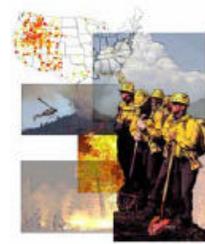


National Fire Plan

San Bernardino National Forest
Pacific Southwest Region
California



The North Lake Arrowhead Fuels Reduction Project was initiated in late August 2003 and involved the thinning of the overstory (tree canopy) to a spacing of 30 feet. In addition the brush was thinned and piled. The large oak component was left intact to retard suckering from stumps.

This project was in progress when the 2003 Old Fire occurred and proved to be a valuable point from which firefighters could anchor fireline and conduct firing operations. As the fire flanked the unit during a major push to the north, a finger of the fire established itself on a slope and followed the terrain uphill to the west toward numerous homes in a subdivision north of Lake Arrowhead. Fire did burn and spot into the project area, but was knocked down quickly by the rapid action of firefighters. Because of the reduced fire intensity, firefighters could attack the fire directly at the head as a result firefighters were successful in holding the ridge and preventing the fire from entering the subdivision.



The North Lake Arrowhead Project Unit 14 proved to be the last line of defense for numerous homes located above the lake.

A closer look at Unit 14
prior to the Old Fire.



While spotting occurred in
the shaded fuel break, fire
intensity had been reduced
to a manageable level.

Arrow denotes a flank of the Old Fire that eventually moved uphill toward the N. Lake Arrowhead Project Unit 14



The N. Lake Arrowhead Project served to break up the continuity and arrangement of the fuels that surround several subdivisions.

Contact: Bob Sommer, San Bernardino Forest Fuels Officer, 909-382-2635

For additional information on the National Fire Plan, visit www.fireplan.gov