



Wildfire Prevention Report

Board Report & Measure T Update – November 15th, 2022

To: Truckee Fire Protection District Board of Directors
From: Eric Horntvedt, Wildfire Prevention Manager

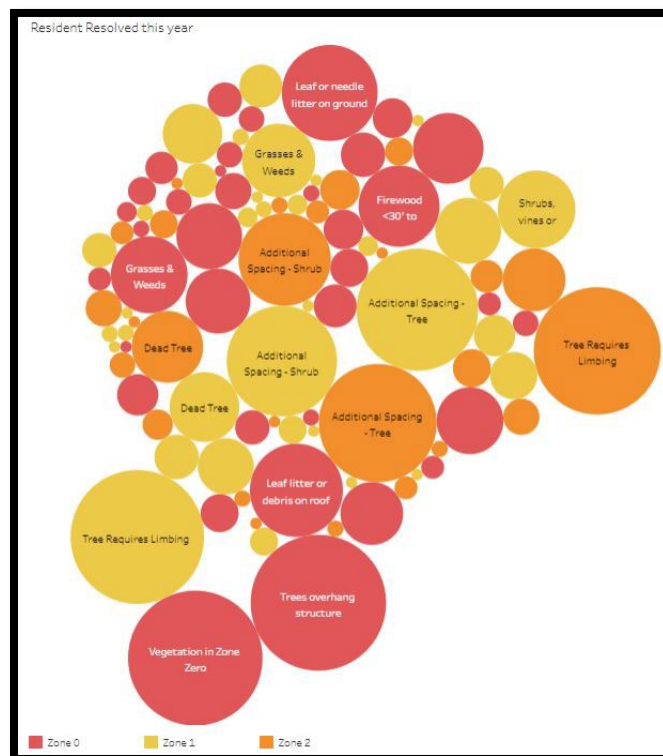
Defensible Space Inspection & Education

Our Defensible space inspection and education program is coming to an end for the 2022 season, our 4 inspectors have reached the end of their seasonal employment as of October 28, and with winter setting in a little early this year we are limited on any additional inspections that we can perform. Overall, it was a very successful season and we would like to acknowledge and thank our team for their efforts this year and for having a positive impact on our community. In total;

Number of inspections completed this season (May-November): 4,486

- This includes 46,174 unique discoveries and 22,810 photos
- On average our Defensible space specialist completed 33 inspections per day, finding 14 defensible space and home hardening discoveries, and taking 5 photos per inspection.
- 57% of residents receiving an inspection have accessed their report in our new online system, and we have had hundreds of residents submit resolution that they are working on items identified in their report.

Our residents were very engaged this year and worked hard to follow our recommendations to be compliant with PRC 4291. Below is a bubble chart showing the most commonly resolved issues by zone this season;



Green Waste Programs: Pick-Up/Haul Away, Chipping, and Dumpsters

The Measure T Greenwaste curbside Pickup and Chipping program has come to an end for the 2022 season. We had an amazing positive response from our community, and the program was a huge success! We completed every pile in our reservation system by the 3rd week of October. To wrap up the season, we sent out our defensible space specialists to grid every road in our fire district to capture any remaining piles that we did not receive a request for, we ended up with 259 piles on our final list. Big Kudos to Fire Safe Council of Nevada County chipping crews who worked long hours, weekends, and in snowy conditions to service the remaining piles on our list. With the oncoming snow, they worked our district West to East and finished everything but 35 piles in Glenshire. If weather permits, we will bring the crew back up to finish off our final list. The table below summarizes our accomplishments during the 2022 field season;

