

# **Humboldt County Community Wildfire Protection Plan**

## **IV.4. Hoopa Planning Unit Action Plan**

### **IV.4.1. Hoopa Planning Unit Description**

The Hoopa *Planning Unit* encompasses 114,144 acres situated in the northeastern region of Humboldt County, south of Orleans and north of Willow Creek. The Unit area is shaped like a square, with approximately 12 miles on each side. The Yurok Indian Reservation lies to the north, and Six Rivers National Forest borders the Unit's southern and eastern sides. The Unit, which consists of rugged, mountainous terrain and a broad valley, is part of the Trinity River *watershed*. The Trinity River and its *tributaries* bisect the valley, flowing in a northerly direction towards its confluence with the Klamath River near the town of Weitchpec, just north of the Unit. Highway 96 follows alongside the Trinity River and serves as the main transportation corridor in and out of the area.

The land in this Unit is encompassed within the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation (HVIR), which "contains 90,519 acres and is the largest Indian Reservation in California."<sup>1</sup> The vast majority of the Unit is tribally owned, while less than 2% (1,553 acres) is private ownership. Approximately 2,600 people reside in this Planning Unit. The town of Hoopa comprises the community population center and Hoopa is, in fact, the only town within the boundaries of the Reservation. More populous areas of the Reservation include the Valley, Bald Hill, and Trinity Gorge. Other neighborhoods include Telescope Rd., Agency Field, Big Hill, Rice Lane, Upper and Lower Campbell, Hostler Field housing, and Norton Field Housing Authority.<sup>2</sup>

Most residences within this Unit exist in the *wildland-urban interface* (WUI). Average house values are approximately \$94,000, and mobile homes make up 38% of the housing on the Reservation. The Hoopa Valley has a flat-to-moderate slope; the Valley is where all of the businesses, schools, the post office, the tribal offices, and the majority of residences are located. The balance of the Reservation is characterized by mountainous terrain with about 75% of the mountain slopes exceeding 40%.<sup>3</sup> A map of this Planning Unit can be viewed in Figure IV.4-1: Hoopa Unit: CWPP Unit Map.

### **IV.4.2. Hoopa Community Process Summary**

A community workshop was held on June 18, 2012 at the Hoopa Tribal Council building for the purpose of gathering local information and garnering public input regarding various factors contributing to the extent of wildfire risk and/or preparedness among the communities in this Unit, and to provide information about the countywide community wildfire protection plan (CWPP) process. Those present discussed funding issues, plans for moving forward with the development of a Hoopa CWPP, and built upon the ongoing discussion of a potential local fire safe council (FSC). A group exercise, which involved maps of the Planning Unit area, invited those present to help identify and pinpoint on the map where particular *fire hazards* exist, the location of *protection resources*, such as fire water drafting sites, as well as values and *assets at risk* within the community that could be threatened by wildfire. These workshop processes also

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<sup>1</sup> Hoopa Valley Tribe. (2011). *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015* [Draft]. Hoopa, CA.

<sup>2</sup> County of Humboldt, Natural Resources Planning. (2006, August). Appendix G: Community Identified Values, Protection Resources, Risks and Hazards, and Projects. *Humboldt County Master Fire Protection Plan*. Retrieved from [http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/natural-resources/fire\\_safe\\_council/fsc\\_mfpp\\_cwpp.aspx](http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/natural-resources/fire_safe_council/fsc_mfpp_cwpp.aspx).

<sup>3</sup> Hoopa Valley Tribe. (2011). *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015* [Draft]. Hoopa, CA.

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provided an opportunity for participating community members to ask questions and provide information based on their local knowledge.

Participants were also asked to review pre-existing information illustrated on the maps which had been added by community members during similar workshops that took place during the initial planning process in 2006. This workshop and mapping exercise also facilitated discussion among community members about potential actions that could be taken to reduce fire risk in their community. Through discussion and collaborative processes, participants identified major hazard areas and compiled lists of project proposals for enhancing their community's fire preparedness.

