

SOUTH YUBA RIM HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT PHASE 1

WHAT



The South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project is a landscape-scale initiative on Nevada County's San Juan Ridge, aimed at reducing the risk of

catastrophic wildfires and enhancing forest resilience through strategic fuel reduction activities. Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES), the project will be implemented at no cost to private landowners. The Yuba Watershed Institute is managing the project, with support from the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services.

WHY



The project is a key initiative under the CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Strategic Fire Plan and aligns with the Nevada County Community Wildfire

Protection Plan. By linking this project with previous fuel reduction on surrounding state, federal, and private lands, it provides a strategic, comprehensive approach to reducing wildfire risk. The project's goals are to reduce hazardous fuels to limit wildfire spread, protect communities and essential infrastructure, and enhance the ecological resilience of the area to better withstand and recover from wildfire events.

WHERE



Located along the north rim of the South Yuba River canyon, the project extends 17 miles from South Yuba River State Park at Bridgeport to Malakoff Diggins State Park. The planning area for Phase 1

covers approximately 6,900 acres, including 270 private property parcels. Phase 2 will focus on implementing on-the-ground fuel treatments across 800 acres selected during the planning process.

WHEN



Phase 1, which began in April 2024, is dedicated to planning and securing environmental compliance, with activities scheduled to continue

through June 2025. Phase 2 is anticipated to commence as early as 2026 and will focus on implementing some of the fuel reduction treatments outlined and prepared in Phase 1.

More information available at:

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/SouthYubaRim

What to expect

Phase 1

If you are a landowner within the Phase 1 project planning area you can expect to receive an introductory letter and Right-of-Entry (ROE) form in the mail. This ROE will grant permission for the YWI and its contractors to enter your property and conduct the necessary planning activities, including biological and cultural resource surveys. Interested parties can search their address in an interactive online map to see if it falls within the project area. ReadyNevadaCounty.org/SouthYubaRim

Phase 2

Treatment areas and methods will be chosen for their effectiveness in supporting project goals, based on vegetation types and fuel loading, fire modeling, landscape-level fuel break effectiveness, and community protection priorities. Once Phase 1 is complete, your property may be chosen to receive fuel reduction treatments as part of Phase 2. You will receive a second Right-of-Entry agreement outlining specific fuel treatments prescribed for your property and a request for your approval to have contractors complete on-the-ground work.

Complementary Efforts on Adjacent BLM Lands

In conjunction with the primary South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project on private lands, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy is funding planning for an additional 1,800 acres of fuel reduction treatments on adjacent Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. This extension includes essential botanical, cultural resources, and wildlife surveys to meet the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) before the treatments can proceed. By incorporating these federal lands, the project significantly broadens its scope and effectiveness, enhancing wildfire mitigation efforts. This comprehensive all-lands approach ensures a cohesive strategy across different jurisdictions, thereby bolstering protection for San Juan Ridge and the wider Nevada County area.

South Yuba Rim Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

