REDUCING THE RISK OF CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRE WHILE WORKING TOGETHER



Kanaka Shaded Fuelbreak in planning stage.



Firestorm cutting and burning piles.

KANAKA SHADED FUELBREAK COMPLETED

Working together with local, private contract crews Whiskeytown National Recreation Area was able to complete another critical link on its eastern boundary with the completion of the 6.5 mile Kanaka Shaded Fuelbreak. This fuelbreak is part of Whiskeytown's commitment to reducing hazardous fuels in the recreation area and near communities at risk.

The completion of this shaded fuelbreak had to jump several hurdles before it could even be started. An Environmental Assessment was written to address the potential impacts of this project including riparian areas, cultural resources, park trails and the Whiskeytown Environmental School that 5th and 6th grades attend throughout the year. Fire and Resources Management staff worked together to complete this project.

Once the project was approved, Firestorm, a private contractor was hired to finish the project. This 15 person handcrew worked through the spring, summer and fall cutting, stacking and burning piles as weather conditions allowed. The contract was for \$480,000 and completed in the winter of 2003. A total of 212 acres were treated.

The Kanaka Shaded Fuelbreak is a huge success for the Fire Program at Whiskeytown. Each accomplishment that reduces hazardous fuels and works towards restoring forest health is worth all of the the hard work and planning in the long run.