

## **Scotts Flat Fire Fuel Reduction**



We are working hard to reduce the wildfire risk at our two campgrounds at Scotts Flat Reservoir.

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has awarded \$1.23 million in grant funding to NID to continue our fuels reduction program that began in 2013. The latest phase of work began this summer and will be completed by January 2022. In total, 300 acres of forested land will be treated.

In 2016, NID partnered with SNC and the California Conservation Corps to implement a fire fuels reduction project at Scotts Flat Reservoir, near Pasquale Road and adjacent to the dam.

In 2018, the attention was on dead, dying and diseased trees at the Scotts Flat Campground Gate 1. We selectively thinned and treated fire fuels throughout the campground, and also extended the fuel break on the northeast side of the reservoir.

The work has continued, and selective logging is completed along Casci Road, behind the Gate 2 Campground area and also behind the NID ditchtender's house, further out Casci Road. This work has added to the fire fuels treatment for NID parcels around the reservoir, on both side of the confluence where Deer Creek enters.

The cost to the District was \$475,215 during the past two years. However, we were able to harvest and sell more than 1 million board feet of timber and generate \$545,662 during 2018-2019. The additional \$70,447 was then used to treat more hazard trees at the campgrounds.

"You pay for hazard tree removal and understory thinning, but it's imperative you do it," said Neysa King, NID's environmental resources coordinator.

In a separate but complimentary project in 2019, we've masticated about 30 acres in partnership with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) in a California Forest Improvement Program project on the north shore of Scotts Flat. Related, this year Pacific Gas & Electric and their contractors re-entered previously cleared areas along Tier 3 power lines at Scotts Flat and Casci roads for further cleanup efforts. We will continue to work with PG&E to ensure that we are coordinating their wildfire risk reduction activities with our forestry activities.