The community-identified fire hazards, protection resources, and values and assets at risk discussed throughout the following sections of this Planning Unit Action Plan reflect information generated by these community workshop mapping exercises, as well as information resulting from direct outreach to local fire departments and residents.

The project proposals resulting from community member discussions are contained in section IV.4.8. Community-Identified Projects in this Planning Unit Action Plan.

### **IV.4.3. Hoopa Wildfire Environment**

Approximately 94% of the Hoopa Planning Unit is zoned "Very High Fire Hazard Severity," as determined by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE).<sup>4</sup> A small portion of the land area in the Valley, particularly along Highway 96, is zoned "High Fire Hazard Severity" (4%), while a negligible amount is zoned "Moderate Fire Hazard Severity." *Fire management* in the Reservation is divided into two Fire Management Zones (FMZs) by the Hoopa Wildland Fire Department's Prevention Plan. The first FMZ includes all the populated, WUI areas (Bald Hill, Gorge Valley, Valley West, and Highway 96) and contains 90% of the 10-year fire occurrence in just 47.3% of the Reservation acres. The second FMZ contains 52.7% of Reservation acres and only 10% of the 10-year fire occurrence; it is comprised of unpopulated, mountainous and forested areas with mostly steep terrain (Telescope, Pine, Hopkins, and Tish Tang).

The Unit is characterized by relatively wet, cool winters and dry summers. Local vegetation predominantly includes stands of Douglas-fir with white fir and red fir intermixed. Forests in the Reservation also contain "coastal redwood, giant sequoia, grand fir, western hemlock, western red cedar, incense cedar, Port Orford cedar, Jeffrey pine, ponderosa pine, sugar pine, and yew...stands of hardwoods (mostly oaks and Pacific madrone, with some pepperwood and red alder) are interspersed with the softwoods."<sup>5</sup> In the prairie lands, vegetation includes grass, ferns, wild rose, and briars.

*Ecosystems* and *plant communities* in this region are historically adapted to regular wildfire occurrence. Hoopa tribal members have traditionally implemented intentional burns throughout the Reservation area for ecological and cultural purposes. However, a heavy *fire suppression* campaign beginning in the 1930s has allowed the accumulation of dense, flammable vegetation in forest *understories*, which acts as *fuel* and increases the risk of high-intensity wildfires. Forest ecosystems, accustomed to low-intensity fires that would burn off *brush* and newer starts in the understory, become threatened by overcrowded forests and accumulated fuel. The extent that the *landscape* has been altered as a result of fire suppression is reflected in the *condition class* of the Unit area. Condition class describes the degree of departure from the historical *natural fire*

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<sup>4</sup> CAL FIRE (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection). (2007). *Fire Resources Assessment Program (FRAP)*. [Map showing Fire Hazard Severity Zone ratings within various geographic areas, mapped by county]. Fire Hazard Severity Zones Map. Retrieved from <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/>

<sup>5</sup> Hoopa Valley Tribe. (2011). *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015* [Draft]. Hoopa, CA.

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*regime*. Where the condition class indicates that fire has been absent for an unnaturally long time, the hazard and potential damages are high to both the environment and human developments in the area. Approximately 60% of the Hoopa Planning Unit is condition class 3, meaning the fire regime is significantly altered from the historical range; and approximately 30% of the area is condition class 2, or moderately altered from the historical range.

Responsibility for wildfire management over the years has fallen to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Hoopa Valley Tribe (HVT). Strategies have continued to strongly emphasize fire suppression, due to a large fire occurrence, with a ten year average of 194 wildfires annually.

In the past decade there has been frequent wildfire activity within and adjacent to the Unit. The names, year, and acreage covered by the most recent major fire events within this Unit are as follows:

- Megram Lightning Fire, October 1999: 4,830 Reservation acres.
- Hoopa Fire, July 1999: 54 acres.
- Shelton Fire, October 2001: 10 acres.
- Big Hill Fire, September-October 2002: 184 acres.
- Supply Creek #13 Fire, August- September 2002: 410 acres.
- Deerhorn Fire, September 2008:382 acres.
- Mill Creek 4 Fire, October-November 2009: 1,942 Reservation acres.

