

Plumas County Fire Safe Council



Hazardous Fuel Reduction Treatment Specifications

The primary specifications to meet hazardous forest fuel reduction goals are as follows:

1. Protect hardwoods; retain Black Oak as a priority protection species. Prioritize other species respectively: Sugar Pine, Ponderosa Pine, Douglas Fir, Incense Cedar, Jeffrey Pine, other firs and conifers such as Juniper.
2. Primarily cut ladder fuels in the form of brush, limbs, and understory growth up to 10 inches in diameter (DBH) and removal of 90% of surface fuels within 5 feet over overstory conifer dripline. Vegetation will be altered to provide at least 8 feet from the top of the surface fuel to the bottom of the live crown of adjacent conifers. A general horizontal and vertical discontinuity of fuels will be created through implementation of this prescription.
3. Dead and dying trees or suppressed, weakened trees can be removed up to 16 inches DBH.
4. Mastication on slopes under 45% grade and on soils that are suited to mechanical equipment operations.
5. Hand cut with saws will on steep or inaccessible sites. Material that is hand cut is then either chipped and left on site, or piled into burn piles no more than four by four feet area.
6. Retain trees and vegetation that are valuable, special, or important to the landowner *and* that do not pose a fire safety threat.