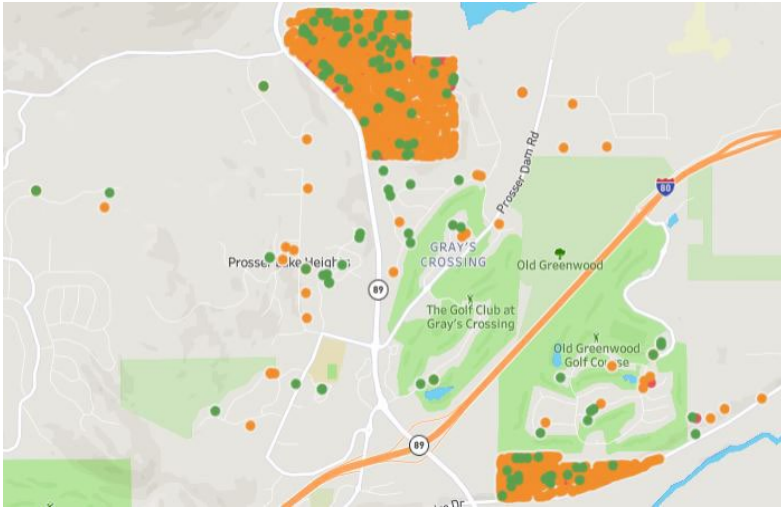
Contractor	# of Piles Serviced	Cubic Yards	Resident Investment (\$)	Resident Investment (Hours)
Wilderness Forestry (Pickup & Haul)	1117	5362	\$ 237,372.00	9493
NCFSC (Chipping)	889	2094	\$ 104,399.00	5166
NCFSC (Pickup & Haul)	472	1113	\$ 84,134.00	1711
Total	2478	8569	\$ 425,905.00	16370
Assume Avg. Value of hour of yard clearing is \$25 =		\$ 409,250.00	in kind labor	
Therefore grand total invested by residents is		\$ 835,155.00		
Program Cost				
Contractual Chipping		\$ 125,000.00		
Contractual Pickup (WF)		\$ 125,000.00		
Contractual Pickup (NCFSC)		\$ 100,000.00		
Dump Fees		\$ 50,000.00		
		Total \$ 400,000.00	spent on the program	
Therefore for each dollar Measure T invested		\$ 2.09	was spent by the community for fire safety	

889 people have provided feedback from the emailed surveys, 95% of the responses have rated the program 4 or 5 out of 5, with our overall rating currently sitting at 4.8 out of 5 on average.

