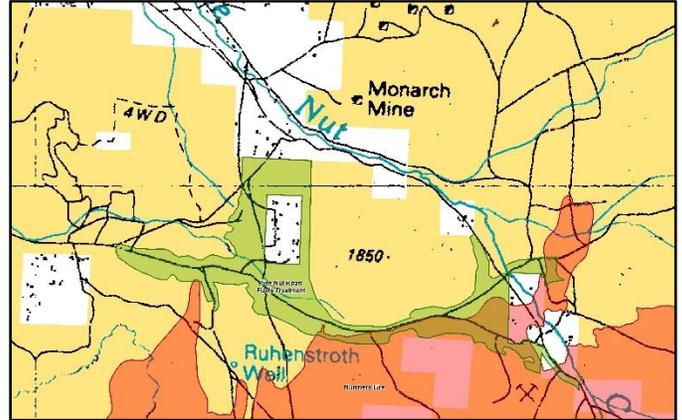


A Fuels Treatment Success Story – Pine Nut Road, Gardnerville, Nevada

Fish Springs is a community of approximately 700 residents located five miles east of Gardnerville, Nevada. Residences are generally grouped in small neighborhoods surrounded by public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Carson City District with little clear line of demarcation between wildland fuels and residences. A 2005 wildfire hazard and risk assessment classified the community in the High Hazard category.

Coordinated fuel treatment efforts in the Fish Springs community began in 2004 in the Pine Nut Road area where neighborhoods at the highest risk were located. Multiple collaborative meetings were held where the BLM, the East Fork Fire Protection District, the now defunct Nevada Fire Safe Council and area residents came together to discuss wildfire risk and mitigation alternatives for both public and private land. In 2005 the BLM initiated its fuels treatment efforts, mechanical thinning of brush and trees, around the Lena Lane neighborhood and along Pine Nut Road, the primary access/egress route for a number of area residences. In 2008 the BLM expanded the treatment footprint to include the area around the Bluebird/Bar J neighborhood and widen the treatment area along Pine Nut Road. The BLM conducted maintenance treatment on all previously treated areas in 2018. At the same time the BLM was conducting public land treatments, a group of area residents came together to form a Fire Safe Council chapter with a number of members completing private land fuels treatment with the Council's support.



Map Of Numbers Fire (Red) And Fuels Treatment (Green)



Fuels Treatment Along Pine Nut Road With Numbers Fire To Right

On July 6, 2020 at 7:01 PM the Numbers Fire started along Highway 395 south of Gardnerville, Nevada. The fire burned aggressively to the north and east through pinyon-juniper fuels under Red Flag conditions, impacting the Pine Nut Road fuels treatment four miles north of the fire's point of origin at approximately 10:00 PM. The treatment was mostly effective holding the fire in check, preventing further spread across the road where there were multiple neighborhoods in harm's way. The fire did cross the treatment at its narrowest point where unfortunately one primary residence was destroyed. Multiple private property owners in the same neighborhood the residence was destroyed had conducted and maintained private fuels treatment preventing their properties from being impacted by fire.

The BLM received multiple calls from area residents within days of the Numbers Fire impacting the Pine Nut Road fuels treatment thanking the BLM for their efforts to reduce wildfire risk to their community. Chief Carlini, East Fork Fire Protection District, wrote in an email "This is absolutely compelling evidence. We all need to support this type of effort. Great job BLM partners!". The BLM would like to thank all the partners involved in the efforts over the years to reduce the risk to the Fish Springs community.

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Untreated Private Property Left Of Fence, Treated Private Property Right Of Fence