

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

5961 SOUTH MOONEY BLVD VISALIA, CA 93277

PHONE (559) 624-7000 FAX (559) 615-3002 Aaron R. Bock Reed Schenke Sherman Dix Economic Development and Planning Public Works

REED SCHENKE, DIRECTOR

MICHAEL WASHAM, ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Fiscal Services

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Doreen Alvez, Project Coordinator

Phone: (559) 624-7146

County of Tulare Pre-Solicitation Field Tour of Phase I Wildfire and Forest Hazard Mitigation Project on the U.S. Forest Service Sequoia National Forest

The County of Tulare, in collaboration with the USFS Sequoia National Forest, invites prospective contractors to participate in a pre-solicitation tour of two (2) transportation corridors slated for hazard tree removal and fuel reduction as part of an upcoming project.

Pre-Solicitation Tour Meeting Date:

November 20, 2024 at 11:00 a.m.

Meet at the first large turnout on Redwood Drive (M216/Hwy 190) on the left side of the road.

Geographic coordinates: Latitude/Longitude -118.60393, 36.15202.

The tour will provide an overview of Wildfire and Forest Hazard Mitigation Project Phase I, which will mitigate hazard trees and treat residual fuels on approximately 460 acres along County Road M216 (Redwood Drive and Alder Drive) and Forest Service Road 20S03 (Fox Farm Road). Project Information can be found at: https://tularecounty.ca.gov/foresthealth/forest-health-programs/project-pipeline-development/phase-i-forest-hazard-mitigation-project/

The Project is situated within the 2022 Castle Fire (SQF Complex) burn scar, which affected approximately 174,000 acres, leaving the area covered in hazardous, severely burned trees. Historic flooding in early 2023 led to increased erosion and reduced stability of the standing hazards. Years of drought, wildfire, and extreme weather have led to numerous fallen trees, indicating the danger presented by the remaining dead and dying trees along the transportation corridors.

This tour is being held before the solicitation of Request for Proposals (RFP) to ensure that potential contractors are able to view the Project before snow limits access during the RFP solicitation period. The RFP is anticipated for release in December 2024 or January 2025.

If you are interested in attending the pre-solicitation site visit, please RSVP to Doreen Alvez at <u>Foresthealth@tularecounty.ca.gov</u>. Please include your email and the number of people attending.