

Taylorsville Campground Fuels Reduction

07-DG-11051150-036

Final Report

March 31, 2011

General

This is a Plumas Resource Advisory Committee approved hazardous fuels project, funded with \$ 36,000 in federal Title II funds (Secure Rural Schools Act). The Title II contract was executed between Plumas National Forest and the Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PCFSC) with a start date of 7/26/07 and a finish date of 12/31/08. The contract was later extended until 12/31/10.

A solicitation for registered professional foresters was developed for 10/07 advertising and Registered Professional Forester (RPF) Joe Smailes was hired on to design the project in 12/07. The project forester was changed to Danielle Banchio in mid- 2008 due to Smailes' retirement as a practicing RPF. Field work was completed in late 2009 by PCFSC. 27 acres were hand-thinned at the Taylorsville campground. USFS also thinned numerous acres south and east of this project on USFS lands adjacent to the roads.

Fuel Conditions

The area around Indian Valley has been the target of various fuels reduction projects. The Forest Service, following a public meeting in Taylorsville in 2006 [cosponsored with PCFSC], began developing two types of projects around Taylorsville. The first was fuels reduction directly adjacent the roads, focusing on small size, non-commercial, hand-thinning projects on USFS lands. This also focused on the Taylorsville-Genesee stretch of county road, through dense stands of young trees in a populated suburban area within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). The second type of USFS project was larger scale, commercial thinning opportunities around and up slope from the valley. These larger projects have developed into the "Keddie Ridge" HFR project which is currently (3/11) undergoing review of its Draft EIS. This Taylorsville Campground project was actively promoted by the local Plumas County Supervisor. The early analysis of the project showed that the area uphill from the county-owned Taylorsville Campground could not be treated by USFS hand crews, since it was non-federal (county) land. USFS and PCFSC approached the Plumas Resource Advisory Committee and successfully sought the funds used on this project by PCFSC. A vintage local map of the project area is shown