Exhibit A – Executive Summary

State of California

ExhibitAExecutiveSummary.pdf

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

California's 30 million acres of public-, private- and tribal-managed forests provide clean water and air, carbon storage, employment, recreation and tourism opportunities, wildlife habitat, and educational outlets for residents and visitors alike. California's current drought and intensifying wildfire activity threaten the future of these ecosystem, health, and societal benefits. Almost 60 percent of the State's developed water supply originates in the Sierra Nevada region, falling first through the forest canopy and understory, residing temporarily as snow pack, filtering through soil, before flowing into networks of rivers, reservoirs, and aquifers, and finally, reaching taps on farms and in homes, schools, and businesses statewide. Climate models suggest a future with declining snowpack, rising temperatures, and an increase in the frequency and intensity of wildfires and other extreme events–all of which threaten the health of the State's watersheds. Preparing for these changes as the State's population grows to 50 million requires a cohesive, flexible approach to watershed management and resilience.

The 2013 Rim Fire (Fire), the State's third largest recorded wildfire, burned in Tuolumne County, which includes private, public, and tribal forested lands. Over two months, the Fire burned more than 250,000 acres within the watershed through which clean water flows to San Francisco and parts of the San Joaquin Valley, one of the fastest growing regions in the State. The Fire recovery effort provides an entry point to examine dimensions of resilience that are of concern statewide and to the western United States, and develop a model for resilient watershed management replicable in other communities, regions, and states. The National Disaster Resiliency Competition funding opportunity will provide the resources needed for the State of California to develop and implement the Community and Watershed Resilience Program (Program) in Tuolumne County.

California is partnering across organizations and practices to overcome the financial and institutional barriers to sustainable, healthy forests and watersheds and transition to a sustainable forest economy in our rural communities. The Program design integrates strategic planning for activities to support forest and watershed health with job-training opportunities in sustainable forest management, the growth of appropriately-scaled biomass and wood products markets, watershed restoration efforts, and education.

In partnership with federal and local government agencies, community organizations, and private business, California is working to develop a balanced, integrated, and sustainable approach to watershed restoration and forest management that supports the interdependent relationship of communities and forest ecosystems. The State has developed a strong partnership with Tuolumne County and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS) to lead this effort. We have engaged with local businesses, community groups, and education leaders to identify unmet recovery needs and to develop a program for community and ecological resilience in the immediate and surrounding areas.

To magnify the benefits of the Program, California will leverage funds from the USFS's Rim Fire recovery funds, a portion of the State's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, State Water Bond Funds designated to protect upper watersheds, and the California Public Utility Commission's Senate Bill 1122 program, which is designed to make small-scale bioenergy facilities more competitive. Our stewardship and resilience Program will result in enduring ecological and community resilience that will be replicable throughout the forested Sierra Nevada region and other western states (Attachment E, page 98).

Exhibit B – Threshold Requirements

State of California

Exhibit BThreshold.pdf

#### **EXHIBIT B – THRESHOLD REQUIREMENTS**

**General Section:** The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), on behalf of the State of California, will follow all applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders throughout the application process and, if awarded, throughout the grant administration process. This includes but is not limited to laws, regulations, and guidance pursuant to Section 3, Fair Housing, Equal Access, and OMB administrative requirements and cost principles. HCD has no outstanding civil rights matters or delinquent federal debts.

Eligible Applicant: State of California, Qualifying Disaster Declaration #4158 (The Rim Fire) Eligible County: Tuolumne County

**Most Impacted and Distressed (MID) Target Area:** The Target Area for California's application is a Tuolumne sub-county area including the Rim Fire (Fire) burn area and evacuation area (Attachment E, page 99).

Census Tracts: 06109002200, 06109004100, 06109003100, 06109003200, 06109004200

# **Description of the Qualifying Disaster**

The Fire burned over 250,000 acres in Tuolumne County, destroying forest, rangelands, tribal lands, public and private cabins and camps, and other forest and rangeland infrastructure – all of which are part of the critical upper watershed for the State's water supply. The majority of the burn area is in Stanislaus National Forest, but the Fire also burned portions of Yosemite National Park, other publicly-held lands, and private timber and ranching land. The Fire burned for over two months, causing serious economic disruption in nearby communities.

### **Most Impacted Characteristics**

*Public Infrastructure:* The Fire destroyed permanent public infrastructure, including roadway systems that provide access into and out of Stanislaus National Forest. The damage resulted from

direct fire impacts and resulting changes in the landscape that led to erosion and landslides that have undermined the integrity of the road system. The Fire also destroyed rangelands, fencing, and water troughs that had been in use by cattle ranchers under long-term agreements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS). The Fire damaged or destroyed several historical sites in the forest, including the complete destruction of the Niagara Railway Trestle, which was built between 1923 and 1924 and is listed on the National Historic Site Register (USFS - Niagara Camp and Trestle National Register Original Photos and USFS - Niagara Camp and Trestle National Register Nomination). While not an exhaustive list of the impacts, the eight projects included in the documents referenced below represent **\$3,641,176** in Most Impacted damage to permanent public infrastructure, as well as Unmet Recovery Need.

Impact	Cost Estimate	Source
Roadway and culvert damage	\$1,130,000	USFS-Rim-Roadway/Culvert/Retaining Wall
		Repair Report
Rangeland infrastructure	\$1,068,000	USFS - Rim -Range Infrastructure Repair
damage		Report
Burned Niagara Trestle	\$1,443,176	Cost Estimate based on the cost of the
		Bourland Trestle repair work: USFS-
		Documentation of Estimate for Bourland
		Trestle

*Environmental Degradation:* Earth Economics estimated the environmental benefit losses from the Fire to be in excess of \$100 million in the first year following the event based on estimates of ecosystem services within the burn area before and after the fire (Earth Economics Rim Fire

Report\_11.27.2013 – pg. 25, 6. Conclusions). This estimate was calculated using a Federal Emergency Management Agency accepted and scientifically-validated Benefit Transfer Methodology (Earth Economics Rim Fire Report\_11.27.2013 – pg. 4 Preliminary Assessment). This methodology enables quantification of a range of benefits, including open space, public willingness to pay for outdoor recreation, and water quality to determine the costs incurred when healthy ecosystems are degraded. Measuring only losses to the federal land burned, the USFS estimates the following environmental damage in the forest (USFS Environmental Degradation Summary Report). Amounts shown below do not include the infrastructure projects discussed under "Public Infrastructure"):

- Soil and Water: \$3,639,375
- Heritage/Archeological: \$3,054,752
- Timber: \$117,191,490
- Botanicals: \$9,085,000
- Other Infrastructure: \$1,493,520
- Recreation Revenue losses: \$43,766,779

#### • Total Environmental Damage on US Forest Land: \$178,230,916

The Fire damage persists in the forests, local communities, and beyond. Local communities, whose economy is closely linked to the health of the forest through tourism, recreation, timber, and wood products, suffered from business loss and closure, direct public health impacts, and depressed property values. And, as discussed in more detail in Exhibit D, the Fire's impacts on downstream water storage and supply and short- and long-term carbon storage affect the entire state.

# **Most Distressed Characteristics**

*Economically Fragile Area:* Per current American Communities Survey data, the census tract area has an unemployment rate of 15.4 percent, which is 158.4 percent of the national average of 9.7 percent (CA\_NDRC\_Target\_Area\_Unemployment).

*Prior Environmental Distress:* The Target Area has suffered prior environmental distress due to drought, previous wildfires, and overgrown, dense forests. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's Drought Monitor Mitigation Map shows that Tuolumne County was under Moderate Drought conditions in August 2012 (Attachment E, page 100). Four days before the start of the Fire, a similar map shows that Tuolumne County was under Severe Drought (Attachment E, page 101). Currently, nearly 40 percent of California, including Tuolumne County, is under Exceptional Drought, the most severe drought ranking used CA Drought Monitor; and other than the highest peaks in Tuolumne County, the Target Area in Tuolumne County has consistently been under very high fire threat since 2005 as shown by the California Fire Threat Map (Attachment E, page 102). This map is based on 2005 data, which does not include the current drought. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection expects to update the fire threat map before October.

From a regional perspective, the Target Area has experienced regular wildfire events, as shown in the Tuolumne Burn History Map (Attachment E, page 103). The 1987 Complex Fire burned 157,000 acres in Tuolumne County, much of which was burned again in the Fire. Following wildfires that burn as hot as the Complex and Rim Fires, tree regrowth is minimal. As a result, land transitions and converts from forest to grasslands and shrublands, which are more susceptible to high severity fire and store less carbon than healthy forests.

Overgrown, dense forests, like those within the Rim Fire footprint, are common across California and much of the western United States. Management policies and budget constraints

have led to the annual amount of forest and timber growth surpassing the amount of harvest. Further, fire exclusion practices have been implemented for over a century, limiting the natural fire regime necessary for moderating these fire-dominated systems. These practices result in large areas dominated by dense forests ripe for extensive, intense wildfires (Quantitative Evidence for the Increasing Forest Fire Severity, pg 28-30). From 1995 to 2014, the Wildland Fire Management appropriation of the USFS budget grew from 17 to 51 percent (USFS-Rising Cost of Fire Operations, pg 3). This shift in funding has come at the cost of forest maintenance and research programs. Dense forest cover also decreases the amount of water reaching the forest floor because rain and snow are captured in the canopy rather than reaching the ground and flowing into streams, rivers, and reservoirs (2011 Community Forest Stewardship Program, pgs 8-11). Current forest heath and climate change also precipitate more frequent and more severe wildfires (Quantitative Evidence for the Increasing Forest Fire Severity, pg 28).

#### **Unmet Recovery Need**

*Infrastructure:* As noted in the "Most Impacted" section above, The Fire damaged permanent public infrastructure systems in the forest. The Infrastructure damage listed in the "Most Impacted" section also represents the unmet recovery needs. The source documentation for these projects is also linked above. The USFS - Unmet Need-Infrastructure-Sources and Uses for these projects lists the projects, cost estimates, and the reason for the gap in financing, which is further discussed and documented above in the "Prior Environmental Distress" section. *Environmental Degradation:* As noted in Most Impacted Characteristics above, environmental degradation due to the Fire continues to threaten the Target Area. As summarized in the USFS-Environmental Degradation Summary Report, the Fire burn area included 154,430 acres of national forest lands. The environmental degradation on these lands totaled nearly \$200 million

as discussed in the "Most Impacted – Environmental Degradation Section." Recovering these damages will require investments in reforestation, biomass removal, forest treatments, and sustainable forest practices. The USFS has already invested \$134 million in Rim Fire Recovery and has committed \$9,814,655 additional USFS-Rim Fire Investments To Date and 2015. Additional resources are needed to continue and expand these efforts to recover the environmental damages reported in the "Most Impacted – Environmental Degradation" section. **Eligible Activity:** California will demonstrate that each Community Development Block Grant – National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) activity proposed is an eligible activity or will request an eligibility waiver with the Phase 2 application. The State is aware that HUD does not guarantee such waivers, but understand that any request will be evaluated prior to determination regarding disposition of the application.

**Resilience incorporated:** As further described in Exhibit E: Soundness of Approach, completion of the plans and activities proposed in the State's application are designed to increase resilience in local communities, the broader region, and statewide. California has a comprehensive program to address climate change and boost resilience. In 2006, the legislature passed Assembly Bill 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act, which requires the state to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. In 2009, California was the first state to develop a comprehensive climate adaptation strategy (2009 Climate Adaptation Strategy). The 2014 update to this strategy, *Safeguarding California*, lays out risks and resilience needs across sectors. California has also incorporated climate change considerations into the *State Hazard Mitigation Plan*. California voters showed further support for our critical resources by approving Proposition 1, a bond for investments to address current drought conditions and develop resilience in the State's water system. In recognition of the role forests play in delivering clean

water to the State's growing population, a portion of the funds in the bond supports upper watershed health, which supports California's efforts to fully protect vulnerable and critical watersheds and downstream resources.

**Meet a national objective:** California will demonstrate that each proposed activity other than general administration and planning, which are not subject to such demonstration, can and will meet a CDBG-NDR national objective or request a waiver from HUD.

**Overall benefit:** At least 50 percent of the funds requested in the State's application will assist activities that will provide sufficient benefit to low- and moderate-income persons in the form of services, area benefit, housing, or jobs, to meet the national objective of benefit to low- and moderate-income persons or a request for a waiver will be made to HUD.

**Establish tie-back:** The Fire demonstrates the vulnerability of the State's watersheds, resourcebased rural economies, and the fragile and vulnerable relationship among the State's people, economy, and its natural resources. This region is also representative of large portions of the western states, so this program will have wide applicability throughout the West. Investments made through this program will tie back to the qualifying disaster.

**Certifications:** The State is only participating in this application and certifies to all required certifications which are included in Attachment C, page 74.

Exhibit C - Capacity

State of California

ExhibitCCapacity.pdf

# **EXHIBIT C: CAPACITY**

The Community and Watershed Resilience Program (Program) is designed to improve the health and sustainability of California's upper watersheds to reduce the risk of destructive wildfire through investments in community and ecological resilience. Program benefits will extend from the Rim Fire (Fire) area through the Sierra Nevada region and the rest of the State (Attachment E, page 98). The Program builds on the State's extensive capacity to work across sectors; engage at the federal, State, and local level; develop and use technical and data resources; and leverage funding opportunities to achieve multiple outcomes. Together, this capacity enables the State to accomplish systemic changes, sound project design and selection, development of large-scale programs, active monitoring of investments, and use of adaptive management tools. The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) led the preparation of this application in coordination with the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service/Stanislaus National Forest (USFS), and Tuolumne County. Several technical assistance advisors from the Rockefeller Foundation's Seattle Resiliency Academy provided review and comment.

# **General Management**

HCD is the applicant on behalf of the State of California. Five State departments and Tuolumne County will assume primary grant oversight and management responsibilities:

• **HCD** is the applicant of record on behalf of the State of California and the six lead team organizations. HCD will ensure that the grant efforts are carried out in compliance with all HUD requirements and serve as fiscal agent to oversee financial, procurement, quality

assurance, and internal controls. HCD has extensive experience in managing the State's federal consolidated plan funds and has allocated over \$4 billion in State and federal capital resources to municipalities, community-based organizations and private sector business and developers over the last 15 years. HCD's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, Policy Development Division and its newly-created Internal Audit Division, will oversee and be responsible for grant compliance and ensure the appropriate internal controls and training are in place for grant and sub-recipient activities. HCD can also quickly develop programs as needed as it currently leads the development and implementation of cross-agency loan and grant programs that invest in transportation, community and business development, and affordable housing projects.

- **OPR** has primary leadership role for project management and implementation, including coordinating and aligning State department resources, policies, and efforts. OPR currently facilitates several statewide and regional efforts bringing multi-sector resources and funding together, including support for the Drought Mitigation Task Force, California Environmental Quality Act guidance, and local General Plan Guidance.
- **CalEPA** is providing oversight on outreach efforts, cross-sector climate change work, bioenergy development, and financial resource development, including leverage of innovative funding such as the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.
- **CAL FIRE** is providing oversight of forest stewardship practices, technical expertise, tieback to ecological and climate goals, and implementation of key grant investment activities.
- California Conservation Corps is providing job training programs for sustainable forestry management.
- Tuolumne County is leading engagement efforts in the Fire area. The County has facilitated

extensive community collaboration and consultation following the Fire.

# **Cross-Disciplinary Technical Capacity**

Key partners in this effort include USFS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), and a range of regional and local organizations. The State is working with partners across the Sierra Nevada region to leverage efforts and investments in other sectors and regions and to expand and transfer this approach to resilience to other watersheds and communities. Each partner has significant capacity to work across disciplines and organizations and provide expertise in the following areas:

- USFS: The USFS regularly engages with citizens, business, and State and county agencies on forest management issues. They have held multiple stakeholder workshops and public meetings, hosted dozens of field visits, and worked consistently with the local collaborative group, Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions. USFS efforts are focused on meeting the interests of local government, local and regional industry, local and regional utilities, environmental groups, permittees, and landowners.
- **SNC**: SNC is a technical partner with expertise in assessing investment needs, data analysis, and considering the replicability and transferability of the Program. This partnership builds on SNC's Watershed Improvement Program.
- **Community and Regional Organizations**: Several local and regional organizations regularly engage businesses, public sector, and citizens. These include the Sierra Business Council, tribal communities, and Tuolumne County Schools and Community College. For additional information, see the discussion under Regional Capacity, below.

*Cross-Disciplinary Experience, Comprehensive Planning, and Major Program Development* California has been grappling with increasingly complex challenges in its efforts to address climate change, manage and respond to extreme drought, and plan for an uncertain future. Responding to these challenges requires extensive collaboration, planning, data analysis, tool development, and innovation in approach and engagement. Several innovative efforts, described below, demonstrate this approach. These cross-agency efforts have quickly translated policy needs into major investment and programs; the proposed Program will draw on these innovative existing efforts. They include:

- Cap and Trade Auction Proceeds Investment Plan: Outlines investment areas for proceeds from California's Cap and Trade program auctions in accordance with guiding State laws and policies. This plan targets multiple investment areas, including forests and water.
- Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program: Using funds from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, the Strategic Growth Council is investing in housing and transportation projects to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Water Action Plan: Roadmap to guide investment and policy for a sustainable water system in California. The recommendations from the Plan were translated into the State's recently-passed Water Bond.
- The Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan: A 22 million-acre plan for renewable energy development and land conservation in California's southern deserts.

*Understanding Climate Risk:* Climate change poses significant risks to California communities. California has funded the development of three comprehensive assessments of climate change risks to the State and developed indicators to track climate change. The State has also committed significant resources to translate this information into tools and guidance. These tools include the State's comprehensive climate adaptation strategy, *Safeguarding California*, Cal-Adapt, and Adaptation Planning Guide, which provides step-by-step guidance to assist local governments in developing climate adaptation strategies. Each State agency engaged in this proposal has worked closely in the development of the State's climate change activities.

The State has also worked closely in the development of two programs to support local and regional response to climate change:

- CivicSpark: AmeriCorps program developed as a Governor's Initiative that provides assistance to local governments to develop climate mitigation and adaptation plans.
- Alliance for Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA): Collaborative of five regional organizations focused on climate adaptation in the four large metropolitan areas and the Sierra Nevada region. The State is an ex-officio member of the Alliance.

