

## **Section 10: Conclusions**

The key values of the Carson Range, including communities, watersheds, scenic and intrinsic values, and the forest ecosystem values are at risk to catastrophic wildfire due to dense and overstocked forests, shrublands, and grasslands. Implementation of this plan will help protect the people, property, and natural values of the Carson Range by changing potential fire behavior in prioritized stands into a less volatile state. Across many jurisdictions, this plan will treat approximately 49,000 acres over the next 10 years. These treatments were proposed by the participating agencies and were designed to meet the local needs of their particular jurisdictions. The treatments range from small urban parcels to large strategically placed general forest treatments (discussed previously as SPLATs). Collectively, treatments are predicted to reduce potential fire behavior and restore forest health. Implementation of this plan is predicted to cost \$89,000,000 to \$149,000, 000 with annual expenditures averaging \$12,000,000.

While this plan proposes fuel reduction treatments in and around communities and the general forest throughout the Carson Range, one key to its success is the simultaneous development of defensible space around private residences, buildings, and the general infrastructure of the area. Participating agencies and organizations can facilitate this through an active education and enforcement campaign.

Finally, this plan will only be as successful as the continued commitment that each participating agency has to coordinate, communicate, and collaborate with each other and the people they serve. This continuing commitment will result in responsive and cost-effective wildfire prevention that ultimately will protect the people and values at risk in the Carson Range.

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