



**County Fire Department
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KUYLER CROCKER
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four

MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: October 30, 2018 - REVISED

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
County Counsel Sign-Off	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>

CONTACT PERSON: Steven Murch, ASO PHONE: 559-802-9800

SUBJECT: Approve Five agreements with CalFire California Climate Investment Grants to Fund Tree Mortality Fuel Reduction Efforts

REQUEST(S):
That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve an agreement with CalFire California Climate Investment Grant No. 5GG17234 for the Camp Nelson Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project in the amount \$523,145 effective October 30, 2018 through November 30, 2021; and
2. Approve an agreement with CalFire California Climate Investment Grant No. 5GG17235 for the Silver City Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project in the amount \$200,019 effective October 30, 2018 through August 31, 2020; and
3. Approve an agreement with CalFire California Climate Investment Grant No. 5GG17236 for the Hartland Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project in the amount \$198,290 effective October 30, 2018 through November 30, 2021; and
4. Approve an agreement with CalFire California Climate Investment Grant No. 5GG17237 for the Posey Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project in the amount \$248,314 effective October 30, 2018 through November 19, 2020; and
5. Approve an agreement with CalFire California Climate Investment Grant No.

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5GG17238 for the South Fork Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project in the amount \$190,466 effective October 30, 2018 through July 30, 2020; and

6. Authorize the Fire Chief, or his designee, to sign any related fund reimbursement requests, grant certifications and the required quarterly progress reports as authorized under the terms of the grant agreement; and
7. Authorize the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to sign three (3) copies of each grant agreement; and
8. Approve a Categorical Exemption for each project consistent with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Title 14 California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 15269(c) and 15301 Existing Facilities (c); and
9. Find there is no substantial evidence that proposed activity will have a significant effect on the environment. Determine the proposed projects are excluded or exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) on the grounds that the projects are consistent with the following: CEQA Title 14 CCR, Public Resources Code Sections 21080, subdivision (b) (4) (Emergency), State CEQA Guidelines Section 15269, subdivision (c) (Emergency), and Section 15301 Class 1, Existing Facilities (c), and
10. Direct the Environmental Assessment Officer of the Tulare County Resource Management Agency, or their designee, to file a Notice of Exemption with the Tulare County Clerk; and
11. Approve a one-time General Fund Transfer to the Fire Fund in Fiscal Year 2019/20 in the amount of \$55,000 for project related Personal Protective Equipment, Tools, and Equipment; and
12. Approve a one-time General Fund Transfer to the Fire Fund in Fiscal Year 2020/21 in the amount of \$55,000 for project related Personal Protective Equipment, Tools, and Equipment; and
13. Approve a one-time General Fund Transfer to the Fire Fund in Fiscal Year 2021/22 in the amount of \$55,000 for project related Personal Protective Equipment, Tools, and Equipment.

SUMMARY:

Tulare County Fire is requesting the Board accept five California Climate Change Investment Forestry Health grants to fund Tree Mortality related fuel reduction efforts totaling \$1,360,234. These fuel reductions will result in community defense zones and hazard tree removal in the communities of South Fork, Posey, Hartland, Silver City and Camp Nelson. The Board authorized Tulare County Fire to apply for these funds through Resolution No. 2018-0440 on June 5, 2018.

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The projects will meet the public purposes of: (1) preventing wildfires and the reducing the severity and the dangers created by wildfires in high tree mortality areas by fuel reduction, enlargement of defensible spaces, and the creation of fire breaks and community defense zones; (2) promoting public safety by protecting evacuation routes from areas with high tree mortality; and (3) addressing climate change by reducing emissions from wildfires.

California Climate Investment funds are administered by Calfire through the Forest Health Fire Prevention program, and contribute to California's climate goals by reducing emissions from wildfires, stabilizing long-term storage of carbon in biomass, and improving carbon sequestration in California's natural and working forests.

Project Summary

Project Area	Project Cost	Project Timeline
Camp Nelson 5GG17234	\$523,145	04/31/21-11/30/21
Silver City 5GG17235	\$200,019	07/01/20-08/31/20
Hartland 5GG17236	\$198,290	08/16/21-11/30/21
Posey 5GG17237	\$248,314	09/01/20-11/19/20
South Fork 5GG17238	\$190,466	04/27/20-07/30/20

Camp Nelson Fuels Reduction Project

This project will reduce vegetation and fuel materials within 425 acres surrounding the community of Camp Nelson. The reduction of available fuel surrounding Camp Nelson will secure a vital evacuation route for the community and several surrounding communities, including Alpine Village, Sequoia Crest, Cedar Slope and Ponderosa. Fuel reduction will increase roadside safety, improve the defensible space for residential structures, and reduce the risk of wildland fire spreading into the wildland/urban interface.

Silver City Fuels Reduction Project

This project will reduce vegetation and fuel materials within 175 acres surrounding the community of Silver City. In addition to increased roadside safety through fuel reduction, the defensible space will be increased for more than 2,300 at-risk households in Silver City. Fuel reduction surrounding Silver City will secure a vital evacuation route for the community. Fuel reduction will also reduce the possible spread of wildland fire into the wildland/urban interface.

