

# ***SWIFT*** ***SouthWest InterFace Team***



and the  
***Southwest Interface Project***

**Strategic Wildfire Protection  
in  
Southern Tuolumne and Northern  
Mariposa County, California**

**Program  
of  
Work  
2005 & 2006**



***Working Together and Making  
A Difference***

***February 2005***

***Local Collaboration***



***Fire Defense Systems***



***Pre-Fire Planning***





***SWIFT***  
***The SouthWest InterFace Team***  
**Program of Work**  
**C.Y. 2005 & 2006**  
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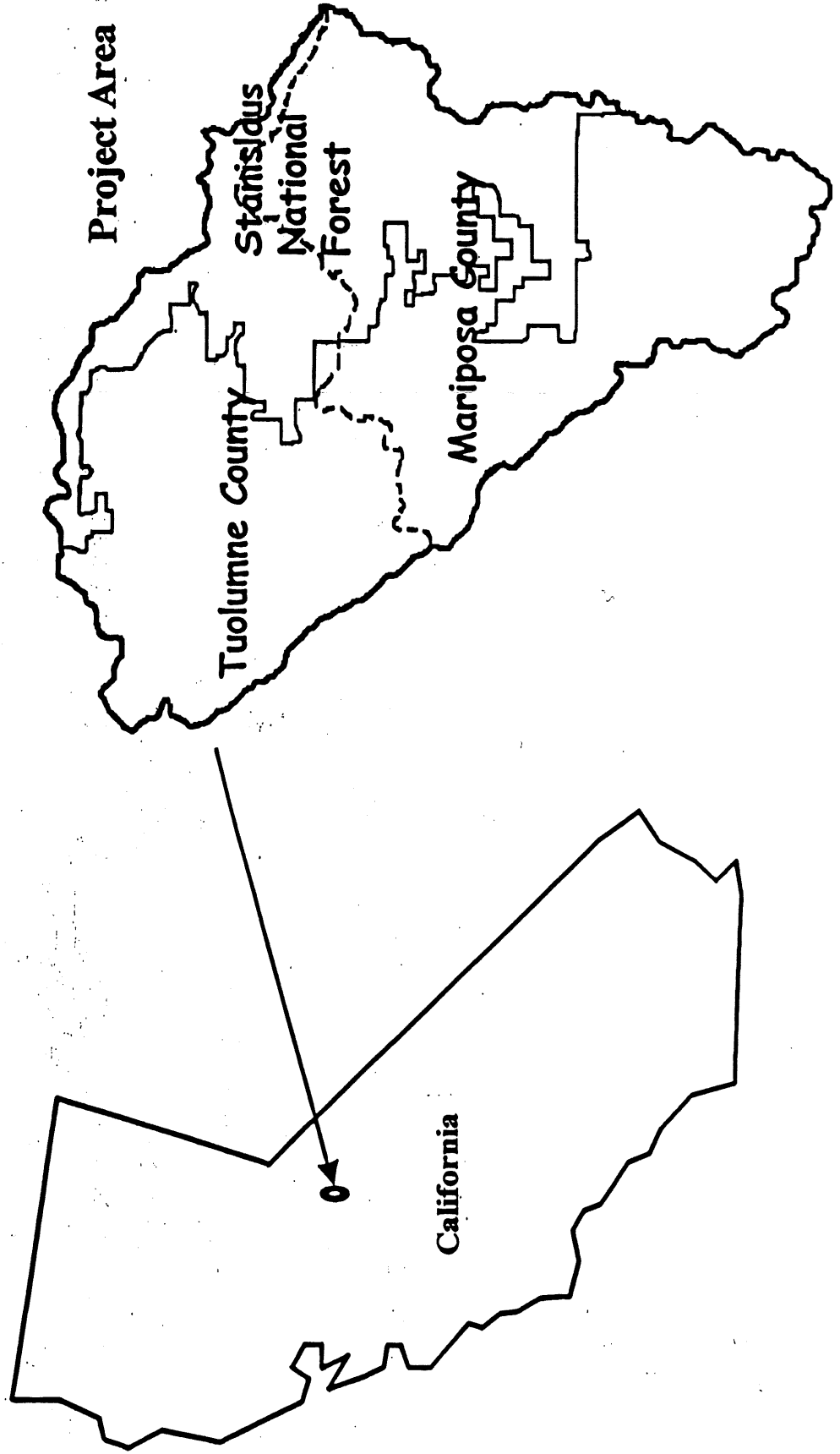
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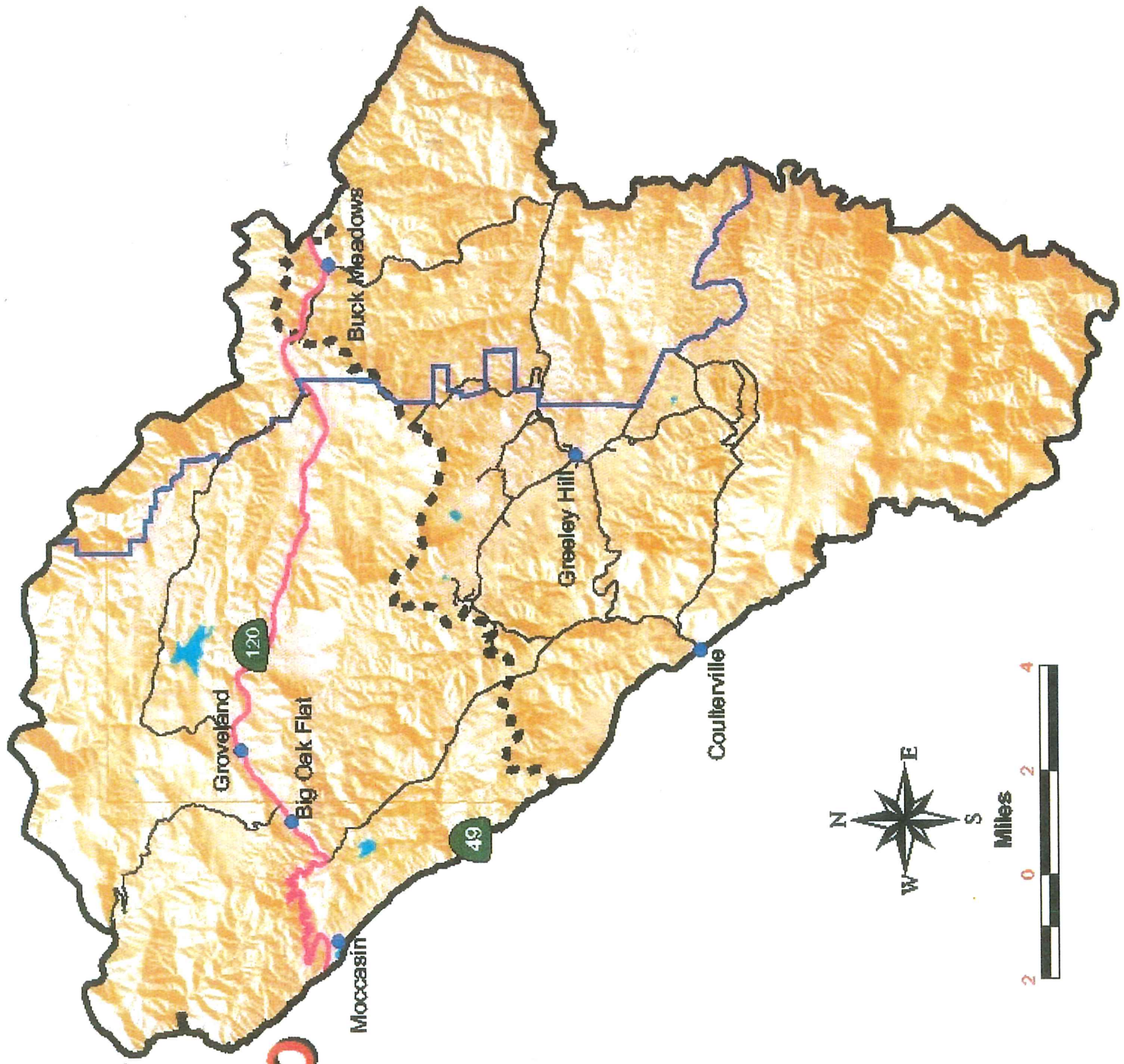
# THE SOUTHWEST INTERFACE PROJECT

## VICINITY MAP





# Southwest Interface Project Map



## Features

- Main Cities
- County Roads
- Protection Boundary
- State Highways
- - - County Line
- Lakes
- Project Boundary



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*For over five years **SWIFT** has worked to provide an aggressive strategic program of wildfire protection to the people, their property, and natural resources in southern Tuolumne and northern Mariposa counties. The SouthWest InterFace Team or **SWIFT** a collaborative partnership initiated in March of 1999 continues to work on it's primary objective within the project area of protecting communities and high value watersheds from catastrophic wildfire. Agency leaders, Boards of Supervisors, Fire Safe Councils, and others continue to provide active participation in the protection effort or ensure that their support is evident. We wish to acknowledge this outstanding support and participation.*

*We also wish to thank those at the Hetch Hetchy Water & Power facility at Moccasin that have hosted our monthly **SWIFT** meetings over a number of years. Special thanks to Maxine Musante for the outstanding refreshments provided at each meeting.*

## **Agencies/Councils/Participants**

**The following is a listing of the agencies and Fire Safe Councils involved in the **SWIFT** effort and the people that are still on the team or participated over past years.**

### **California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection**

#### **Tuolumne/Calaveras Ranger Unit**

Jim Carroll

Steve Hollett

Bill Schultz

Dave Degrendele

Renny LeRoy

Rich Strazzo

Julie Henriques

Mike Noonan

#### **Madera/Mariposa/Merced Ranger Unit**

Allen Columbro

Kevin Lawson

Roscoe Rowney

Bill Hodson

Roger Maybee

Kevin Smith



**United States Department of Agriculture**

**Forest Service – Groveland Ranger District – Stanislaus National Forest**  
Carolyn Higgins                      Allen Johnson                      Nancy Longmore  
Tom James                              Linda Johnstone                      Paul Metcalf

**United States Department of Interior**

**Bureau of Land Management – Folsom Resource Area**  
Ken Hood                              Krisann Kosel                      Tim Mullen

**City and County of San Francisco**

**Hetch Hetchy Water and Power**  
Alexis Halstead                      Kit Perlee

**Mariposa County**

**District II County Supervisor**  
Doug Balmain  
**Mariposa County Fire Department**  
Art Laursen                              Jim Middleton                      Blaine Shultz

**Tuolumne County**

**District IV County Supervisor**  
Mark Thornton  
**County Administrative Analyst**  
Steve Boyack  
**Tuolumne County Fire Department**  
Mike Noonan                              Andy McMurry

**United States Department of Agriculture**

**Central Sierra Resource Conservation & Development**  
Dick McCleery

**Natural Resource Conservation Service**  
Jerry Progner

**Mariposa County Fire Safe Council**

Kimberly Bullock                      Jan Hamilton  
**Greeley Hill Fire Safe Committee**  
Meg Hamre                              Dawn Leitzell

**Yosemite Foothills Fire Safe Council**

Deborah DeGrendele                      Nancy Longmore



**University of California – Agriculture & Natural Resources**  
**Cooperative Extension – Tuolumne County**  
**Jay Norton**



# *SWIFT*

*SouthWest InterFace Team*



## *The Collaborative Effort*



## *Making Decisions*





## *Working Together*



## *Commitment-Dedication-Teamwork-Leadership*





# Southwest Interface Project

Past and Planned

## *Activities and Accomplishments*

1999 to 2006

**SWIFT** was formed in March of 1999. The following charts identify field activities and accomplishments using program of work timeframes for years 1999 through 2002, 2003 through 2004, and the 2005 through 2006 planned program of work.

### PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program of Work 1999 to 2002

| Treatment or Activity                                                                            | Acres or Miles Treated                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Fuelbreak Construction or Maintenance                                                            | 27 miles                               |
| Primary Road System Hazard Reduction                                                             | 5                                      |
| Mechanical Shredding                                                                             | 5,497 acres                            |
| Prescribed Burning                                                                               | 3,865 acres                            |
| Miscellaneous Treatments (Animal Grazing, Pile to Burn, Hand Clearing, Thinning & Pruning, etc.) | 1,700 acres                            |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                     | <b>32 miles</b><br><b>11,062 acres</b> |

### PAST ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Program of Work 2003 and 2004

| Treatment or Activity                                                                            | Acres or Miles Treated                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Fuelbreak Construction or Maintenance                                                            | 9 miles                               |
| Primary Road System Hazard Reduction                                                             | 9 miles                               |
| Mechanical Shredding                                                                             | 1,214 acres                           |
| Prescribed Burning                                                                               | 102 acres                             |
| Miscellaneous Treatments (Animal Grazing, Pile to Burn, Hand Clearing, Thinning & Pruning, etc.) | 138 acres                             |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                     | <b>18 miles</b><br><b>1,454 acres</b> |



## PLANNED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Program of Work 2005 and 2006

| Treatment or Activity                                                                            | Acres or Miles to Treat         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Fuelbreak Construction or Maintenance                                                            | 17 miles – 850 acres            |
| Fuelbreak Review                                                                                 | 13 miles                        |
| Primary Road System Hazard Reduction                                                             | 3                               |
| Mechanical Shredding                                                                             | 850 acres                       |
| Prescribed Burning                                                                               | 2,800 acres                     |
| Miscellaneous Treatments (Animal Grazing, Pile to Burn, Hand Clearing, Thinning & Pruning, etc.) | 250 acres                       |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                     | <b>20 miles<br/>3,900 acres</b> |

## PROGRAM OF WORK SUMMARY

### 1999 through 2006

| Treatment/Activity | Acres or Miles to Treat          |                                 |                                 |                                  |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|                    | Past<br>1999-2002                | Past<br>2003-2004               | Planned<br>2005-2006            | Total                            |
| Fuelbreaks         | 27 miles                         | 9 miles                         | 17 miles                        | 53 miles                         |
| Road Systems       | 5                                | 9 miles                         | 3                               | 17 miles                         |
| Shredding          | 5,497 acres                      | 1,214 acres                     | 850 acres                       | 7,561 acres                      |
| Burning            | 3,865 acres                      | 102 acres                       | 2,800 acres                     | 6,767 acres                      |
| Miscellaneous      | 1,700 acres                      | 138 acres                       | 250 acres                       | 2,088 acres                      |
| <b>Totals</b>      | <b>32 miles<br/>11,062 acres</b> | <b>18 miles<br/>1,454 acres</b> | <b>20 miles<br/>3,900 acres</b> | <b>70 miles<br/>16,416 acres</b> |

Utilizing both past and planned treatment figures the average annual treatment acres is around 2,052 acres per year over the eight year period. Based on a project area of 132,000 acres only about 2% percent of the area is treated on an annual basis. The important consideration is that treatment is being conducted on fire defense systems identified as “strategic” with regard to the protection of communities and watersheds. Just under 10% percent of the area has been treated during over the last 5 year period.