The costs associated with wildfire and other fire incidents between the years 1999-2010 in the Reservation are totaled at \$14,157,993.<sup>6</sup>

Humans are responsible for nearly all fire *ignitions* in this Planning Unit. Arson has been an ongoing problem throughout the Reservation, to the extent that arson or suspicion of arson has represented 90% of fire causes in the past decade. Less common ignitions result from campfires, trash burning and brush clearing, vehicles, and fireworks. Lightning is the sole natural cause for fires reported on the Reservation and is only responsible for 0.54% of fire starts in the past 12 years.<sup>7</sup> Accumulations of hardwood leaf *litter* as well as pine needle litter, tall grasses, ferns, brush and briars, large patches of huckleberry and downed woody debris can act as *hazardous fuel* that increase risk of ignition.

*Dead plant matter* and vegetation with low *moisture levels* within 100-150 feet of homesteads pose some of the greatest threats to *structural ignitability*. Of particular concern are houses with needles and leaves accumulating on rooftops or in rain gutters. Houses with wooden rooftops and siding add to this risk, as do the presence of wooden decks, particularly those with dead plant matter accumulated beneath them. The high percentage of mobile homes in the Unit is another concern for structural ignitability. Mobile homes are subject to the same risks as built houses regarding the accumulation of fuels on or nearby the structure; however, if ignition does occur, mobile homes have a greater propensity to burn rapidly and completely. Figure IV.4-2 found at the end of this Unit Action Plan illustrates risks and hazards identified by community members at public workshops and can be used as a key to access detailed descriptions of community-identified fire planning features on the Humboldt County Web GIS Portal, “Fire Planning” section: <http://gis.co.humboldt.ca.us/>.

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<sup>6</sup> Hoopa Wildland Fire Department. (2012). *12 Year Hoopa Wildland Fire Analysis* [Printed handout document distributed at Humboldt County CWPP community workshop meeting on June 18, 2012 at the Hoopa Tribal Council building]. Hoopa, CA.

<sup>7</sup> Hoopa Valley Tribe. (2011). *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015* [Draft]. Hoopa, CA.

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Highway 96 is the central *ingress and egress* route, with numerous smaller roads connecting residences and neighborhoods to it. Most of the structures within the Unit are not far from the main highway, but a few neighborhood groupings are more remote. The narrowness of smaller roads leading to remote residences could create complications for emergency vehicle response trying to gain access during simultaneous home evacuations. Landslides resulting from heavy rains falling on snow melt in the late winter and early spring could inhibit access and create hazardous road conditions.

The Hoopa Valley Public Utilities District provides potable water and *fire protection water* throughout the Hoopa Valley Reservation. Fire protection water may also be *drafted* from the following locations:<sup>8</sup>

- Legion Way – river access
- Tish Tang Rd.--river access
- Mill Creek
- The Mine
- Overhead fill on Supply Creek Rd.

The map in Figure IV.4-2 found at the end of this Unit Action Plan illustrates these *drafting sites* as well as other community-identified wildfire *protection resources*. The map can be used as a key to access detailed descriptions of community-identified fire planning features on the Humboldt County Web GIS Portal, “Fire Planning” section: <http://gis.co.humboldt.ca.us/>.

### **IV.4.4. Hoopa Values and Assets at Risk**

*Assets at risk* can be defined as those things that are important to quality of life that can be threatened with destruction or loss from wildfire. These may include community assets such as homes and businesses, as well as environmental values such as wildlife habitat, natural resources, and air quality, along with any other important attribute that individual communities rely on for their well being. Loss or damage to community assets as a result of wildfire can have short- or long-term impacts of varying severity, depending on the asset. Short-term loss caused by a *wildfire* can include the destruction of residences, commercial assets, timber, wildlife habitat, scenic vistas, and *watersheds*. Long-term effects may include displaced persons, smaller timber harvests, reduced access to affected recreational areas, and destruction of cultural, ecological, and economic resources, and community infrastructure.

