

## **Notice of Availability**

### **Supplemental Environmental Assessment Nevada City – Fuel Reduction – Deer Creek Environs Program City of Nevada City**

#### **U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency**

The City of Nevada City (City), California, has applied, through the California Emergency Management Agency, to the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for Federal financial assistance to reduce the risk to life and property by mitigating the wildfire hazard in the City (Proposed Project). The assistance would be provided through the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDMC-PJ-09-CA-2007-022).

The City's proposal consists of clearing vegetation (treatment) on approximately 40 acres (project area) within the City-owned Deer Creek Environs, an open space area. The Deer Creek Environs area has been designated a "very high fire hazard severity zone" by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (2008). Adjacent residential properties, the City's wastewater treatment facility, and nearby areas in the City are vulnerable to wildfires in the project area. The Proposed Project would reduce the risk of wildfire-related loss and damage in the City.

The Proposed Project would focus on reducing the biomass of non-native vegetation through trimming or plant removal. Most of the treatment would consist of thinning trees and removing brush and ladder fuels. The treatment would be completed exclusively with the use of hand labor.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, FEMA has prepared a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) to evaluate the impacts of the Proposed Project on the quality of the human environment. The SEA tiers from FEMA's *Final Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Typical Recurring Actions Resulting from Flood, Earthquake, Fire, Rain, and Wind Disasters in California* (December 2003). The PEA and the SEA are available at FEMA's website for Environmental Documents and Public Notices in Region IX: <http://www.fema.gov/environmental-planning-and-historic-preservation-program/environmental-documents-public-notice-5>.

Requests for a copy of the SEA or comments on the SEA should be sent to Environmental and Historic Preservation Office, FEMA Region IX, 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607, or emailed to Donna M. Meyer, Deputy Regional Environmental Officer ([donna.meyer@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:donna.meyer@fema.dhs.gov)). For more information, contact FEMA's Region IX Environmental and Historic Preservation Office at (510) 627-7728.

Comments on the SEA must be received by May 9, 2013. FEMA will take no further action on the Proposed Project until that date.