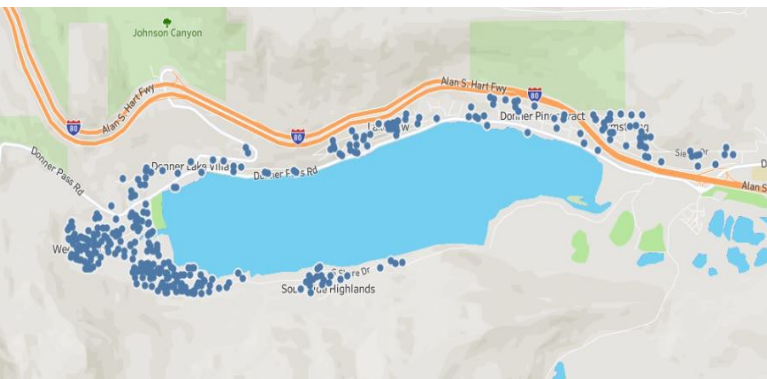
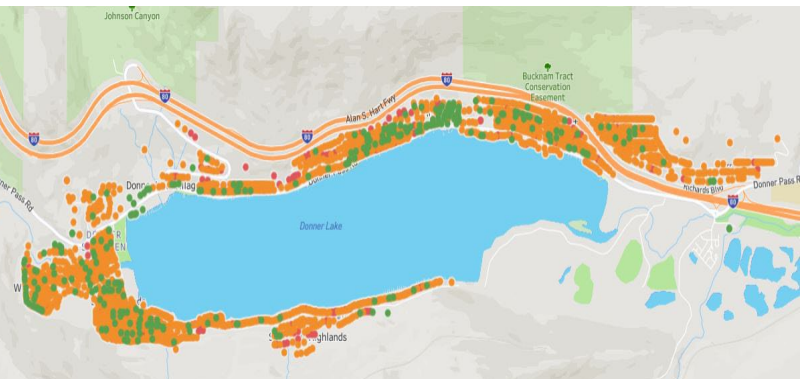
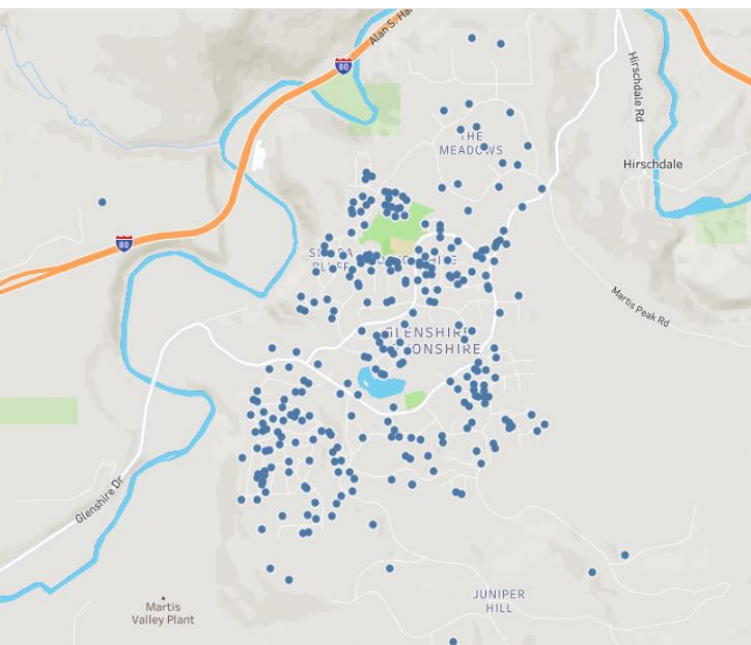
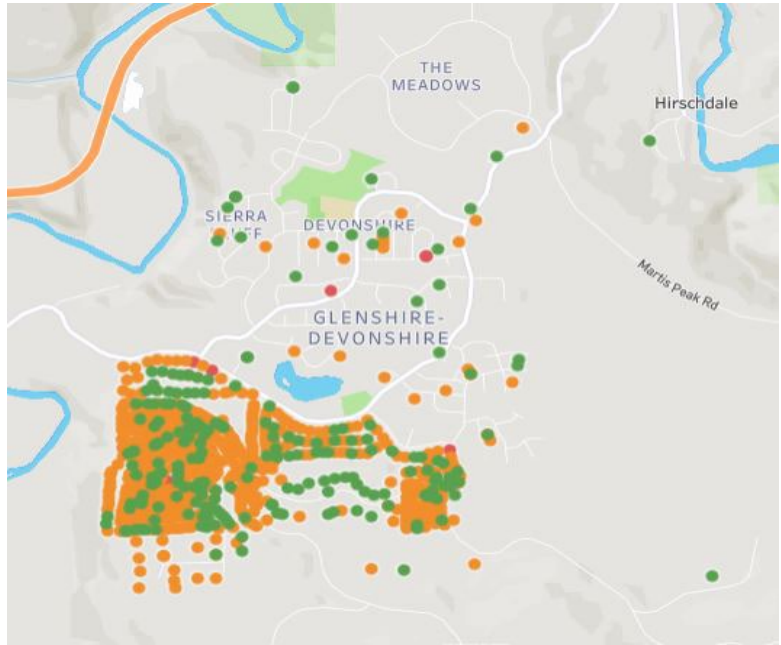
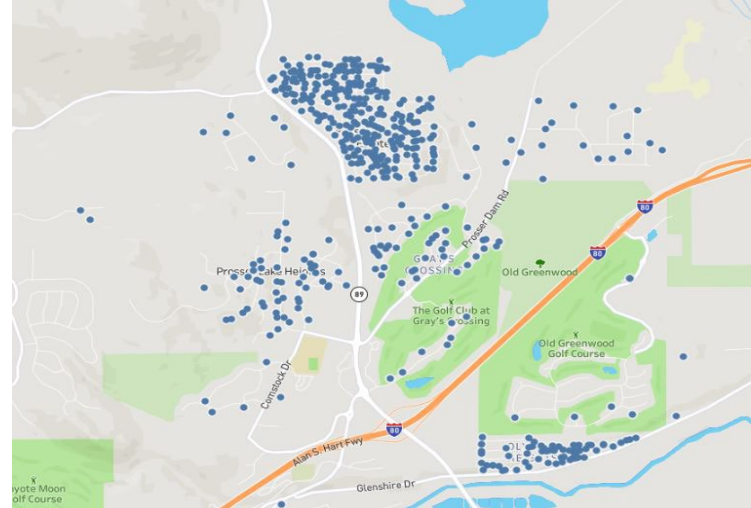
The 6-yard green waste dumpsters rebate program ended on 10/31/2022. Thanks to Niki for all her support to take in receipts, cross check completion with reports from TTSD, and issue rebate checks for this program. Final numbers for the season include; 336 rebates processed, totaling \$25,200. This was the highest use of the program since we started offering this reimbursement in 2018.