The majority of *assets at risk* in this Planning Unit are residential homes and tribal facilities, along with a variety of commercial and service industries, community centers, medical and dental clinics, schools, museums, as well as infrastructure components, such as a water treatment facility. The Lucky Bear Casino is a noteworthy asset as well. The Unit also contains a prominent campground area, known as Tish Tang.

The map in Figure IV.4-2 found at the end of this Unit Action Plan illustrates values and assets at risk to wildfire identified by community members at public workshops. The map can be used as a key to access detailed descriptions of community-identified fire planning features on the Humboldt County Web GIS<sup>9</sup> Portal, “Fire Planning” section: <http://gis.co.humboldt.ca.us/>. Some of the community-identified assets at risk within this Unit include:

- Kimaw Medical Center, dental clinic, & rest home.
- Norton Field Housing Authority
- Cell tower on Bald Hill Rd. (TV, radio, phone)
- Bair Rd. to Hoopa (evacuation route)

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<sup>8</sup> County of Humboldt, Natural Resources Planning. (2006, August). Appendix G: Community Identified Values, Protection Resources, Risks and Hazards, and Projects. *Humboldt County Master Fire Protection Plan*.

<sup>9</sup> Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

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Timber is a highly significant commercial asset in this unit; 75,000 acres of the approximately 82,000 acres of forest are comprised of *merchantable timber*. Timber values on the Reservation are estimated in excess of \$300,000,000, and this figure does not include young, growing stock or plantations.<sup>10</sup> The Trinity River is also an asset at risk. The Tribe relies on the River's salmon populations for subsistence and ceremonial purposes, and low water levels can have devastating impacts on their *ecosystems*.<sup>11</sup> Numerous areas throughout the Reservation are held in high regard for cultural reasons as well.

### **IV.4.5. Hoopa Community Preparedness**

Community fire awareness and preparedness in this unit is abetted by the *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015*, which will replace the 2005-2010 Plan. The primary objective of this plan is to reduce unwanted human-caused ignitions, and it is intended to "provide direction and guidance for the implementation of wildfire prevention and hazard mitigation strategies within the boundaries of the HVIR based on the historical *wildland fire* problems."<sup>12</sup>

The Hoopa Forestry Department offers guidance to residents on how to plan for fire safety in their Ten Year Comprehensive Fuels Management Plan, which has been approved by the tribal government. The Department also competes for grant funding for conducting fire *hazard mitigation* projects on the Reservation and can conduct home risk assessments throughout the community.

Despite a lack of funding from the BIA, the Hoopa Wildland Fire Department (HWFD) has developed a fire prevention strategy that emphasizes the importance of enforcement in deterring incendiary fires. However, a lack of authority to prosecute suspected arsonists has stunted the growth of the program. This prevention program was greatly abetted when the CAL FIRE Arson Task Force started operations in Hoopa, beginning in July 2008. The presence of CAL FIRE arson investigators on patrol with full arrest authority led to a dramatic decrease in human-caused ignitions during the remainder of 2008. This task force continued operations during the fire season in 2009 and 2010 with similarly positive results.

When funding is available, the HWFD has also incorporated culturally sensitive fire prevention education in local primary and elementary schools. Additionally, when affordable, the HWFD participates in public outreach events such as local and county fairs, and *Fire Safe* days.

The Hoopa Tribe recently received funds to draft a hazard mitigation plan which will include a section for a *community wildfire protection plan* (CWPP). It is hoped that the CWPP will help set priorities for wildfire mitigation projects, inspire local wildfire preparedness action, and leverage funding to support projects. The Hoopa Tribal Council is currently discussing the possibility of creating its own local *fire safe council* (FSC) to assist with CWPP development and implementation.

The Hoopa Valley Tribe and various tribal departments can be reached by calling (530)-625-4795 or by visiting their website at: <http://www.hoopa-nsn.gov/>.