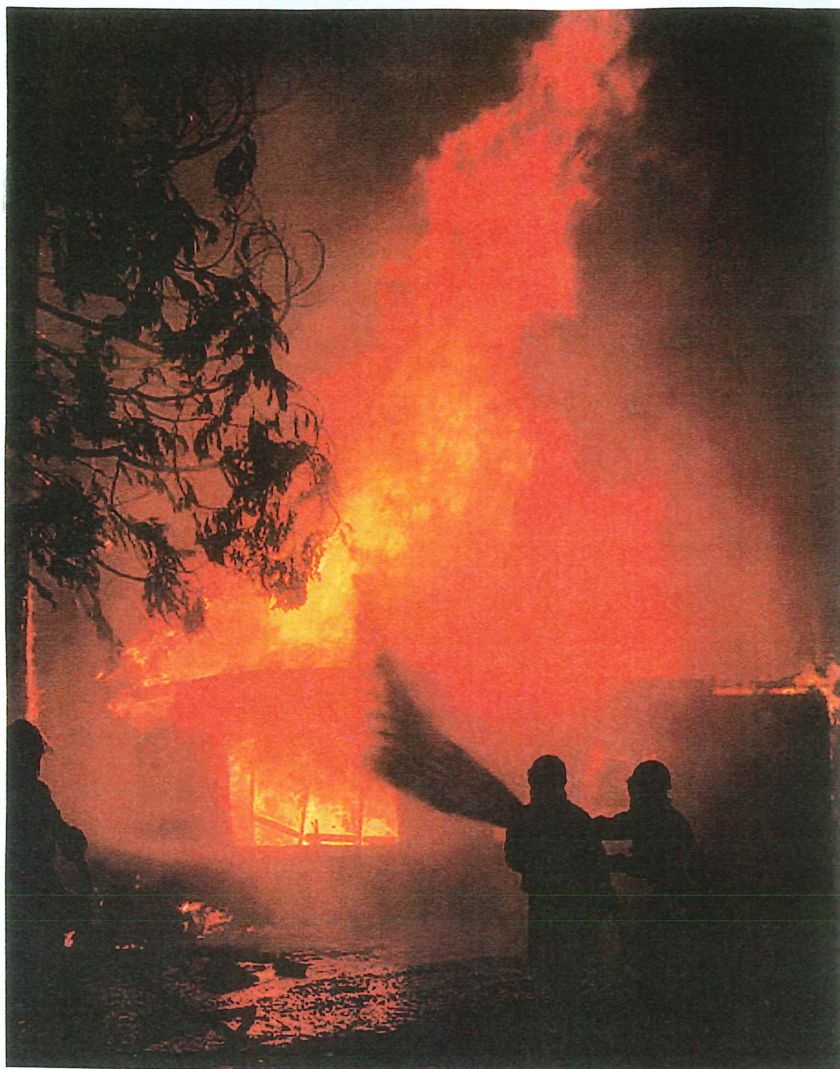


# *Strategic Fire Protection*

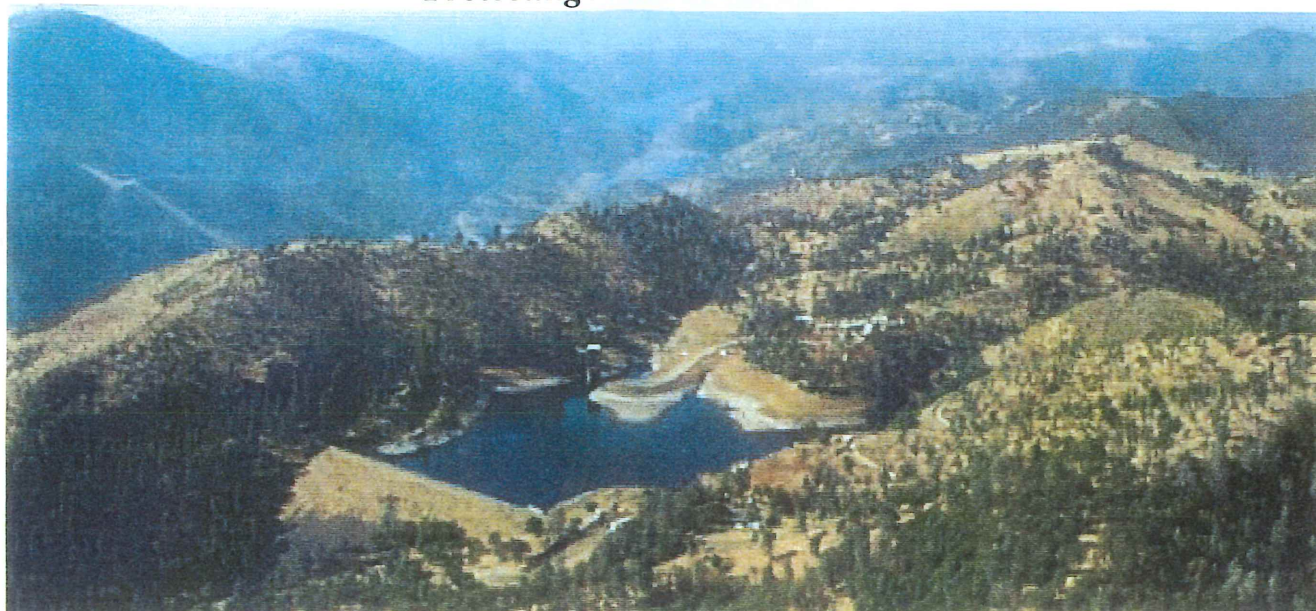
*Protecting Life & Property*

## **Community and Watershed *PROTECTION***

*Cooperatively planning and implementing a strategic fire defense system designed to reduce the threat of loss to life, property, and resources in southern Tuolumne and northern Mariposa County.*



*Protecting Natural Resources*





# Southwest Interface Project and *Strategic Fire Protection*

There are two key elements utilized by *SWIFT* that allow wildfire protection planning and implementation activities in the project area to be identified as “**strategic**”. **Strategic Fire Defense Systems and Pre-Fire Planning** actions are based on team identification of the best way to protect communities and watersheds under today’s environmental, economic, political, and social constraints and regulations. Dollars and actions are directed strategically at the highest priority areas.

## STRATEGIC FIRE DEFENSE SYSTEMS

- **Fuel Breaks (Can be considered a direct or indirect treatment and generally identified as “shaded”) Requires appropriate support infrastructure such as helispots, water sources, staging areas, etc. and requires long term maintenance.**

**Ponderosa Fuel Break**



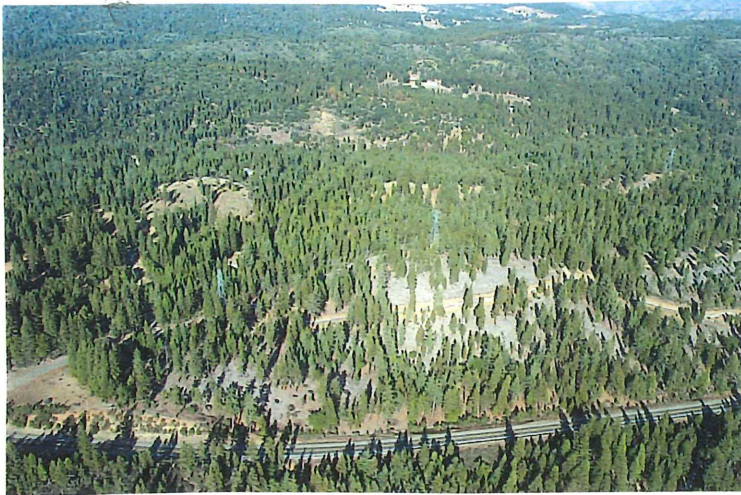
**Wagner Fuel Break**





- **Road Corridor Hazard Reduction (Can also be a direct or indirect treatment)**  
Used to provide safe access for both the public and fire suppression resources, and a means of providing a safe and effective fire control opportunity.

**Highway 120**



- **Area Hazard Reduction Treatments (Can be direct or indirect treatment)**  
Prescribed burning, mechanical shredding, animal grazing, and a number of other treatment measures that may or may not be directly associated with the two previous treatments are also utilized.

**Priest Reservoir Hazard Reduction**



**Coulterville VMP  
Prescribed Burn**





- Private Land Defensible Space (Generally direct treatment) Initiated by the land owner or through various support grant opportunities. State law requires certain compliance. Fire Safe Councils are key to success in some areas.

**Creek Fire of 2001 on Wagner Ridge**



## **PRE-FIRE PLANNING**

- Planning Overview  
**SWIFT** is gathering data consistent with the teams identification of pertinent information required to develop and maintain a long term pre-fire plan. Data collection both from the field and under an office setting continues with added emphasis utilizing various types of new innovative mapping software from a number of companies. Use of GIS software, palm pilots, GPS, and high tech aerial photography are key to development of the product the team seeks. The following listing indicates information the team has identified as critical to have in the plan:

### **Initial Attack Component**

Water Sources  
 Helispots  
 Staging Areas  
 Safety Zones  
 Road Systems

### **Extended Attack Component**

Structures  
 Fuel Types  
 Area Hazards  
 Jurisdictions

### **Major Incident Component**

Special Management Zones  
 Incident Support Facilities  
 Fire History

### **Infrastructure Component**

Emergency Support Facilities  
 Fire Stations/Fire Defense Systems

### **Public Safety Component**

Evacuation Routes  
 Evacuation Sites



*The*  
*Southwest Interface Project*  
*Coordinated*  
**Program of Work**  
**C.Y. 2005 & 2006**

**Project Summary**

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**Strategic Fire Defense Systems**

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***Fuel Breaks:***

- ***Ponderosa Fuel Break***
- ***Rim Truck Trail Fuel Break***
- ***Wagner Fuel Break***
- ***Long Term Maintenance Plan***
- ***Infrastructure Support***

***Road Systems:***

- ***Highway 120***
- ***Highway 49***
- ***Priest-Coulterville Road***
- ***J-132 Smith Station Road***
- ***Ferretti Road***
- ***Greeley Hill Road***
- ***Moore Creek Road***

***Hazard Reduction Treatment Areas:***

- ***Coulterville VMP***
- ***Greeley Hill VMP***
- ***Priest Reservoir***
- ***Creek Fire Restoration***
- ***Hetchy-Anker VMP***
- ***Pine Mountain Lake Project***
- ***Hetch-Hetchy Water & Power Transmission Lines***



### ***Defensible Space & Fire Safe Councils:***

- ***Mariposa County (Greeley Hill FSC Committee) Activities***
- ***Tuolumne County (Yosemite Foothills FSC) Activities***
- ***Public Meetings and Contacts***
- ***Hells Hollow Wildfire Protection Plan***

## **Pre-Fire Planning Activities**

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### ***Initial & Extended Attack – 1<sup>st</sup> Layer:***

- ***Road Systems***
- ***Structure Locations***
- ***Evacuation Routes***
- ***Safety Zones (Certified)***
- ***Area Hazards***

### ***Major Incident & Infrastructure – 2<sup>nd</sup> Layer:***

- ***Staging Areas***
- ***Helispots/Heliports***
- ***Water Sources***
- ***Jurisdictions/Ownerships***
- ***Incident Support Facilities***
- ***Fire Stations/Fire Defense Systems***
- ***Fuel Types***
- ***Special Management Zones***
- ***Fire history***

### ***Public Safety – 3<sup>rd</sup> Layer:***

- ***Emergency Support Facilities***
- ***Evacuation Sites (Red Cross)***
- ***Medical Facilities***

## **Grant Requests – Actions**

---

### ***Grant Requests:***

- ***Aerial Photos for Project***
- ***Road Maintenance for Fire Defense Systems***
- ***Yosemite Foothills FSC – Hells Hollow Request***



***Grant Actions:***

- ***Mariposa County/CDF Ponderosa Fuel Break Grants***

**Research Projects**

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***Potential Research Projects:***

- ***Creek Fire of 2001 Hazard Reduction Project***
- ***Mechanical Mastication (Issues & Concerns) Recommendations***



# Strategic Fire Defense Systems

## *Fuel Breaks*

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There are three primary shaded fuel breaks within the project that serve as key “*strategic fire defense systems*”. The Southwest Interface Team has prioritized the three fuel breaks with regard to needed construction, maintenance, and infrastructure support. They are listed as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Priority – The PONDEROSA FUEL BREAK
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority – The WAGNER FUEL BREAK
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Priority – The RIM TRUCK FUEL BREAK

### **Ponderosa Fuel Break**

**The Ponderosa Fuel Break System extends approximately 26 miles through the project area, running northwesterly from the North Fork of the Merced River to the main Tuolumne River near Wards Ferry. This fuel break serves as the first line of defense from fires originating on the southwest facing brush covered slopes that lie below many of the communities in the project.**

**The fuel break is divided into 4 sections: (1) Tip Top Section from the Tuolumne River to Highway 120. (2) Jackass Section from Highway 120 to the County line between Tuolumne and Mariposa County. (3) Cueno section from the County line to Highway J132. (4) Greeley Section from J132 to the North Fork of the Merced River.**

**Approximately 16 miles of the fuel break has been completed. Specific areas in both Tuolumne and Mariposa County covering approximately 10 miles requires some additional work or new construction. It is expected that all 4 sections will require maintenance at a minimum of 5 years after initial treatment. Planning will reflect the need to complete this fuel break by the end of 2006.**

### **Wagner Fuel Break**

**The 15 mile long Wagner Fuel Break System runs from the tie with the Ponderosa System south of Big Oak Flat to the southeast to one mile below the town of Buck Meadows onto Moore Creek Road, then south on the Moore Creek Road to Bower Cave. It is basically the second line of defense from fires sweeping up the slopes**



from the southwest that may either breach the Ponderosa System or originate north of the existing fuel break.

The fuel break is divided into 2 sections: (1) The Garrotte Section from Big Oak Flat to Highway J 132. (2) The Moore Creek Section from J132 across Hobron Hill to China Flat and to Moore Creek Road then south to Bower Cave area.

Approximately 8 miles of this system has been treated while an estimated 7 miles requires treatment. The primary agency involvement in the work planned is CDF, FS, and BLM. An estimated 350 acres needs to be constructed and or maintained by the end of 2006.

### **Rim Truck Fuel Break**

The Rim Truck Fuel Break runs from a tie with the Ponderosa Tip Top System northwest of Tip Top Peak northeasterly toward the main Tuolumne River, then along the canyon rim to the South Fork of the Tuolumne River. It's approximately 15 miles long and for many years parts of the fuel break were maintained by CDC Crews. This system is designed to protect the communities of Big Oak Flat, Groveland, Hells Hollow, Pine Mountain Lake, and other small population areas from fires originating in the main Tuolumne River Canyon.

The fuel break is divided into two sections: (1) The Pine Mountain Section that runs from just north of Big Oak Flat to Indian Creek drainage off Ferretti Road. (2) The Ferretti Section runs from Indian Creek southeast and then easterly to the South Fork of the main Tuolumne River.

