

A COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN



**DEVELOPED BY THE GREENHORN FIREWISE COMMITTEE WITH SUPPORT
FROM THE PLUMAS COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL AND THE PLUMAS COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**

JULY 2016

This document shall be known as the Greenhorn Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Greenhorn CWPP).

Objectives of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

- The Greenhorn CWPP creates a platform to work from in order to identify comprehensive land management planning and prioritization
- The Greenhorn CWPP is a mechanism for local partners to engage in the process meaningful considerations to community priorities
- The Greenhorn CWPP serves as a tool to increase community engagement regarding management options
- The Greenhorn CWPP provides maximum flexibility for the Greenhorn and surrounding communities to determine the substance and detail of their plan
- The Greenhorn CWPP will act to integrate the diverse goals and objectives of participating landowners with the needs and expectations of the community regarding fire risk reduction
- The Greenhorn CWPP will be a tool used to coordinate fire protection strategies across property boundaries
- The Greenhorn CWPP will help stakeholders to coordinate the grant funding and federal program budgets to achieve the most effective results with limited funding

Resource Materials:

Available at the [California Fire Alliance website](#)

- Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003
- Preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan, A Handbook for Wildland-Urban Interface Communities, (NACo, NASF, SAF, WGA) March 2004.
- <http://www.forestsandrangelands.gov/communities/cwpp.shtml>
- http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fire/cwpp/guidance/preparing_cwpp.pdf
- <http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/hfi/field-guide/web/page15.php>
- <http://www.firewise.org/usa-recognition-program/cwpps.aspx?sso=0>

Step1 – Convene Decision makers

The decision makers for this Community Wildfire Protection Plan are:

- Local Government: Jerry Sipe, Plumas County Office of Emergency Services
- Local Fire Chief: Tyson Rael, Greenhorn Fire Department
- CAL FIRE Unit Chief: Don Gordon

These decision makers were notified on October 2, 2015 and invited to participate in the development of this plan.

Step 2 – Involve Federal Agencies

The representatives of the federal agencies managing land in the vicinity of the communities are:

Agency	Representative	Date Invited to Participate
US Forest Service	Nick Bunch	October 2, 2015
Natural Resources Conservation Service	Dan Martynn	October 2, 2015

Step 3a – Involve State/Local Agencies

The representatives of the state/local agencies that have jurisdictional responsibilities in the vicinity of the communities are:

Agency	Representative	Date Invited to Participate
Plumas County Public Works	Joe Blackwell	October 2, 2015
Plumas County Office of Emergency Services	Jerry Sipe	October 2, 2015
Greenhorn Community Services District Board member	Janice Bishop	October 2, 2015
Greenhorn Community Services District Manager	Tyson Rael	October 2, 2015
Plumas County Fire Safe Council	Mike DeLasaux, Chair	October 2, 2015
University of California Cooperative Extension	Mike DeLasaux	October 2, 2015
CAL FIRE	Shane Vargas	October 2, 2015
CAL TRANS	Fred Chaffin	December 15, 2015