Of note, we saw a strong correlation between properties that we inspected for defensible space and the subsequent use of our greenwaste programs, the figures below illustrate this nicely;

Defensible Space Inspections



Pickup/Chipping Completed



Communications

District staff has done a great job building out our website content and we will continue to add, update, and enhance as the season progresses. Go to <https://www.truckeefire.org/> and explore the “Wildfire Prevention” tab. We also created the “I Want To:” tab so community members can easily request services that we find being used the most. We also created a 2022 media and communications plan to ensure timely communication and use of various media outlets and strategies to reach the community. Topics in this media plan include: green waste programs, defensible space, home hardening, Measure T exemption info, fire restrictions, and emergency preparedness & evacuation planning information. The district will be using the website, radio, newspaper, social media, mailer, email groups, HOA & Firewise contacts, and TTCTV to spread our messages.

Budget

Truckee Fire Protection District will not receive any Measure T tax money until early 2023, and is currently using operational reserves to begin implementing some of the major wildfire prevention programs that were identified in the Measure T Implementation Plan. Staff has been engaged in the fiscal year budgeting processes to ensure a smooth transition between fiscal years, proper expense tracking, and planning additional program expenditures once Measure T parcel tax money is received in 2023. A Final Budget will be coming to the Board in September, and this budget will be made available online for transparency as well.

Forest Management & Fuels Reduction Projects

Truckee Fire’s Forester has been working to directly support our greenwaste programs, Measure T community grant recipients, and to wrap up our only existing CALFIRE Wildfire Prevention Grant. The CALFIRE grant is on track to be completed on time, with all implementation work wrapped up, Forester Sheedy will be working on final reporting to CALIFRE this winter. A recap of accomplishments related to this grant is outlined below;

CALFIRE Wildfire Prevention Grant Accomplishments – 760 acres total

- **Town of Truckee- ROW Roadside** (10’ either side of the road)
 - 81 miles/271 acres (Town of Truckee matching contributions)
 - Grant funded 23 miles/56 acres
 - Work Completed in Tahoe Donner, Glenshire, Sierra Meadows, Prosser
- **Alder Hill HOA- Fuel Reduction**
 - 138 acres, grant funded
- **Pine Forest TDLT- Fuel Reduction**
 - 120 acres, grant funded
- **Tahoe Donner- Fuel Reduction**
 - 175 acres grant funded

The revenues from Measure T are intended to fund programs and projects that reduce the threat and intensity of wildfire in the Truckee and Donner Summit WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) by reducing fuel loads and better preparing the community for wildfire. This year, the Measure T community grant funded 4 different projects that are an integral part of Truckee Fire's landscape

fuel reduction strategy aimed at protecting our communities in the WUI from future catastrophic wildfire events. Fuel reduction treatments are strategically placed in order to moderate the movement of wildfire, provide safer access for resources related to suppression activities, and ultimately facilitate in the protection of life and property for surrounding communities. Below is a recap of the Measure T funded projects and current timelines for completion;

