

# **Appendix B**

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Fuel Reduction Treatments Used In The  
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#### **Riparian Treatments**

Areas indicated as “Riparian Treatment” contain willow vegetation with dense herbaceous understory. The woody vegetation is characterized by a dense tangle of dead branches, dying willows, and accumulations of tumbleweeds and other flammable materials. In dry conditions, drainages can serve as a wick and rapidly carry fire past control lines.

Treatment for these areas includes aggressive pruning of the dense riparian woody vegetation to break the fuel continuity. This pruning will also encourage more abundant green riparian vegetation growth, which will be a better defense against wildfire. Native surrounding vegetation should be thinned for a distance of 100-150 feet upslope of the riparian area.

#### **Grazing Treatments**

The need to proactively prevent the invasion of large unbroken stands of cheatgrass is urgent. Sheep grazing treatments are being implemented annually to directly address the threat of cheatgrass invasion on the areas burned by the Waterfall Fire. Targeted grazing during a window of opportunity in the spring when cheatgrass is beginning to green-up but seeded and native fire-resistant species are still dormant will reduce cheatgrass seed production and give desired grass species better conditions in which to establish.

#### **Dumpster Programs**

A partnership between the Nevada Fire Safe Council and the Carson City Fire Department provides the use of a dumpster and trailer for residents to use for disposal of fuels reduction residues collected on private property. For the past four years the BLM District Office has provided funding to the CCCFD through the Community Assistance Grant. In one year, five Fire Safe Chapters (Timberline, Kings Canyon, Lakeview, North Carson, and Mexican Dam/Pinion Hills) filled 164 trailer loads and 61 dumpster loads for a total of 160 tons of biomass removed from residential defensible space zones.

In another partnership, the Nevada Division of Forestry and the USFS had specialized roll off bins fitted to a Freightliner truck and used them to collect woody residues from large-scale fuels reduction projects in the region. Slash and green waste was delivered to a biomass-fueled combined heat and power plant at the Northern Nevada Correctional Center. This infrastructure helps to divert biomass from burn piles in the field into a biomass delivery system for energy generation.

## Six Steps to Creating an Effective Defensible Space. (UNCE 2005)

1. Define the size of an effective defensible space for individual residences. The recommended size will vary depending on surrounding vegetation and slope, according to the following guidelines:

**Guidelines for determining an effective defensible space  
distance on residential lots.**

	<b>Flat to Gently Sloping 0-20%</b>	<b>Moderately Steep (21-40%)</b>	<b>Very Steep (+40%)</b>
<b>Grass</b>	30 feet	100 feet	100 feet
<b>Shrubs and Woodland</b>	100 feet	200 feet	200 feet
<b>Trees</b>	100 feet	100 feet	200 feet

2. Remove dead vegetation
3. Create a separation between live trees or shrubs to break the horizontal continuity of fuels. For shrubs and small trees, create a spacing equal to twice the height of the remaining shrubs. This spacing will be greater on steeper slopes. For trees, leave a distance of at least ten feet between live canopies.
4. For trees in the defensible space zone with shrubs in the understory, ensure that there is adequate space between the understory vegetation and the tree branches above to prevent flames from reaching the canopy. A rule of thumb is to leave a space between tree branches and shrubs that is equal to three times the height of the understory shrubs by pruning tree branches and shrub tips.
5. Create a lean, clean and green area extending at least 30 feet from the house.
6. Maintain defensible space.