*Civil Rights, Fair Housing, and Vulnerable Populations:* California has placed a priority on ensuring that State policies and investments benefit the State's most disadvantaged and/or vulnerable residents. The State has developed tools to better understand the risks of climate change and natural hazard risks to vulnerable communities. These include MyPlan (maps local hazards) and Cal-Adapt (downscaled information on climate risks). CalEnviroScreen identifies disadvantaged communities through an analysis of socioeconomic, health, and environmental risk factors, and is used by State agencies to direct investment of the GHG Reduction Fund, which houses auction fees collected through the State's Cap and Trade Program. State law requires that at least 10 percent of these funds be spent in disadvantaged communities and that at least 25 percent be spent in a manner that benefits disadvantaged communities. These tools and accompanying guidance are an example of the State's capacity to implement and evaluate the work under this proposal.

HCD is developing its ten-year Statewide Housing Plan, which will include place-based strategies using the California Regional Opportunity Index tool (created by the University of

California at Davis Center for Regional Change), CalEnviroScreen, and HUD's continued guidance on fair housing equity assessments. HCD's policy, regulatory, and local investment efforts further fair housing in accordance with federal and State fair housing law and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. The 2012 *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing* sets forth actions addressing ten impediments to fair housing choice within these functions. State housing law requires HCD to certify regional and local housing plans, which must address fair housing, housing need distribution by income, overconcentration of lower income households, and jobs and housing relationships. HCD assessed minority and lower-income households' access to and need for the federal CDBG and HOME programs it administers, predominantly in rural areas like those in Tuolumne County, the Program area.

*Design Guidance and Ensuring Good Design:* California's approach to resilience is based on the guiding principles outlined in the *Safeguarding California* plan. These principles were identified to ensure that the State's activities align with its long-term goals to address climate risk. These principles will also serve as the underlying design guidance for the approach and framework for this proposal. These principles are to: 1) use the best-available science; 2) design programs that can incorporate and adjust to new information on current conditions and future projections (i.e., adaptive management); 3) involve all relevant stakeholders and establish and maintain strong partnerships across all levels of government, tribes, businesses, landowners, nongovernmental organizations, and community residents; and 4) prioritize solutions with multiple benefits and ensure that strategies to reduce climate risk are coordinated, to the extent possible, with the State's efforts to reduce GHG emissions and other local, national, and international efforts.

*Partnership Durability and Redundancy:* The intent of the Program is durability and the provision of multiple benefits by all of the partners. If a partner is unexpectedly required to withdraw from participation, we anticipate replacing quickly that partner with another person or organization with similar knowledge and experience.

*Cost Effectiveness and Reasonableness:* Overall, the cost-effectiveness of investment in watershed health is well-established. Research from the Sierra Nevada region indicates that investment in fuel treatments and thinning can reduce the size and intensity of wildfires, and benefits can outweigh costs by up to three times.

California State agencies have vast experience conducting cost assessments in different programs and contexts. CAL FIRE routinely considers costs and benefits of competing forestry and fire protection projects. Factors evaluated include strategic spatial placement in a landscape context, values at risk, ecological benefit, job creation, and economic benefits to local communities. Methods range from formal cost/benefit analyses to less-structured empirical analyses. The USFS has many years of research, practical experience, and personnel trained in prioritizing and implementing forest management actions resource projects. HCD brings expertise to review and underwrite capital investments, including best investment approaches and appropriate funding levels to mitigate risk and attract capital.

#### **Community Engagement Capacity**

In California, stakeholder engagement is critical to decision-making at the local, regional, and State level. All members of the leadership team have staffed, led, attended, and/or managed formal and informal public engagement meetings and workshops.

#### Community Engagement in Rim Fire Recovery and NDRC Application Development:

The State and our partners have great capacity to work with stakeholders to identify specific recovery and resilience needs to incorporate in this application. Tuolumne County leaders regularly engage with their constituents and were a reliable resource, along with State and federal personnel, to community members, businesses, and community organizations during the Fire. Since the Fire, the County has responded to unmet needs identified by community members, including holding a focused study session on the impact of the fire on access to insurance in the County. The Program leadership team has and will continue to engage regional groups in the development of this program (See Attachment D for a full list of groups engaged.) *Community Empowerment for Recovery:* Because of the extensive post-Rim Fire engagement work, community engagement in the NDRC has been robust. The State's NDRC web site was developed early in the process and has been accessible to the public. Two NDRC-focused meetings were held in Tuolumne County in January and March (see Appendix I Consultation Summary) and a public webinar was held in March. Discussion of the State's NDRC application was included on the agenda of dozens of local, State, regional, and federal meetings and workshops over the past several months, including those held by the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors, State Climate Action Team subgroups, ARCCA, USFS, and others.

As described in more detail in Exhibit E, this engagement will continue throughout Phase 2 with a workgroup structure designed to engage a broad set of stakeholders and regular community meetings in Tuolumne County dedicated to the State and County's NDRC application. We will also seek opportunities to present at standing meetings, including those of the County Board of Supervisors and regional and community organizations.

*Harmonizing Diverse Views:* All of the Program's partners and the leadership team have experience both working with and harmonizing the contributions of diverse stakeholders in the

consultation process. Rarely does a policy decision meet all the needs of every stakeholder, yet the partners reach so many communities and interested constituents that we believe our approach holds benefits for all.

# **Regional Capacity**

Wildfires are ubiquitous in California, not just in Tuolumne County. The Sierra Nevada and other mountain regions in the west have a long history of wildfire, though in recent years the fires have become more severe. Because the Program is durable, we are working to engage the broader Sierra Nevada region with an eye to replicating the Program in more communities. This extension will be facilitated through collaboration with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy's

# Watershed Improvement Program.

Another partner, the <u>Sierra Business Council</u>, a regional organization whose mission is to support the economy and sustainability of the region, has long served as a convener in the region and houses the Sierra Nevada region's new collaborative for climate adaptation and mitigation, Sierra Climate and Mitigation Partnership (Sierra CAMP). As we look to develop broader engagement throughout California, we will work with ARCCA to broaden our outreach. We will also work with the <u>Pacific Coast Collaborative</u> (PCC) to extend our reach to other western states and to western Canada. The PCC is a partnership among California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, with a focus on climate change mitigation and resilience.

Exhibit D – Need/Extent of the Problem

State of California

Exhibit DNeed Extent of Problem.pdf

# **EXHIBIT D: NEED/EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM**

The state's forested upper watersheds are a critical element of California's complex and drought-stricken water system. Restoration investments in these watersheds build resilience in communities, economies, and people by safeguarding watersheds from fire, pests, and invasive species. The Rim Fire (Fire) is the latest in a string of wildfires that has broken records for intensity and size. Incidents like the Fire have cascading effects on water resources and communities long after the fire is gone. The cumulative effects of such events over a period of time can be devastating. These events call for a holistic approach to preventing, managing, and mitigating their effects by enhancing the health of upper watersheds and forests and the resilience of rural communities.

#### **Unmet Need in the MID-URN Area**

Per Exhibit B, the target area for California's NDRC application includes the area of the 2013 Rim Fire and the evacuation areas (Attachment E, page 99). As described in Exhibit B, the Fire significantly damaged the environment and public infrastructure. The Fire burned the landscape, retaining walls, drainage infrastructure, historic sites, and cattle grazing infrastructure. Damage on the landscape has led to erosion and sedimentation into streams and reservoirs, reducing water quality and reservoir capacity. Erosion has exacerbated road damage caused by the Fire and limited access to forest roads. The Fire also caused <u>extensive damage</u> to the San Francisco Public Utility Commission's hydroelectric infrastructure in the area.

<u>Earth Economics</u> estimated that in the first year following the Fire, environmental damage measured between \$100 and \$736 million. These estimates are based on analysis of ecosystem services provided by a healthy forest and watershed. Furthermore, the U.S.

Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS) estimated over \$40 million in lost recreational uses and visitor fees. This estimate is indicative of the impact on the local communities whose economies are tied to the forest through tourism, recreation, associated services, timber, and wood products.

Addressing these unmet needs requires investment to address immediate risks, but also to restore long-term ecosystem services. In the near term, erosion control measures are needed to prevent infrastructure damage and environmental degradation and sedimentation in downstream water bodies. Investments are needed to support sustainable forest practices that ensure healthy landscapes and support timber and wood product industries. These activities include reforestation of the burned areas, removal of dead wood and establishment of firebreaks to protect reforested areas and critical infrastructure.

The Fire also highlighted the need for community infrastructure improvements to increase resilience. During the Fire, firefighters and residents regularly had to drive several miles or form cell phone brigades to access cellular or broadband services and communicate with other fire crews, command centers, and personnel delivering supplies. Data from the Central Sierra Broadband Consortium shows that at least 50 percent of the County's population resides in unmet or underserved communications infrastructure areas (Appendix E, page 104). The Consortium further detailed the need by identifying Pine Mountain Lake, Cold Springs, Pinecrest, and Strawberry as areas of immediate need (Resolution T-17443).

Water infrastructure also proved to be vulnerable and, in some cases, inadequate. A 15.7mile-long wooden flume, the <u>Main Tuolumne Canal</u>, brings water from the Lyons Reservoir to the local communities (Appendix E, page 105). Above ground and <u>constructed of wood</u>, the flume carries water through a steep canyon, which is itself at high risk of fire. In some housing

developments near the burn area, fire hydrants and fire suppression infrastructure were also unable to support fire-fighting activities. Wooden flumes are common in rural areas.

# Impacted and Distressed Characteristics in the MID-URN Area

Economic and environmental factors already affecting the region accentuated the damage from the Rim Fire. Tuolumne County is an economically fragile area. Unemployment in the Target Area is currently at 15.4 percent, which is 158.4 percent of the national average. The fragility is further enhanced by the nature of the region's workforce. The region's economy is highly tied to the forest through tourism, recreation, associated service industries, timber, and wood products. In 2009, over <u>20 percent of the workforce</u> was employed in recreation, retail, or accommodation and food services. The workforce is also highly seasonal. The trend in the size of the workforce in the county, averaged for the 2000 to 2011 time period, peaks between July and October. The Rim fire began right before Labor Day weekend, forcing the closure of hotels, portions of Yosemite National Park, Stanislaus National Forest, and other attractions – at a peak time for tourism, recreation, and employment. Local residents suffered not only from these economic impacts, but also from extensive evacuations, exposure to smoke, and disruptions to work, school, and other activities. These impacts were especially challenging for the elderly, the young, and residents reliant on employment in resource-dependent sectors. Smoke from wildfires is an acute problem for children, the elderly, the infirm, and people with disabilities. The public health impacts can be severe (Kunzli et al 2006).

Residents in Tuolumne County have had difficulty obtaining and maintaining homeowner's insurance following the Fire, notably those residents who live at the wildland-urban interface. Access to insurance <u>continues to elude homeowners</u>; lack of insurance could slow economic and physical recovery from the Fire and hinder resilience to similar future incidents.

As discussed in Exhibit B, in addition to the region's fragile economy, <u>current drought</u> <u>conditions</u> and the past history of severe wildfire accentuated the impact of the fire throughout the region (Attachment E, page 103).

### **Impacts Beyond the MID-URN Area**

Almost <u>60 percent of California's developed water supply originates</u> in the Sierra Nevada region (<u>California Water Plan</u> 2013, fig. 3-11, pg 3-36). When forested areas are exposed to wildfires, impacts on water supply and quality occur due to soil erosion and resultant sedimentation in reservoirs and downstream water conveyance systems (Minear and Kondolf 2009). For example, the impacts from the Fire extend to Don Pedro Reservoir, which provides drinking and irrigation water to the Central Valley, California's agricultural hub. Loss of reservoir capacity to sedimentation is generally ongoing and often permanent (Poff and Hart 2002). The fire also damaged infrastructure in the San Francisco Public Utility's water and power systems, which originate in Tuolumne County. Thus, building resilience in the upper watershed will have wide-reaching effects. This work will also provide a replicable model for how investment in ecological disaster restoration and natural infrastructure can support community and State resilience.

Building resilience will also improve State efforts to improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Healthy forests play an important role in climate change due to their ability to store carbon. Forests absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis and store large amounts of carbon in living woody tissue. GHG emissions from large, destructive fires like the Fire can rival the annual emissions from large cities. The Fire released millions of tons of smoke over hundreds of miles (<u>Air Quality Update-August 8, 2103, NOAA News Clip-Smoke</u>) and over 11 million metric tons of GHG emissions, roughly the

equivalent of the annual GHG emissions from 2.3 million motor vehicles (<u>Sierra Nevada</u> <u>Conservancy - Rim Fire Fact Sheet</u>). Dead and dying trees, like those remaining after the fire, can release as much as four to five times more GHG emissions than the event itself. These releases occur for many years as the trees decompose (<u>National Park Service Impacts of Fire</u> <u>Report</u> – pg 20, 21). Carbon storage will continue to be degraded due to vast treeless landscapes, which impugn both air quality and critical carbon storage (<u>Quantitative Evidence for the</u> <u>Increasing Forest Fire Severity – pg 13/report pg 29, highlighted</u>).

#### **Comprehensive Risk Approach for Program Development**

The development of the Community and Watershed Resilience Program (Program) relies on a comprehensive risk approach informed by historical data and future risk. The risks considered include the risks of wildfire and other disturbances under historic and future conditions. In developing our program for watershed and community resilience, we will consider these risks systematically.

*Historical Risk Data:* In California forests in the Sierra Nevada, southern Cascade Range, and montane Modoc Plateau, fire is an inherent process that regulates forest size and shapes forest stands (Collins and Skinner 2013). Research by the USFS and the Center for Wildland and Water Resources shows that most fires were low to moderate severity over at least the last several centuries. Historically, these frequent, low-intensity fires maintained relatively open, patchy stands composed primarily of large, fire-resistant trees across much of the landscape. However, past timber harvesting practices and livestock grazing, coupled with over a century of fire suppression have shifted forest structure and composition to the ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, and mixed-conifer types currently populating the Sierra Nevada. This shift produces increased tree densities, smaller average tree diameters, higher

proportions of shade-tolerant tree species, elevated surface fuel loads relative to historic conditions, and reduction in heterogeneity across landscapes. Alongside these changes, the proportion of high-severity fire increased in mixed-conifer forests in the Sierra Nevada from 1984 to 2010 (Collins et al 2011; van Wagtendonk and Fites-Kaufman 2006; and Perry and others 2011). Fire sizes and annual burn area also increased during the same period. These trends are linked to stand- and landscape-scale changes in forest structure and a warming climate. Westerling (2014) shows that the combined long-term impact of human activities increases the risks of large wildfires, often in ways that cannot be easily reversed.

*Future Risk Data:* The State's series of climate change assessments (described in Exhibit C) have characterized many of the future risks to the MID-URN area and the State as a whole--as a result of a changing climate, among other factors. Future risks include <u>increasing temperatures</u>; shifts in vegetation and ecosystem composition; increase in the frequency and severity of extreme events, including heat waves, extreme storms, and <u>wildfire</u>; and reductions in snowpack in higher elevations. These assessments also look at the <u>combined influence of land use</u>, <u>demographics</u>, and <u>climate change on wildfire in California</u>. This analysis shows that land use decisions can have a large impact on future wildfire risk.

Drought and climate change are expected to lead to increased fire intensity and areas. Drought has a direct effect on water availability, while fires can have an indirect effect. Reservoir capacity can be jeopardized by repeated sediment flushes associated with fires, into the reservoir. This in turn will diminish water storage and downstream available water for human and agricultural consumption.

*Data to Understand Historical and Future Risk:* Data and information in this proposal came from peer-reviewed research, professional studies, personal communication, agency and

academic reports and tools. These data include detailed records of forest growth patterns in different forest types under different management regimes statewide and California fire characteristics available from the USFS, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and universities; and the best available data sets on State water resources from the Department of Water Resources. We used tools identified in Exhibit C such as the Climate Change Indicators, Climate Assessments, and Cal-Adapt.

The <u>Rim Fire Environmental Impact Statement</u> provided a wealth of data including ongoing monitoring projects associated with the 2013 Rim Fire. Yosemite National Park is investigating water quality effects of the Fire through <u>long-term monitoring stations</u>. We used data from the local area surrounding the Fire or from similar ecological and economic conditions elsewhere in the Sierra Nevada. Seventy Forest Inventory and Analysis Project (FIA) permanent plots were remeasured after the Fire, providing high quality before and after data at the individual tree level.<sup>1</sup> These data will be analyzed in NDRC Phase 2. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy is collecting data and information to quantify interventions needed to improve health on other forests in the Sierra Nevada. These data will also be included in Phase 2.

In addition to using peer-reviewed data, we communicated with community leaders, stakeholders, the general public, public agencies, and researchers to further understand the threats, hazards, and vulnerabilities associated with the Fire.

By virtue of pertaining to the conditions of the Fire area, these data are considered the most authoritative data available, and the best data for this geographic area. We expect the Program

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fried, Jeremy. 2015. Personal communication. USFS, Inventory and Analysis Unit. Pacific Northwest Research Station, Portland, Oregon.

we develop from this data to be applicable to similar communities over a broad area of California and the western montane states.

#### Post-Disaster Threats, Hazards, and Vulnerabilities

As stated at the start of this exhibit, the cumulative effects of this complex of problems can be long-lasting and severe; cascading effects persist long after the fire ends, affecting large areas and the local communities within them. This application focuses on a number of post-disaster threats, hazards, and vulnerabilities, including future wildfire, erosion, sedimentation, invasive species, carbon storage, climate change, economic disruption, and air and water quality. The risks associated with these threats and hazards are exacerbated by several underlying vulnerabilities, including the local economy, unemployment, infrastructure inadequacy, and disadvantaged populations. Data to understand these risks are the same as those outlined above.

*Known Unknowns:* Known unknowns include the magnitude and direction of climate changes and its effect on wildfire patterns (Hurteau and others 2013), the extent and severity of future drought, and the carbon storage capacity of future forests. The spatial variability of climate change is difficult to predict, as the direction and magnitude of changes in temperatures and climate are likely to vary in different locations in ways that are not well modeled or understood. *Who and What are Affected?* These threats, hazards, and vulnerabilities are common in communities and watershed across the Sierra Nevada region. Future risks from the threats, hazards, or vulnerabilities include the cumulative effects of repeated large, high-intensity wildfires on local rural economies. Over time and large areas, impacts can include the elimination of resource based companies such as sawmills and contractors. Capacity for resilience and adaptation is strongly influenced by the size and diversity of a community's economic base.

