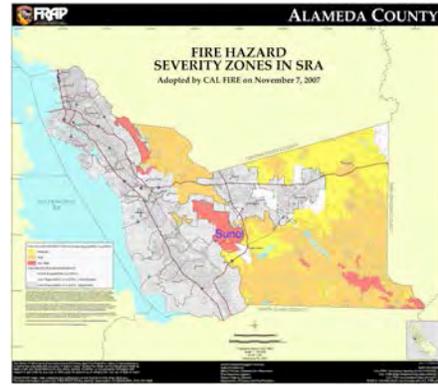




Sunol Fire Safe Coalition Community Chipping and Fuel Removal for Wildfire Safety

Project cost: \$50,000

Contractors: Llamas Tree Service, Alamo
Roman's Tree Service, Orinda
Ethan J. Hartsell (project management)



Sunol is an unincorporated community in southern Alameda County. Home to 629 residents, it is located within a very high fire hazard severity zone as identified by CAL FIRE.

In the Spring of 2015, Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) observed that the continuation of the exceptional drought was hitting their customers hard, especially when it came to wildfire safety. Diablo Fire Safe Council and the Sunol Fire Safe Coalition requested funding to continue their 2014 program of fuel reduction and community chipping. PG&E provided immediate funding and residents went to work. A project coordinator and six volunteer area liaisons helped organize projects and professional crews.

During the months of July and August PG&E funds were used for 26 days of professional tree service crews that removed over 50 dead trees adjacent to homes on 38 private properties. Over 10 acres of brush were removed and trees limbed up around Sunol Glen Elementary School, the Community Park, Patrecia Park and along Upper Kilkare Road that serves as the only way in and out of the canyon. