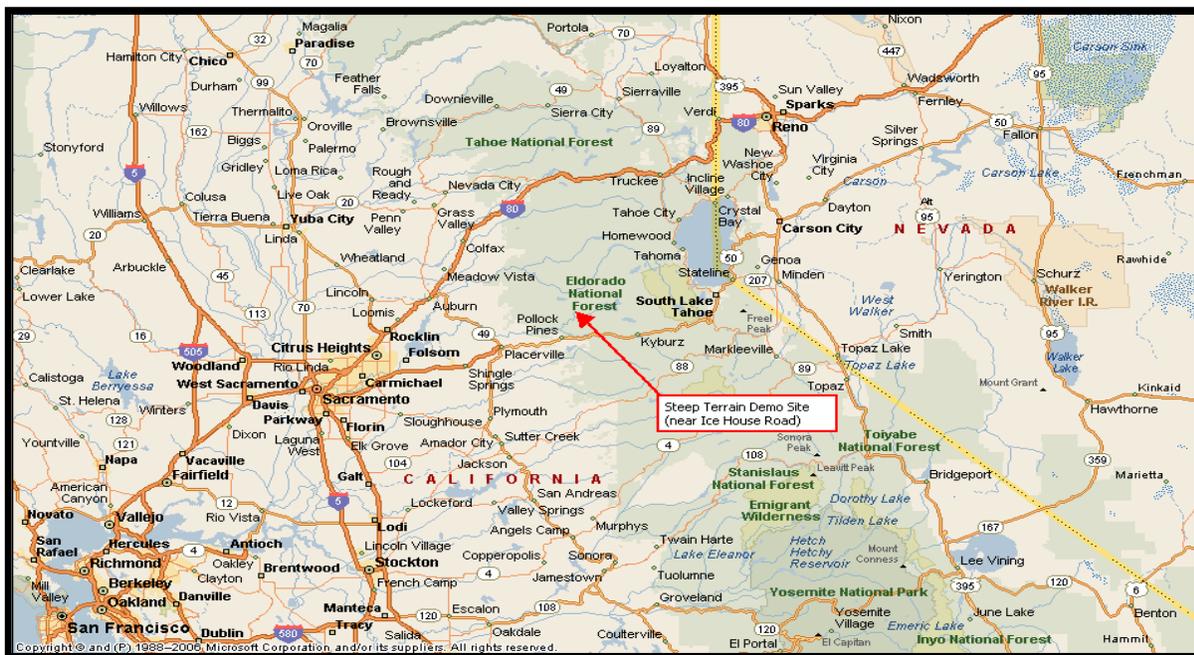
The primary objective of this fuels treatment demo is to raise awareness about different fuel treatment alternatives, and provide key stakeholders with up-to-date information and an opportunity to view conventional and innovative fuels treatment equipment, deployed in the field on steep terrain. Expected short-term outcomes include improved ability of public agencies, private businesses and non-profit organizations to assess, plan and budget for fuels treatment projects, heightened awareness about steep terrain equipment options and impacts, and improved ability of local contractors to make informed business decisions about what equipment to buy or lease. Projected long-term project outcomes include improved forest and watershed health, enhanced ability to defend communities and other infrastructure from wildfires, improved reduction in hazardous fuel accumulation, reduced site impacts, potential increase in acres treated, and potential employment opportunities.

Timing

The goal is to implement the fuels treatment demo in 2Q 2018 and deliver findings in 3Q 2018.

Location

The demo will take place near Ice House Resort (about a 45 minute drive from Placerville). See below for approximate location.



For more info contact:

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