Placer County Chipper Program

Foresthill Forum
November 1, 2010

Good Dirt. Clean Water.

Rick Gruen, District Manager
Placer County RCD
www.placercountyrcd.org
The “LESSON”

“THE UNDERSTANDING OF A PROBLEM IS DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL TO YOUR DISTANCE FROM IT”
As the “Switzerland” of agencies, PCRCD plays a crucial role in local communities and with local landowners:

- Bridging the knowledge gap between the landowner and the regulating agencies
- Providing local solutions to local resource concerns
  - Technical assistance
  - Access to grant funding
  - Partnerships
INCENTIVES vs. REGULATIONS

“The Scale of Implementation”

The “ISSUES”

• 4291 – Defensible Space
• Air Quality Abatement
Chipper Program to meet National Fire Plan, CWPP and local community priorities

- Local resources
  - Grant funding
  - Partnership expertise
  - County inmates
  - PCRCDD program admin

- Sustainability?
  - Landowner cost-share
  - Changes IN behavior
  - Changes ON the land
The “PEOPLE”

- Chipper Program Partners
  - PC RCD
  - Placer County (BOS/OES)
  - PC Sheriff Dept.
  - PC APCD
  - CalFIRE
- PC Fire Safe Alliance
- Local FSCs
- Local Landowners
- Local High Schools
Placer County Chipper Program Goals and Objectives

Cornerstone Fuel Reduction and Air Quality Program:

• Focus on helping landowners achieve 4291 compliance for defensible space

• Provide incentives for fuel reduction activities and alternatives to burning

• Lessen fire suppression costs through fuel reduction activities in the WUI
  ➢ Support to SFB projects

• Outreach to communities and LOs

• Engage youth through active participation, hands-on learning
The “Work”

- Direct with individual landowners
- Coordinate efforts with neighbors and NA’s
- Partner with agencies and orgs. on high priority fuel reduction projects identified in CWPP

SFBs/At-Risk WUI areas:
- Alta/Dutch Flat
- Applegate
- Foresthill
- American River Canyon
- Tahoe Basin
- I-80 fuel break project
# Chipper Program Stats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th># of Parcels/Residences</th>
<th>Tonnage Chipped</th>
<th>Project Tonnage</th>
<th>Chipper Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>2,753</td>
<td>4,195</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010*</td>
<td>2,868</td>
<td>4,262</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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<td>PROGRAM TO DATE</td>
<td>57,085</td>
<td>108,440</td>
<td>2,036</td>
<td>28,680</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**COST-SHARE PROGRAM (Beginning Aug.2, 2010)**
- No. of LO's – 282
- CS's Invoiced - $12,380
- No. of Waivers – 31
- Value of Waivers - $1,060
- Donations Recv’d. - $ 1,407

**Other Facts:**
- Increased time/service
- Increased neighbor activity
Identify/target Chipper Program services in “At-Risk” WUI communities

• Increased Chipper Program service calls from Foresthill area

• Active interest from Foresthill High School to be engaged in forest health issues

• Title II Proposal
Problem Solved?
Contact us: Placer County Resource Conservation District

Special Thanks To:
- PC BOS
- PC OES
- PC Sheriff Dept.
- APCD
- Placer County Fire
- CalFIRE

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