*Magnitude and Likelihood of Risks:* Wildfire, drought, water quality and quantity impairment, carbon storage and climate change, and air quality are all real risks that can prove devastating to rural communities.

Addressing Threats and Hazards to Meet Unmet Recovery Needs: Proactive investments in reducing fuel loads in the forest will reduce future fire suppression costs. These savings can then be made available to protect resources with cultural and natural conservation values, to restore forests to a natural fire cycle, and for further tree removal and fuel load reduction. The proposed Program can reduce fire risk by helping low- and moderate-income homeowners and small businesses by removing vegetation to create and maintain 100-foot fire buffers around structures. Wood products from these thinning activities can provide an ongoing source of raw materials for sustainable forest product businesses such as biomass energy. These businesses can drive economic recovery and stability and support local employment in rural areas.

*Disproportionate Impacts:* As mentioned at the start of this Exhibit, wildfire poses significant public health risks, especially to the elderly, children, and the infirm. The economic impacts disproportionately affect workers in tourism, recreation, and service industries, as well as the timber and wood products industries. The burn area also included tribal lands, historic sites, and other areas of cultural significance.

#### Importance of Addressing This Risk to the State, Region, and Local Community: By

addressing recovery and resilience, forests and water, economy and health simultaneously, we can implement a Program that has utility to forested watersheds in the State and the West. The Program has the potential to magnify impacts well beyond the burn area (Appendix E, page 98). *Existing Conditions that Exacerbate Risk and Vulnerability:* California is in the fourth year of a prolonged drought. The drought continues to have a negative impact on sectors such as

agriculture, forestry, and tourism, typically important parts of local economies. The lack of diversity and concentration of resource-dependent industries makes local rural communities highly susceptible to the negative impacts of natural disasters such as the Fire.

*Ongoing Work to Address Risks and Barriers to Solution:* Tuolumne County has a number of organizations in place that are working to boost the resilience of the region to wildfires and the resulting infrastructure and economic damage. This includes two FireSafe Councils, which work with homeowners and businesses to develop resilience strategies. The <u>Southwest Interface Team</u> (SWIFT) is a bi-county collaboration that has worked to develop and maintain a set of strategic firebreaks to protect communities, timber resources, and other vital assets in the region. These efforts provide strong starting points for this work and need to be complemented by investments in additional forest management activities and infrastructure investment to build the region's resilience.

The Stanislaus National Forest has embarked on a significant program of timber salvage, reforestation, and rehabilitation after the Fire burned material has been removed, to the extent allowed by existing budgets-though more is needed. In these cleared areas, work is under way to prepare and replant. CAL FIRE continues to implement fuels reduction projects in cooperation with private landowners to reduce fire impacts.

Rehabilitation and prevention of wildfires are usually limited by budgets, the availability of a trained work force, and adequate infrastructure such as sawmills and bioenergy plants. The Program is capitalizing on ongoing work and building new partnerships to overcome these barriers.

Exhibit E – Soundness of Approach

State of California

ExhibitESoundnessofApproach.pdf

# **EXHIBIT E: SOUNDNESS OF APPROACH**

The Community and Watershed Resilience Program (Program) is modeled around several broad objectives, including reducing the risk of large, severe wildfires; safeguarding water storage and yields, an increasingly urgent priority in drought-stricken western states; diversifying and supporting local economies; and increasing the storage of carbon to mitigate climate change. Our objective is to apply this Program model in the Rim Fire (Fire) recovery, through the development of innovative partnerships that link together forest stewardship with productive uses for forest products, including timber, wood products, and bioenergy, alongside investments in community protection, economic development, and education. Due to the tight connection and interdependence between the local community and the forest, community and forest ecosystem resilience go hand in hand. Through our regional engagement, the goal is to develop a replicable and durable program model that can be applied throughout the State's rural, forest communities and shared with other Western states (see -Appendix E, page 99).

As outlined in Exhibits B, C, and D, the Fire is one event in a long history of wildfire in the Sierra Nevada. Wildfire risk has increased as a result of historic fire suppression, development patterns, drought, and other factors. Evidence suggests that climate change will result in more frequent and severe wildfires under a range of plausible future climate situations (Westerling and others 2014). Boosting economic and ecological resilience in the Fire area and surrounding communities requires reversing this management trend and developing opportunities to increase the strength and resilience of the local communities and economies.

#### Consultation

The Fire recovery effort is an entry point to examine dimensions of resilience that are of concern statewide: wildfire, drought, water quality, water supply, and rural economic

development. Therefore, in developing this Phase 1 proposal, we have consulted with a broad group of stakeholders in Tuolumne County, the surrounding region, and the rest of the State. We will continue to engage a broad group of stakeholders in executing the work.

*Outreach, Stakeholders, and Collaboration:* As described in Exhibit C and outlined in Appendix I, we have had broad-ranging consultation in developing our approach. These conversations have included stakeholders from many parts of the community and broader region, including local government, education, environmental organizations, fire prevention and safety groups, economic development organizations, community organizations, the agriculture, forestry, and wood products industries, local and downstream water utilities, and concerned citizens. We have also engaged with consultants, private business, and researchers.

*Engagement and Collaboration Moving Ahead:* California and Tuolumne County will continue an interactive and collaborative dialog with the community moving ahead. A steering committee will advise the State on results-based outcomes, outreach, engagement, systems strategies, resilience planning, and implementation of the grant activities.

Leadership partners include the County of Tuolumne, U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS), Sierra Business Council, Local Government Commission, Yosemite-Stanislaus Solutions Partnership, the Amador Tuolumne County Action Agency, Local FireSafe Councils, and PolicyLink. Though this process, we will work iteratively to identify and co-create, with the community, discrete work streams for more focused engagement. Four focus areas under initial consideration are: Outreach and Engagement; Social Equity, Workforce Development, and Economic Opportunity; Natural Systems and Resources; and Built Environment and Infrastructure.

The project will use professional facilitation coupled with a data-sharing platform to facilitate

broad engagement, transparency, and accessibility to the process. Data Basin will be used throughout Phase 2 proposal development, project design, selection, and implementation. Developed by the Conservation Biology Institute, <u>Data Basin</u> is an innovative web-based spatial visualization and analysis platform for conservation planning and decision making. Data Basin was designed to improve data accessibility and integration supported by a platform that is extremely easy to use and one that supports user collaboration at many levels. California recently used Data Basin for the Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan, referenced in Exhibit C, a <u>complex, multi-objective stakeholder process</u>, and has prioritized building this capacity into all place-based planning processes.

*Cumulative Risk and Vulnerable Populations:* We have identified and reached out to a number of vulnerable populations within our target area. As a rural community with an economy that is closely connected to the forest and surrounding landscape, the communities and local economies in Tuolumne County are highly vulnerable to wildfire and other natural disasters. Community members who are employed in tourism and recreation-related jobs and the timber and wood products industry are highly vulnerable. We have engaged with representatives of the timber, wood products, and recreation and tourism industries, ranchers, and non-industrial private forest landowners to identify ways to build more resilience in these businesses. Two Native American tribes reside in Tuolumne County and we have engaged with each in the first phase of this project. We plan to continue with this engagement as this project moves forward.

Specific segments of the population are also particularly vulnerable to the occurrence of wildfire. These include the elderly, the young, and the infirm, who are especially vulnerable to poor air quality and wood smoke exposure. In the case of school-age children, the Fire also resulted in school cancellations, which, for some children, limited access to meals and other

services. We have engaged with the County Office of Schools to work with this population. We have and will continue to consult with PolicyLink, a national equity advisory and advocacy organization, to help build more extensive networks and collaboration with underserved populations and to develop equity opportunities in Phase 2 of this work.

*Results of Collaboration and Engagement:* The residents and businesses in Tuolumne County and other forest communities have an intimate understanding of the interdependence among the forest, the watershed, the local economy, and the broader state. Our conversations with stakeholders and partners have been a tremendous asset to the development of this proposal. In particular, these engagements have provided the following:

- A better understanding of the range of economic and infrastructure damage of the Fire;
- Infrastructure deficits, including inadequate water, communications, and transportation systems that place communities at risk;
- Ideas for new projects, partnerships, and collaborations that will sustainably support the local economy, forest and watershed health, and ecosystem resilience; and
- An understanding of collaborative efforts and work already under way in Tuolumne County and the surrounding region, which creates a strong foundation for the work being developed through this proposal.

### **Concept for Resilience**

The Fire demonstrates the vulnerability of the State's watersheds, resource-based rural economies, and the fragile relationship among the State's people, economy, and its natural resources. This region is also representative of large portions of the western states, so this program will have wide applicability throughout the West.

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*Project Ideas for Addressing Unmet Needs:* This proposal focuses on a multi-pronged program for ecological and economic revitalization in which the concepts of ecological and economic resilience are central. We draw on critical elements of *Safeguarding California*, the State's Climate Adaptation Strategy. The Program also addresses two key ideas in the 2012 Forest Planning Rule (USDA Forest Service 2012), namely pursuing "opportunities for landscape scale restoration," and emphasizing "wildland fire and opportunities to restore fire-adapted ecosystems." Working forests are increasingly recognized as a beneficial approach to achieving economic prosperity in rural, resource-dependent communities, increasing resilience in the face of future fires and providing forest carbon storage to help mitigate climate change. We are exploring the following elements as part of our approach:

- Reforestation in the burn area: USFS is clearing burned timber and reforesting parts of the burn area. Due to budget and staff limitations, the USFS was unable to access and remove a significant portion of the timber that could have been used for wood products. We aim to leverage private businesses to facilitate more prompt and complete reforestation and salvage of burned trees.
- Strategic thinning for health and fuel reduction: Additional investments are needed to transition restoration of the burn area alone into activities that will boost resilience in the broader forested area and reduce the risk of future wildfire to the recovery area.
- Strategic firebreaks: Provide protection to communities, businesses, and increase future fire resistance of forests that are vital for the local timber and wood products industry.
- Development of partnerships to manage and utilize biomass: Manage forest biomass to reduce fire risk, develop strategic firebreaks, and enhance watershed health. Develop

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economic models for using this biomass for bioenergy development within the wood products industry.

- Job training: Work with the forest industry and the California Conservation Corps to develop job training programs in order to develop a deep pool of skilled workers to support forest management activities, including marking trees, thinning, timber harvest, permitting, and biomass utilization. Such a work force will be needed to achieve successful reforestation, tree salvage and erosion control efforts after future wildfires and to manage forests to proactively prevent destructive wildfire.
- Investment in infrastructure to protect communities from wildfire: Ensure that water, communications, and transportation systems are resilient in the face of wildfire and are adequate to support evacuation, access, and fire-fighting activities during a fire.
- Regional coordination and partnerships: Coordinate with other Sierra Nevada communities (and beyond) to share practices and models for managing forest biomass.
- Education: Work with schools and other agencies to inform the public about steps needed to reduce wildfire risk (e.g., defensible space), the natural role of wildfire, and the role of the watershed in protecting the State's water supply and quality.

*Resilience Work Under Way:* As discussed in Exhibit D, significant resilience work is under way in Tuolumne County. It is being led by local, State, and federal groups. The actions undertaken with this grant will augment existing activities and focus on building partnerships to leverage existing investments and overcome barriers to building resilience.

*Feasibility and Long-Term Resilience:* The Program is designed to demonstrate a sustainable approach for maintaining forest and watershed health and community resilience. The goal is to move from a reactive model to one that is proactive and takes an integrated approach to

resilience. The Program requires both an initial up-front investment to jump start forest health efforts and to address the many decades of fuel build-up. After that initial investment, the goal is to implement a free-standing Program for forest health that is economically viable and durable. Natural systems are dynamic; therefore, our Program will require long-term monitoring and adaptive management. The funds provided through the National Disaster Resilience Competition will help develop the capacity, partnerships, and a trained local workforce to undertake this maintenance.

*Co-Benefits and Integrated Thinking:* The Community and Watershed Resilience Program is designed around the relationship between forests and communities. The Program is intended to achieve multiple benefits that emanate from the local community and spread down through the watershed to the entire State. The Program is designed around a central goal of reducing risks from wildfires, but to do so in a manner that supports diverse ecosystem benefits, rural economic development, and long-term resilience and sustainability.

Exhibit F – Leverage and Outcomes

State of California

ExhibitFLeverageandOutcomes.pdf

## **EXHIBIT F: LEVERAGE AND OUTCOMES**

Fires do not respect administrative boundaries of counties or land ownership regimes. Therefore, activities in the affected area will provide significant benefits to neighboring areas. Replicating and spreading these activities in neighboring counties, forests, and communities will increase the overall resilience of the region and the State. In particular, by proactively applying this approach in areas that have not burned, we can reduce the severe ecological and economic impacts of a severe wildfire. This is a critical element of the Community and Watershed Resilience Program (Program), which will increase resilience on a local and regional scale and also support attainment of broader statewide goals.

### Outcomes

*Timing and Approach:* As described in Exhibit E, the Program is designed to be a long-term strategy for developing a sustainable forest economy. A significant up-front investment is needed to launch it, but the goal is to develop a program that can be economically and institutionally sustainable over the long term.

*Green Infrastructure Solutions:* Healthy and sustainable forests and watersheds are critical natural infrastructure for the State. These forests are home to the headwaters of the State's water system, providing water storage as snowpack, natural water filtration, and groundwater recharge. The forests also store carbon to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the built environment and are critical to the State's long-term goals to reduce GHG emissions and slow climate change.

*Financial Sustainability and Vulnerable Populations:* One of the driving forces for this work is that under current conditions, there are insufficient funding and investment mechanisms for forest maintenance, but also that current structural issues (e.g., transportation costs, facility

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locations) hinder economical solutions to forest and biomass management. The Program is designed to engage stakeholders, including public and private landowners, the timber and wood products industry, the bioenergy industry, workforce and educational organizations, and the community to design an economically-viable, sustainable model for forest resilience. This will include stewardship partnerships, job training, and development of appropriately-scaled and sited facilities to manage forest biomass. The Program is designed to couple forest and community resilience and create employment opportunities for local residents. This will include unemployed, underemployed, and Section 3 residents to the fullest extent possible.

*Defining Success and Program Evaluation:* Broadly speaking, success in the context of this effort will be development of a sustainable model for forest stewardship that also supports a more resilient and robust local economy. We will track progress in specific areas using a suite of metrics and indicators that the State has been developing in several sectors, including selections from the indicators for forest and rangeland health being developed through the State's Forest and Rangeland Assessment Program (FRAP). The indicators cover many aspects of forest and rangeland health, economy, equity, and public health.

## Leverage

*Partners and Resources:* As mentioned in Exhibit C, California and Tuolumne County have developed a broad set of partners for this effort. These partnerships will be very important as we look to develop an ongoing program to support local residents, forest health, and related industries. Partners provide expertise and financial resources. The <u>USFS</u> has already invested \$134 million in Rim Fire (Fire) Recovery and is committed to investing nearly \$10 million more. *Co-Benefits and Financing:* During and after the Fire, local homeowners and businesses struggled to obtain insurance. The Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors led a <u>study session</u>

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devoted to understanding the impacts of insurance issues on local residents and businesses. The Supervisors also engaged with local real estate and insurance agents. The leadership team has initiated conversations with the California Insurance Commissioner's office. We will continue to work with these organizations to better understand and resolve insurance issues in the area.

Building resilience in the forest ecosystem through stewardship and management activities will benefit numerous stakeholders in the area and beyond. This includes local residents and businesses and downstream water users.

The State and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USFS) have explored different financing mechanisms for natural resource protection, including Environmental Impact Bonds (EIB). Through an EIB, an initial investment in forest stewardship will result in cost savings in reduced fire-fighting costs, which can then be passed on to investors. Investment in the Fire recovery area will enable available funds to be used in other regions to replicate our approach and Program. These funds include the USFS's Rim Fire recovery funds, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's grant program funds made available through the GHG Reduction Fund, the California Public Utility Commission's Senate Bill 1122 program, which is designed to make small-scale bioenergy facilities more competitive, and other sources. Proactive investments in sustainable forest management will prevent future wildfire, which will allow for State, federal, local, and private investments to go further.

Exhibit G – Long-Term Commitment

State Of California

ExhibitGLongTermCommittment.pdf

#### **EXHIBIT G: LONG-TERM COMMITMENT**

California has demonstrated a strong commitment to increasing the resilience of the state's natural resources, infrastructure, people, and communities. The State developed its adaptation plan, *Safeguarding California*, which is now being translated into action and investment on the ground. California is committed to maintaining these investments and programs as part of its comprehensive approach to addressing climate change.

#### Long-Term Commitments for Watershed and Community Resilience

Federal, state, and local agencies are already making significant investments to boost the resilience of our target area. The following is a list of significant or major steps that have already been taken or are in the planning stages to increase the resilience in our target area:

- 1. The U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service is continuing a program of reforestation, erosion control, rehabilitation, and timber salvage in the area of the Rim Fire (Fire).
- 2. CAL FIRE is implementing a fire prevention and fuel reduction project in the target area. The project consists of fuel breaks intended to slow the advance of an approaching wildfire and allow firefighters to control the fire before it impacts nearby residential communities. The project consists of cutting, piling, and burning or chipping vegetation that is encroaching and re-growing in the Rim Fire Contingency Line. The planned start date is July 1, 2015, and initial work will take 24 months, with five years for maintenance.
- 3. Two FireSafe Councils work in Tuolumne County, along with a multi-county collaborative that maintains a series of strategic fire breaks. All are taking steps to reduce the vulnerability of key commercial areas, housing, and infrastructure to future wildfire. This includes investment in strategic firebreaks, creation of defensible space, and community education and outreach.

- The Climate Action Team Forest Carbon Plan will outline a concrete strategy for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon storage in California forests. It will be completed in May 2016.
- 5. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy Watershed Improvement Program is a coordinated, integrated, collaborative program of projects to restore the health of California's primary watershed. It will identify and quantify the level of restoration needed in order to restore the Sierra, increase investment in restoration activities, and identify and address State, federal, and local policy barriers to proactively managing our watersheds. The Program will achieve these goals through science-based strategies that are collaboratively developed at the watershed scale to create resiliency at the regional and State scales.

## **Baseline and Goal Metrics**

CAL FIRE has established a baseline and goal for the work that they are doing in the region. The baseline is the current conditions of the fuel breaks, consisting of piled vegetation from suppression of the Fire, and significant encroachment and re-vegetation of the fuel break. This baseline condition will significantly diminish the breaks' effectiveness in helping control future wildfires in this area.

The goal metrics for CAL FIRE's ongoing work is to develop a fuel break that hits the following goals:

- 1. Substantially free of piled vegetation,
- 2. Understory vegetation up to six feet removed, and
- 3. Achieves widely-spaced trees at least 24 feet apart.

Attachment A – Partnership Documentation

State of California

AttAPartnership Documentation.pdf

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE *of* PLANNING AND RESEARCH

EDMUND G. BROWN JR. Governor



March 23, 2015

1400 Tenth Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Intent to Participate

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California, as represented by the Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

OPR was created by statute in 1970 and is part of the Office of the Governor. OPR serves the Governor and his Cabinet as staff for long-range planning and research, and constitutes the comprehensive state planning agency.

OPR has been serving as the co-lead of the State's application to the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). Louise Bedsworth, Deputy Director of OPR, is our representative in NDRC process. Louise works across state agencies to coordinate across state agencies to achieve the state's climate change goals.

OPR will have primary responsibility for NDRC project management and implementation, including coordinating and aligning State department resources, policies, and efforts. OPR currently facilitates several statewide and regional efforts that bring together multi-sector resources and funding together, including chairing the State's Strategic Growth Council.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

Ken Alex, Director

Website: www.fire.ca.dov



DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION P.O. Box 944246 SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460 (916) 653-7772



March 24, 2015

Ken Alex, Director Governor's Office of Planning and Research 1400 10<sup>th</sup> Street Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent, as represented by the Department of Housing and Community Development and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, on behalf of the State of California to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

CAL FIRE was created by statute in 1885, and is dedicated to the fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of California's privately-owned wildlands. CAL FIRE's mission emphasizes the management and protection of California's natural resources. CAL FIRE oversees enforcement of California's forest practice regulations, including the oversight of the State's reforestation stocking standards. CAL FIRE plays an important role in implementing the Governor's direction to mitigate climate change on forested lands in California.

CAL FIRE is a part of the core team developing the State's application to the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). Janet Barentson (Chief Deputy Director) and Helge Eng (Assistant Deputy Director) are CAL FIRE's representatives in the NDRC process.

It is understood that this letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement, detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

KEN PIMLOTT Director

"The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection serves and safeguards the people and protects the property and resources of California."

March 25, 2015

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 451 7<sup>th</sup> Street S.W. Washington, DC 20410

## Statement of Partnership

This letter is to confirm that the State of California and the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) intend to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition. The agreement will enable us to carry out the eligible activities provided for in the State's CDBG-NDR application.

CalEPA's mission is to restore, protect and enhance the environment, to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality. We fulfill our mission by developing, implementing and enforcing environmental laws that regulate air, water and soil quality, pesticide use and waste recycling and reduction. Our departments are at the forefront of environmental science, using the most recent research to shape the state's environmental laws.

The Office of the Secretary heads CalEPA, overseeing and coordinating the activities of one office, two boards, and three departments dedicated to improving California's environment. Ashley Conrad-Saydah, Deputy Secretary for Climate Policy, our representative in the CDBG-NDR competition, works with the entities within CalEPA and with other federal, state, regional and local government agencies to ensure that state climate policy is effective and properly implemented.

CalEPA's role as partner will be to engage stakeholders, effectuate the agency's mission, leverage additional funding sources and liaise with the boards and departments within CalEPA and with other agencies and the public.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement (or other agreement) detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

Matthew Rodriquez Secretary for Environmental Protection Tuolumne County Administration Center 2 South Green Street Sonora, California 95370



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE

Randy Hanvelt, Second District

Evan Royce, Third District Karl Rodefer, Fifth District

Sherri Brennan, *First District* John L. Gray, *Fourth District* 

March 3, 2015

California Department of Housing and Community Development 2020 W. El Camino Ave., Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Intent to Participate in NDRC Application

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of the State of California and Tuolumne County to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement. This agreement is contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The Rim Fire, the qualifying event for the State of California's NDRC application was primarily located in Tuolumne County. This fire consumed more than 250,000 acres and lasted over two months. The impacts to Tuolumne County were immediate and will have long range implications to both our economic vitality and the health of our natural resources. Recovering from the Rim Fire and making Tuolumne County and other rural communities more resilient from these catastrophic events, is important to us. It is Tuolumne County's intent to be a full partner in the State's NDRC application. We look forward to continuing the dialog with various state, federal and local agencies as we explore innovative ways to make our community resilient. We believe that investment in this effort will have far reaching positive implication to other communities in California and other western States experiencing similar catastrophic wild land fires.

It is understood that this letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

I hereby certify that according to the provisions of Government Code Section 25103, delivery of this document has been made.

KIA L. JAMAR of the Board

Sincerely,

John L. Gray, Chair

Alicla L. Jamar, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

> Telephone: (209) 533-5521 Facsimile: (209) 533-6549 www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov



**SDA** United States **Department** of Agriculture

Forest Service Stanislaus National Forest

19777 Greenley Road Sonora, CA 95370 (209) 532-3671 FAX: (209) 533-1890 TTY/TDD: (209) 533-0765 http://www.fs.usda.gov/stanislaus

File Code: 0516 Date: March 20, 2015

Susan Naramore Specialist - CDBG / NDRC / Drought California Department of Housing and Community Development 2020 W. El Camino Ave., Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Susan,

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and USDA Forest Service to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The USDA Forest Service is a Federal agency in the Department of Agriculture is a multi-faceted agency that manages and protects 191 million acres of public lands in 155 national forests and 20 grasslands in 44 states and in Puerto Rico since 1905. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the nation's forest and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. We have an elite wildland firefighting team and the world's largest forestry research organization. Our experts provide technical and financial help to state and local government agencies, businesses, private landowners and work government-to-government with tribes to help protect and manage non-federal forest and associated range and watershed lands.

We augment our work through partnerships with public and private agencies that help us plant trees, improve trails, educate the public, and improve conditions in wildland/urban interfaces and rural areas, just to name a few. Our team also promotes sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation internationally.

The USDA Forest Service will design, plan and implement the projects and programs necessary to restore impacted lands, ecological systems, and cultural resources impacted by the effects of the catastrophic Rim Fire. The Stanislaus National Forest in collaboration with the Regional Office will administrate and support the development of a replicable disaster resiliency model for future disasters of this type. We will provide training and leadership for current and future local, regional and national employment opportunities, including involving youths and veterans and tribal members. We will increase collaborative efforts with partners to meet the needs of the policies and procedures to achieve our desired end results. Employing Best Management Practices, we will work to mitigate effects of climate change and other ecological threats to forest and community health and well-being.





It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

m m

JEANNE M. HIGGINS Forest Supervisor



980 9th St. Suite 1700 Sacramento, California 95814

March 19, 2015

## Re: Intent to Participate

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) is a network comprised of existing regional collaboratives from across California. ARCCA's members represent leading regional collaboratives that are already coordinating and supporting climate adaptation efforts in their own regions in order to enhance public health, protect natural systems, build economies, and improve quality of life.

Through ARCCA, member regional collaboratives have come together to amplify and solidify their individual efforts, as well as to give a stronger voice to regionalism at the state and federal levels. ARRCA members share information among regions on best practices and lessons learned; identify each region's most innovative and successful strategies; and then determine how these strategies could be adapted to another region's particular needs. As a result, ARRCA bolsters the efforts of member regional collaboratives and empowers those interested in forging new regional partnerships.

ARCCA plans to work in partnership with the state to 1) support consideration of regional adaptation needs in the proposed program principally through one of our members – the Sierra Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Partnership as well as through sharing of resources and information from other members for the project itself; and 2) support transferability of the state's efforts to other regions and needs through our network of 5 regional collaboratives and their constituent stakeholder networks whose geographic regions collectively encompass a significant majority of California's population.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

Krista Kline ARCCA Chair *The Los Angeles Regional Collaborative* 

EDMUND G. BROWN, JR., Governor

CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS Executive Office 1719 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA 95816 (916) 341-3207 FAX (877) 315-5085 www.ccc.ca.gov



March 20, 2015

Louise Bedsworth, PhD | Deputy Director Governor's Office of Planning and Research Sacramento, CA

Re: Intent to Participate

Dear Ms. Bedsworth,

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The CCC is a state agency, established in 1976, under the California Natural Resources Agency with a mission to engage young men and women in public service conservation projects and provide them with training and educational opportunities throughout the state. The CCC enrolls 18-25 year old Californians for up to a year of service and engages them to complete projects that protect and enhance environmentally important lands and water, respond to natural disasters and conserve energy.

The CCC proposes to become a partner to develop enrollment opportunities for young people and veterans in disaster affected communities and to provide a strong workforce to implement public service conservation projects. The CCC has capacity to take on large scale restoration and energy efficiency projects to strengthen the resiliency of affected communities. The CCC is a national leader in youth development, enrolling more than 120,000 youth in the program in the past 39 years, and a member of The Corps Network, a national organization comprised of more than 100 Corps throughout the nation. The California Legislature has deemed the CCC "a model conservation corps program", via Public Resources Code 14003.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement [or other agreement] detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

The young women and men of the Corps work hard protecting and restoring California's environment and responding to disasters, becoming stronger workers, citizens and individuals through their service.

Louise Bedsworth March 20, 2015 Page 2 of 2

If you have questions about our commitment to participate, please contact me at (916) 341-3135 or by email at erin.healy@ccc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Erin Healy, Chief Program & Operations Division California Conservation Corps

The young women and men of the Corps work hard protecting and restoring California's environment and responding to disasters, becoming stronger workers, citizens and individuals through their service.



Angela R. Fairchilds, Ph.D. President

11600 Columbia College Dr. • Sonora, CA 95370 • 209.588.5115 • Fax 209.588.5161 • fairchildsa@yosemite.edu • www.gocolumbia.edu

March 18, 2015

Columbia College 11600 Columbia College Drive Sonora, CA 95370

**Re: Intent to Participate** 

This letter is to confirm the intent of Columbia College to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement with Tuolumne County, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

Columbia College is a public two-year community college serving the geographic area impacted by the Rim Fire. We are uniquely qualified to provide education and training to support the recovery efforts and support community resiliency through building a skilled workforce.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement (or other agreement) detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

Agela R. Dairchilds

Angela R. Fairchilds, Ph.D.

To: US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Disaster Resiliency Competition

Re: PolicyLink Intent to Participate in California's Resilience response to the Rim Fire

# March 23, 2015

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and PolicyLink to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

PolicyLink is a research and policy organization focused on economic and social equity outcomes for low income communities and communities of color in the United States. Founded in 1999, PolicyLink has built a significant body of work focused on equitable development, sustainable land use practices, climate resilience, and equitable infrastructure investment.

PolicyLink was a contributing architect to the federal Sustainable Communities Initiative from 2009 to 2015, providing social equity capacity building support to 143 local and regional grantees of the initiative—including public sector leaders, nonprofit and business leaders, residents, and philanthropy.

PolicyLink contributed social equity leadership to Gulf Coast recovery from Hurricane Katrina, serving as advisors to the Governor, to the Louisiana Recovery Authority, the legislative Black Caucus, the City of New Orleans, and social equity nonprofits leading the recovery of their city.

PolicyLink convenes a national Transportation Equity Caucus that pursues policy excellence in federal and local transportation policy that prioritizes transit and active transportation to advance social equity outcomes and climate resilience.

And PolicyLink has pursued effective implementation of the Climate and Greenhouse Gas policy of California, SB 375 and AB 32, to ensure disadvantaged communities can participate and prosper through climate resilience work.

PolicyLink commits to partner with the State of California on this resiliency project to demonstrate that the dangers from drought and wildfires can be addressed for vulnerable communities.

The PolicyLink role will include engaging nonprofit and tribal partners that represent disadvantaged communities exposed to these threats; establishing training and workforce engagement strategies to address these threats; and to disseminate the landuse remedies, workforce engagement, and resilience approaches relevant to the Rim Fire recovery that can deepen resilience preparedness and response across the California forest landscape also vulnerable to these threats.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement [or other agreement] detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

Kalima Rose, Senior Director

## **Partner Letter**

Sierra Business Council

P.O. Box 2428

Truckee, Ca. 96160

Monday, March 23, 2015

Re: Intent to Participate

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and Sierra Business Council (SBC) to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

Sierra Business Council is a 501c3 organization founded in 1994 with more than 4000 community network members comprised of small and medium sized businesses, local governments and community organizations, working in a fourteen county region in the State of California, and three counties in Nevada, with offices in Sonora and Truckee California. Our work focuses on community development, natural resource management, energy and small business development issues, with both policy and implementation components. SBC has experience implementing projects for local, state and federal agencies, including project management and conducting public outreach and research functions on forest and watershed, energy and resource restoration projects for numerous local governments. SBC implements Small Business Development Center services in the six county northeastern California region funded by the Small Business Administration and provides sub-contracted services through the Community Development Block Grant program to El Dorado and Plumas Counties and Nevada City California. SBC has a staff of 23 with skills ranging from project management and research to public outreach and collaborative process facilitation.

For the purposes of this grant SBC would likely provide coalition building, public outreach, meeting facilitation, policy development and project management services on some portions of the work program.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement [or other agreement] detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sierra Business Council

President



AUBURN OFFICE 11521 Blocker Drive, Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603 p (530)823-4670 f (530)823-4665

March 20, 2015

Partner: Sierra Nevada Conservancy 11521 Blocker Drive, Ste. 205 Auburn, CA 95603

# RE: INTENT TO PARTICIPATE

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The SNC is a California state agency established in 2004 to initiate, encourage, and support efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities and the citizens of California. The SNC Region, made up of all or part of 22 counties covering over 25 million acres, is one of the most significant natural and biologically diverse regions in the world. The Sierra Nevada constitutes about 25 percent of California's land area and is the state's principal watershed, supplying more than 60 percent of the developed water supply to residents, agriculture, and other businesses/industries across the state.

The SNC supports the Sierra Nevada Region by providing funding for local projects and **offering** technical assistance and **other** support for collaborative projects in partnership with federal, state and local government agencies, nonprofit organizations and Tribal entities. Activities support preservation and restoration of natural areas.

As a partner in the CDBG-NDR competition, the SNC is committed to providing the Regional expertise, technical assistance and collaborative support necessary to successfully carry out activities awarded through this application.

# WWW.SIERRANEVADA.CA.GOV Toll free (&77)257-1212

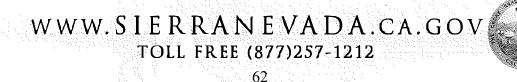
March 20, 2015 Page 2 of 2

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

in Brankan

JM BRANHAM Executive Officer





March 6, 2015

California Department of Housing and Community Development Attn: Ms. Susan Naramore 2020 W. El Camino Ave., Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Intent to Participate in NDRC Application

Dear Ms. Naramore,

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and the Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Office to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools (TCSOS), representing eleven school districts in Tuolumne County, is eager to partner with the State's NDRC application and to join a coalition of county, state and federal agencies to support the Rim Fire recovery effort and to build infrastructure resiliency in the area devastated by the third largest wildfire in California's history.

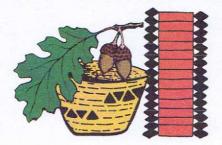
The Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools will leverage existing partnerships already in place between schools, the local community college, the local workforce investment board and the economic development agency to develop and implement career pathway programs aligned to job growth based on economic need as a result of the RIM FIRE disaster. We are committed to participate in the State of California's NDRC application to provide a foundation for education, training and workforce development in the areas of need identified in the application.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely marguerets & Buck

Marguerite D. Bulkin County Superintendent

175 South Fairview Lane • Sonora, CA 95370 • 209-536-2000 • Fax 209-536-2003 www.tcsos.us



# **Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal Council**

Post Office Box 699 Tuolumne, California 95379

Telephone (209) 928-5300 Fax (209) 928-1677

March 9, 2015

California Department of Housing and Community Development 2020 W. el Camino Ave, Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95833

Re: Intent to Participate

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe with much experience in grant writing, contracting and management. As a past recipient of many federal and state grants including HUD-CDBG funds, we are very familiar with grant funding requirements.

The Rim Fire was primarily located in Tuolumne county home to over 1700 acres of land owned and managed by the Tribe. The fire consumed over 250,000 acres and lasted over two months. The impacts to the Tribal Community included not only economic impacts but implications to the health of natural and cultural resources of our aboriginal territory. It is the Tribe's intent to be a full partner in the State's NDR application. We look forward to developing a dialogue with various State, Federal and local agencies as we explore innovative ways to make our community resilient.

We propose to participate in many levels of the grant process. As a stakeholder within the community, as a resource in developing the application and as a possible sub recipient or contractor in the grant award, we are ready to provide assistance in any way that we can.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

Kewin A. Day Tribal Chairman



March 16, 2015

**California** Department of Housing Community Development 2020 W. El Camino Ave., Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95833

**Re: Intent to Participate** 

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

The Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority promotes the County of Tuolumne, including the City of Sonora, as a dynamic business location and provides businesses with essential information that is needed when locating or expanding in our area.

The Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority will work closely with the County of Tuolumne and other local governmental agencies in a role as a sub-recipient and partner to rebuild and diversify the economy of our community, so that the community can be more resilient to future disasters. We will work as a liaison to the business community and their associated groups such as the Tuolumne County Visitor's Bureau, Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce, Sonora Chamber of Commerce, Groveland Area Chamber of Commerce, Columbia Chamber of Commerce, Twain Harte Chamber of Commerce, the Tuolumne County Business Council and other business oriented partners.

We will also work hand-in-hand with the County of Tuolumne on specific projects that are important to the revitalization of our community.