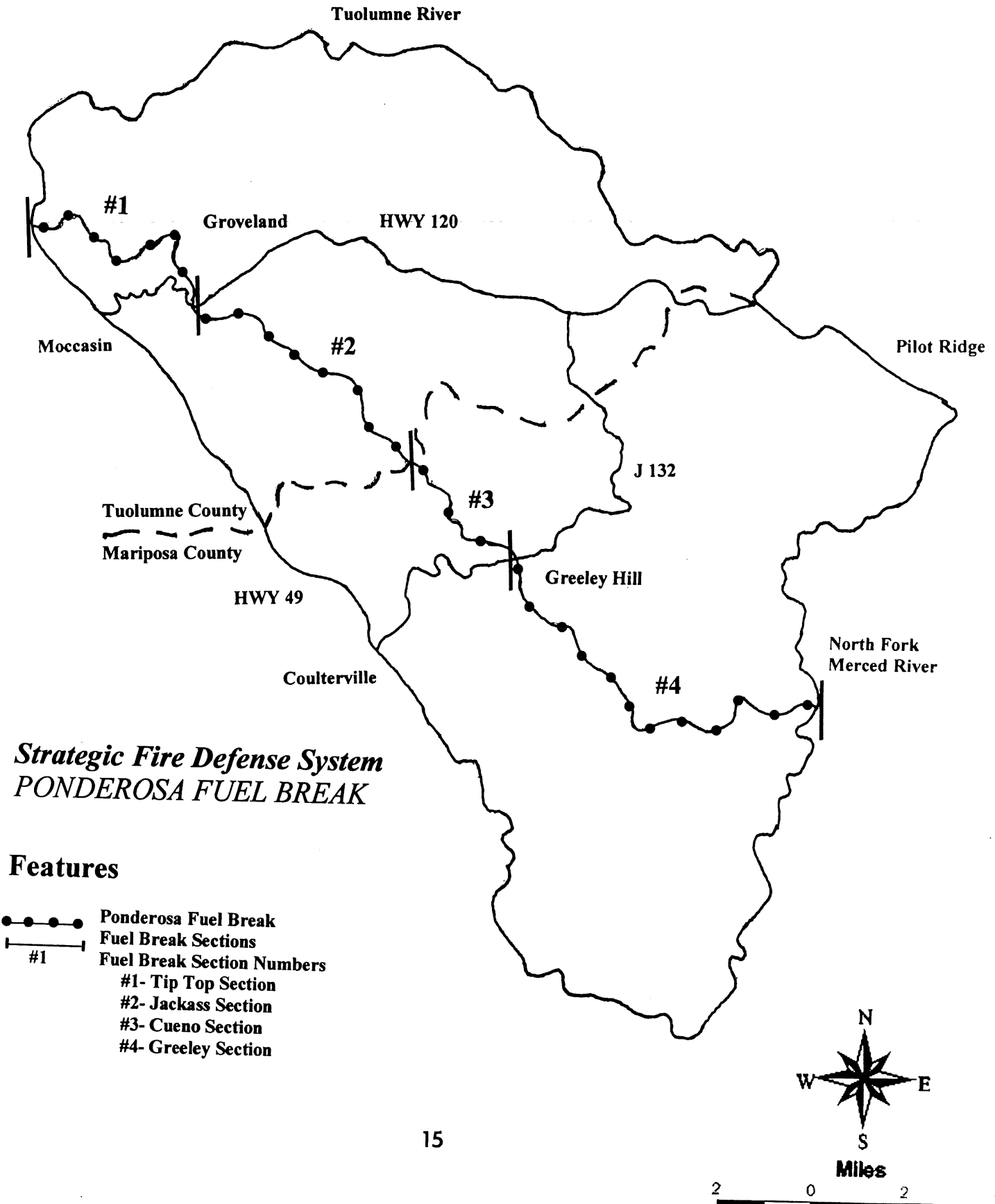
Approximately 5 miles of this system has been treated and a large part of the remaining area requires no treatment or has already had treatment. This entire system is in Tuolumne County. The primary effort over the next two years will be to have an extensive field review indicating status and both infrastructure and maintenance needs. Secondary fuel breaks or areas of opportunity for safe fire line construction off the rim into the canyon for fire suppression purposes during any given incident will also be reviewed.





# Southwest Interface Project

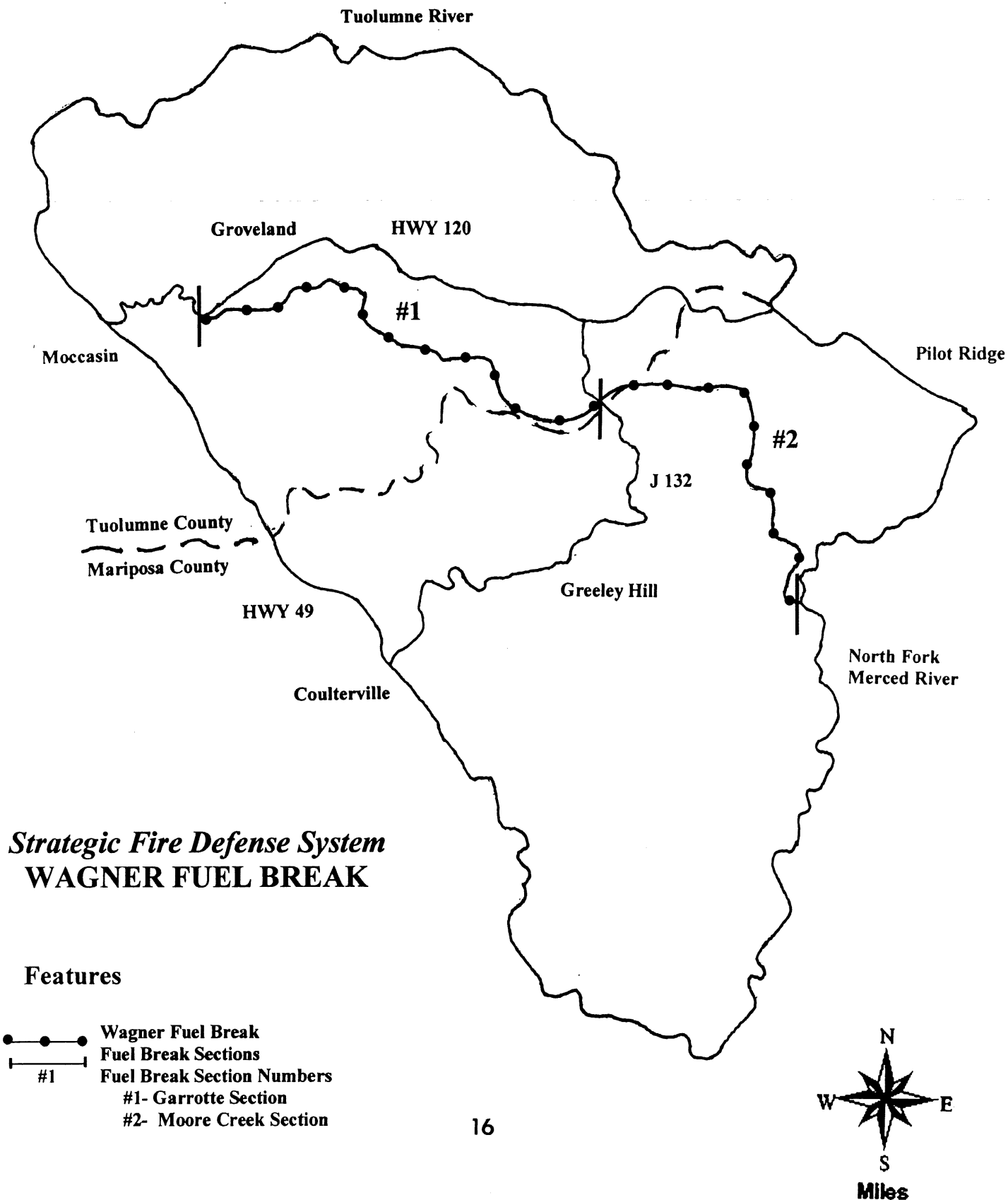
## Program Support Maps





# Southwest Interface Project

## Program Support Maps





# Southwest Interface Project

## Program Support Maps

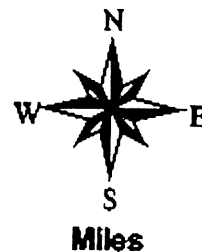


### *Strategic Fire Defense System*

### **RIM TRUCK FUEL BREAK**

#### Features

- — ● Rim Truck Fuel Break
- Fuel Break Sections
- #1 Fuel Break Section Numbers
- #1- Pine Mountain Section
- #2- Ferretti Section





# Strategic Fire Defense Systems

## *Road Systems*

---

A total of seven roads systems within the project area have been identified as key “*strategic fire defense systems*”. The Southwest Interface Team has prioritized these systems for hazardous fuel reduction efforts based on their location and ability to aid in safe and effective fire suppression operations.

They are listed as follows:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Priority – Highway 120
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Priority – Highway 49
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Priority – Priest-Coulterville Road
- 4<sup>th</sup> Priority – J 132 Smith Station Road
- 5<sup>th</sup> Priority – Ferretti Road
- 6<sup>th</sup> Priority – Greeley Hill Road
- 7<sup>th</sup> Priority – Moore Creek Road

### Highway 120

---

Highway 120 runs through the project area from the bottom of Priest Grade east to the South Fork of the Tuolumne River. This is a major State Highway that provides a major access route to Yosemite National Park. The highway bisects the project area in a west to east direction. It provides a key opportunity for fire suppression actions from fires burning from both the north or south. It also is the primary evacuation route for all populated areas along the mid slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range from Big Oak Flat into Yosemite National Park.

Hazardous fuel reduction efforts continue along specific portions of the highway and more are planned. Treatment of an area 150 plus feet from each side of the roadbed edge is preferred. Use of mechanical mastication, pile and burn, pruning and thinning, and other types of treatment are all encouraged. Grants to do work on private properties along the road corridors are also within the program of work.

### Highway 49

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This highway is located along the southern boundary of the project area and runs from the Moccasin area southeast to the North Fork of the Merced River at Bagby.



Many large fires originate from this road corridor and burn both northwesterly, northerly, and northeasterly. They pose a major threat to the communities and watersheds that lie up-hill from the road system. Heavy brush has been the predominant vegetation along the roadway, but is being replaced with grass as large fires and prescribed burning continue to encourage a type conversion process. At present nothing is planned in the program of work to treat fuels on this road corridor.

### **Priest-Coulterville Road**

---

The Priest-Coulterville Road runs from it's junction with Highway 120 to the southeast and crosses over from Tuolumne to Mariposa County then ties with J132 north of Coulterville. A large portion of the road was burned over during the 2001 Creek Fire. The road is a critical protection corridor from fires that escape control along Highway 49 and is often used as a control line for large prescribed burns.

Prescribed burning that occurs with the hazardous fuel reduction research project on the Creek Fire area will possibly re-enforce the reduction of fuel loading along the road corridor. The Coulterville VMP of 1999 did a great deal in reducing heavy fuels along this road and supported fire control efforts on the eastern flank of the Creek Fire.

### **J 132 Smith Station Road**

---

This road runs through the project area from it's junction with Highway 120 south to the town of Coulterville. It provides a potential line of defense to support safe and effective fire suppression operations based on various wildfire conditions. It has been used in many past fires as a control line in a very effective manner. Mariposa County has done some outstanding work from the county line at Hobron Hill south to the Greeley Hill Road junction with regard to hazardous fuel reduction.

SWIFT would like to encourage what Mariposa County has done, and support efforts to treat more road right of way areas on this system. The road will be used as a fire line for the planned 2005 Greeley Hill VMP.

### **Ferretti Road**

---

From Highway 120 in Groveland this road runs through and around Pine Mountain Lake sub-division until it ties again with Highway 120 near the Groveland Ranger Station. Portions of the road on National Forest Lands north of La Casa Loma Store have been treated as far as reducing heavy vegetation. Mechanical mastication and hand crew work has occurred. A number of areas along this road are just grass and do not require fuels treatment.



**Based on the amounts of private property along this road corridor it is not likely lots of treatment options may be available. This road is critical to fire resources during any close incident because of the many residents on both sides of the roadway in specific areas.**

### **Greeley Hill Road**

**From the junction of J132 east to the Bower Cave/Briceburg Road junction is the Greeley Hill Road. If fuels treatment was conducted along this road it would provide a fire control opportunity for fires that occur south of the system. It is used primarily by people that frequent the Diana pool area by Bower Cave.**

**The system is paved and provides a tie with the Moore Creek Road which intersects with it to the west of Bower Cave.**

### **Moore Creek Road**

**The Moore Creek Road which is maintained by Mariposa County runs from Buck Meadows south to it's junction with the Greeley Hill Road. It has in the past served as a road corridor "shaded" fuel break. Treatment was done on both sides of the road for many years as an effort to aid fire suppression that may be needed from fires originating either east or west of the road system.**

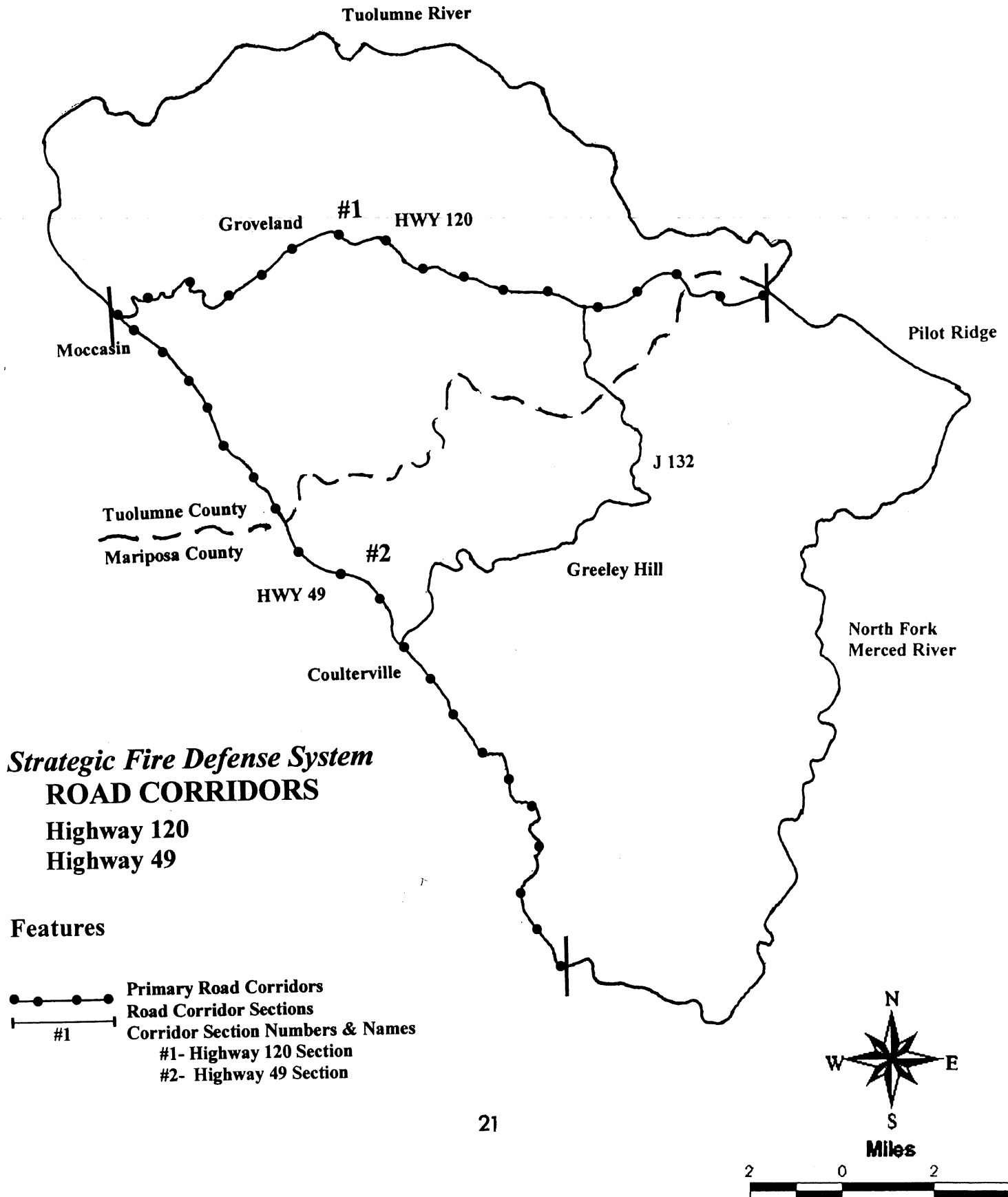
**The road is now considered a part of the Wagner Fuel Break System, and is a key north to south tie for the protection of both the town of Buck Meadows and many high value tree plantations in the area. For the majority of it's length Moore Creek runs adjacent to the road system and provides added opportunity for safe and effective fire suppression activities in the event of a wildfire threat.**