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<sup>10</sup> Hoopa Valley Tribe. (2011). *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015* [Draft]. Hoopa, CA.

<sup>11</sup> County of Humboldt, Natural Resources Planning. (2008). *Humboldt Operational Area Hazard Mitigation Plan; Volume 2 – Planning Partner Annexes*. (pp.2-7.) Retrieved from <http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/natural-resources/hazardmitigation/?inc=finaldraft>

<sup>12</sup> Hoopa Valley Tribe. (2011). *Wildfire Prevention Plan for the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, 2011-2015* [Draft]. Hoopa, CA.

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### **IV.4.6. Hoopa Wildfire Protection Capabilities**

The Hoopa *Volunteer Fire Company* (HVFC) is an all-risk organization with *structural fire* suppression as its primary mission. The HVFC was established by the Hoopa Valley Tribal Council and provides service to approximately 3,000 residents within 144 square miles<sup>13</sup>. It is made up of 14 volunteers, and their *apparatuses* include: one type-1 engine, one type-3 engine,, one rescue utility vehicle, a command vehicle, and a Yamaha jet outboard unit. The HVFC can be reached by calling (530) 625-1118.

The HVFC has a *mutual aid agreement* with the HWFD, which is primarily responsible for *wildland fires*, but can also assist in other emergency situations. CAL FIRE does not provide fire protection in the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, but will respond if assistance is requested. The HWFD is supported by ten full-time members, seven temporary members, and six seasonal members. Their apparatuses include: four type-3 engines, two type-4 quick attack engines, and one *water tender*. The HWFD can be reached by calling (530) 625-4366.

The HVFC is in need of more volunteers, particularly those who can be available all day, every day, as many volunteers are unavailable to respond during business hours, due to jobs or childcare responsibilities. Overgrown brush and tree limbs along roadways and in residential driveways can pose challenges to emergency response vehicle access. Similarly, brush accumulation around fire hydrants can be a hazardous issue.

### **IV.4.7. Hoopa Evacuation**

Evacuation from the Hoopa Planning Unit will travel either north or south along Highway 96, depending on law enforcement recommendations based on *fire behavior*, wind pattern, traffic, and ingress of emergency vehicles. There are numerous smaller roads connecting residences and neighborhoods to Highway 96. Adequate ingress and egress along these roads is vital to residents that may need to access the main highway *evacuation route* and for firefighters responding to wildfires near these neighborhoods.

The following are potential alternative evacuation routes; however, most of these roads are narrow and windy, traversing unpopulated and steep terrain and would therefore not be ideal for massive evacuation efforts:

- Mill Creek Road, leads northeast to Orleans
- Big Hill Road, leads east into Six Rivers National Forest territory
- Bair Road, provides westward access toward Redwood Valley and 299, via Stover Road
- Bloody Camp and Dowd Roads, provide northern access
- Pine Creek Road, leads north to Bald Hill Road which connects with town of Orick

Evacuation impediments may include: landslides, fallen trees, downed power lines, overgrown vegetation, poorly marked streets and intersections, and *one-way-in, one-way-out roads* that could inhibit evacuation and emergency response vehicles, or leave residents stranded should the roads become blocked.

During wildfire events that have the potential to threaten personal safety, community evacuation sites may be established where residents can go to survive a wildfire. Evacuation sites will be established in different locations depending on the anticipated path of the wildfire. The determination for the location of these sites is normally made by Humboldt County Emergency Operations Center Incident Commander in cooperation with an *Incident Management Team*. The

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<sup>13</sup>Humboldt County Fire Chiefs Association. (2012). 2012 Local Fire Protection Survey.

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Humboldt County Sheriffs and Emergency Officials will use mass communication and door-to-door methods to inform residents about the threat and where residents should go to take shelter.

If a catastrophic event occurs, residents may not be able to reach designated evacuation sites. In such cases, residents may need to make decisions on their own about seeking shelter where they can survive the passage of the wildfire until they can reach an evacuation site. It can be very difficult to determine the right thing to do as the fire approaches. Before a wildfire threatens, community members should talk to their local fire department about evacuation procedures in their neighborhood.