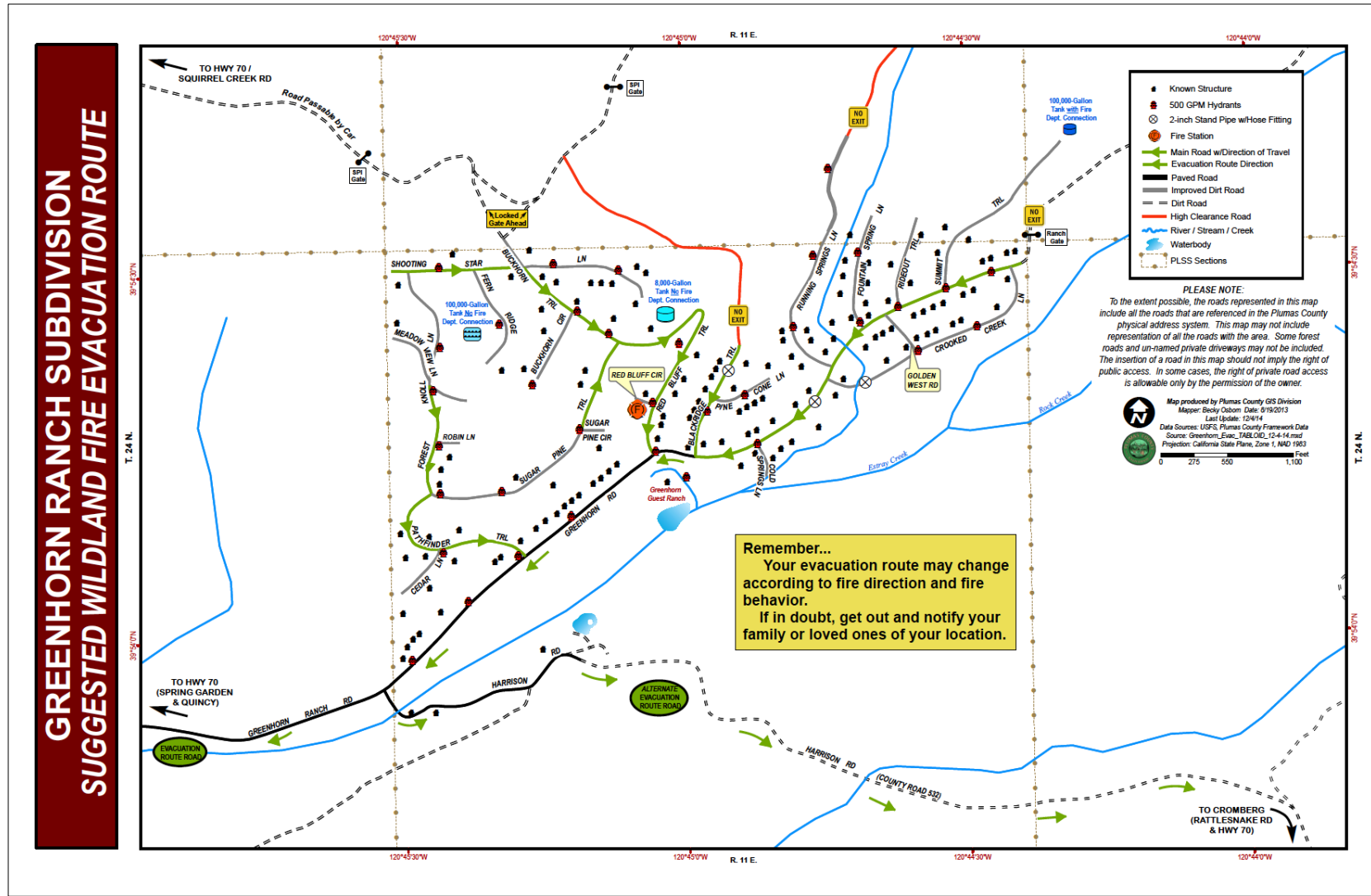
Step 3b – Engage Interested Parties

The parties from our community that have shown interest in forest/fire management or may be interested in this CWPP are:

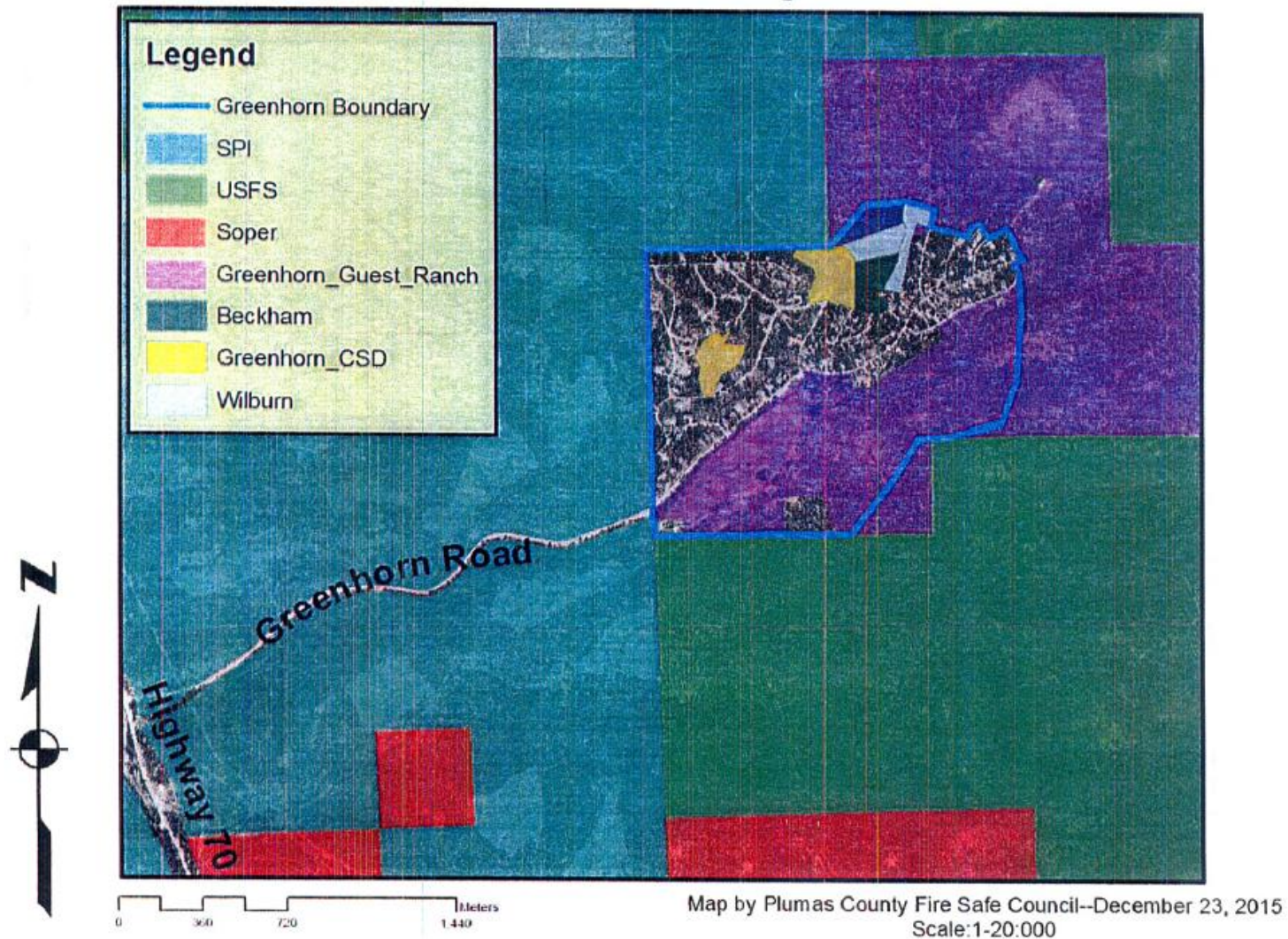
Interested Parties	Date Invited to Participate
Plumas County Fire Safe Council	October 2, 2015
Local Landowners	October 2, 2015
Sierra Pacific Industries, Soper-Wheeler	October 2, 2015
Greenhorn Guest Ranch	October 2, 2015

Step 4 – Establish a Community Base Map

Attached is a base map of the community and adjacent landscapes of interest.



Property ownership within and adjacent to Greenhorn



Step 5a – Develop a Community Risk Assessment

As designated on the base map, the following table lists the associated wildfire risk, as viewed by this (these) community(s).

Community, structure or area at risk	Fuel Hazard	Risk of Wildfire	Structural Ignitability	Firefighting Accessibility	Overall Risk
Right of ways along roads and utility lines in the community are in need of thinning	Moderate to High	High	High	Moderate	High
Dead trees exist throughout the community are in need of removal	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Fuels reduction work needs to take place throughout the community	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Forested lands surrounding the community pose a threat to the Greenhorn	Variable	High	High	Moderate	High
Thinning should occur along existing recreational trails in order to make them more effective fire breaks	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Site of community burn pile is in need of improvement in order to be safe	High	High	High	Moderate	High
Burning in the Greenhorn area is both hazardous and is also limited by air quality restrictions	High	High	High	Moderate	High

Step 5b – Develop the overall community priority

The priority rating reflects the overall risk and the community values.

Community, structure or area at risk	Overall Risk	Community Value	Overall Priority
Community burn pile improvements	High	High	1
Clearance of fuels along the right of way along all roads in the community	High	High	2
Undeveloped lands within and surrounding the community are in need of treatment to reduce hazardous fuels	High	High	3
Undeveloped lots within the community are in need of fuel reduction	High	High	4
Developed lots in the community that have been identified as problem areas need to be treated	High	High	5
Thinning along existing dirt roads and trails around the community	Moderate	High	6
Air quality regulations are impacting the ability of residents to burn forest fuels	Moderate	High	7