# Southwest Interface Project

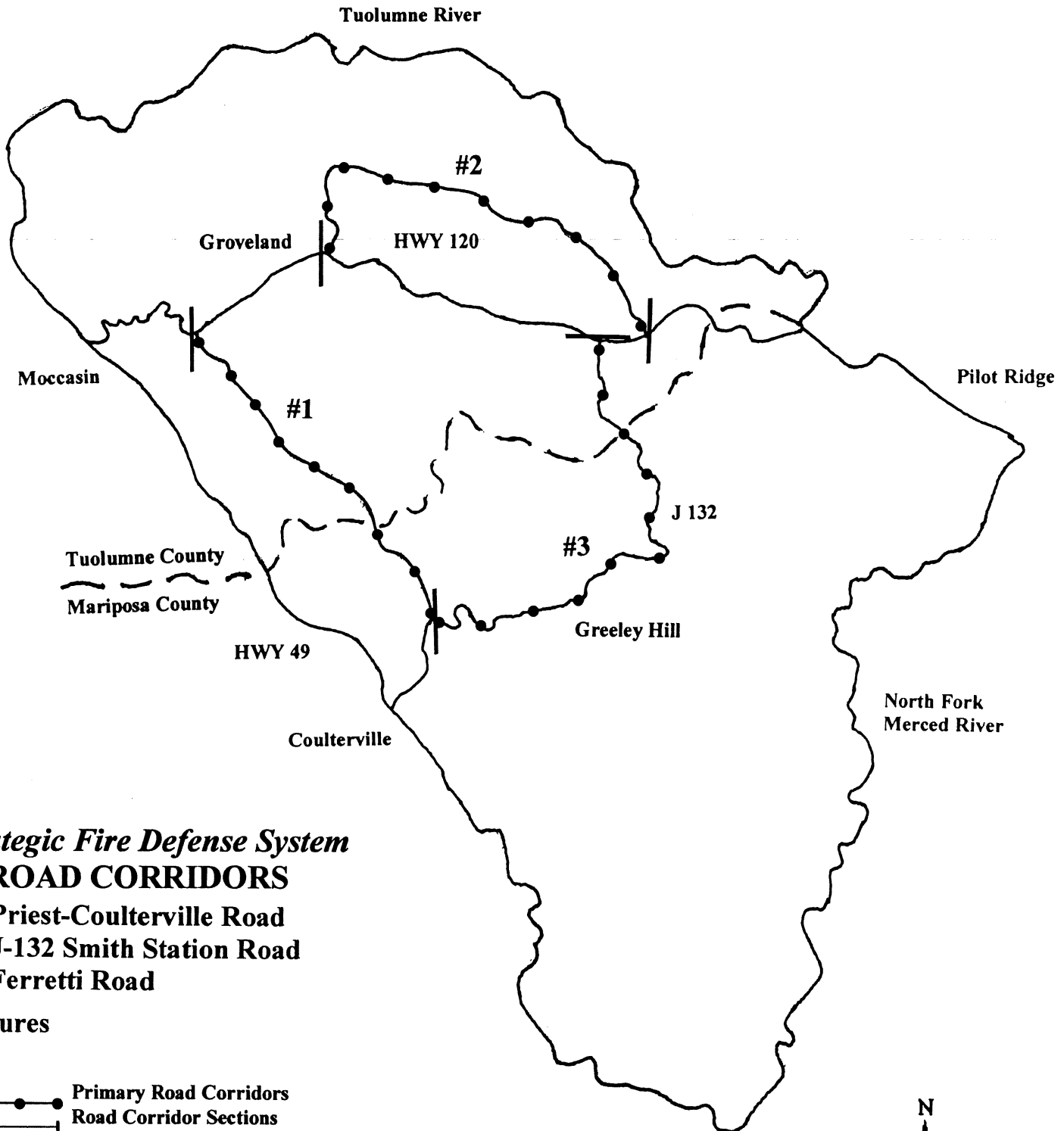
## Program Support Maps





# Southwest Interface Project

## Program Support Maps



### *Strategic Fire Defense System*

#### **ROAD CORRIDORS**

Priest-Coulterville Road  
J-132 Smith Station Road  
Ferretti Road

#### **Features**

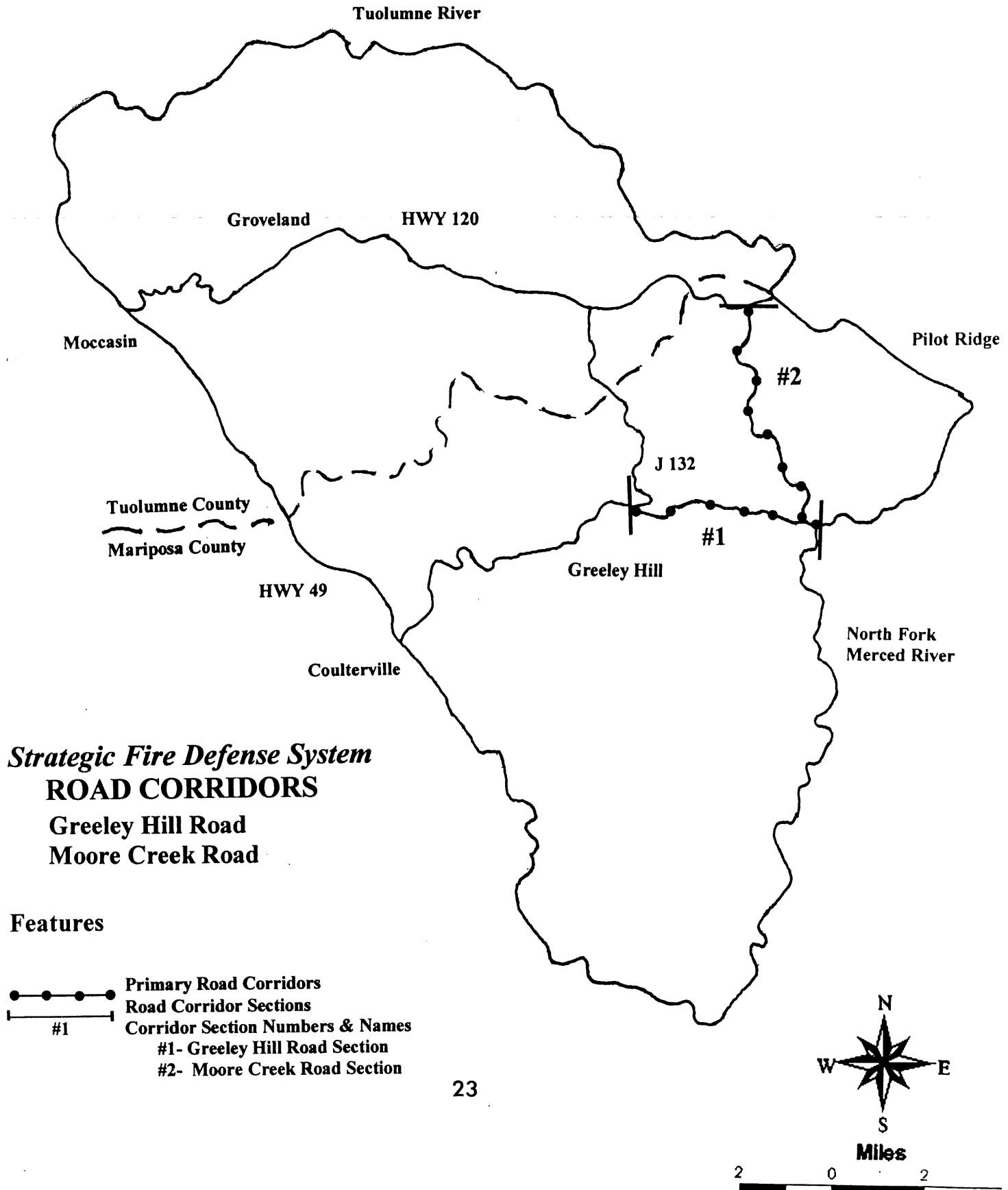
- Primary Road Corridors
- Road Corridor Sections
- #1 Corridor Section Numbers & Names
- #1- Priest-Coulterville Section
- #2- Ferretti Road Section
- #3- J-132 Section





# Southwest Interface Project

## Program Support Maps





## **Strategic fire Defense Systems**

### ***Hazard Reduction Treatment Areas***

---

Seven specific hazardous fuel treatment areas in the project are either in a state of completion or planned for implementation over the next few years. Depending on their location they all have positive effects on the reduction of wildfire potentials. Some efforts are keyed directly to community protection while others may serve multiple purposes in watershed protection, habitat improvement, and high value property protection. They are listed as follows:

- Coulterville Vegetation Management Project (VMP)
- Greeley Hill Vegetation Management Project (VMP)
- Priest-Reservoir Hazard Reduction Project
- Creek Fire Hazard Reduction Project
- Hetch-Anker Vegetation Management Project (VMP)
- Pine Mountain Lake Project
- Hetch-Hetchy W & P Transmission Line Hazard Reduction/Protection

#### **Coulterville VMP**

Located to the north of the town of Coulterville and along Highway 49 this burn was completed in the Fall of 1999. This was a CDF Vegetation Management Project on private property for hazardous fuel reduction and range improvement. The prescribed burn was northwest of J132 and south of the Priest-Coulterville Road. The fuel type was generally brush, and grass-oak woodland.

The area had been burned in prior years for basically the same objective. At present there are no immediate plans for re-entry, however it seems that a 10 year burn cycle would continue the type conversion back to a large percentage of the land returning to a oak-woodland vegetation type. The northwestern flank of this project was very beneficial in the control of the south flank of the 2001 Creek Fire because of less volatile fuel types.

#### **Greeley Hill VMP**

The Greeley Hill Vegetation Management Project is a prescribed burn planned for implementation in the next two year program of work. It is located between the



**Tuolumne and Mariposa County Line and J132. Secondary road systems and constructed fire line will serve as the control features on both the northeastern and southwestern flanks of the planned burn. It will support the planned Ponderosa Fuel Break and provide valuable catastrophic fire protection to the community of Greeley Hill and surrounding scattered populations.**

**The fuel type is heavy mixed brush with scattered timber stands. The intent would be to reduce fuel loading and convert to a less explosive fuel condition. Environmental documentation and field reviews, burn plan preparation, fire line construction, and all the appropriate approvals are still required in the pre-burn phase. Estimated acres involved are approximately 1,250 acres.**

### **Priest-Reservoir Project**

**In order to protect the extremely valuable Priest-Reservoir from contamination of various vegetation fire particulate matter a number of fuel treatments have been conducted around the reservoir. The reservoir located above Moccasin and just off the Priest-Coulterville Road near it's junction with Highway 120 has been the scene of numerous fuel treatments to include goat grazing, pile and burn, large area prescribed burning, hand cutting and pruning, and mechanical shredding.**

**The hazardous fuel reduction effort around the reservoir has been substantial and very favorable with regard to fire protection objectives. Work will continue in a maintenance manner to ensure the initial work done remains effective for years to come.**

### **Creek Fire Hazard Reduction Project**

**After the 2001 Creek Fire members of the Southwest Interface Team recommended we use part of the fire area as a test to see if we could reduce the long term fire hazard with multiple prescribed burns. Ken Hood with BLM and Jay Norton with the University of California (Agriculture & Natural Resources) Tuolumne County Farm Advisor have been working on a plan to implement a research project in the area. Jay has obtained grant dollars to support the effort.**

**The area of 2,500 acres is planned to have three prescribed burns over the next 3 years. The location of the burning will be in both Tuolumne and Mariposa County and on the north follows the Priest-Coulterville Road. The western boundary is Highway 49 while the southern boundary follows some of the Creek fire line.**

### **Hetchy-Anker VMP**

**The Hetchy-Anker is an area that partially surrounds Priest Reservoir on the west and south sides. The first phase of the burn was in the Fall of 2002 and covered approximately 500 acres. The second phase is planned for this Fall, but may have to**



**wait until the Fall of 2005. The southwestern portion of the burn area is along Highway 49. Two sides of the planned burn flank the reservoir on the north and south sides. The second phase of the burn will cover approximately 550 acres.**

**This project was designed to aid in the protection of Priest Reservoir, private property owned by Wally Anker and also support the protection of communities that lie on the upper slopes above Highway 49.**

### **Pine Mountain Lake Project**

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**A number of small projects within the Pine Mountain Lake sub-division initiated by CDF have been aimed at protection of the many residents that live within the area. Using Baseline hand crews and others CDF has facilitated work with hand pile and burn, and small prescribed burns to reduce hazardous fuel loading in specific locations in the "green zone" within the sub division.**

**Approximately 2,900 structures are within the sub-division and major efforts through the SWIFT strategic fire protection plan are aimed at protecting people, property, and natural resources in and adjacent to the area.**

### **Hetch-Hetchy W & P Transmission Lines**

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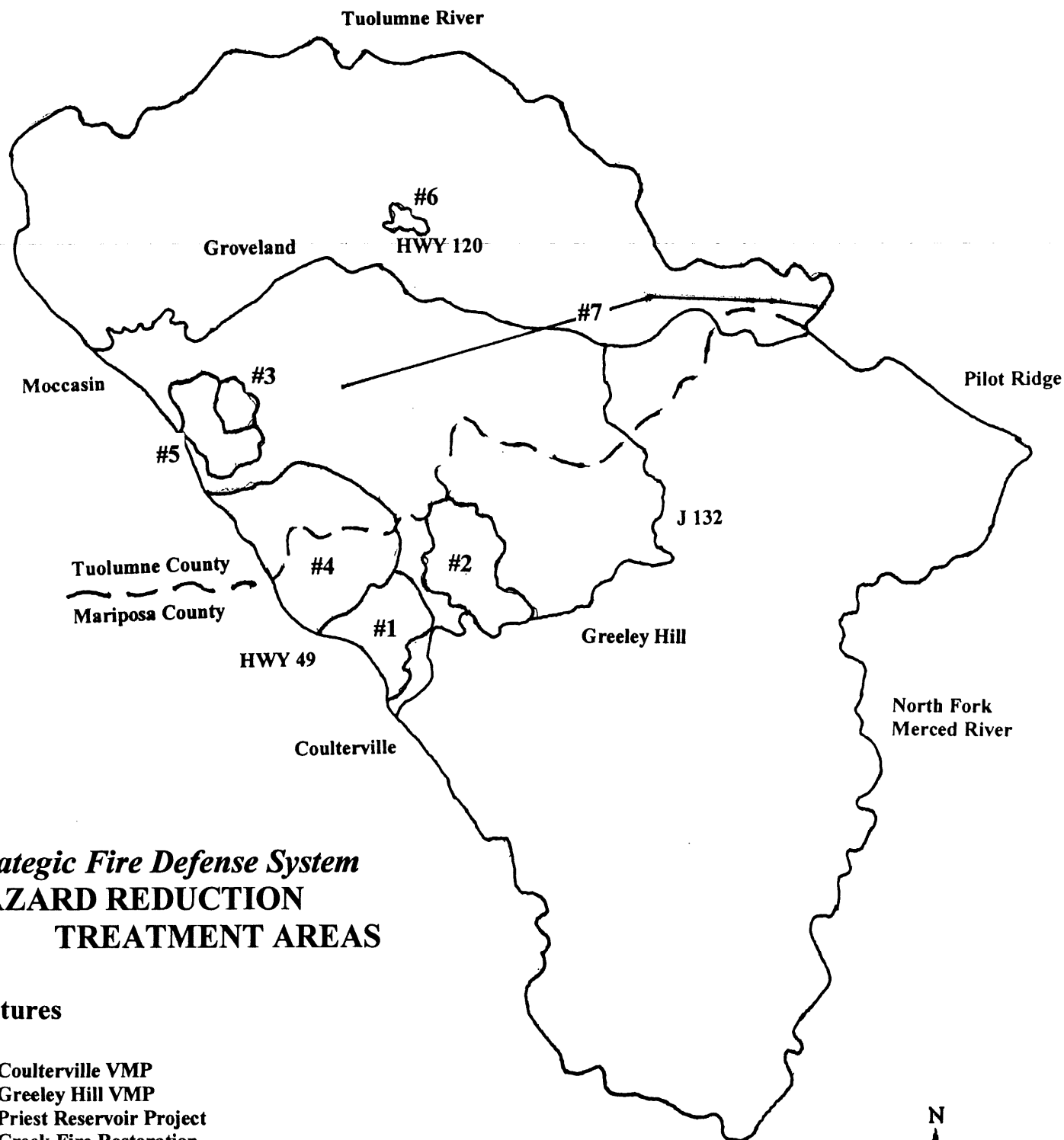
**Emphasis a few years ago to put a concentrated effort into hazard reduction work under Hetch-Hetchy Water & Power major power transmission lines has been very effective. Using mechanical shredding equipment in addition to hand crew work and other treatment activities miles of transmission lines have been cleared of significant fuel loads.**

**This fuel treatment not only aids in the protection from wildfire of the transmission lines, but serves as a break in many continuous brush fuel beds that cover the front country area. Actual fire suppression and prescribed fire actions could at times use these breaks in fuel loading to fight wildfires or as holding lines during prescribed burn operations.**



# Southwest Interface Project

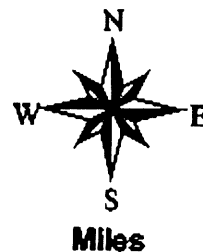
## Program Support Maps



### *Strategic Fire Defense System* HAZARD REDUCTION TREATMENT AREAS

#### Features

- #1 – Coulterville VMP
- #2 – Greeley Hill VMP
- #3 – Priest Reservoir Project
- #4 – Creek Fire Restoration
- #5 – Hetchy-Anker VMP
- #6 – Pine Mountain Lake Project
- #7 – Hetch-Hetchy W & P Transmission Line



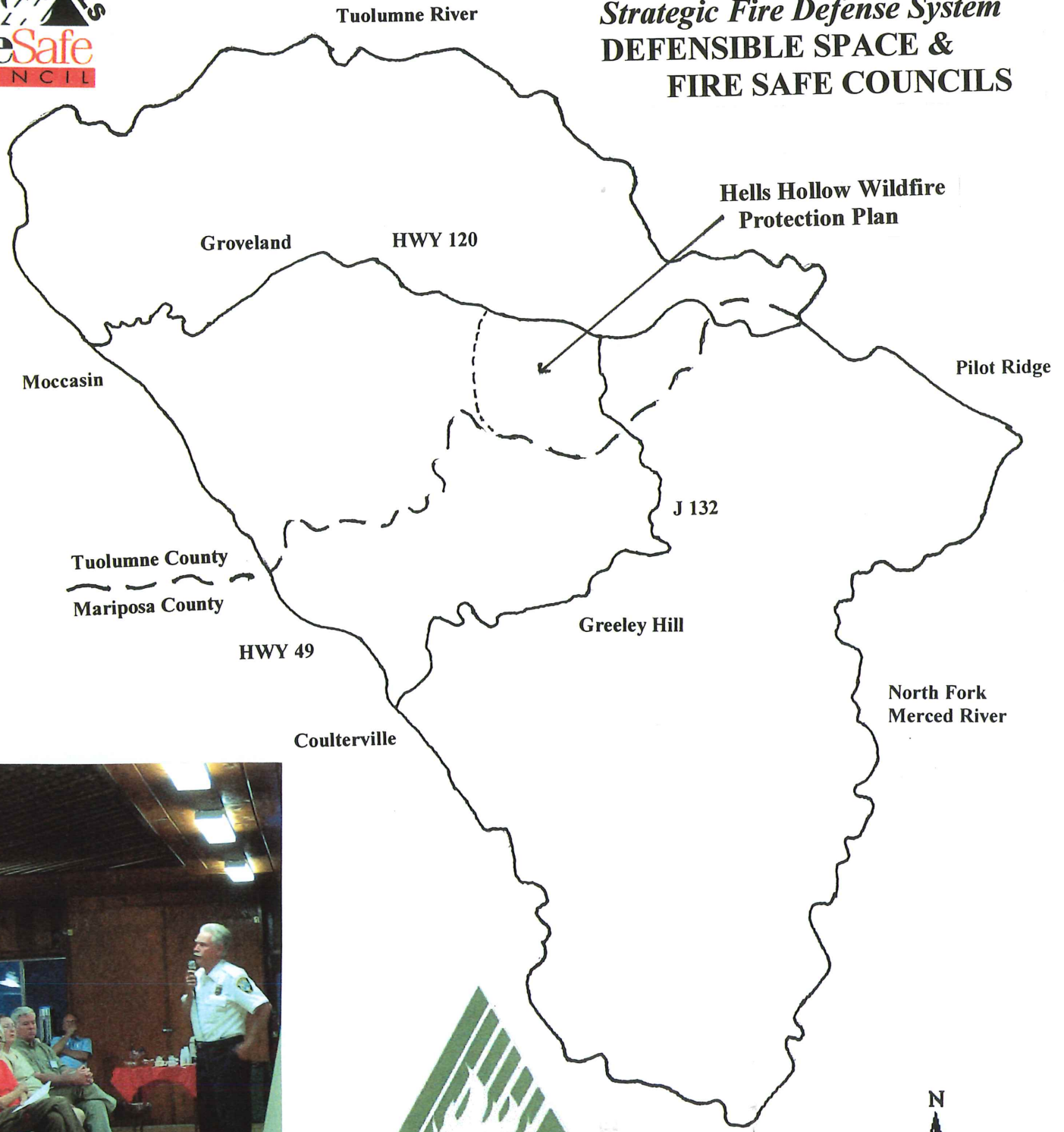




# Southwest Interface Project

Program Support Maps

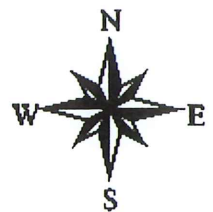
*Strategic Fire Defense System*  
**DEFENSIBLE SPACE &  
FIRE SAFE COUNCILS**



Public Meetings



Mariposa Fire Safe Council and  
Greelev Hill Fire Safe Committee



Miles





# *Individual Project Summary*

## **Southwest Interface Project C.Y. 2005 & 2006**

### *Strategic Fire Defense Systems*

#### **FUEL BREAKS:**

| Project Name | Type Action | Target       | Estimated Cost | Timing | Responsible | Priority |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Ponderosa    | FB Const.   | 2 miles      | \$44,000       | 2005   | *FS         | 1        |
| Ponderosa    | FB Const.   | 2 miles      | \$44,000       | 2006   | *FS         | 1        |
| Ponderosa    | FB Const.   | 3 miles      | \$66,000       | 2006   | *BLM        | 1        |
| Ponderosa    | FB Const.   | 3 miles      | -0-            | 05/06  | CDF/Other   | 1        |
| Ponderosa    | Mtnc.       | 5 miles      | -0-            | 05/06  | All         | 2        |
| Ponderosa    | Infra       | 26 miles     | \$45,000       | 05/06  | All         | 3        |
| Wagner       | FB Const.   | 4 miles      | \$90,000       | 2006   | *FS         | 2        |
| Wagner       | FB Const.   | 3 miles      | -0-            | 2006   | CDF-BLM     | 2        |
| Wagner       | Mtnc.       | 1 mile       | -0-            | 05/06  | All         | 3        |
| Wagner       | Infra       | 15 miles     | \$21,000       | 2006   | All         | 3        |
| Rim Truck    | FB Const.   | 5 miles      | -0-            | 2006   | CDF         | 2        |
| Rim Truck    | Mtnc.       | 2 mi. Review | -0-            | 2005   | CDF         | 1        |
| Rim Truck    | Infra       | 15 miles     | \$9,000        | 2005   | CDF-FS      | 3        |

#### **ROAD SYSTEMS:**

| Project Name   | Type Action    | Target  | Estimated Cost | Timing | Responsible | Priority |
|----------------|----------------|---------|----------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Highway 120    | Fuel Reduction | 3 miles | \$63,360       | 2005   | *FS         | 1        |
| Highway 120    | Fuel Reduction | 3 miles | \$63,360       | 2006   | *FS         | 2        |
| Highway 49     | No action      |         |                |        |             |          |
| Priest-Coulter | No action      |         |                |        |             |          |
| J 132          | Fuel Reduction | 1 mile  | -0-            | 2006   | CDF         | 3        |
| Ferretti       | Mtnc.          | 2 miles | -0-            | 05/06  | FS          | 3        |
| Greeley Hill   | No action      |         |                |        |             |          |
| Moore Creek    | No action      |         |                |        |             |          |

\*Request for grant dollars through Community Wildfire Protection Plan



## HAZARD REDUCTION TREATMENT AREAS:

| Project Name     | Type Action     | Target    | Estimated Cost | Timing | Responsible | Priority |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------|----------|
| Coulterville VMP | Prescribe Burn  | 1,200 ac. | -0-            | 1999   | CDF         |          |
| Greeley Hill VMP | Prescribe Burn  | 1,100 ac. | \$56,000       | 2005   | CDF-BLM     | 2        |
| Priest reservoir | Misc. Treatment | 250 ac/yr | -0-            | 05/06  | HHW&P       | 1        |
| Creek Fire HR    | Prescribed Burn | 800 ac/yr | -0-            | 05/06  | BLM-CDF     | 2        |
| Hetch-Ank.VMP    | Prescribed Burn | 550 ac.   | -0-            | 2005   | CDF-BLM-HH  | 1        |
| Pine Mtn. Lake   | Misc. Treatment | -0-       | -0-            | 05/06  | CDF         | 3        |
| HHW&P-Trans-L    | Misc. Treatment | -0-       | -0-            | 05/06  | HHW&P       | 1        |

## DEFENSIBLE SPACE & FIRE SAFE COUNCILS:

| Program Activities                                                                                           | Council/Other Involvement                                                              | Estimated Cost | Timing      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Meetings, fairs, handouts, SWIFT, contacts, etc.                                                             | Mariposa FSC & Greeley Hill FS Committee (Very active)                                 |                | on-going    |
| Grant for hazardous fuel Treatment on Ponderosa Fuel Break                                                   | Mariposa FSC, CDF & BLM                                                                |                | on-going    |
| Meetings, contacts, SWIFT, Etc.                                                                              | Yosemite Foothills FSC                                                                 |                | on-going    |
| Grant for fuel treatment on Private property – senior Citizens/disabled                                      | Yosemite Foothills FSC                                                                 | \$25,000       | Pending     |
| Community Wildfire Protection Planning ( CWPP)                                                               | Both Fire Safe Councils to be involved in the community Protection planning activities |                | on-going    |
| Hells Hollow Fire Protection Plan (Work By Council to have private Landowners & FS develop & implement plan) | Yosemite Foothills FSC                                                                 |                | in-progress |



## **Pre-Fire Planning**

### **COMPONENTS:**

| Pre-Fire Components    | Pre-Fire Elements           | Date Data Collected | Date Data Processed | Display Layer         | Year & Priority |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Initial Attack</b>  | <b>Water Sources</b>        | <b>January</b>      | <b>March</b>        | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Helispots/Heliports</b>  | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Staging Areas</b>        | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Safety Zones</b>         | <b>November</b>     | <b>December</b>     | <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>2005-1</b>   |
|                        | <b>Road Systems</b>         | <b>December</b>     | <b>December</b>     | <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>2005-1</b>   |
| <b>Extended Attack</b> | <b>Structures</b>           | <b>December</b>     | <b>December</b>     | <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>2005-1</b>   |
|                        | <b>Fuel Types</b>           | <b>April</b>        | <b>May</b>          | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Area Hazards</b>         | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>2005-1</b>   |
|                        | <b>Jurisdictions</b>        | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
| <b>Major Incident</b>  | <b>Special Zones</b>        | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Incident Support</b>     | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Fire History</b>         | <b>April</b>        | <b>May</b>          | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
| <b>Infrastructure</b>  | <b>Fire Stations</b>        | <b>April</b>        | <b>May</b>          | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
|                        | <b>Fire Defense Systems</b> | <b>April</b>        | <b>May</b>          | <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> | <b>2005-2</b>   |
| <b>Public Safety</b>   | <b>Evacuation Routes</b>    | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> | <b>2005-3</b>   |
|                        | <b>Evacuation Sites</b>     | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>2005-3</b>   |
|                        | <b>Medical Facilities</b>   | <b>November</b>     | <b>March</b>        | <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>2005-3</b>   |

### **SCHEDULES:**

| Pre-Fire Information Display                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Layer Number                | Responsible     | Date To Complete  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| <b>Initial and Extended Attack</b><br>(Road Systems, Structure Locations, Evacuation Routes, Safety Zones, Area Hazards)                                                                                                                       | <b>1<sup>st</sup> Layer</b> | <b>Agencies</b> | <b>March 2005</b> |
| <b>Major Incident and Infrastructure</b><br>(Staging Areas, Helispots/Heliports, Water Sources, Jurisdictions/Ownerships, Incident Support Facilities, Fire Stations/Fire Defense Systems, Fuel Types, Special Management Zones, Fire History) | <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Layer</b> | <b>All</b>      | <b>April 2005</b> |
| <b>Public Safety</b><br>(Emergency Support Facilities, Evacuation Sites – Red Cross, Medical and Law Enforcement Facilities)                                                                                                                   | <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Layer</b> | <b>All</b>      | <b>May 2005</b>   |



## **Grant Requests & Research Projects**

### **GRANT REQUESTS & ACTIONS:**

| <b>Grant Request</b>          | <b>Project Type</b>             | <b>Amount</b>    | <b>Timing</b>   |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Aerial Photos of Area</b>  | <b>Pre-Fire Planning</b>        | <b>\$95,000</b>  | <b>2005</b>     |
| <b>Road Maintenance</b>       | <b>Infra-structure Support</b>  | <b>\$123,000</b> | <b>2006</b>     |
| <b>Hells Hollow PP</b>        | <b>Community Protection</b>     |                  | <b>2005</b>     |
| <b>Ponderosa Fuel Break</b>   | <b>Strategic Fire Defense</b>   |                  | <b>on-going</b> |
| <b>Senior Citizen Support</b> | <b>Hazardous Fuel Reduction</b> | <b>\$25,000</b>  | <b>Pending</b>  |

### **RESEARCH PROJECTS:**

| <b>Type of Project</b>                                    | <b>Location</b>     | <b>Target</b>     | <b>Responsible</b>  | <b>Timing</b> | <b>Priority</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>Research Fuel Loads<br/>(Prescribed Burning)</b>       | <b>Creek Fire</b>   | <b>800 ac./yr</b> | <b>JN, BLM, CDF</b> | <b>2005</b>   | <b>3</b>        |
| <b>Mechanical Mastication<br/>(Issues &amp; Concerns)</b> | <b>Project Area</b> | <b>10 Plots</b>   | <b>JN &amp; TJ</b>  | <b>2005</b>   | <b>3</b>        |



***Southwest Interface Project***  
**PROJECT STATUS REPORT**  
**February 2005**

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**PRIMARY AGENCY:** Forest Service  
**PROJECTS:**

**(1). *HIGHWAY 120 WEST FUEL BREAK***

**Project Objective – Hazardous fuel reduction**

**Specific Activities – Reduce fuel loading/ladder fuels on both sides of Highway 120 for a distance of approximately 200' feet from Hwy centerline.**

**Project Location – Highway 120 from Old Highway 120 (Second Garrotte) east to Colfax Springs.**

**Approximate Acreage – 332 acres**

**NEPA – Complete**

**Financing – Dollars allocated – Force Account & Baseline Crews**

**Timing – Estimate 2005 and 2006**

**Contact – Allen Johnson or Linda Johnstone**

**(2). *MCDIARMID PLANTATION THINNING***

**Project Objective – Thinning of tree plantations and hazardous fuel reduction**

**Specific Activities – Reduce unwanted vegetation competition and fuel loading in recently planted tree plantations, and aid in local Community protection from wildfire.**

**Project Location – Greeley Hill area near McDiarmid Fire Station**

**Approximate Acreage – 390 acres**

**NEPA – Complete**

**Financing – Dollars allocated – contract awarded**

**Timing – Estimate 2005 & 2006**

**Contact – Kim Williams**

**(3). *PONDEROSA FUEL BREAK – GREELEY SECTION***

**Project Objective – Shaded Fuel Break Construction/Maintenance**

**Specific Activities – Continue fuel break work on critical strategic fuel break system identified as top priority for community protection in the project area.**

**Project Location – South of Greeley Hill near Date Flat.**

**Approximate Acreage – 81 acres**

**NEPA – Complete**

**Financing – Dollars allocated – contract awarded**

**Timing – Estimate 2005**

**Contact – Allen Johnson or Linda Johnstone**



**(4). RIM TRUCK FUEL BREAK – PVT. LAND GRANT**

**Project Objective – Continue fuel break work on private land that supports Rim Truck Fuel Break.**

**Specific Activities – Using RAC grant dollars complete fuel reduction work on and adjacent to the primary Rim Truck FB on private land.**

**Project Location – Private land just south of the Tuolumne River Canyon and to the north of Ferretti Road.**

**Approximate Acreage – 40 acres**

**CEQA/NEPA –**

**Financing – RAC Grant Dollars**

**Timing – Estimate 2005 & 2006**

**Contact – Linda Johnstone**

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**PRIMARY AGENCY: Bureau of Land Management  
PROJECTS:**

**(1). HETCHY-ANKER VMP (Prescribed Burn)**

**Involvement - (Hetch Hetchy Water and Power (C&CSF), Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – T/C Ranger Unit, and private land owner Wally Anker)**

**Project Objective – Use of prescribed burning for hazardous fuel reduction.**

**Specific Activities – With use of a helitorch and hand firing, prescribed burn the area around Priest Reservoir that includes lands owned or managed by BLM, HHW&P and a Private Land Owner to reduce fuel loads, protect watersheds, and provide better community wildfire protection.**

**Project Location – South, east and west of Priest Reservoir and northeast of Highway 49 and south of the Priest Coulterville Road.**

**Approximate Acreage – 550 acres**

**CEQA – Complete (Burn Plan )**

**Financing – Dollars Allocated**

**Timing – Fall 2005**

**Contact – Ken Hood, Kit Perlee, Julie Henriques or Matt**

**(2). GREELEY HILL VMP (Prescribed Burn)**

**Involvement – California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection – MMM Ranger Unit, Bureau of Land Management, Mariposa County Fire, Mariposa Fire Safe Council)**

**Project Objective – Prescribed burning of hazardous fuels.**

**Specific Activities – Use of a helitorch to prescribed burn a highly volatile brush field that lies below a primary fuel break which offers wildfire protection to the community of Greeley Hill and adjacent private property.**

**Project Location – Southwest of the Cueno Section of the Ponderosa fuel break,**



west of County Road J132, and to the west of the town of Greeley Hill.

Approximate Acreage – 1,100 acres

CEQA – On-Going – (Burn Plan

Financing – BLM indicates dollar commitment

Timing – Estimate Fall of 2005

Contact – Bill Hodson, Ken Hood

**(3). CREEK FIRE – HAZARD REDUCTION PROJECT (Prescribed Burning)**

Project Objective – Utilize prescribed burning on the Creek Fire area of 2001 for a hazard reduction/maintenance treatment.

Specific Activities – Identification of 3 specific burn areas within the fire to treat with prescribed fire based on research that would indicate appropriate rotation and maintenance burning to achieve less volatile fuel beds. Community and watershed protection objectives.

Project Location – Within the perimeter of the Creek Fire

Approximate Acreage – Total 2,400 acres (3 burn blocks of approximately 800 acres per year)

CEQA –

Financing – Not available in 2005

Timing – Fall 2006 earliest

Contact – Ken Hood

**(4). CREEK FIRE RESEARCH PROJECT**

Involvement – (Dr. Jay Norton-Tuolumne County Farm Advisor -University of California-Agriculture & Natural Resources-Cooperative Extension, Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection).

Project Objective – Reduction of hazardous loading after wildfire by use of prescribed fire.

Specific Activities – Use of field plots and office analysis to determine appropriate ways to mitigate wildfire problems over time while protecting the environment.

Project Location – Current plots on railroad grade southeast of Priest Reservoir.

Approximate Acreage – Not applicable

CEQA – Complete

Financing – RAC and other grants

Timing – On-going and will continue in 2005 & 2006

Contact – Jay Norton



**PRIMARY AGENCY: Hetch Hetchy Water & Power (C&CSF)**  
**PROJECTS:**

**(1). *FUEL REDUCTION UNDER HIGH VOLTAGE TRANSMISSION LINES***

**Involvement – Hetch Hetchy Water & Power, Baseline Hand Crews**

**Project Objective – Reduction of hazardous fuel loading under numerous transmission lines.**

**Specific Activities – Use of hand crews and mechanical mastication to reduce fuel loads which lesson wildfire damage to the lines, and provide breaks in heavy fuel beds that lie adjacent to many communities.**

**Project Location – Various locations throughout the project area.**

**Approximate Acreage – Estimate 90 acres treated per year.**

**CEQA – Complete**

**Financing – Dollars allocated as needed**

**Timing – 2005 & 2006**

**Contact – Kit Perlee**

**(2). *PRIEST RESERVOIR HAZARD REDUCTION***

**Project Objective – Maintain a fuel profile around the reservoir that reduces the potential for wildfire damage to the high value domestic water supply.**

**Specific Activities – With use of mechanical, hand, and animal treatments reduce the fuel loading in specific areas around the reservoir.**

**Project Location – Southeast of Moccasin, and between Highway 49 and the Priest Coulterville Road.**

**Approximate Acreage – Estimate 150 acres per year**

**CEQA – Completed as needed**

**Financing – Dollars allocated as needed**

**Timing – 2005 & 2006**

**Contact – Kit Perlee**

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**PRIMARY AGENCY: California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection**  
**PROJECTS:**

**(1). *FUELBREAK CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE***

**Project Objective – Construct and maintain various sections of pre-identified primary fuel breaks.**

**Specific Activities – Use of both Baseline and Mt Bullion hand crews to treat numerous areas on fuel breaks within the project area that are key to the protection of communities.**



**Project Location – Areas in both Tuolumne and Mariposa Counties within the project.**

**Approximate Acreage – Estimate 290 acres per year**

**CEQA/NEPA Completed by appropriate Agencies**

**Financing – Crew Use as determined by CDF/CDC**

**Timing – Annual plan of work**

**Contact – Bill Hodson ( Mariposa) , Julie or Matt (Tuolumne)**



**FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: Mariposa Fire Safe Council  
PROJECTS:**

**(1). *PONDEROSA FUEL BREAK – CUENO SECTION***

**Involvement – Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection, Mariposa County Fire**

**Project Objective – Hazardous fuel reduction activities on private land on and adjacent to the Ponderosa Fuel Break.**

**Specific Activities – Use of mechanical and hand treatment to reduce fuel loads and create defensible space around residents that lie in or adjacent to the fuel break.**

**Project Location – West and northwest of Greeley Hill in the Cueno Road area.**

**Approximate Acreage – Approximately 100 acres**

**NEPA/CEQA – On-going**

**Financing – Dollars Allocated through a grant**

**Timing – 2005 & 2006**

**Contact – Kimberly Bullock**

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**FIRE SAFE COUNCIL: Yosemite Foothills Fire Safe Council  
PROJECTS:**

**(1). *SENIOR CITIZEN-PRIVATE PROPERTY DEFENSIBLE SPACE FUEL REDUCTION PROJECT***

**Project Objective – Hazard reduction on private property in areas where senior citizen need help providing defensible space around their homes.**

**Specific Activities – Chipper work around homes where senior citizens live and have trouble doing hazard reduction work because of disabilities.**

**Project Location – Initially work will be done in the Yosemite Vista Estates on Ferretti Road.**

**Approximate Acreage – not specified**

**CEQA – Not required**

**Financing – RAC grant**

**Timing – 2005**

**Contact – Nancy Longmore**

**(2). *HELLS HOLLOW WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN***

**Involvement – (YF Fire Safe Council, Forest Service, CDF, SWIFT)**

**Project Objective – Develop an action plan to protect the structures and adjacent natural resources from wildfire in the Hells Hollow area.**

**Specific Activities – Various groups develop recommendations for life and property protection in area and request grants through YF FSC.**

**Project Location – Off Highway 120 eight miles East of Groveland**

**Approximate Acreage – not determined**

**CEQA/NEPA – Not determined**



**Financing – Request Grants**

**Timing – Plan 2005, Estimate 2006 for any activity**

**Contact – Nancy Longmore**

**PRIMARY AGENCY: All SWIFT Agencies/Participants**

**PROJECTS:**

**(1). *PRE-FIRE PLANNING***

**Involvement – All SWIFT Partners**

**Project Objective – Provide detailed and factual information to emergency service personnel for pre-during-post wildfire activity.**

**Specific Activities – Data displays with 3 layers to include initial and extended attack, major fire, and infra-structure and public safety.**

**Project Location – SWIFT Project area**

**Approximate Acreage – Not required**

**CEQA/NEPA – Not required**

**Financing – All agency response**

**Timing – Complete in 2005**

**Contact – Tom James**



# *Strategic Fire Defense Systems*

## **Maintenance Plan**

*Shaded Fuel Breaks*

*Road Corridors*

*Hazard Reduction Areas*

### **SOUTHWEST INTERFACE PROJECT**





# ***Southwest Interface Project***

## **System Maintenance Plan**

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### **Shaded Fuel Breaks:**

There are over 56 miles of pre-identified primary shaded fuel breaks within the project area. In addition, many miles of secondary systems can be found that support the primary systems. Significant emphasis has been placed by the team in making sure the primary fire defense fuel break systems have a long-term maintenance plan. Of the three primary systems (Ponderosa, Wagner, Rim Truck) approximately 8 miles of maintenance has been identified in the program of work for 2005 and 2006. The chart below indicates the three systems and projected maintenance needs:

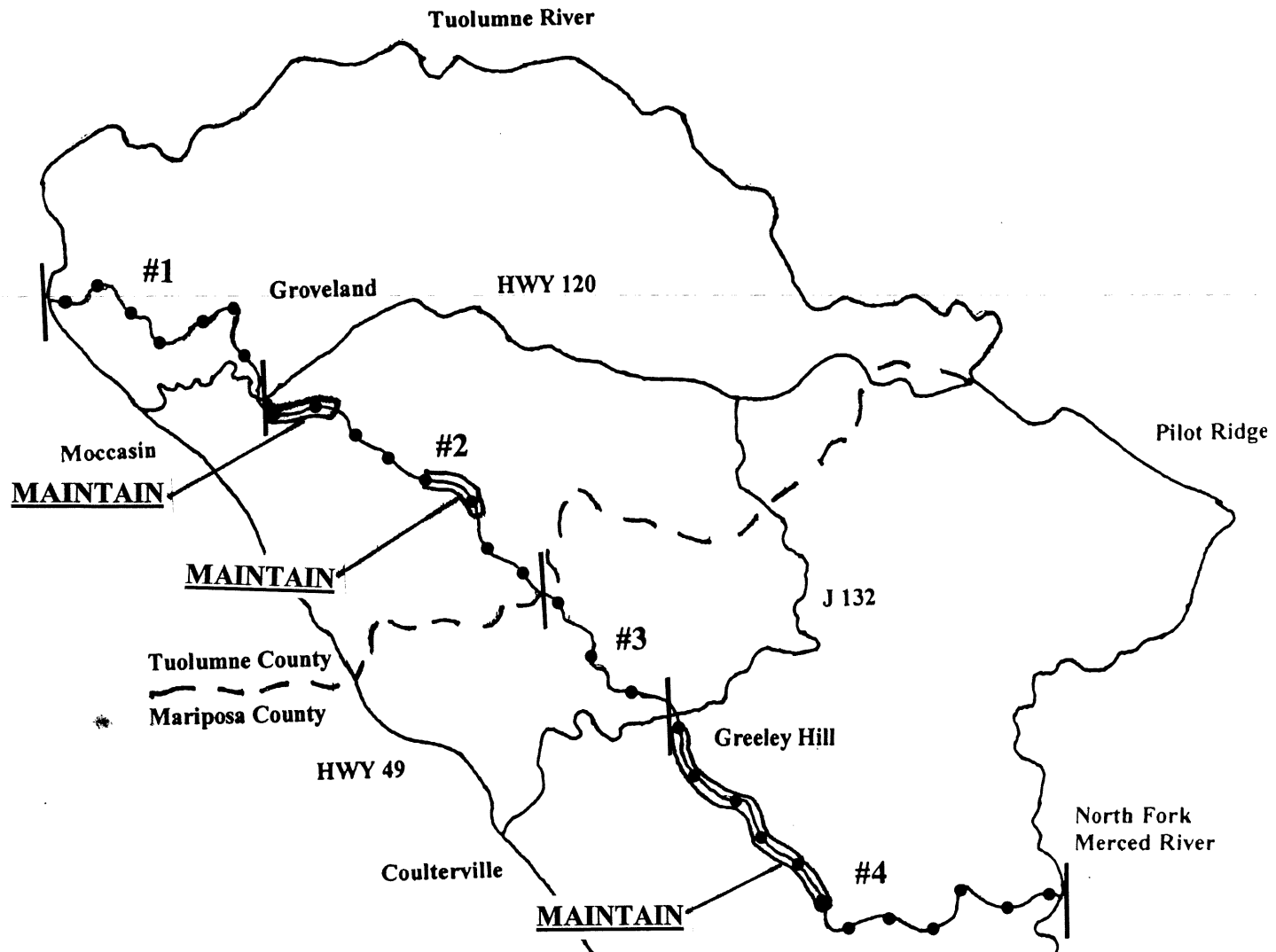
| <b>Fuel Break Name</b> | <b>Section Name</b>  | <b>Miles to Maintain</b> | <b>Responsible</b>    | <b>Priority</b> |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Ponderosa</b>       | <b>Jackass</b>       | <b>2 miles</b>           | <b>BLM/CDF</b>        | <b>1</b>        |
|                        | <b>Greeley</b>       | <b>3 miles</b>           | <b>FS</b>             | <b>1</b>        |
| <b>Wagner</b>          | <b>Garrotte</b>      | <b>1 mile</b>            | <b>FS</b>             | <b>2</b>        |
| <b>Rim Truck</b>       | <b>Pine Mountain</b> | <b>2 miles</b>           | <b>(Field Review)</b> | <b>3</b>        |
| <b>Total</b>           |                      | <b>8 miles</b>           |                       |                 |

It is estimated that the average cost for this maintenance on Federal agency lands would be at a range of \$400.00 to \$750.00/acre based on planning, environmental documentation, contract preparation, and administration. It is estimated that approximately 40 acres are needed to complete 1 mile of fuel break. Using an average of \$600.00/acre cost and 5 miles of agency responsible lands to maintain the cost is \$600.00 X 200 acres = \$ 120,000.00. The State DPA lands (Private Property) would include about 3 miles or 120 acres of needed maintenance. Costs cannot be determined at this time based on most the work is done by CDC Crew availability, and private landowner permission.

See map section (System Maintenance Plan Maps) for areas proposed for maintenance treatments.