It is understood that this letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Respectfully, arry Cope/

Director of Economic Development Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority



# **TUOLUMNE UTILITIES DISTRICT**

18885 NUGGET BLVD • SONORA, CA 95370 (209) 532-5536 • Fax (209) 536-6485 www.tudwater.com DIRECTORS James Grinnell Kent R. Johnson Ronald D. Kopf John Maciel Ron W. Ringen

March 12, 2015

Ms. Susan Naramore California Department of Housing and Community Development 2020 W. El Camino Avenue, Suite 500 Sacramento, CA 95833

RE: Intent to Participate in NDRC Application

Dear Ms. Naramore:

This letter is to confirm the mutual intent of both the State of California and Tuolumne Utilities District to collaborate and enter into a partner agreement, contingent upon the award of funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience (CDBG-NDR) competition, to carry out eligible activities as provided in the State of California's CDBG-NDR application.

Tuolumne Utilities District is the largest water and wastewater utility in Tuolumne County. We are responsible for delivering and providing clean, safe drinking water for homes, schools and businesses and recycled water from our wastewater treatment plant to irrigate prime agricultural lands near Jamestown. The topography of Tuolumne County varies greatly from gently rolling terrain at the lower elevations, to steep hilly uplands deeply traversed by streams and tributaries that drain south to the Tuolumne River or north to the Stanislaus River. The majority of TUD customers reside in or near the community of Sonora which is at about elevation 2,000 feet. TUD also serves customers in several communities to the east up to about elevation 6,000 feet in the Sierras and west of Jamestown at an elevation of less than 1,500 feet.

The devastation from the Rim Fire and surrounding areas is very apparent. What is more apparent is the fragile infrastructure and improvements needed in Tuolumne County to have a more secure water supply. The largest vulnerability to the County in order to combat future wildfires is its water supply provided by Pacific Gas and Electric Company and the Main Canal. This was highlighted by a report our District has competed, the South Fork Stanislaus Water Supply Project that documents the vulnerability of the Main Canal and the impacts to our community. Some of our customers could be completely out of water within a week of the canal failure. If our County was selected to receive funds from the NDRC competition we would be able to develop a project to construct a pipeline, pump and power generation project that would decrease our vulnerability, increase our resilience and assure water delivery to the County.

It is understood that this is letter is only an expression of our intent and a binding partner agreement detailing the terms and conditions of the proposed partnership must be executed before the use of any CDBG-NDR funds, if awarded.

Sincerely,

14

Thomas L. Scesa General Manager

CC: TUD Board of Directors Board of Supervisors, County of Tuolumne Attachment B – Leverage Documentation

State of California

AttBLeverageDocumentation.pdf



United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service

## PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION

Restoring, Enhancing and Sustaining Forests in California, Hawaii and the Pacific Islands Stanislaus National Forest

Topic: Rim Fire Recovery Financial Commitments, Past, Present and Future

March 10, 2015

## Prepared by Barbara Drake, Rim Recovery Director

and Clare Long, Partnership Coordinator

**SUMMARY:** Presented below are the current and predicted investments for Suppression, BAER (Burned Area Emergency Response), and Restoration now and into the future.

The USFS has spent approximately \$134 million so far for Rim Fire recovery, \$119 million was spent on <u>Suppression</u>, of that \$19,053,545 was spent to complete <u>Suppression rehabilitation</u>. \$9,341,549 was spent on <u>Burned Area Emergency Response</u>; and \$10,198,703 was spent on <u>Restoration</u> in 2014. These figures are produced from our financial information systems.

## **KEY MESSAGES:**

<u>Suppression</u> and <u>rehabilitation of suppression</u> activities occurred from August 17 through October 24, 2013. The fire was not call officially out until November of 2014. Rehabilitation activities include:

- Ripping and applying ground cover to 133 miles of dozer lines constructed to contain the fire.
- Reclamation of 134 miles of hand line.
- Reclamation of helicopter 15 landing zones.
- Reclamation of the fire camp and spike camps.
- Reclaim or close roads that had been opened or created to provide access to fight the fire.
- Repair and maintenance of roads that were impacted by equipment and excessive traffic.

The cost for this work is presented in three categories:

Equipment (Aircraft, fire trucks, water tenders, heavy equipment, retardant, and

Total	\$19,053,545
Supplies, Security, Equipment, Radio repeaters)	<u>\$10,247,800</u>
Contracted and Logistical Support (Caterers, Camp, Showers, Laundry	, Medical,
Crews (including contractors, travel)	\$3,521,023
mechanical equipment support)	\$5,284,722

<u>Burned Area Emergency Response</u> (BAER) assessment occurred in September of 2013. Implementation of the recommended BAER treatments started in September of 2013 and is still on going. The purpose of the BAER program is to assess and identify imminent post-wildfire threats to human life and safety, property, and critical natural or cultural resources on National Forest System lands and immediately implement actions, as appropriate, to manage and mitigate unacceptable risks. The treatments prescribed for Rim fire fall into four categories the cost for these as well as the monitoring and original assessment is listed below:

## **Rim BAER Treatments**

<b>Land Treatments</b> : Hazmat containment, aerial mulching, protection of Heritage sites, weed detection, mastication of burned trees for mulch, hazard tree removal	\$5,061,364
<b>Roads/Trails:</b> Stabilization of roads and trails, drainage feature replacement or clean-out, upsizing and cleaning culverts, restore drainage features	\$3,001,135
Channel Treatments (water transport)	\$5,562
<b>Protection/Safety mitigation</b> , signing, gate installation, felling hazard trees, storm patrol	\$600,500
<b>BAER Assessment,</b> personnel, travel, lodging, logistical support, air craft, materials and supplies	\$662,936
Monitoring, effectiveness, noxious weeds,	\$50,000

<u>Restoration</u> involves restoring and maintaining resilient landscapes and creating fire-adapted communities. Post-fire efforts restore or improve natural resources unlikely to recover to a desired condition from wildfire damage without intervention. There is also a need to repair or replace facilities and infrastructure damaged by the fire. Effectiveness monitoring of the recovery projects will is occurring and will continue as additional projects are completed. Community outreach and involvement are key components to the success of this restoration.

## In 2014 was \$14,463,479 was spent to:

- Conduct surveys and monitor timber and hazard trees projects (botanical, wildlife, streams, meadows, springs and cultural resource).
- Contracted assessments for 45 meadows and 50 springs. During the assessment another 50 springs were located. Two reports were generated.
- Enter survey and monitoring data into National databases.
- Prepare of the Hazard Tree and Salvage environmental documents.
- Initiate reforestation Environmental Impact Statement.
- Layout and map unit boundaries, mark and cruise trees for timber sales and hazard tree removal.
- Keep the public informed, conduct workshops, open houses, write article, put on presentation, interviews, and create a communication plan.
- Managed a workload related to permitted uses and FEMA funding.
- Coordinate with researchers.
- Create map products.
- Prepare responses to litigation and appear in court.
- Administer and monitor timber sale and hazard tree removal.
- Repaired five miles of trail.
- Repair or replace range fences and install troughs.
- Repair and maintain road infrastructure.
- Replace landline/boundary placards, and monuments
- Partnership and volunteer coordination, and grant writing.
- Provided additional law enforcement support

## Summary of Annual Expenditures

FS Employee Salary	\$5,216,897
Employee travel and per-diem food, lodging for over	\$998,065
100 detailed and temporary staff	
Vehicle rentals, leases mileage, fuel, support and	\$2,013,070
maintenance of the vehicles	
Contracted resource specialists, equipment, office	\$6,235,445
space, housing, utilities, and furniture, supplies and	

rented equipment	
rented equipment	

In 2015 **\$9,814,655** is being spent to:

- Conduct surveys and post project monitoring (botanical, wildlife, streams, meadows, springs and cultural resource).
- Field verify meadow and spring assessments, conduct environmental assessments start preliminary design and permitting for 13 sites, and implement one project.
- Implement two OHV restoration projects.
- Enter survey and monitoring data into National databases.
- Administer and monitor timber sale and hazard tree removal.
- Prepare reforestation Environmental Impact Statement.
- Contact a range allotment environmental review document.
- Layout and map unit boundaries, and cruise trees for the timber sales and hazard tree removal.
- Keep the public informed, conduct workshops, open houses, write article, put on presentation, interviews, and develop an audio tour.
- Managed a workload related to permitted uses and FEMA funding.
- Coordinate with researchers.
- Create map products.
- Prepare responses to litigation and appear in court.
- Repair 20 miles of trails.
- Replace landline/boundary placards, and monuments
- Repair or replace range fences.
- Plant 600 trees with students during two Earth day type events.
- Partnership and volunteer coordination, and grant writing.
- Hand treated weeds.
- Repair and maintain road infrastructure.

## Summary of Annual Expenditures

FS Employee Salary	\$5,088,527
Employee travel and per-diem food, lodging for	\$4,726,128 *
over 40 detailed and temporary staff	
Vehicle rentals, leases mileage, fuel, support and	
maintenance of the vehicles	
Contracted resource specialists, equipment, office	
space, housing, utilities, and furniture, supplies	
and rented equipment	

\* The Forest Service operates under a Unified budget and exact numbers cannot be provided until fiscal year end.

The Forest is committed to continuing restoration beyond 2015, in 2016 we are expecting Rim to remain one of our top priorities and have planned to:

- Conduct reforestation surveys and post project monitoring (botanical, wildlife, streams, meadows, springs and cultural resource).
- Design and permitting of 9 projects, start implementation of over 20 meadow and spring projects.
- Administer and monitor timber sale and hazard tree removal.
- Respond to comments and complete reforestation Environmental Impact Statement.
- Provide oversight of contracted range allotment environmental review document.
- Start Noxious Weed Environmental Impact Statement.
- Layout and map unit boundaries, for bio-mass removal.
- Keep the public informed, conduct workshops, open houses, write article, put on presentation, interviews.

- Managed a workload related to seven permitted uses and FEMA funding.
- Coordinate with researchers.
- Create map products.
- Enter data.
- Repair a bridge
- Replace landline/boundary placards, and monuments
- Prepare responses to litigation and appear in court.
- Repair trails.
- Repair 300 miles of road.
- Plant 500 acres of trees with volunteers.
- Partnership and volunteer coordination, and grant writing.

**Partnerships and grant opportunities** we are fortunate to have a variety of grant, volunteer, and partnership opportunities. These partnerships are essential to our success in the recovery of the Rim Fire. We are still exploring those opportunities and developing partnerships that we hope will last far beyond Rim Fire restoration efforts.

Partner or Grant	Resource	Amount	Emphasis	Status
			Fire recovery, water and	
SNC	Funding, grant	1 million	watershed health	Submitted
WCB	Funding, grant	2 million	Habitat restoration	Submitted
		Reduction in greenhouse		
Cal-Fire	Funding, grant	1.83 million	gases	Round 2
			Reforestation and	
PGE	Funding, grant	Unknown	restoration	Discussing
			Reforestation and	
SPI		Trees	restoration	Committed
			Natural Disaster Recovery	
HUD	Funding, grant	Between 50 and several 100 million	and Community resilience	Round 1
Towanga	Funding, grant	Volunteers for planting and possible funding		Committed
Odwalla	labor	Volunteers to plant trees in May/June weed pulling timeframe possibly	Community involvement	Committed
National Forest		15 folks with work on trails 4 day and float the river pulling weeds for one		
Volunteer Vacation	Labor	5/18 thru 5/22	Volunteerism	Committed
	Labor,			
Jamestown Elementary	Education	5th, 6th graders learning about forests and plant trees March 27, 2015	Education, volunteering	Planned
	Labor,			
Tenaya Elementary	Education	4th-6th graders to plant trees late March26, 2015, 2 classroom visits	Education, volunteering	Planned
	Funding and	They have agreed to put a donation request on their registration form. They		
San Jose Camp	Labor	are still deciding if 1% or \$1. NFF is negotiating with them.	Community involvement	Committed
		They have agreed to put a donation request on their registration form. They		
Berkeley Camp	Funding	are still deciding if 1% or \$1. NFF is negotiating with them.	Community involvement	Committed
		Volunteers for planting; they will add a donation line on to the registration		
Evergreen Lodge	Funding	form and have the funds go to TRT not NFF as they wanted to keep money	Community involvement	Committed
Lamb Industries	Donation	2 Bucket Buddy's to help with tree planting	Community involvement	Committed
ClifBar	Labor	prep; possible long term	Volunteerism	Committed
Americorp	Labor	TRT collaborative to secured a team for 03/31 to 05/22	Community service	Committed
CCC	Labor	Trail repair 03/04 thru 03/08	Community Service	Committed
Boy Scouts	Labor	Local scout, TRT working to get 500 scouts to plant trees in 2016	Volunteerism	Committed
		Also got a NFF match the total \$24,000 was used to fund a Volunteer		
Christina Wilkinson	\$12,000	Coordinator employed by Tuolumne River Trust	Volunteer Program	On going
CSU Staislaus	Interns	Students will receive credit for a work experience program	Education	Setting up

#### Partners, Grants and Volunteers

Contact Barbara Drake at 209-532-3671 ext. 438 for more information

Attachment C – CDBG-NDR Application Certifications

State of California

AttCNDRCApplicationCertifications

# Certification

<u>Certifications waiver and alternative requirement</u>. Sections 91.325 and 91.225 of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations are waived. Each State or UGLG applying for an award under this NOFA must make the following certifications with both its Phase 1 and, if invited by HUD, its Phase 2 application for CDBG-NDR funding.

a. The grantee certifies that it will affirmatively further fair housing, which means that it will conduct an analysis to identify impediments to fair housing choice within its jurisdiction and take appropriate actions to overcome the effects of any impediments identified through that analysis, and maintain records reflecting the analysis and actions in this regard (see 24 CFR 570.487(b)(2) and 570.601(a)(2)). In addition, the grantee certifies that agreements with subrecipients will meet all civil rights related requirements pursuant to 24 CFR 570.503(b)(5).

b. The grantee certifies that it has in effect and is following a residential antidisplacement and relocation assistance plan in connection with any activity assisted with funding under the CDBG program.

c. The grantee certifies its compliance with restrictions on lobbying required by 24 CFR part 87, together with disclosure forms, if required by part 87.

d. The grantee certifies that the Community Development Block Grant National Disaster Resilience application is authorized under State and local law (as applicable) and that the grantee, and any contractor, subrecipient, or designated public agency carrying out an activity with CDBG–NDR funds, possess(es) the legal authority to carry out the program for which it is seeking funding, in accordance with applicable HUD regulations and this NOFA.

e. The grantee certifies that activities to be administered with funds under this NOFA are consistent with its Application.

f. The grantee certifies that it will comply with the acquisition and relocation requirements of the URA, as amended, and implementing regulations at 49 CFR part 24, except where waivers or alternative requirements are provided for in this NOFA.

g. The grantee certifies that it will comply with section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701u), and implementing regulations at 24 CFR part 135.

h. The grantee certifies that it is following a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 91.105 or 91.115, as applicable (except as provided for in notices providing waivers and alternative requirements for this grant). Also, each UGLG receiving assistance from a State grantee must follow a detailed citizen participation plan that satisfies the requirements of 24 CFR 570.486 (except as provided for in notices providing waivers and alternative requirements).

i. Each State receiving a direct award under this Notice certifies that it has consulted with affected UGLGs in counties designated in covered major disaster declarations in the nonentitlement, entitlement, and tribal areas of the State in determining the uses of funds, including method of distribution of funding, or activities carried out directly by the State.

j. The grantee certifies that it is complying with each of the following criteria:

(1) Funds will be used solely for necessary expenses related to disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization in the most impacted and distressed areas for which the President declared a major disaster in the aftermath of an event occurring in 2011, 2012, 0r 2013, pursuant to the Stafford Act.

(2) With respect to activities expected to be assisted with CDBG-NDR funds, the

Application has been developed so as to give the maximum feasible priority to activities that will benefit low- and moderate-income families.

(3) The aggregate use of CDBG–NDR funds shall principally benefit low- and moderateincome families in a manner that ensures that at least 50 percent of the grant amount is expended for activities that benefit such persons, unless waived by HUD based on a finding of compelling need.

(4) The grantee will not attempt to recover any capital costs of public improvements assisted with CDBG–NDR grant funds, by assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of low- and moderate-income, including any fee charged or assessment made as a condition of obtaining access to such public improvements, unless: (a) disaster recovery grant funds are used to pay the proportion of such fee or assessment that relates to the capital costs of such public improvements that are financed from revenue sources other than under this title; or (b) for purposes of assessing any amount against properties owned and occupied by persons of moderate income, the grantee certifies to the Secretary that it lacks sufficient CDBG funds (in any form) to comply with the requirements of clause (a).

k. The grantee certifies that it (and any subrecipient or recipient)) will conduct and carry out the grant in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d) and the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601–3619) and implementing regulations.

1. The grantee certifies that it has adopted and is enforcing the following policies. In addition, a State receiving a direct award must certify that it will require any UGLG that receives grant funds to certify that it has adopted and is enforcing:

(1) A policy prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement agencies within its jurisdiction against any individuals engaged in nonviolent civil rights demonstrations; and

(2) A policy of enforcing applicable State and local laws against physically barring entrance to or exit from a facility or location that is the subject of such nonviolent civil rights demonstrations within its jurisdiction.

m. Each State or UGLG receiving a direct award under this Notice certifies that it (and any subrecipient or recipient) has the capacity to carry out the activities proposed in its Application in a timely manner; or the State or UGLG will develop a plan to increase capacity where such capacity is lacking.

n. The grantee will not use grant funds for any activity in an area delineated as a special flood hazard area or equivalent in FEMA's most recent and current data source unless it also ensures that the action is designed or modified to minimize harm to or within the floodplain in accordance with Executive Order 11988 and 24 CFR part 55. The relevant data source for this provision is the latest issued FEMA data or guidance, which includes advisory data (such as Advisory Base Flood Elevations) or preliminary and final Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

o. The grantee certifies that its activities concerning lead-based paint will comply with the requirements of 24 CFR part 35, subparts A, B, J, K, and R.

p. The grantee certifies that it will comply with applicable laws.

q. The grantee certifies that it has reviewed the requirements of this NOFA and requirements of Public Law 113–2 applicable to funds allocated by this Notice, and that it has in place proficient financial controls and procurement processes and has established adequate procedures to prevent any duplication of benefits as defined by section 312 of the Stafford Act, to ensure timely expenditure of funds, to maintain comprehensive Web sites regarding all disaster recovery activities assisted with these funds, and to detect and prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds.