Step 5c—Define treatment methods

Priority #	Project	Type of Treatment	Method of Treatment	Funding
1	Community burn pile improvements	Removal of merchantable timber, grading, purchase of concrete barriers, cleanup of ground fuels near burn area, improvements to access road; purchase grapple to build and maintain pile	Hire RPF to develop plan to remove and sell timber; hire LTO to remove logs; grading, site prep, clean up, road repairs	Sale of merchantable timber, Greenhorn CSD funds, NSAQMD grant, seek grant funds to hire contractors or LACC Maintenance staff
2	Clearance of fuels along the right of way along all roads in the community	Thinning from below, burning or chipping of greenwaste generated from this work	Hire a crew to implement the work	Greenhorn CSD funds, seek grant funds, partner with Plumas County Department of Public Works
3	Undeveloped lands within and surrounding the community are in need of treatment to reduce hazardous fuels	Thinning from below, burning or chipping of greenwaste generated from this work	Hire a crew to implement the work	Greenhorn CSD funds, seek grant funds, landowners pay for treatment; seek grant funds
4	Undeveloped lots within the community are in need of fuel reduction	Thinning from below, burning or chipping of greenwaste generated from this work	Hire a crew to implement the work	Greenhorn CSD funds, seek grant funds, landowners pay for treatment; seek grant funds
5	Developed lots in the community that have been identified as problem areas need to be treated	Thinning from below, burning or chipping of greenwaste generated from this work	Hire a crew to implement the work	Greenhorn CSD funds, seek grant funds, landowners pay for treatment; seek grant funds

6	Thinning along existing dirt roads and trails around the community	Thinning from below, burning or chipping of greenwaste generated from this work	Hire a crew to implement the work	Greenhorn CSD funds, seek grant funds, landowners pay for treatment; seek grant funds
7	Work with the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District to modify regulations regarding the burning of forest fuels	Communication with the NSAQMD to identify the best way to modify burn day restrictions	Collaboration	N/A

Step 6a- Community hazard Reduction Priorities

Based on the results of the community risk assessment, priority ratings have been developed for the following areas within the project area. The community recommendations for the type and method of treatment for the surrounding vegetation are listed below:

1. Improve the community burn pile.
 - a. Hire a Registered Professional Forester to apply for a <3 Acre exemption in order to remove merchantable timber from the footprint of the burn pile area.
 - b. Utilize funds generated from the sale of the timber to have a contractor level the site, repair the access road for improved drainage and purchase temporary concrete barriers to define the footprint of the burn area.
 - c. Invest in a grapple in order to better manage and build the burn pile before ignition in order to remove dirt and nonflammable materials.
 - d. Greenhorn CSD should contact CAL FIRE regarding the use of the Antelope Camp work crews to help with the hand work associated with this project.
2. Road right of ways throughout the community are in need of thinning
 - a. Thinning and chipping of materials along all roads in the community will help to reduce the threat of human caused wildfires in Greenhorn.
 - b. CAL TRANS should be contacted regarding thinning of lands along State Route 70.

- c. Plumas County Department of Public Works should be contacted regarding thinning along all County roads near the community.
 - d. Funds should be pursued to pay contractors to implement this work.
 - e. Greenhorn CSD should contact CAL FIRE regarding the use of the Antelope Camp work crews to help with this work.
- 3. Thinning of forest fuels on lands within and surrounding the community
 - a. Thinning should occur on lands owned by the Greenhorn CSD, Greenhorn Guest Ranch, larger private parcels (see map on page 6).
 - b. Greenhorn CSD should contact CAL FIRE regarding the use of the Antelope Camp work crews to help with this work.
 - c. Many of the private industrial timber lands near the community have had recent fuel reduction projects.
 - i. Work with all private landowners to aid and encourage that their lands that adjoin the Greenhorn community are thinned and maintained in a fire safe condition
 - d. Work with the Plumas Firesafe Council to secure grant funds to maintain and expand fuel breaks around Greenhorn.
 - i. For example, mastication of the existing fuel break area above Greenhorn Ranch road, extending north along the section line (chipping / mastication), and possible mastication in previously thinned areas along the north line.
 - e. Public lands managed by the United States Forest Service near Greenhorn are in need of fuel reduction, especially those lands south of Greenhorn.
 - i. The community should work with local USFS staff to push for fuel reduction work on those lands.
- 4. Fuel reduction work should occur on undeveloped lots within the community.
 - a. Landowners should be contacted and urged to thin forest fuels on their properties. If landowners are unwilling to do the work or hire contractors to do the work, then the Greenhorn CSD should hire contractors and send the landowners a bill for services.
 - b. Greenhorn CSD should contact CAL FIRE regarding the use of the Antelope Camp work crews to help with this work.
- 5. Fuel reduction work should occur on private lands that have been developed within the Greenhorn Community.

- a. Landowners should be contacted and urged to thin forest fuels on their properties. If landowners are unwilling to do the work or hire contractors to do the work, then the Greenhorn CSD should hire contractors and send the landowners a bill for services.
 - b. Landowners that cannot do the work could contact the Plumas County Fire Safe Council to request assistance.
6. Fuel reduction work should occur along existing dirt roads and trails around the community.
 - a. Landowners should be contacted and encouraged to develop plans to implement forest thinning along existing routes.
 - b. Greenhorn CSD should contact CAL FIRE regarding the use of the Antelope Camp work crews to help with this work.
 - c. Funds could be secured for this work, the Plumas County Fire Safe Council and the Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship group may be engaged to assist with fund raising associated with these activities.
7. Greenhorn CSD should work with the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District (NSAQMD) to identify ways to navigate burn restrictions in order to help residents know more about burning techniques that reduce smoke and also reduce the threat of escaped burn piles causing large fires within the community.

