

East Fork Fire Protection District

OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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EAST FORK TO BEGIN FUELS REDUCTION PROJECT IN AUTUMN HILLS AND JOB'S PEAK RANCH DEVELOPMENT

Minden-The East Fork Fire Protection District was awarded two Nevada Shared Good Neighbor Stewardship Grants to conduct fuels reduction work in the Autumn Hills area and at Job's Peak Ranch. The grants totaling \$285,222 will allow the District Fuels and Fire Crew to conduct fuels reduction work within both developments. The work will also include voluntary defensible space inspections for area residents.

East Fork volunteer personnel will conduct the property assessments and will soon be going door to door with information about the fuel reduction effort. District Chief, Tod Carlini, stated that the vegetation growth in the Autumn Hills area is now worse than the pre-Autumn Hills Fire that ravaged that development on June 23, 1996. The fire claimed four homes that day at the base of Kingsbury Grade and left a lasting scare across the hillside.

The District plans on establishing fuel breaks, aiding with defensible space around homes, thinning certain areas, and reinforcing natural fuel breaks along roadways. A community meeting was held last month where attendees were able to see the planning maps and receive additional information.

Work in the Job's Peak area will consist of slash and pile chipping of understory material. The Job's Peak Development was the recipient of a Community Wildland Fire Protection Grant three years ago. The new grant received by the District will allow for a continuation of work in that area. East Fork is working with the Job's Peak HOA.

Funding for the effort was provided by the Community Stewardship Grant Program using federal funds, which is managed by the Nevada Division of Forestry.

The District is working hard to secure additional funding for fuels management projects. Most recently, the District is working on securing grant funding for a \$300,000 project, which would fund similar fuels management work in the Eagle Ridge Development, north of the Town of Genoa. The District is currently working with the Town of Genoa with an additional fuels management program, also funded by grant funding.