

Developing Fuels Treatments for Balancing Fuel Reduction, Soil Exposure, and Potential for Erosion in the Tahoe Basin

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Annual Accomplishments Update (October 1, 2008-September 30, 2009)[†]:

Runoff simulations have been performed on 6 sites. Sites included masticated areas at Roundhill, SkyRanch, Angora, D.L. Bliss, Inspiration Point, and Ward Creek. At each site nine runoff simulation plots were constructed, with varied patchiness and depth of masticated fuel. Three 42 gallon runs were performed on each treatment, with the runoff collected in a fabricated steel collection apron. Samples were analyzed for suspended sediment and particle size. In order to complete this work, permits were obtained from the California Tahoe Conservancy, the California State Parks and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit of the United States Forest Service (USFS). We are in the process of identifying sites for the prescribed fire portion of the experiment. A total of 10 sites will be completed in summer 2010, 8 prescribed fire and 2 masticated sites.

[†] This document is an intermediate progress report, not a final report; consequently, any results should be considered preliminary and should not be cited. Please contact the principal investigators or the Tahoe SNPLMA Science Program Coordinator if you have questions.