# OMB Number: 4040-0004

Expiration	Date:	8/31/2016
LApitation	Date.	0/31/2010

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424				
* 1. Type of Submission:       * 2. Type of Application:       * If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):         Preapplication       X New				
* 3. Date Received: 4. Applicant Identifier:           Completed by Grants.gov upon submission.         [				
5a. Federal Entity Identifier:	5b. Federal Award Identifier:			
State Use Only:				
6. Date Received by State: 7. State Application	Identifier:			
8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:				
* a Legal Name: Housing and Community Development, C	California Department of			
* b. Empleyer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):	* c. Organizational DUNS:			
680303547	0212254900000			
d. Address:				
* Street1: 2020 West El Camino Avenue				
Street2: Suite 500				
* City: Sacramento				
County/Parish:				
* State:	CA: California			
Province:				
* Country:	USA: UNITED STATES			
* Zipe Postal Code: 95833-1829				
e. Organizational Unit:				
Department Name:	Division Name:			
Housing& Community Development	[Financial Assitance			
f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:				
Prefix: First Nam	e: Susan			
Middle Name:				
* Last Name: Naramore				
Suffix:				
Title: Specialist				
Organizational Affiliation:				
Staff				
* Telephone Number: 916-263-0371	Fax Number: 916-263-2762			
* Email: susan.naramore@hcd.caegov				

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:
A: State Government
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:
* Other (specify):
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:
US Department of Housing and Urban Development
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:
14.272
CFDA Title:
National Resilient Disaster Recovery Competition
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:
FR-5800-N-29
* Title:
National Disaster Resilience Competition
13. Competition Identification Number:
FR-5800-N-29
Title:
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:
Community and Watershed Resilience Program
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.           Add Attachments         Delete Attachments         View Attachments

Application	for Federal Assistance	e SF-424				
16. Congressio	16. Congressional Districts Of:					
* a. Applicant	[4]			* b. Program/	Project 4	
Attach an additio	nal list of Program/Project C	ongressional Distric	ts if needed.			
			Add Attachment	Delete Attac	hment View Attachment	110
17. Proposed I	Project:					
* a. Start Date:	01/01/2016			* b. En	Id Date: [12/31/2017]	
18. Estimated	Funding (\$):					
* a. Federal		1.00				
* b. Applicant		0.00				
* c. State		0.00				
* d. Local		0.00				
* e. Other		0.00				
* f. Program Inc	come	0.00				
* g. TOTAL		1.00	]			
	ation Subject to Review By					
	Dication was made availab				tor review on	
	n is subject to E.O. 12372 to is not covered by E.O. 12		elected by the State			
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)						
If "Yes", provid	If "Yes", provide explanation and attach					
			Add Attachment	Delete Attac	chment View Attachment	
<ul> <li>21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)</li> <li>X ** I AGREE</li> <li>** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.</li> </ul>						
Authorized Re	presentative:					
Prefix:		* Fi	rst Name: [Laura			
Middle Name:						
* Last Name:	Whittall-Scherffee					
Suffix:						
* Title:	eputy Director					
* Telephone Nu	mber: 916-2632771			Fax Number:		
* Email: Laur	a.Whittall-Scherfee	hcd.ca.gov				]
* Signature of A	uthorized Representative:	Completed by Grants	.gov upon submission	] * Date Signed:	Completed by Grants.gov upon submission	]

Attachment D – Consultation Summary

State of California

AttDConsultationSummary

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
American Red Cross	Nonprofit social service	January 15, 2015 Meeting	
AT&T	For-profit telecommunications company	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	State government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
California Department of Housing and Community Development	State government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
California Department of Transportation	State government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
City of Berkeley	Municipal government in Alameda County	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
City and County of San Francisco/Hetch-Hetchy	Municipal government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
City of San Jose	Municipal government in Santa Clara County	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Crook Ranch	Private cattle ranch	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Ericson Ranch	Private cattle ranch	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Evergreen Lodge	Private hotel	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Groveland Community Services District	Local water utility company	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Hwy 108 Fire Safe Council	Nonprofit organization	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Me-Wuk Tribe	California Indian Tribe	January 15, 2015 Meeting	
Office of Planning and Research	State government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Pacific Gas and Electric	For-profit utility company	January 15, 2015 Meeting	
Rosasco Ranch	Private cattle ranch	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Sierra Pacific Industries	Private lumber company	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Strawberry Music Festival	Local music festival	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Southwest Interface Team (SWIFT)	Collaboration of government organizations and community-based organization	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Community Resource Agency (TuCare)	County government community resource agency	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Administration	County government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Agriculture Commission/Air Pollution	County department	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors	County governing board	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Cattlemen's Association	Local ranching organization	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce	Local chamber of commerce	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Community Resources Agency	County government community resources agency	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority	County government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Farm Bureau	Nonprofit organization promoting agriculture interests	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Fire	County government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Fire Chief's Association	Nonprofit organization of county fire chiefs	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Human Services Agency	County human services agency	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Public Health Officer	County department of public health	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office	County law enforcement	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools	Local school district	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Transportation Agency	County government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne County Visitor's Bureau	Nonprofit organization	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne Utilities District	County water utility company	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Turlock Irrigation District	Water utility company (outside Tuolumne County)	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Twain Harte Community Services District	Water utility company in Tuolumne County	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Yosemite Gateway Partnership	Nonprofit organization	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Yosemite Lakes	Recreational vehicle resort and campground	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Yosemite National Park	National park	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions	Nonprofit corporation	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
University of California Extension Cooperative	Educational institution	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
California Environmental Protection Agency	State government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
United States Forest Service	Federal government	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Tuolumne River Trust	Nonprofit organization	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Mariposa County	County adjacent to Tuolumne County	January 15, 2015 Meeting	Same as above
Sierra Nevada Forests and Communities Initiative Coordinating Council	Interested group addressing issues affecting forest health, fire and related economic development	January 28, 2015	Agenda item
Governor's Office of Emergency Services	State government	January-February 2015 conversations	Requested input.
Natural Resource Committee	Community group	January-February 2015 conversations	Requested input.
Resource Advisory Committee	Community group for Secure Rural Schools/Comm. Deter. Act		Requested input.
Tuolumne County Water Policy Advisory Committee	Community advisory group	January-February 2015 conversations	Requested input.

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Tuolumne/Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Manage. Agency	Utility district	January-February 2015 conversations	Requested input.
Tuolumne County Multi- Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Committee	Multi-jurisdictional committee	January-February 2015 conversations	Requested input.
Tuolumne County Habitat for Humanity	Nonprofit	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Tuolumne County Ministerial Association	Ministerial association	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Interfaith Community Social Services	Social services organization	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Tuolumne County Ombudsman	Social services organization	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Tuolumne County Catholic Charities	Social services organization	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Tuolumne County Veterans Service Office	County government	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Infant/Child Enrichment Services	Nonprofit	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Area 12 Agency on Aging	Joint powers agreement social service organization	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Sierra Senior Providers	Nonprofit	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Amador Tuolumne County Action Agency	Joint powers agreement action agency	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Mother Lode Job Training	Workforce Investment Board job center	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee		January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Tuolumne County Transportation Council		January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
California Conservation Corps	State government	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
California Department of Transportation	e	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
Charlson Cattle	Private citizen	January-February 2015 conversations	Agenda item
California BioDiversity Council Interagency Alignment Team	Interagency group including State, federal and local levels	February 19, 2015	Agenda item
Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools		March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Public hearing (in English and Spanish) noticed from February 18 to March 13, 2015, throughout the State, Tuolumne County offices, Tuolumne-Union Democrat newspaper (three times); posted on California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) web site; sent to list serves of HCD and Governor's Office of Policy and Research; posted on Tuolumne County web site; posted in three newspapers of general circulation (three times).
Columbia College	5 8	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.

Citizen Participation and Consultation Summary	y Chart. State of	California. March 2015
		<i>•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••</i>

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Give Someone a Chance	Nonprofit homelessness organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Give Someone a Chance	Nonprofit homelessness organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Southwest Interface Team (SWIFT)	Collaboration of government organizations and community-based organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
CT Bioenergy Consulting	Private consulting	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Community Resources Agency	County government community resources agency	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Georgetown County School District		March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Fire Department	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Tuolumne County Transportation Commission	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Economic Development Association	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne Band of MeWuk	Tribal government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Catholic Charities	Nonprofit social services organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Georgetown County School District	Local school district	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Columbia College	Community college	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
James Dambacher Construction	Private construction firm	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Hotel Charlottte and Groveland Area Parnership	Private hotel and nonprofit community-based organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	State government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
U.S. Forest Service	Federal government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne Utility District	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
McCaffrey House Inn	For-profit enterprise	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Telele Foundation, Sierra Watershed Progressive	Nonprofit corporation and for-profit corporation	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Yosemite Stanislaus Solutions (YSS) and Tuolumne County Alliance for Resources and Environment (TuCare)	Nonprofit corporations	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Groveland Trail Heads	Nonprofit educational organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Peter and Penny Jelito	Private citizens	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Karen Seals	Private citizen	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Cvcvy Seals	Private citizen	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Sparq Environmental, Inc.	Private consulting firm	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	State government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
U.S. Forest Service	Federal government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Groveland Trail Heads	Nonprofit educational organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
BigOakFlat/Groveland USD	Local school district	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center	Nonprofit organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service	Federal government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection	State government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors	County governing board	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Cattlemen's Association	Local ranching organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors	County governing board	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Frank Mikkelsen, DDS	Private citizen	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau	Nonprofit organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne Utility District	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne Utility District	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Tuolumne County Transportation Agency	County government	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.

<b>Citizen Participation and Consultation Summar</b>	ry Chart, State of California, March 2015

Agency Name or Stakeholder Group (if applicable)	Agency Type - Target Population (If applicable)	Type of Outreach	- Method of Notification - Materials Provided
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce	Chamber of commerce	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Catholic Charities	Social services nonprofit organization	March 2, 2015 Public Hearing	Same as above.
Interested public	Public webinar	March 3, 2015 Public Webinar	Public Webinar to provide opportunity for out-of-area citizens to provide input. The Webinar was noticed as a part of the public notice for the public hearing of March 2, 2015. Also posted on California Department of Housing and Community Development web site and Tuolumne County web site.

### Phase 1 Public Comment Summary and Responses

As noted in Attachment D "Citizen Participation and Consultation Summary," the public has had three formal opportunities, in addition to stakeholder meetings, to comment on California's Phase 1 Application to the National Disaster Resilience Competition (NDRC). In addition, the public has open access to submit comments, questions, and suggested projects through the State's NDRC website at: http://www.hcd.ca.gov/NationalDisaster/ResilienceCompetition.html. The public and all stakeholders were invited to comment on the State's Phase 1 Application between February 18, 2015, and 5:00pm, March 13, 2015. A public hearing was held in Tuolumne County on March 2, 2015, where the public was invited to ask questions and submit written comments, and a statewide webinar was held on March 3, 2015, for the same purposes. Participants were informed that the NDRC website had a Public Comment Tool with which to send written comments electronically during the comment period. And, on an ongoing basis, the website includes a Project Submission Form and an email address – <u>CA-NDRC@hcd.ca.gov</u> - that may be used at any time to submit comments, ask questions, and suggest project ideas.

### Written Commenters:

Michael McCaffery - Private Business Owner - McCaffery House, Bed and Breakfast Inn

Tyler Summersett – Tuolumne Transportation Council

Nathan Graveline - California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Dwight Follien – Groveland Trail Heads

John L. Gray – Chairman, Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors

Margie Bulkin – Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools (TCSoS)

Angie Fairchilds - President, Columbia College

Thomas P. O'Rourke, Sr. - Chairman, Yurok Tribe (Del Norte County/2011 Tsunami)

Gina M. Fromer - California State Director, Trust for Public Land

Mick Grimes – (no affiliation listed in his email)

Kerri Timmer – Sierra Business Council

#### **Comment Topics and Responses:**

*Executive Summary* - A comment was received that the case could be strengthened by adding more detail. Specifically: 1) the Rim Fire was the largest-ever in the Sierra Nevada recorded history, almost 40 percent burned at destructive high intensity, producing GHG emissions equivalent to 2.3 million vehicles for a year, 2) the losses in visits/lodging receipts of approximately \$2.75 million (Sierra Nevada Conservancy), 3) the fact that San Francisco PUC had to purchase alternative energy due to damage done to hydropower facilities (Sierra Nevada Conservancy), and 4) more information about fire risk in the rest of the Sierra, as a way of indicating that the work funded under this program in the Rim Fire area would be useful elsewhere in the Sierra. Sentence could read: "The same is true in other parts of the State, especially the west slope of the Sierra. Overall more acres have burned in the last two decades than any other previously recorded decade, and more land has burned in the first 4-1/2 years of this decade than seven entire decades in the past." (Sierra Nevada Conservancy, "The State of the Sierra Nevada's Forests").

*Response:* The NDRC Team appreciates these comments and has taken them under advisement while finalizing the Phase 1 Application.

*Exhibit B – Threshold – National Object/Overall Benefit:* Comments were received expressing concern that the Phase 1 Application only reiterated the National Objective and Overall Objective language from the NOFA.

*Response:* The Phase 1 Application instructions from HUD were to restate the requirement since in this part of the process projects are not being submitted for funding. Only the framework/approach to resiliency and projects related to threshold requirements are included at this stage. The national

**Citizen Participation and Consultation Summary Chart, State of California, March 2015** objective(s) and overall benefit criteria will be defined in our Phase 2 application, should the State advance to Phase 2.

*Exhibit C – Capacity:* A comment was received about ways to strengthen the Capacity section, including: clarification of the definitions and differences between the "Oversight Steering Committee" and "Leadership Partners"; strengthen the background on our NDRC partner – ARCCA; reference the USFS Experimental Forests, including the Stanislaus-Tuolumne Experimental Forest; add more detail regarding the additional benefits the Sierra Nevada provides to the rest of the state such as: carbon storage to assist with addressing climate change impacts, wood products, hydropower [the Sierra provides 55 percent of the State's overall hydropower, and that equals 15 percent of the State's overall energy per year (per CEC)], and crucial habitat for key species, some of which are only found in the Sierra; mention the connection between rural resources areas and the downstream communities that depend on those resources; explore ways to bring additional data tools to better reflect the location of disadvantaged people throughout the State, especially in the rural regions of the Sierra and other resource-rich headwaters areas of the State since the CalEnviroscreen Tool focuses on urban areas.

*Response:* The NDRC Team appreciates these comments and has taken them under advisement while finalizing the Phase 1 Application. With specific regard to CalEnviroscreen, the mention of this tool is to illustrate an example of how California is on the forefront of developing and utilizing ways to identify vulnerable populations to address their needs.

# Exhibit D – Need/Extent of the Problem –

*Education:* Comments were received regarding support for the local Community College – Columbia College - to develop Career Pathways Programs that will yield jobs necessary to build resiliency in the Rim Fire region. The goal is to develop a program that results in Columbia College's becoming a Certification Center for Fire Technology.

*Centralized Transportation Center:* A comment was received stating that because County schools are involved in transportation and/or bus service to people out of unsafe areas or at risk, we would benefit from a centralized transportation center to create resilient flow of transportation resources. *Wildlife :* Wildlife should be part of the impact statement and strategic planning process. The Spotted Owl has an enormous impact on forest management. Many of the challenges we face in creating/maintaining a resilient forest are tied to wildlife-related lawsuits. Consideration need to be given to this issue to achieve long-term resiliency.

*Response:* The NDRC Team appreciates these comments and will take them under advisement while moving through the Phase 2 process with regard to projects and activities and their effects on wildlife.

*Exhibit E- Soundness of Approach:* Comments were received that the job training and small business development goals sections could be strengthened with a connection to the Merced Small Business Development Center that serves the Tuolumne County area

(<u>http://www.alliancesbdc.com</u>). Comments were also received regarding the 190+ days that hotel reservations were canceled due to the fire and local income lost at that time, and regarding the application's focus predominately on forest health rather than incorporating more economic development and trail projects as economic development projects into the application.

*Response:* The NDRC Leadership Team appreciates the suggestion of the Merced Small Business Development Center and will reach out to them to discuss the application. Further, the County through its Economic Development Association, and others on the NDRC leadership team, reached out to the local business owners who were economically affected. However, none of the businesses have reported continued income losses of 10 percent due to the Rim Fire. There was reluctance by the business owners to submit revenue/loss documentation for purposes of the grant application. The Phase 1 Application is meant to establish an approach/framework for determining the path to resiliency rather than outlining the projects to be addressed. In Phase 2, should the State

be selected to move forward, the NDRC Leadership Team will be conducting a series of regular meeting in Tuolumne County to discuss potential resilience recovery projects at which time we will encourage discussion of trail work and other economic development ideas.

### Other Qualifying Disasters: Comments were received that the 2011 Tsunami and its impact on the

Yurok Tribal Area at the mouth of the Klamath River should be included in the NDRC application as a conceptually consistent community investment opportunity.

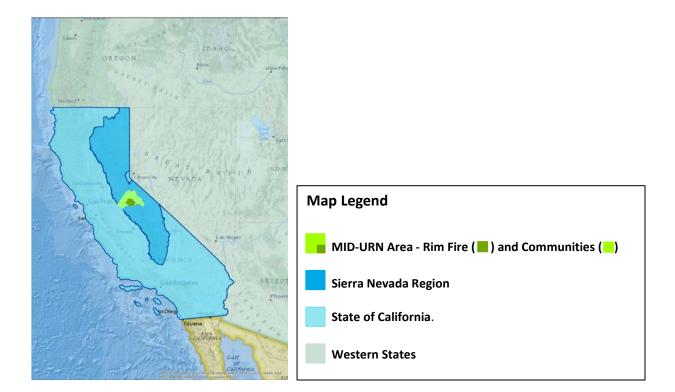
*Response:* Early in the NDRC process, the NDRC Team consulted with Crescent City and the Yurok Tribe about the potential for inclusion in the application. Given the time limits on the competition and resource constraints at the State level, the Rim Fire was selected as the State's focus for the application. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Agency (CAL FIRE), Tuolumne County, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy already had extensive data with regard to the fire, its damage, and needed recovery. Additionally, the State faces its fourth consecutive year of extreme drought, California's forested watershed health, wildfire threat, and air quality are of critical importance to all Californians. The NDRC Team acknowledges the environmental deterioration at the mouth of the Klamath River and the challenges the Tribe faces with the threat of Tsunami. Further conversations are being proposed to find ways to address these important issues, however, inclusion in the NDRC application is not feasible at this time.