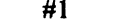


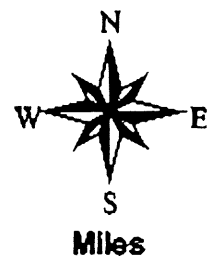
Southwest Interface Project  
Program Support Maps



*Strategic Fire Defense System*  
*PONDEROSA FUEL BREAK*

Features

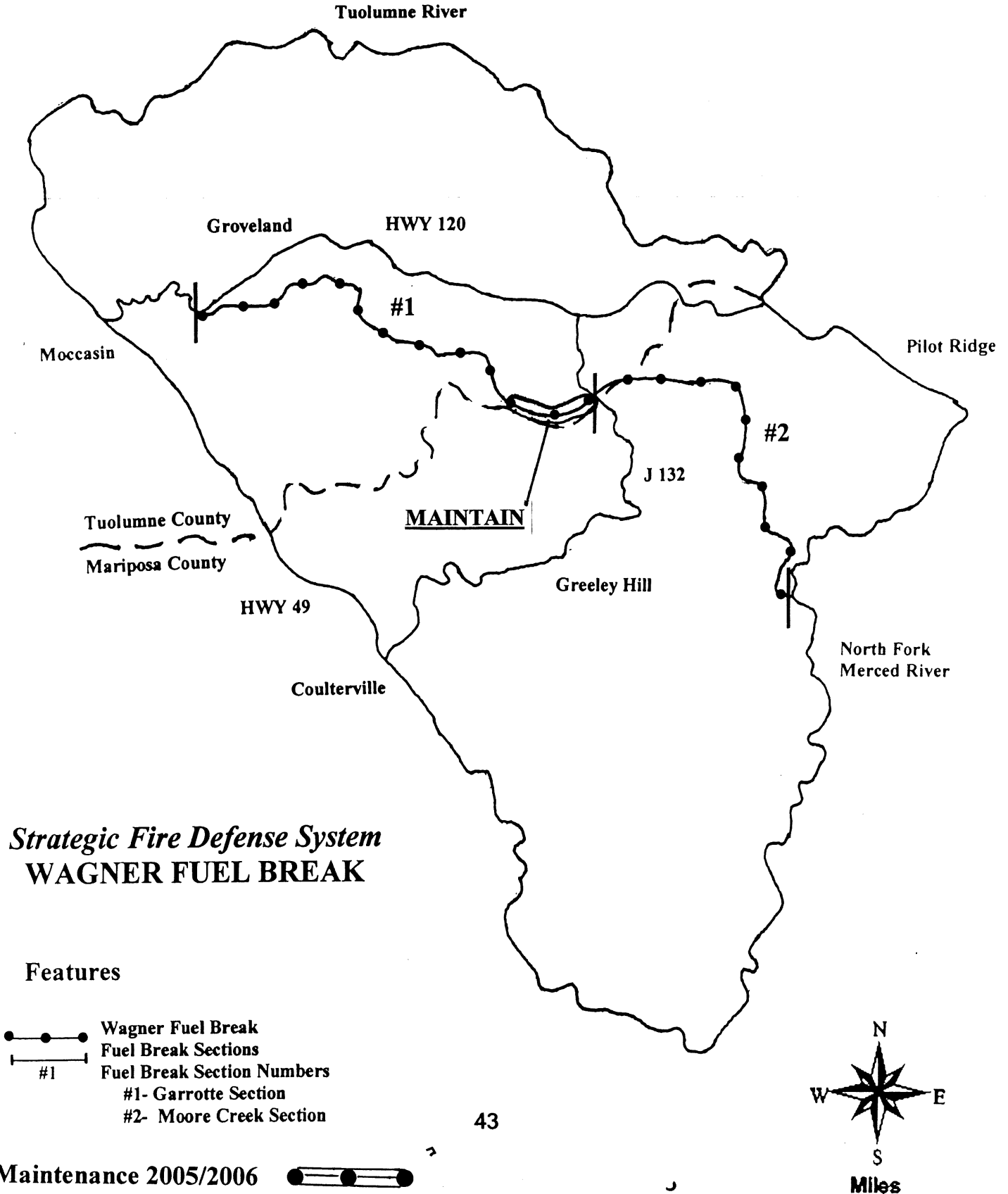
-  Ponderosa Fuel Break
-  Fuel Break Sections
-  Fuel Break Section Numbers
- #1- Tip Top Section
- #2- Jackass Section
- #3- Cueno Section
- #4- Greeley Section





# Southwest Interface Project

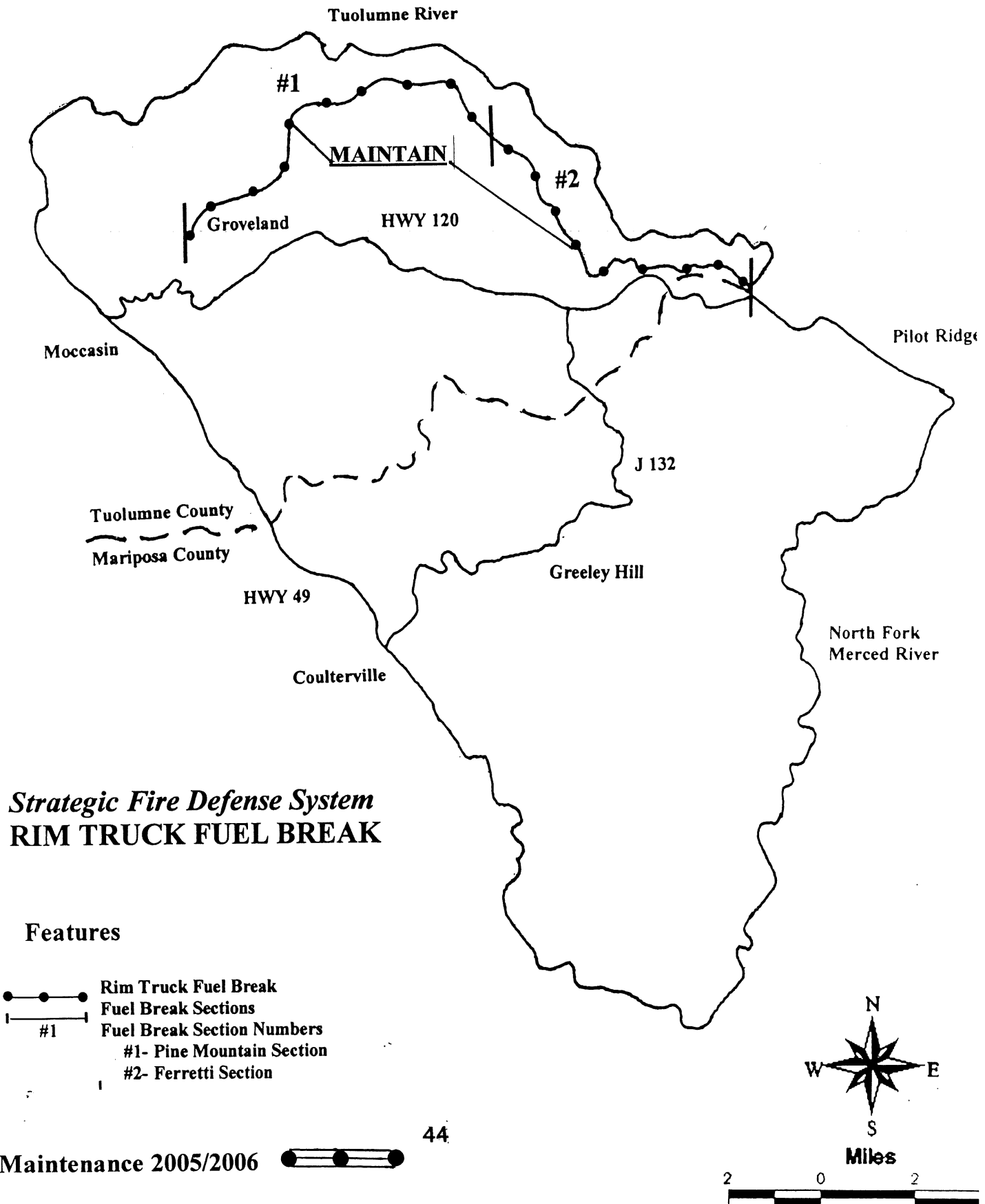
## Program Support Maps





# Southwest Interface Project

## Program Support Maps





## Road Corridors:

The team has identified seven primary road corridors within the project area that are key to meeting fire protection objectives. Work has been done either in the recent past or is currently active on four of these fire defense systems. Cal Trans, the County Road Departments, and various agencies within SWIFT have spent time and dollars committed to improving the road corridors by treating hazardous fuels along these roads. Efforts have been directed at reducing the fuel loads adjacent to the roadbeds to provide "defensible space" for fire suppression personnel to have a reasonable chance to control fires safely and effectively. When treated, the roads provide a much safer access and egress for both the public and fire fighters. Maintenance within the project on the road corridors will be keyed to reinforcing Cal Trans and County efforts. Approximately 2 miles in the 2005 and 2006 program of work will be aimed at the following roads.

| Road Corridor       | Miles to Treat | Coordination | Responsibility | Priority |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|----------|
| Highway 120         | 2 mile         | Cal Trans    | FS             | 1        |
| Highway 49          | -0-            | -0-          | -0-            | -0-      |
| Priest-Coulterville | -0-            | -0-          | -0-            | -0-      |
| J132                | 1 mile         | Mariposa C.  | CDF/FS         | 2        |
| Ferretti            | ½ mile         | Tuolumne C.  | FS             | 3        |
| Greeley Hill        | -0-            | -0-          | -0-            | -0-      |
| Moore Creek         | -0-            | -0-          | -0-            | -0-      |
| Total               | 3 ½ miles      |              |                |          |

Estimated costs for this maintenance cannot be calculated at this time. The planned maintenance will be directed at treating fuels to a minimum distance of 50 foot from the roadbed edge. However, any treatment at any distance that reduces fuel loading along a road corridor is deemed of benefit. One of the critical objectives to doing the roadside treatment is to drop a potential canopy fire to a ground fire condition. Ladder fuel reductions are key.

See map section (System Maintenance Plan Maps) for areas proposed for coordinated maintenance treatments.

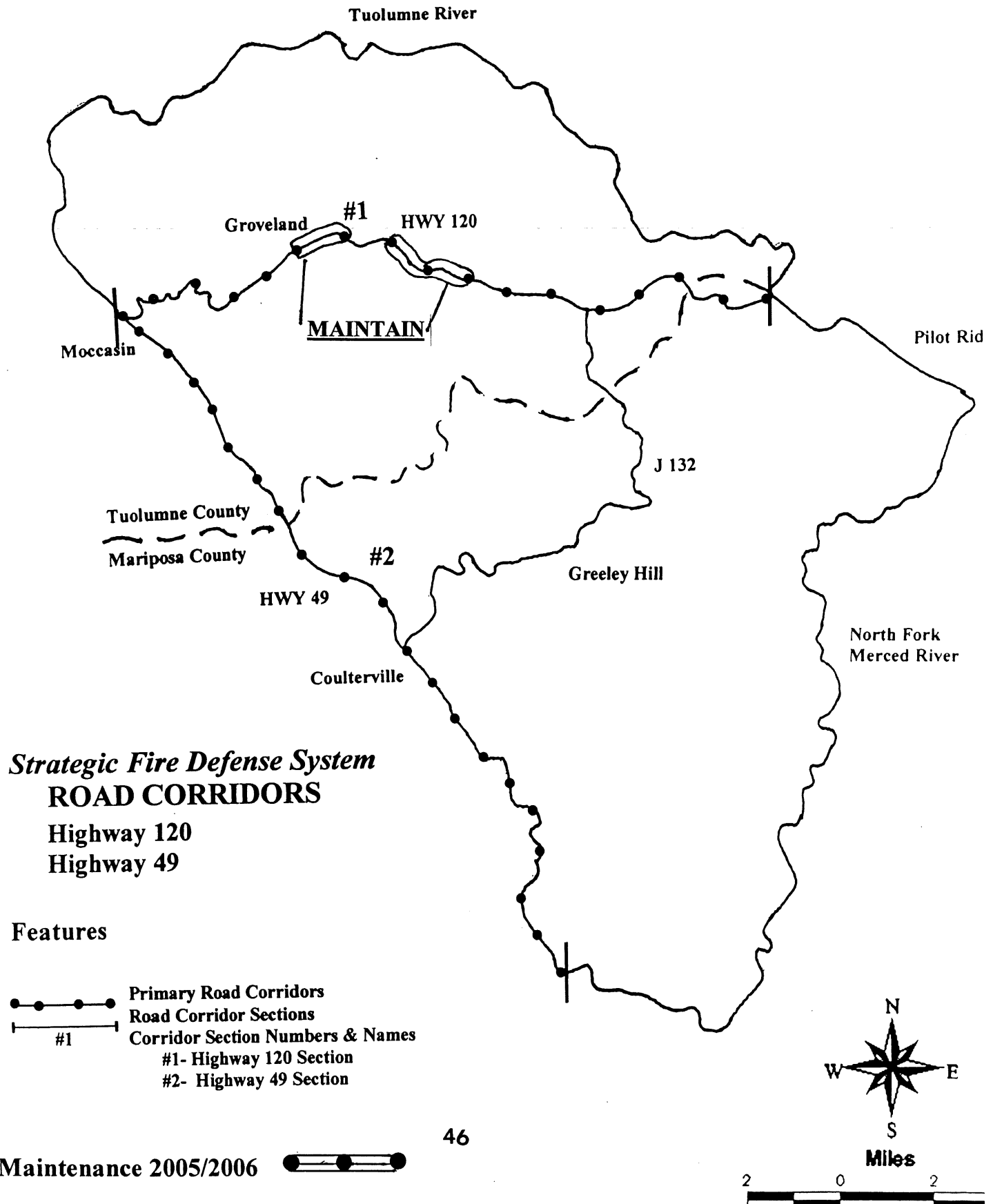


# Maintenance System Plan Maps

## Road Corridors

### Southwest Interface Project

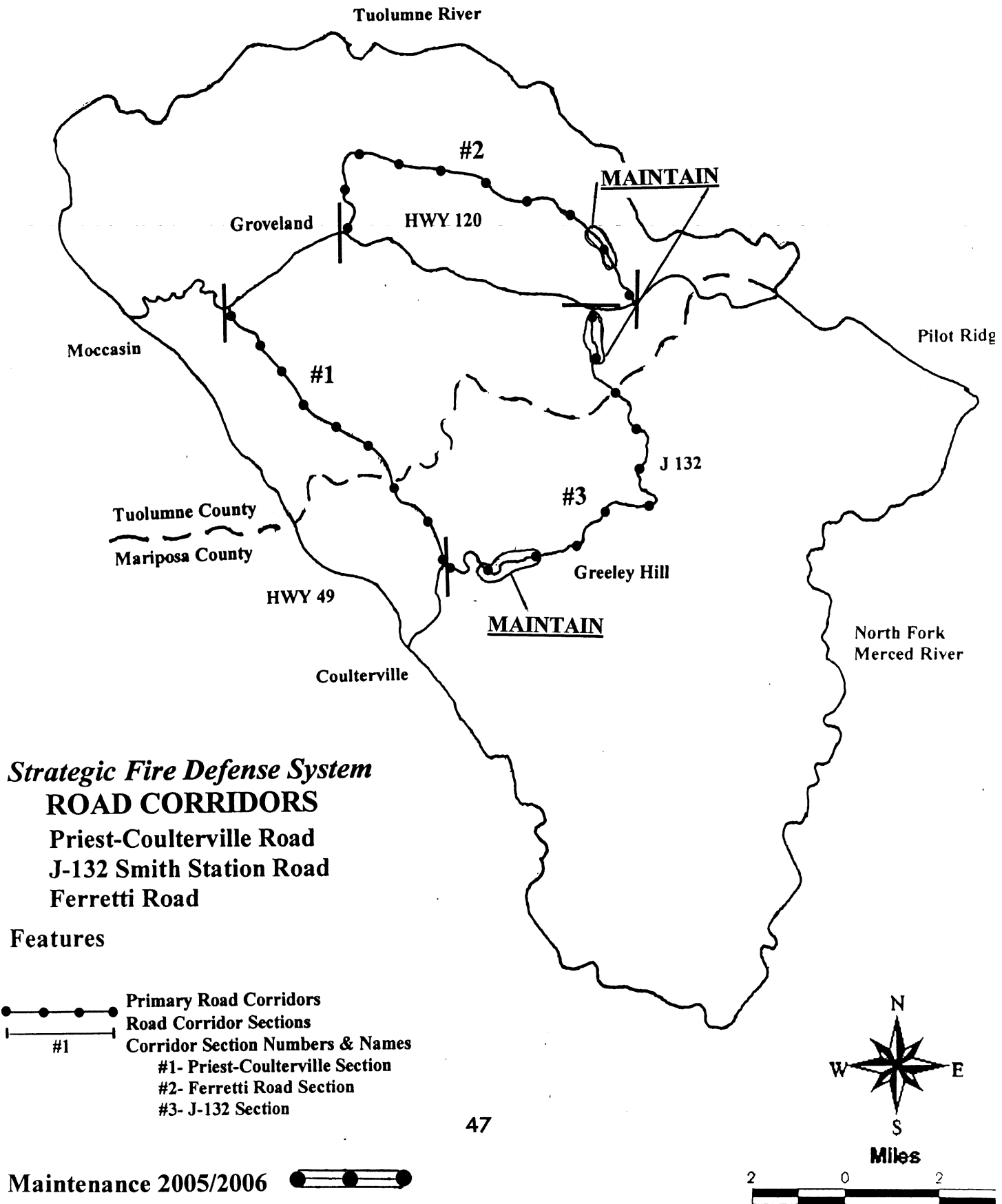
#### Program Support Maps





# Southwest Interface Project

## Program Support Maps





## Hazard Reduction Areas:

The project has seven primary areas where prescribed burning, mechanical treatments, large fire activities, and other miscellaneous fuel reduction treatments have been or will be concentrated. All of these projects will require some type of maintenance if they are to be kept at a level of fuel loading that would meet project fire protection objectives. At the present time there has not been a timetable for follow-up treatments. The following chart indicates a proposal for long-term maintenance that will be determined by the SWIFT at a later date:

| Project Name     | Treatment Planned<br>Or Completed | Date                                           | Responsible      | Follow-up                                         | Date                 |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Coulterville VMP | Prescribed Burn                   | 1999                                           | CDF-BLM          | Re-Burn                                           | 2012                 |
| Greeley Hill VMP | Prescribed Burn                   | 2005                                           | CDF-BLM          | Re-Burn                                           | 2015                 |
| Priest Reservoir | Misc. Treatments                  | on-going                                       | HHW&P            | As Needed                                         | 5-7 yr.              |
| Creek Fire HR    | Wildfire                          | 2001                                           | All              | Area Burns<br>400 acres<br>400 acres<br>400 acres | 2006<br>2008<br>2010 |
| Hetch-Anker VMP  | Prescribed Burn                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> -2002<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> -2005 | HHW&P<br>CDF-BLM | Re-Burn<br>Re-Burn                                | 2012<br>2015         |
| Pine Mtn. Lake   | Misc. Treatments                  | on-going                                       | CDF              | As Needed                                         | 5-7 yr.              |
| HHW&P Trans. L.  | Shred & Burning                   | on-going                                       | HHW&P            | Every 5-7<br>Years                                |                      |

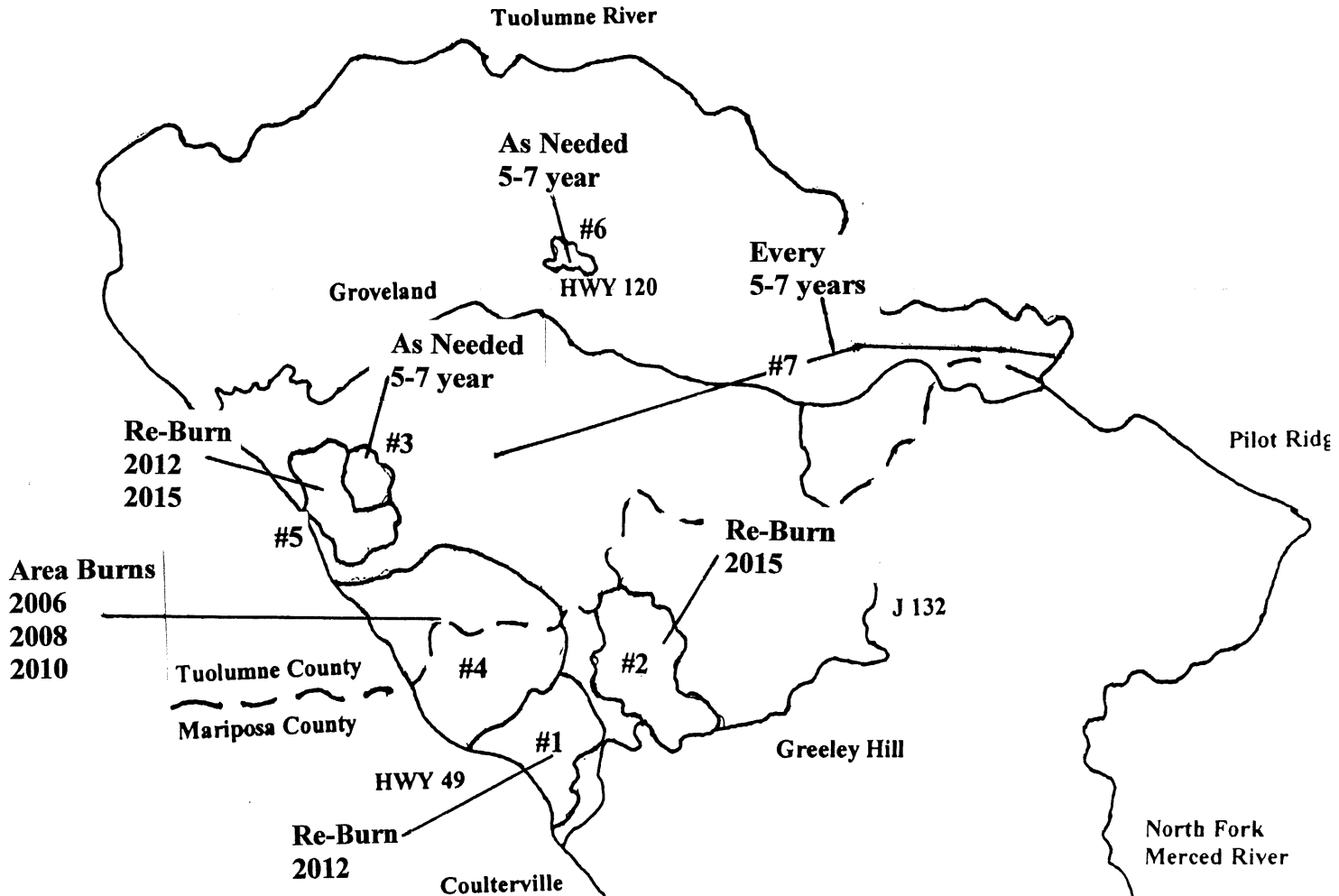
Others areas are being added to this listing and in most cases will be identified under a maintenance plan.

See map section (System Maintenance Plan Maps) for areas proposed for maintenance treatments.



# Maintenance System Plan Maps Hazard Reduction Areas

## Southwest Interface Project Program Support Maps



### *Strategic Fire Defense System* **HAZARD REDUCTION TREATMENT AREAS**

#### Features

- #1 – Coulterville VMP
- #2 – Greeley Hill VMP
- #3 – Priest Reservoir Project
- #4 – Creek Fire Restoration
- #5 – Hetchy-Anker VMP
- #6 – Pine Mountain Lake Project
- #7 – Hetch-Hetchy W & P Transmission Line

Long Term Projected Maintenance  
Follow Up

- "Re-Burn – 2012"

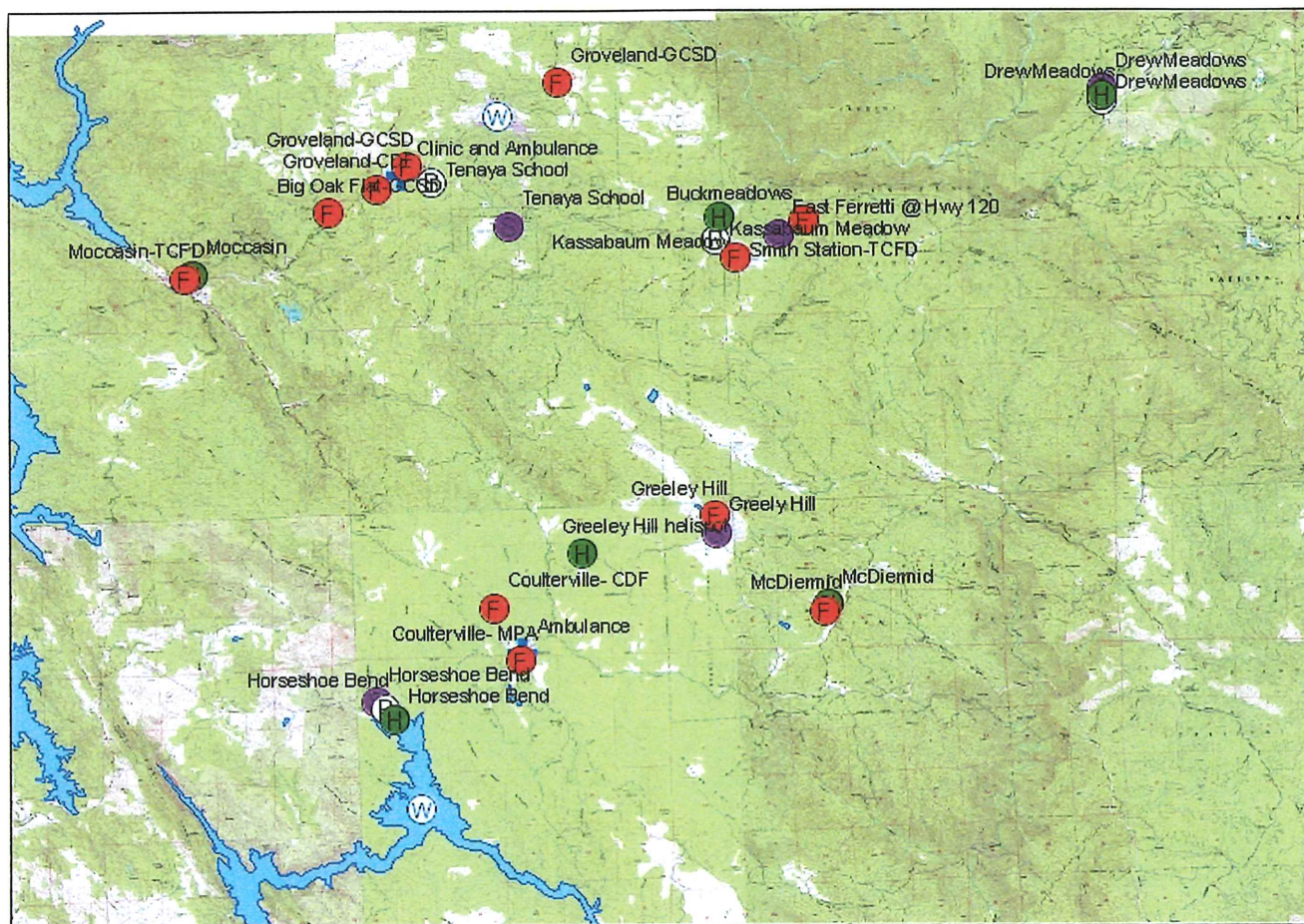


2 0 2  
Miles



## ***PRE-FIRE PLANNING***

The team has indicated that extensive work should be directed at the pre-fire planning effort over the next year. At the November SWIFT meeting work was done to identify specific elements that eventually will be displayed in the completed pre-fire plan. Three specific display layers will be completed over the next year (2005), and have been identified in the 2005/2006 Program of Work. The following documentation shows some of the data collected at the last SWIFT meeting.



### **Legend**

- F Fire stations
- H Helispots
- B Incident Base
- + Medical
- Staging area
- W Water



**Pre-Fire Planning**  
***Southwest Interface Project***  
**DATA COLLECTION EFFORT**

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**Incident Bases (500+)**

**Horseshoe Bend (Lake MC CLURE)**  
**Kassabaum Meadow (Off Highway 120) (In Project)**  
**Sonora Fair Grounds**  
**Moccasin (Review for limitations) (In Project)**  
**Drew Meadow (Off Cherry Oil Road)**  
**Jenkins Meadow (Kinsley Area)**  
**Mariposa Fair Grounds**  
**Linkletter Meadow (Questionable) (In Project)**  
***(Tenya, Buck Meadows, 200-)***

**Helibase (Multiple Types up to Type I) (Verify with Pilot Input)**

**Mariposa Airport**  
**Columbia Airport**  
**Baseline Camp**  
**Kassabaum Meadow (Lower Field) (In Project)**  
**Drew Meadow**  
**Jenkins Meadow**

**Helispots (Type II & III) (Verify with Pilot Input)**

**Horseshoe Bend (Boat Ramp Areas)**  
**Moccasin (In Project)**  
**Pine Mountain Lake Airport (In Project)**  
**Buck Meadows (Forest Service) (In Project)**  
**Greeley Hill (Meadow Areas) (In Project)**  
**J132 Helispot (In Project)**  
**Bandarita HS (Dip Site) (In Project)**

**Staging Areas (5 Strike Team Engines +)**

**Greeley Hill Market Area (In Project)**  
**Coulterville Area (In Project)**  
**Moccasin In Project)**  
**Casa Loma (Old 120) In Project)**  
**Sprague Road West (Off 120) In Project)**  
**Horseshoe Bend**  
**Second Garrotte (Old 120) (In Project)**  
**Henleys (Big Oak Flat) (In Project)**



**Helicopter Dip Sites (All Types) (Verify with Pilot Input)**

**Lake MC CLURE**

**Lake Don Pedro**

**Pine Mountain Lake (In Project)**

**Moccasin Reservoir (Limitations) (In Project)**

**Tuolumne/Merced Rivers (Pilot Discretion & Limitations)**

**Priest Reservoir (Approval Required) (In Project)**

**Wagner Valley Pond (In Project)**

**Water Sources (Other – Tanks/Systems)**

**Groveland CSD (Hydrant System) (In Project)**

**Buck Meadows (FS – Tanks with limitations 2-30,000 gal) (In Project)**

**Date Flat (Tank – 10,000 gal) (In project)**

**GCSD Tanks (Second Garrotte, Big Creek Shaft, Tenya) (In Project)**

**Moccasin (Hydrant System) (In Project)**

**Safety Zones/Evacuation Sites (With County Fire & S.O.)**

**Potentials In Project Area:**

**Pine Mountain Lake Airport**

**Pine Mountain Golf Course**

**Ferretti Road Baseball Field**

**Greeley Hill Market/Andy's Area**

**Hazards (With County Fire & S.O.)**

**Transmission Lines**

**Bridge Loads**

**Shafts**

**Towers**

**Storage Areas (Explosives, Fuels, etc.)**

**Junk Yards**

**Underground**

**Special Management Zones (With Land Management Specialists)**

**Wild & Scenic Rivers**

**Historic**

**Parks/Cemeteries**

**Domestic Water Source**

**T&E**



## **Fire Stations/Medical/Law Enforcement**

### **Fire Stations: (All In Project Area)**

Groveland CDF (Merrell Road)

Coulterville CDF (Highway 49)

Smith Station Vol. (J132)

Greeley Hill Vol. (Greeley Hill)

Coulterville Vol. (Coulterville)

Moccasin Vol. (Moccasin)

Forest Service (Groveland Ranger Station)

Forest Service (McDiarmid Fire Station)

Groveland CSD Fire Department (Main Street – Groveland)

### **Medical Facilities/Services: (All In Project Area)**

Groveland Medical Clinic (Groveland)

Groveland Ambulance (Groveland)

### **Law Enforcement:**

Groveland TC Sherriff Sub-Station (Groveland)

### **Evacuation Sites (With County Fire and S.O.)**

Tenya School (Highway 120)