*See section V.2.3 in Part V. Fire-Safe Communities for more information on preparing for safe evacuation and evacuation planning for pets and livestock. Also see section II.3.5 Evacuation Routes and Vulnerability in Part II. Risk Assessment for information about evacuation procedures and challenges in Humboldt County.*

### **IV.4.8. Community Identified Potential Projects**

The following matrix includes community identified proposed projects based on input from the community processes discussed above. A detailed description of each heading in the matrix can be found in Appendix G: Descriptive Characteristics for Community Identified Projects Matrix. These projects are illustrated on the community-identified projects map found at the end of this Unit Action Plan (Figure IV.4-3). Projects include those carried over from the 2006 fire-planning process and those identified and refined during the 2012 County CWPP update process. This information can also be viewed on the fire planning GIS Portal. The GIS Portal allows users to search for and view specific fire planning features by location or to zoom into a desired area from an aerial view. To access the Portal, go to: <http://gis.co.humboldt.ca.us/> and choose “Fire Planning” from the list of mapping applications. The data collected through this Planning process are included in the GIS layers within the Portal.

No vegetation *treatments* recommended in this plan will be carried out without the consent and involvement of the property owner and all applicable local, state and federal regulations must be observed.

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LOCATION		Treatment/Project Information Eel Fire Planning Unit							
Number Corresponds with location on map	Community, Structure, or Area (Value at Risk)	Description	Status	Year	Type	Acres	Veg Type	Maintenance (actual or proposed)	Funding source (actual or proposed)
WCK120	Bald Hill, below cell tower	Bald Hill brush removal- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Landscape	52.85			grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK112	Redwood Grove Rd near Pine Creek Rd	Redwood Grove brush removal fuels reduction- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Roadside Clearance	26.78			grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK118	Community Service Road	Community Service Rd brushing- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Roadside Clearance				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK108	both sides of Hwy 96, center area of Hoopa	brush removal on State fee lands- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Roadside Clearance				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK115	Telescope Peak Road	Telescope fuels reduction- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Landscape				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK121	Campbell Creek/ Tish Tang	Campbell Creek brush removal- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Landscape				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK114	Beaver Creek Rd/Pine Creek Rd	Beaver Creek Rd fuelbreak- Hoopa	Treat-Med		Roadside Clearance				grant-landowner-Assn.

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LOCATION		Treatment/Project Information Eel Fire Planning Unit							
Number Corresponds with location on map	Community, Structure, or Area (Value at Risk)	Description	Status	Year	Type	Acres	Veg Type	Maintenance (actual or proposed)	Funding source (actual or proposed)
WCK414	Hostler Ridge Rd	Hostler Ridge - Piles need to be burned, retreated as shaded fuelbreak	Treat-Med	2012	Roadside Clearance				
WCK109	Dowd Rd, .5 mi. N of intersect w/ French Camp Rd	water tank on Dowd Road - Hoopa	Action Need	2010	Other - Water				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK123	Dowd Rd, 1.25 mi. N of intersect French Camp Rd	water tank on Dowd Road - Hoopa	Action Need	2010	Other - Water				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK124	Dowd Rd, 2.1 mi. N of intersect French Camp Rd	water tank on Dowd Road - Hoopa	Action Need	2010	Other - Water				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK126	Dowd Rd, 2.88 mi. N of intersect French Camp Rd	water tank on Dowd Road - Hoopa	Action Need	2010	Other - Water				grant-landowner-Assn.
WCK125	Dowd Rd, 2.67mi. N of intersect French Camp Rd	water tank on Dowd Road - Hoopa	Action Need	2010	Other - Water				grant-landowner-Assn.