Step 6b – Recommendations to Reduce Structure Ignitability

Individuals and the community can reduce structural ignitability throughout the community by taking the following measures:

Remove grass and forest litter within 30 feet of structures that have combustible siding, decking, ornamental lattice and ornamental vegetation

Maintain a reduced fuel zone 30-100 feet from structures

Refrain from storing firewood immediately adjacent to structures, on porches or under decks during the fire season

Maintain roofs and gutters in such a way that reduces the accumulation of forest litter

Remove flammable ornamental vegetation adjacent to structures

Modify wooden fences so that there is a nonflammable section between the house and the fence

Screen vents and under decks with 1/8 inch steel screen in order to keep embers from blowing into the structure and igniting it from within

Reduce lumber piles, debris piles on the property

Maintain bare mineral soil around propane tanks

Protect propane tanks and regulators from falling debris and snow

Refer to California Public Resources Code 4291 for laws and requirements to maintain “Defensible Space” around structures.

Enforce the Greenhorn CSD Ordinance No. 90-736 “An ordinance of the Greenhorn Community Services District requiring a fire fuel clear zone of 100 feet around all structures”

Step 7 – Develop an Action Plan and assessment Strategy

Federal agencies and private landowners of the vegetation surrounding the Greenhorn community were invited to submit projects that provide protection and reduce risk. The following table displays a list of projects submitted and the community recommendations. (The community may also consider and add projects of its own development.)

Area at risk	Project	Agency/ Landowner	Funding Needs	Time Table	Community Recommendation
West side and North side of Greenhorn	Forest thinning with mastication of previously thinned stands	SPI	Yes, \$1000 + per acre	2016-2018	Work with Plumas County Fire Safe Council and property owners to develop a plan and apply for grant funds

South and east of Greenhorn	Forest Thinning	USFS	Yes	2017-2020	Work with the Mt, Hough Ranger District staff to develop a project in this area
Community burn pile relocation	Forest thinning, grading, road repairs, infrastructure improvements	Greenhorn CSD	Yes	2016-2018	Work with the Plumas County Fire Safe Council and the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District to seek funds to complete this project
Roadside thinning	Forest thinning	CAL TRANS	Yes	2017-2020	Work with the Plumas Fire Safe Council to secure funds to perform this work. Consider working with the California Conservation Corps and the CAL FIRE Antelope Camp work crew to reduce cost per treated acre
Roadside thinning	Forest thinning	Plumas County	Yes	2016-2018	See above
Roadside thinning	Forest thinning	Greenhorn CSD	Yes	2016-2020	See Above
Thinning along existing road and recreation trails	Forest thinning	Variety of ownerships	Yes	2016-2020	See above

The Greenhorn Firewise Group intends to assess the progress annually and invite Agencies and landowners to submit projects that provide community protection. Additional projects will be displayed in an update appendix to this plan.

Step 8 – Finalize the Community Wildfire Protection Plan

The Greenhorn Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

- Was collaboratively developed. Interested parties, land owners, land managers and others in the vicinity of the Greenhorn community have been consulted.
- Identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment that will protect the Greenhorn community.
- Recommends measures to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

The following entities mutually agree with the contents of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

Entity:

Greenhorn CSD

Greenhorn Fire Department

Natural Resource Conservation Service

Plumas County Fire Safe Council

Plumas County Office of Emergency Services

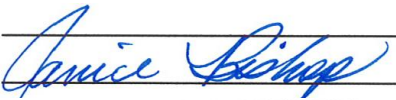
Sierra Pacific Industries


Soper-Wheeler


Cal Fire

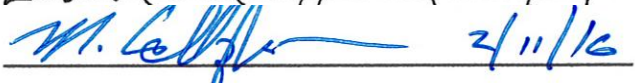
Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District


Approved by:










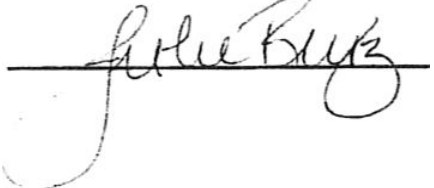












Don Gordon, Unit Chief

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)