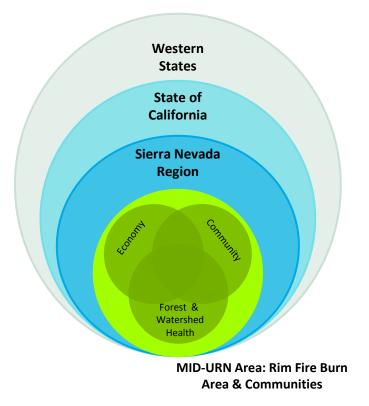
Attachment E – Maps and Drawings

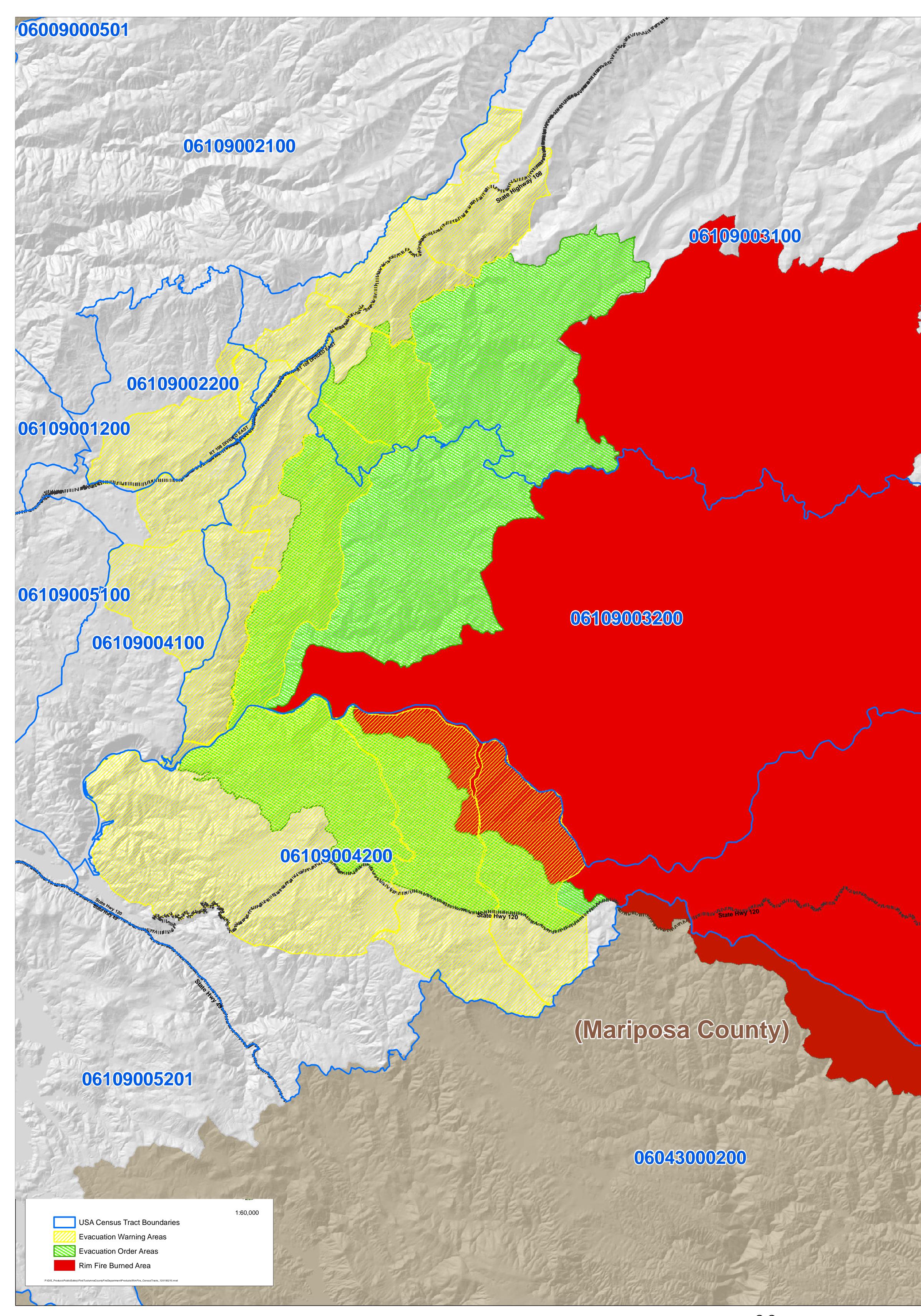
State of California

AttEMapsDrawings.pdf

# Figure 1: Community and Watershed Resilience Program





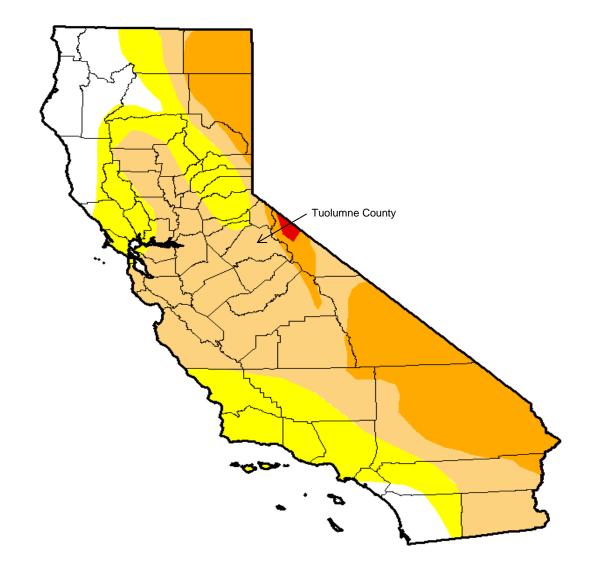




### **Drought Severity**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought Moderate
- D2 Drought Severe
- D3 Drought Extreme
- D4 Drought Exceptional

# August 14, 2012

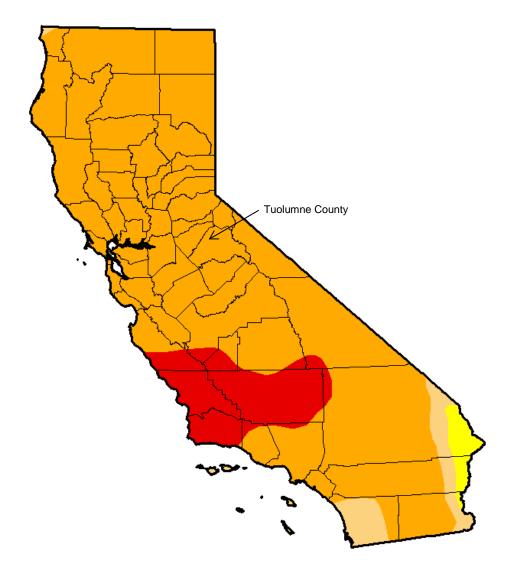


http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/MapsAndData/DataTables.aspx?CA

### **Drought Severity**

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Drought Moderate
- D2 Drought Severe
- D3 Drought Extreme
- D4 Drought Exceptional

August 13, 2013



http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/MapsAndData/DataTables.aspx?CA

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA

-116.0°

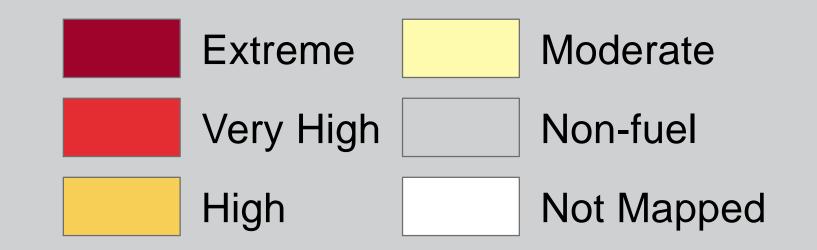
-115.0°

-114.0°

# FIRE THREAT

-117.0°

-118.0°



CDF-FRAP has developed a rating of wildland fire threat based on the combination of potential fire behavior (Fuel Rank) and expected fire frequency (Fire Rotation) to create a 4-class index for risk assessment. Areas that do not support wildland fuels (eg., open water, agricultural lands, etc.) are omitted from the calculation. Most large urbanized areas receive a moderate fire threat classification to account for fires carried by ornamental vegetation and flammable structures.

LUSA Sacramento SACRAMEN AN JOAQUIN STANISLAUS

-124.0°

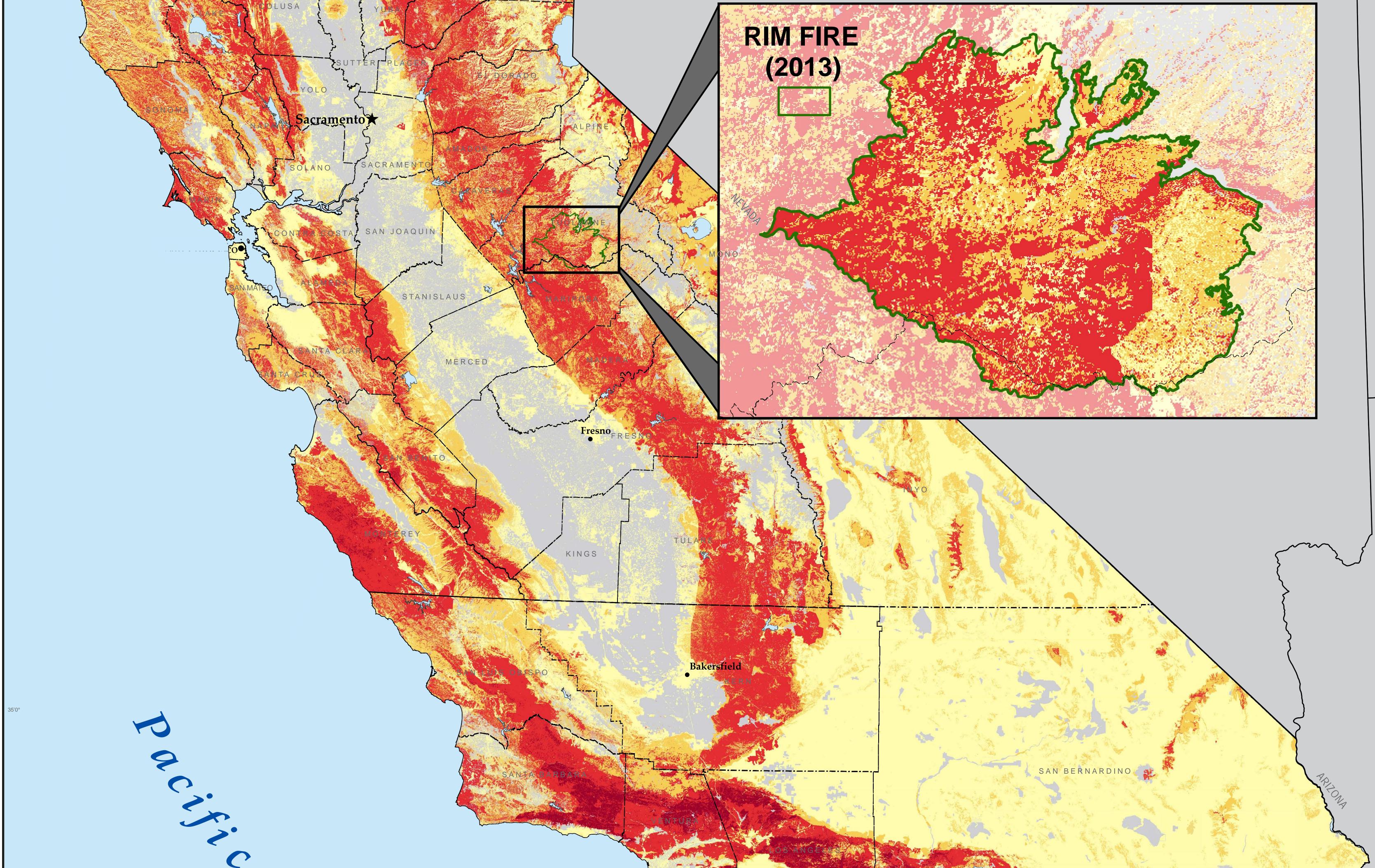
-123.0°

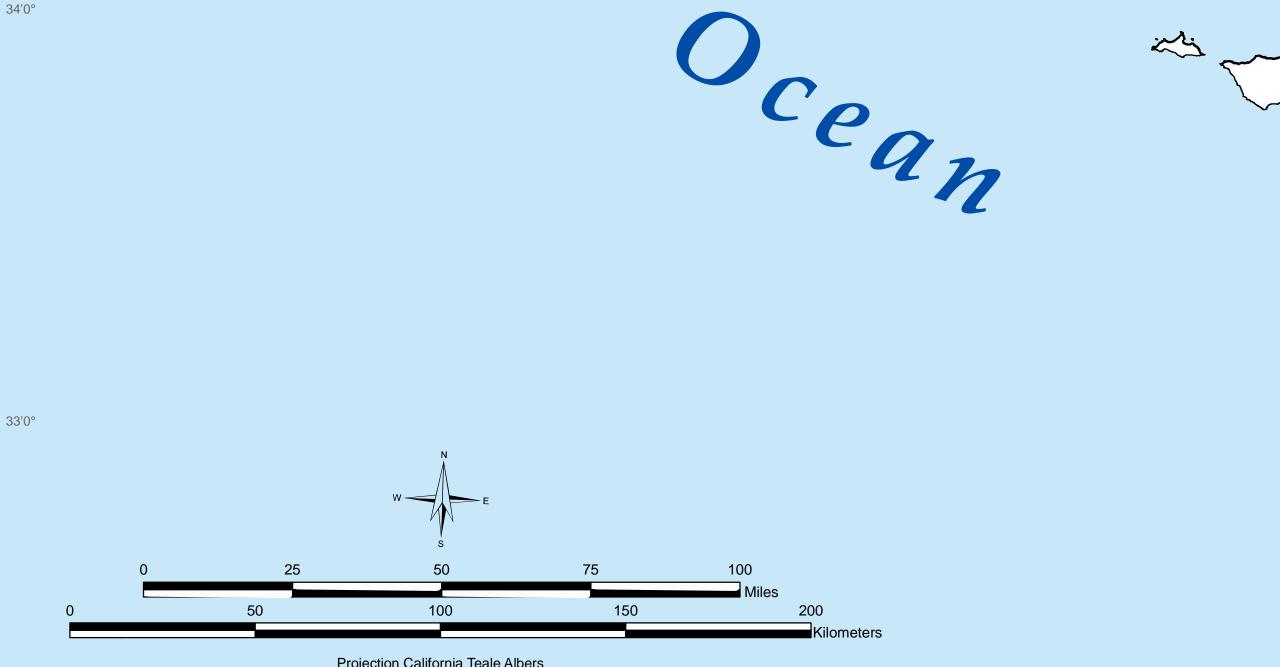
-122.0°

-121.0°

-120.0°

-119.0°





Projection California Teale Albers Scale 1:1,020,000 at 36" x 48"

The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of, or arising from, the use of data or maps.

Obtain FRAP maps, data, metadata and publications on the Internet at http://frap.cdf.ca.gov For more information, contact CDF-FRAP, PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460, (916) 327-3939.

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor, State of California John Laird, Secretary for Resources, The Natural Resources Agency Ken Pimlott, Director, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

102

San Die

Los Angeles•

0

MAPID: FTHREAT\_RIM\_MAP

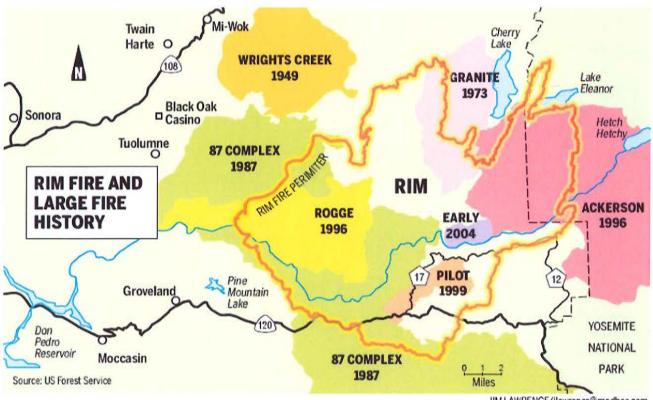
DATA SOURCES CAL FIRE Fire Threat (fthrt05\_1) CALFIRE Fire Perimeters (firep13\_2) NHD Lakes (NHDH\_CA\_92v200)

RIVERSIDE

MEXICO

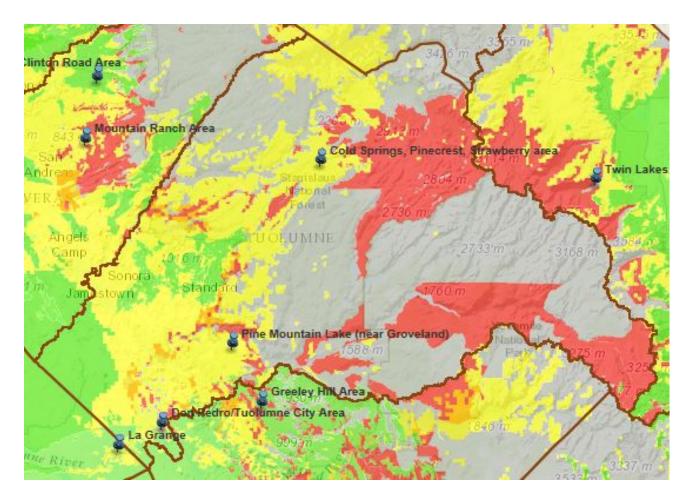
IMPERIAL

Page 1 of 1



JIM LAWRENCE/jlawrence@modbee.com

# Tuolumne County – Broadband Availability: Served/Under-served/Un-served



# COMBINED Wireline, Mobile, Fixed Wireless

# <u>Legend</u>

# Green: served

(combined 6 Mb/s downstream and 1.5 Mb/s upstream or greater)

# Yellow: under-served

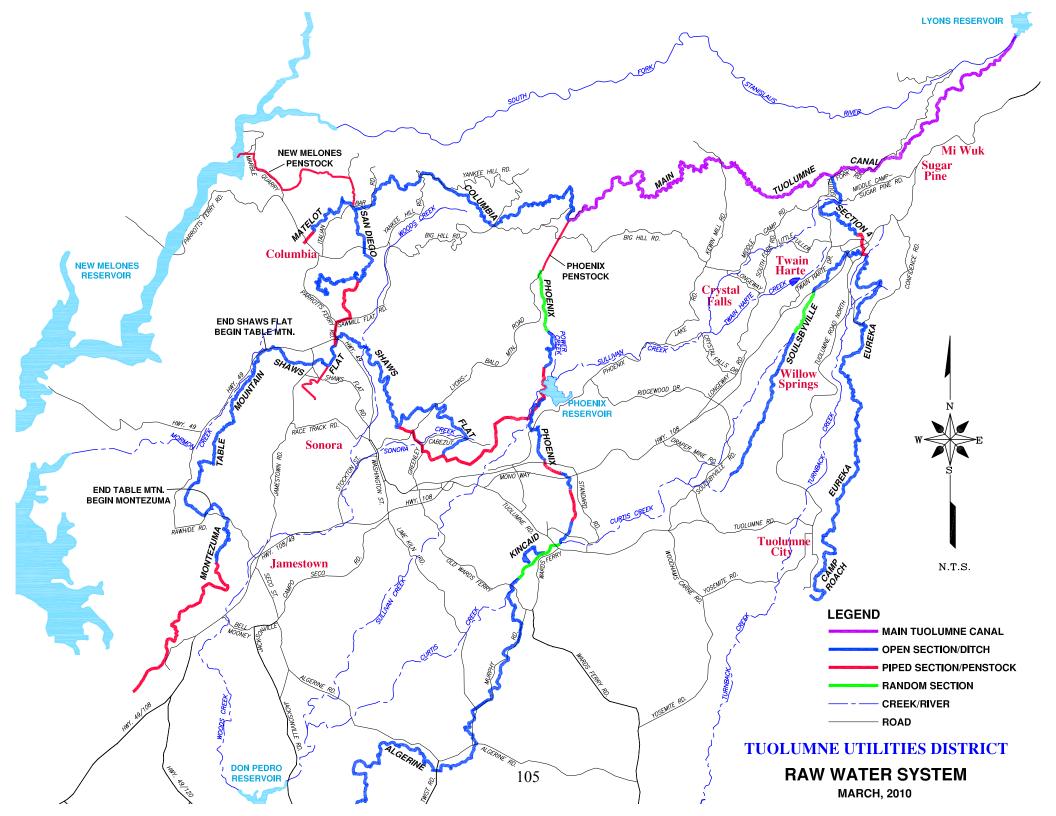
(combined 768 Kb/s downstream and 200 Kb/s upstream or greater)

# Red: un-served

(below 768 Kb/s downstream and/or 200 Kb/s upstream or greater, or no service)

# Thumbtacks: Consortia Priority Areas

Broadband availability Data as of June 30, 2014



Attachment H – Crosswalk Checklist

State of California

AttHCrosswalkChecklist.pdf

# Appendix J: CDBG-RDR Crosswalk Checklist (Table of Contents)

Applicant Name (must match name of eligible applicant): State of California

Primary Responsible Agency: California Department of Housing and Community Development

# Competition Phase: Phase 1

Exhibit	PHASE 1	Document/filename	Page
	Crosswalk Checklist/ Table of Contents	AttHCrosswalkChecklist	106
А	Executive Summary	ExhibitAExecutiveSummary	1
В	Threshold Narrative	ExhibitBThreshold	4
	General Section	ExhibitBThreshold	5
	Eligible Applicant	ExhibitBThreshold	5
	Eligible County	ExhibitBThreshold	5
	Most Impacted and Distressed Target Area	ExhibitBThreshold	5
	Eligible Activity	ExhibitBThreshold	10
	Proposal Incorporate s	ExhibitBThreshold	10
	National Objective	ExhibitBThreshold	11
	Overall Benefit	ExhibitBThreshold	11
	Tie-back	ExhibitBThreshold	11
	One application per Applicant	ExhibitBThreshold	11
	Certifications	AttCNDRCApplicationCertifications	74
С	Factor 1- Capacity	ExhibitCCapacity	12
D		ExhibitDNeedExtentofProblem	22
	Subfactor:Unmet needs	ExhibitDNeedExtentofProblem	23
	Subfactor: Most Impacted and Distressed	ExhibitDNeedExtentofProblem	25
E	Factor 3 – Soundness of Approach	ExhibitESoundnessofApproach	33
	consultation		34
	benefits	ExhibitESoundnessofApproach	37 - 40
	Subfactor: Addresses vulnerable populations	ExhibitESoundnessofApproach	36

F	Factor 4 – Leverage and outcomes	ExhibitFLeverageandOutcomes	41
G	Factor 5- Long-Term Commitment	ExhibitGLongTermCommittment	45
No page limit	Partner Documentation for Each Partner	AttAPartnershipDocumentation	48
	Leverage Documentation	AttBLeverageDocumentation	68
	Consultation Summary	AttDConsultationSummary	80
	Optional Maps, Drawings, Renderings	AttEMapsDrawings	97
	Waiver Requests	N/A	N/A
	Crosswalk Checklist	AttHCrosswalkChecklist	106
	SF-424	AttDConsultationSummary	77
	Comment Summary by Topic, List of Comments, and	AttDConsultationSummary	92
	MID-URN Summary Checklist	AttIMIDURNSummaryChecklistB	110
Exhibit	PHASE 2	Document/filename	Page
	Crosswalk Checklist/Table of		
А	Executive Summary		
В	Threshold Narrative		
	General Section		
	Eligible Applicant		
	Eligible County		
	Most Impacted and Distressed Target Area		
	Eligible Activity		
	Proposal Incorporate S		
	National Objective		
	Overall Benefit		
	Tie-back		
	One application per Applicant		
<u> </u>	Certifications		
С	Factor 1 - Capacity		
	Subfactor: Past experience Subfactor: Management		
	structure		

D	Factor 2- Need	
	Subfactor: Target	
	area/unmet needs	
	Subfactor: Resilience need	
	Subfactor: Best actions	
E	Factor 3 – Soundness of	
	Approach	
	Subfactor: Project/frame correspond	
	Subfactor: Increases	
	resilience	
	Subfactor:	
	Model/replicable/holistic	
	Subfactor: Schedule	
	Subfactor: Budget	
	Subfactor: Plan	
	consistency	
F	Factor 4 - Leverage	
G	Factor 5 –Long-Term	
S	Commitment	
No page	Partner Documentation for	
limit	Each Partner	
	Leverage Documentation	
	Consultation Summary	
	Optional Maps, Drawings,	
	Renderings	
	Waiver Requests	
	Benefit-Cost Analysis	
	Crosswalk Checklist	
	SF-424	
	Sources and Uses	
	of Funds	
	Comment Summary by	
	Topic, List of	
	Comments, and	
	MID-URN Summary	
	Checklist	

# Attachment I – MID-URN Summary Checklist

State of California

AttIMIDURNSummaryChecklist.pdf

	MOST IMPACTED CHARACTERISTICS: considers the damage resulting from the Qualified Disaster				
- Response must include at least one criterion					
	- For each criteria category selected, the corresponding data source and data documentation response must be provided				
C	Target Area Name: Rim Fire Burn and Evacuation Area				
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation			
Housing damage due to eligible disaster:	□ Appendix C list of disasters with concentrations of housing	$\Box$ Link:			
$\Box$ Damage to a minimum of 100 homes <b>OR</b>	damage meeting this requirement <b>OR</b>				
$\Box$ Serious damage to a minimum of 20 homes	□ Local data:	$\Box$ Page number(s) in			
	$\Box$ Data shows concentrated damage meeting standard, AND	application:			
	$\Box$ HUD agrees with its validity				
Infrastructure:	$\Box$ An engineering report <b>OR</b>	□ Link:			
$\boxtimes$ Damage from the eligible disaster to	□ FEMA Project Worksheet with an estimated repair amount				
permanent infrastructure in a sub-county area	OR	$\boxtimes$ Page number(s) in			
estimated at \$2 million or greater	$\Box$ Other evidence of an estimate of expenditures to make	application: Exhibit B,			
	repairs	page 6			
Economic Revitalization:	$\Box$ Describe how the employment loss or harm stems from the	$\Box$ Link:			
$\Box$ At least one percentage point higher local	Qualified Disaster (applicant may support a short description				
unemployment rate in the impacted area six	with local data or surveys)	$\Box$ Page number(s) in			
to 12 months after the qualifying disaster		application:			
compared to the same month in the year prior		appreation.			
to the disaster in that area <b>OR</b>					
$\Box$ Specific information that 50 or more people					
were no longer employed in or near the most					
impacted area for six months or longer due to					
the disaster <b>OR</b>					
$\Box$ Other harm to the economy due to the					
disaster					
Environmental Degradation	□ Support with references to any studies supporting the claim	□ Link:			
$\boxtimes$ Must describe the damage to the	of future risk				
environment from the qualifying disaster		$\boxtimes$ Page number(s) in			
putting the housing, infrastructure and/or		application: Exhibit B,			
economic drivers in the area at risk of great		page 7			
harm for a future disaster.		• 5			

MOST DISTRESSED CHARACTERISTICS: conside	rs stress or deficit factors prior to the Qualified Disaster	
- Response must include at least one criterion		
	sponding data source and data documentation response must be pro-	ovided
Target Area Name: Rim Fire Burn and Evacua		
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation
Disaster impacted low- and moderate-income	□ CDBG low- and moderate-income summary data	$\Box$ Link:
households:		
$\Box$ More than 50 percent of people in the target		$\Box$ Page number(s) in
area are at less than 80 percent of the area		application:
median income		
Loss/shortage of affordable rental housing:	$\Box$ Provide a 1-2 paragraph description, with supporting data, to	$\Box$ Link:
Disaster-impacted target area has a minimum	demonstrate this characteristic	
of 100 renters with income less than 50		$\Box$ Page number(s) in
percent of median in a target area $AND$ :		application:
$\Box$ 60 percent or more of these have severe		
housing programs <b>OR</b>		
$\Box$ As a result of the effects of the disaster there		
is new high risk of damage to more than 100 assisted rental housing units from a future		
event the intended intervention would		
protect against		
Disaster impacted a federal target area or	Demonstrate this characteristic and provide supporting	□ Link:
economically fragile area: (must choose at	documentation	
least one to meet this criteria)	documentation	$\boxtimes$ Page number(s) in
□ Tribal area		application: <b>Exhibit B</b> ,
□ HUD Promise Zone site		page 8
□ HUD Strong Cities Strong Communities site		Page 2
AND/OR		
$\boxtimes$ Has an unemployment rate more than 125		
percent of the national average		
unemployment rate		

MOST DISTRESSED CHARACTERISTICS	: considers stress or deficit factor	s <i>prior</i> to the Qualified Disaster
---------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--

- Response must include at least one criterion
- For each criteria category selected, the corresponding data source and data documentation response must be provided

Target Area Name: Rim Fire Burn and Evacuation Area		
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation
Disaster impacted an area with prior	□ State-maintained Brownfield site list <b>OR</b>	□ Link:
documented environmental distress:	□ Other documentation of prior environmental distress	
<ul> <li>☑ Disaster impacted an area with prior documented environmental distress (e.g., affected area contains or is adjacent to and negatively affected by a contaminated property cleaned, undergoing cleanup, or proposed for cleanup)</li> </ul>		<ul> <li>Page number(s) in application: Appendix</li> <li>E- 100, 101, 102, 103</li> </ul>
Housing: A concentration of housing damage in a sub- county area due to the eligible disaster causing damage or serious damage to at least 10 percent of the homes located there	<ul> <li>Appendix C list of disasters with concentrations of housing damage meeting this requirement OR</li> <li>Local data:         <ul> <li>Data shows concentrated damage meeting standard, AND</li> <li>HUD agrees with validity</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	□ Link: □ Page number(s) in application:

- For each criteria category selected, the corresponding data source and data documentation response must be provided <b>Target Area Name:</b>				
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation		
Housing:	Currently running a CDBG-DR or other recovery housing	$\Box$ Link:		
$\Box$ Twenty or more households are still	program:			
displaced from housing due to the disaster	$\Box$ Analysis that shows the program waiting list <i>AND</i>	$\Box$ Page number(s) in		
and will not be served by existing programs <i>OR</i>	□ A reasonable estimate of aggregated average unmet repair needs exceeds the existing CDBG-DR fund available.	application:		
$\Box$ There are twenty or more still damaged				
housing units in or near a most impacted and distressed sub-county target area that were	<u>Not currently</u> running a CDBG-DR or other housing recovery program:			
damaged by the disaster and cannot be	$\Box$ Briefly explain why prior allocations of CDBG-DR funding,			
repaired with existing programs	together with other funding sources, are inadequate to provide housing <i>AND</i> :			
	□ Provide recent emergency management data indicating			
	households are still displaced from the disaster			
	OR			
	$\Box$ Provide methodologically sound "windshield survey" of the			
	most impacted and distressed target area conducted since			
	January 2014 AND			
	$\Box$ A list of 20 addresses of units identified with remaining			
	damage			
	$\Box$ At least 9 of these addresses confirming (i) the			
	damage is due to the disaster and (ii) they have			
	inadequate resources from insurance/FEMA/SBA for			
	completing repairs			

UNMET RECOVERY NEED				
- Response must include at least one criterion				
- For each criteria category selected, the corresponding data source and data documentation response must be provided				
Target Area Name:				
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation		
Infrastructure:	$\boxtimes$ An engineering report $OR \square$ a FEMA Project Worksheet(s)	$\Box$ Link:		
$\boxtimes$ There is damage to permanent public	with an estimated repair amount			
infrastructure from the qualifying disaster		$\boxtimes$ Page number(s) in		
(i.e. FEMA Category C to G) that has not	AND	application: Exhibit B,		
been repaired due to inadequate resources, in		page 9		
or serving the most impacted and distressed	$\boxtimes$ A sources and uses statement for the repairs showing the			
target area(s) AND	funding shortfall (total repair costs may include the extra cost			
$\boxtimes$ Describe the damage, location of the	to repair this infrastructure resiliently) AND			
damage to permanent public	$\boxtimes$ Your explanation of why existing CDBG-DR resources,			
infrastructure relative to the most	together with other funding sources, are inadequate to meet			
impacted and distressed target area(s), the	this repair need			
amount of funding required to complete				
repairs, and the reason there are				
inadequate funds <i>AND</i>				
A minimum \$400,000 in unfunded				
permanent infrastructure repair needs				

<ul> <li><b>UNMET RECOVERY NEED</b></li> <li><i>Response must include at least one criterion</i></li> <li><i>For each criteria category selected, the corresponding data source and data documentation response must be provided</i></li> </ul>			
Target Area Name:			
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation	
Criteria         Economic Revitalization: <ul> <li>There are continuing unmet economic revitalization recovery needs due to the disaster in or near the most impacted and distressed sub-county target area(s) that cannot be addressed with existing resources, including CDBG-DR funds already allocated AND</li> </ul> <li>AnD demonstrate one of the following:         <ul> <li>A minimum of 5 businesses with remaining repair needs;</li> <li>Business revenues continued to be</li> </ul> </li>	<ul> <li>Unmet repair needs narrative for businesses:</li> <li>"Windshield survey" showing a minimum of 5 businesses with remaining repair needs <i>AND</i></li> <li>A survey of 5 business owners confirming damage due to the disaster and repairs not completed due to not receiving adequate resources from insurance and (if applicable) other federal funds <i>AND</i></li> <li>Addresses of businesses with continuing needs</li> <li>OR</li> <li>Decreased revenues narrative for business(es):</li> </ul>	□ Link: □ Page number(s) in application:	
<ul> <li>decreased by 10 percent or more relative to revenues prior to the disaster for one or more modest-sized employers (10 or more employees) due to the disaster; OR</li> <li>□ Three or more smaller businesses show revenues 10 percent less than prior revenues</li> </ul>	□ Analysis by a reputable public or private source showing continuing economic damage to the target area within a HUD-identified most impacted county due to the disaster or a survey of business(es) who provide (i) number of employees before the storm and current; (ii) total gross revenues in year before disaster and total gross revenues in most recent year; and (iii) a description of how the reduction in revenues is related to the disaster <i>AND</i>		
<ul> <li>AND</li> <li>□ Provide a narrative statement describing the extent of those needs and how the needs are connected with the disaster and the most impacted and distressed sub-county target area</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>One modest size employer (10 or more employees) or three smaller businesses (fewer than 10 employees) must show most recent year total gross revenues of 10 percent less than the year before the disaster and there needs to be a clean connection to the disaster <i>AND</i></li> <li>Names and addresses of impacted businesses</li> </ul>		

UNMET RECOVERY NEED				
<ul> <li>Response must include at least one criterion</li> <li>For each criteria category selected, the corresponding data source and data documentation response must be provided</li> </ul>				
Criteria	Data Source	Data Documentation		
<b>Environmental Degradation:</b>	⊠ A detailed report from a reputable public or private	□ Link:		
$\boxtimes$ There is environmental damage from the	organization completed since June 2013 describing the			
qualifying disaster that has not yet been	remaining damage with a certification date after March 2014	$\boxtimes$ Page number(s) in		
addressed and cannot be addressed with	indicating that there is remaining damage of \$400,000 or	application: Exhibit B,		
existing resources AND	more	pages 9 and 10		
$\boxtimes$ Describe the remaining damage and how the				
damage is connected with the qualifying				
disaster and the most impacted and				
distressed sub-county target area AND				
$\boxtimes$ Describe the remaining damage to the				
environment with a cost estimate for making				
repairs or reconstruction that is \$400,000 or				
greater and support with references to any				
studies supporting them				