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LOCATION		Treatment/Project Information Eel Fire Planning Unit							
Number Corresponds with location on map	Community, Structure, or Area (Value at Risk)	Description	Status	Year	Type	Acres	Veg Type	Maintenance (actual or proposed)	Funding source (actual or proposed)
WCK116	Telescope Peak Road	develop water source & tank Telescope Peak Rd- needs hardware- Hoopa	Action Need	2010	Other - Water				grant- landowner- Assn.
WCK411	Heck Creek drainage, Hoopa	Break up continuity of hazardous fuel buildup	Treat- Med	2012	Landscape				
WCK412	Tish Tang Campground, Hoopa	Hazardous vegetation clearance around campground	Treat- Med	2012	Landscape				
WCK413	Tish Tang North Campground, Hoopa	Hazardous vegetation clearance around campground north	Treat- Med	2012	Landscape				

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LOCATION		Treatment/Project Information Eel Fire Planning Unit							
Number Corresponds with location on map	Community, Structure, or Area (Value at Risk)	Description	Status	Year	Type	Acres	Veg Type	Maintenance (actual or proposed)	Funding source (actual or proposed)
WCK416	Campbell Field Road, Hoopa	High winds and fuel buildup. Highest fire occurrence in last 10 yrs - Needs Fuel clearance	Treat- High	2012	Landscape				

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### **IV.4.9. Hoopa Action Plan**

The following items are the initial priorities for community action for the Hoopa Planning Unit as recommended by this Humboldt County CWPP (not listed in order of priority). In an ideal world, everything recommended here would be implemented. However, it must be understood that implementation will be subject to the availability of funds and other resources and the willingness/ability of community members and Plan Partners to take action. This Action Plan can be cited in grant applications to leverage needed implementation funds and used to guide and inspire action.

#### **Enhancing Fire Protection**

- **Sustainable Fire Departments:** Community members within this Planning Unit should support their local fire department<sup>14</sup> through activities such as volunteering as firefighters or auxiliary members, making donations, supporting fundraisers, writing grants, and/or helping with administrative tasks. With community support, local fire departments can continue to provide a wide variety of vital emergency services.
- **Firefighting Water:** Increase the availability of water for fire protection by making water access locations known to fire departments and investing in more community water tanks. Neighborhood and road associations and/or *Firewise*® communities work with local fire departments to develop a “*Blue Dot*” program, which identifies the location of firefighting water sources by marking them with a blue reflective dot. This program also ensures that tanks and water systems are outfitted with fittings compatible with firefighting equipment. Begin by identifying where such a program is most needed. Focus initial efforts in the following areas:
  - Neighborhood along Telescope Peak Road.
  - Dowd Road, west of Highway 96, north of town.

#### **Creating Fire Safe Communities**

- **Firewise® Communities:** Pursue participation in the Firewise Communities/USA® Recognition Program with neighborhood groups in developed areas adjacent to the wildland, particularly where there are many residences located along dead-end roads. Actively implement and maintain the Firewise® action plan on an annual schedule.

#### **Reducing Wildfire Fuels (Flammable Vegetation)**

- **Roadside Clearance:** Manage roadside vegetation in order to improve and maintain access for emergency vehicles and ensure safe evacuation. Consider working with the California Conservation Corps or County Public Works Roads Division. Focus initial efforts along the following roads:
  - Redwood Grove Road, near Pine Creek Road.
  - Community Service Road.
  - Both sides of Highway 96.
  - Hostler Ridge Road.
  - Beaver Creek Road, near Pine Creek Road.
- **Landscape Fuels Reduction:** Construct *shaded fuelbreaks* as buffers between residential areas and wildlands to slow the progress of wildfires. This allows firefighters a higher probability of successfully protecting communities from wildfire damage. These buffers

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<sup>14</sup> All local fire departments within this unit are listed above with their contact information in the “Wildfire Protection Capabilities” section.

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may also protect the wildlands from the spread of fires originating within communities. The following areas are recommended for priority treatment in this plan:

- Hazardous vegetation clearance in and around Tish Tang Campgrounds.
- Break up continuous fuels near Heck Creek drainage.
- Fuel clearance around Campbell Field Road, an area with high winds and high fire occurrence.