

## Project compliance with regulatory framework:

- Endangered Species Act of 1973
- California Endangered Species Act
- The Native Plant Protection Act; CDFW Code, Section 1900 et seq.
- Nesting Migratory Bird and Raptors: CDFG Code Sections 3503, 3503.5, and 3800
- California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section 15380
- Nevada County General Plan

The project area has known occurrences and suitable habitat for the Federally Endangered **Stebbins' morning glory** (*Calystegia stebbinsii*), the Federally Threatened **Pine Hill flannel bush** (*Fremontedendron decumbens*), five additional sensitive plants including the **McNab cypress** (*Hesperocyparis macnabiana*), and the **Blainville's horned lizard** (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*), a CA listed species of special concern.

## Biologist's Role

Survey project area, identify and flag rare plant and wildlife species, and monitor their protection; Educate work crews to ensure use of best management practices to prevent impacts to rare species.

## TREATMENT FOCUS

- Remove live and dead fuels to eliminate fuel ladders, decrease horizontal and vertical continuity of flammable vegetation, decrease flammability, and accelerate decomposition. Healthy small trees and chaparral will be spaced to help prevent fire spread from canopy to canopy.
- Target post treatment average stand density is 75-100 square feet basal area on tree dominated sites. On brush dominated sites, at least one bush or groups of brush are retained at most 100 feet apart. On poorly vegetated sites, one shrub or group of shrubs are retained at most 30 feet apart.
- All conifer trees greater than 12 inches diameter breast height, hardwoods (oaks) greater than 10 inches diameter breast height, and brush greater than 8 inches stump diameter will be retained if deemed safe and spacing allows.
- Wildlife trees, snags and/or large woody debris will be retained as important elements of value to wildlife; at least one per acre averaged across the treatment unit.
- Soils, site factors, and timing must be suitable for equipment to avoid excessive compaction, rutting, or damage to soil surface.

**Manzanita** is a target species for removal due to its high burning intensity and ability to send embers a long distance. Large shrubs with trunks greater than 8-inches will be retained when spacing allows.

**Oaks** are not a target species and will be retained for shade and habitat if they are healthy and spacing allows. Multi-trunked oaks will be thinned to promote canopy growth.

**Riparian** overstory trees will be retained as much as possible for shade. Riparian vegetation such as **willow, cottonwood, redbud, dogwood**, and the like, will be retained. **McNab cypress**, common along streams, will be retained and limbed to 6 feet and young trees will be thinned.

No fuel piling or burning will occur in waterways.

Non-target plants including **coffeeberry, redbud, silk tassel** and **toyon** will be retained for wildlife food and cover, as spacing permits. These species are not highly flammable, as are manzanita.