Hartland Fuels Reduction Project

This project will reduce vegetation and fuel materials within 167 acres surrounding the Tulare County portion of the Hartland area. Fuel reduction surrounding Hartland will secure the only ingress and egress route for the area. Fuel reduction from this project will also reduce the spread of wildland fire from the vegetation into the wildland/urban interface. This area consists of trails, campsites, recreational

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facilities and disbursed residential structures.

Posey Fuels Reduction Project

This project will reduce vegetation and fuel materials located within 111 acres surrounding the Posey Christian Camp area of Tulare County that serves a large population of children. Fuel reduction will secure a vital evacuation route for the community and several surrounding communities, including Panorama Heights, Poso Park, Sugarloaf Village, and Sugarloaf Mountain Village. Fuel reduction from this project will increase roadside safety, as well as create a temporary area of refuge for residents unable to evacuate from fast moving wildland fires. The overriding goal of this project is to reduce the spread of wildland fire from the vegetation into the wildland/urban interface.

South Fork Fuel Reduction

This project will reduce vegetation and fuel materials located within 113 acres along South Fork Drive, from the community of Three Rivers to the intersect with Lower Grouse Valley Road. Fuel reduction along South Fork Drive will increase roadside safety, as well as help secure the only evacuation route for more than 2,000 residents evacuating from fast moving wild-land fires. The overriding goal is to reduce the spread of wildland fire from the South Fork area into the wildland/urban interface, and vice versa. The majority of this proposed project is located in a high fire severity zone with portions of the project are located in a very high fire severity zone. The evacuation route addressed in this project is identified in the Tulare County Community Evacuation Plan as the only route of travel for inhabited structures in the area.

PROJECT TIMELINES

Following the grant guidelines, TC Fire planned its project timelines so CCI-related activities would begin no sooner than July 1, 2019, but the CalFire funding agreements the Board is being asked to adopt today authorize expenditures to begin upon approval. TC Fire will bring back a modified work schedule of proposed activities to the Board for approval with an appropriate budget request to be included at Mid-year.

All CCI activities must be concluded no later than March 15, 2022. The last day to seek submit final billings and seek reimbursement from CalFire for grant-related activities is April 15, 2022. If that occurs, TC Fire will return to the Board for direction on how to begin grant funded activities at an earlier date.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

CCI grants have no match requirements. Because these grants are funded through a reimbursement process, it is anticipated grant administration will require cash flow from the General Fund. The department intends to seek regular periodic reimbursement to facilitate cash flow during project activities, if allowable. All grant expenditures and revenues are projected to be incurred in Fiscal Years 2019/20,

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2020/21 and 2021/22 budgets and will be included in those budgets accordingly. This grant will be actively managed to reduce any net County cost. The Department shall include in its proposed budgets as follows; Fiscal Year(s) 2019/20 an amount not to exceed \$289,934, Fiscal Year 2020/21 an amount not to exceed \$608,335, and in Fiscal Year 2021/22 an amount not to exceed \$626,965.

In Fiscal Year 2019/20 the Silver City and South Fork projects will incur \$289,934 in anticipated expenditures. In Fiscal Year 2020/2021 the Camp Nelson, Silver City, Posey and South Fork projects will incur \$608,335 in anticipated expenditures. In Fiscal Year 2021/22 the Camp Nelson and Hartland projects will incur \$626,965 in anticipated expenditures. Over the three fiscal years total project costs are anticipated to be \$1,525,234; \$165,000 in General Fund Transfers to the Fire Fund and \$1,360,234 in grant reimbursements.

Fiscal Summary

Project Area	Fiscal Year 19/20	Fiscal Year 20/21	Fiscal Year 21/22	Total
South Fork	\$63,489	\$126,977	-----	\$190,466
Camp Nelson	-----	\$149,470	\$373,675	\$523,145
Silver City	\$171,445	\$28,574	-----	\$200,019
Hartland	-----	-----	\$198,290	\$198,290
Posey	-----	\$248,314	-----	\$248,314
PPE, Tools & Equip	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$165,000
Total	\$289,934	\$608,335	\$626,965	\$1,525,234

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year strategic plan includes the Safety and Security initiative. This action helps provide for the safety and security of the public by reducing hazardous fuels and increasing the protection of public infrastructure in the urban wild land interface.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:



Charlie Norman
Fire Chief

Cc: Auditor-Controller
County Counsel/Risk
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachment(s):

- A – CEQA; Camp Nelson Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- B – CEQA; Silver City Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project

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- C – CEQA; Hartland Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- D – CEQA; Posey Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- E – CEQA; South Fork Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- F – Grant Agreement 5GG17234; Camp Nelson Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- G – Grant Agreement 5GG17235, Silver City Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- H – Grant Agreement 5GG17236, Hartland Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- I – Grant Agreement 5GG17237, Posey Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project
- J – Grant Agreement, South Fork Hazard Fuel and Tree Reduction Project

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE FIVE) Resolution No. _____
AGREEMENTS WITH CALFIRE)
CALIFORNIA CLIMATE INVESTMENT)
GRANTS TO FUND TREE MORTALITY)
FUEL REDUCTION EFFORTS)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JASON T. BRITT
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

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