TFPD Wildfire Prevention (Measure T) Projects

- **Sugar Bowl**
 - 104 acres overall
 - 32 acres funded by Measure T
 - ½ of the project has been completed, with snow on the ground this project will be completed next summer.
 - See pictures below!
- **Truckee Donner Land Trust**
 - Additional 6 acres of Pine Forest Riparian work funded by Measure T
 - This project has been fully implemented.
- **Tahoe Donner**
 - 82 acres funded by Measure T (additional acres that ties into/expands CAL FIRE grant work)
 - A small amount of mastication was completed before snowfall, project will be completed next spring, weather permitting.
- **Gray's Crossing**
 - 42 acres funded by Measure T (expands previously completed HWY 89 work and buffer to Prosser Lakeview Community)
 - This project has been fully implemented.

Butterfield Fire

Happy to report that TTSA completed post-fire recovery work within the Butterfield fire incident. After feedback from the Wildfire Prevention Division, TTSA hired a contractor to remove and chip trees that were impacted by the fire.

Sugar Bowl fuel Reduction Project, Before Treatment



Project ½ completed below (still need to masticate)



Community Wildfire Prevention Plan Update (CWPP)

Truckee Fire staff solicited proposals for the Truckee Fire Protection District Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) on August 12, 2022 – September 23, 2022. Proposal opening was conducted by Admin staff on September 23, 2022 at 3:00pm to document all 6 sealed proposals received. Staff conducted initial proposal content and completeness review and determined that 3 of the 6 consultants met the minimum requirements set forth in the Request for Proposals documents to move on in the selection process. These 3 consultants were: Deer Creek Resources, Dudek, and SWCA Environmental Consultants.

On October 18th, District staff with the assistance of a representative from Nevada County & the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation performed detailed proposal evaluation and oral interviews of these 3 consultants. Fortunate for Truckee Fire, all 3 consultants interviewed were professional and known as some of the top-notch consultants that complete CWPP projects. The panel of agency representatives unanimously concluded that SWCA Environmental Consultants was the best-fit for this project. With approval from the Board, Truckee Fire entered into a special services agreement with SWCA on November 1st, and we will have our first official meeting to kickoff the process on November 10th. We are very excited to start this important process, our goal is to have an updated CWPP by this time next year.

This updated CWPP is very important, as it will give the District an opportunity to engage with partner agencies, land managers, and the community to develop a comprehensive wildfire mitigation roadmap that be used to best prioritize implementation of the Measure T Community Wildfire Prevention Fund. The CWPP will capture many of the large land fuel reduction projects in the WUI from participating land managers/property owners. Typically, over 20 local land managers, Federal and State firefighting agencies, and the public participate in the process. The CWPP will provide a prioritized list of WUI forest management and fuel reduction work and identify other wildfire issue focus areas where Measure T funds can be used with the greatest impact to create wildfire resilience.

Measure T Staffing

I would like to congratulate Arden Heki, our new full time Wildfire Prevention Specialist II, a new position in the division. Arden worked as a defensible space specialist for us this season, and brings a breadth of knowledge and experience to the division. Over the last 10 years Arden has lived in the Reno area, received a BS in Forest Management and Ecology from UNR, worked as a wildland firefighter for 5 seasons, and a Defensible space inspector for 2 seasons. With the need to increase our capacity to meet our objectives, we flew an internal promotion opportunity in which Arden ranked highest of all candidates. We are excited to have Arden on full-time at Truckee Fire, he is a great addition to our team.

Current staff consists of:

- 1 Wildfire Prevention Manager
- 1 Assistant Wildfire Prevention Manager/Forester
- 1 Wildfire Prevention Specialist II
- Coming Spring 2023: 4-6 Seasonal Defensible Space Specialists

With direct support from Truckee Fire Executive, Administrative, and Prevention staff.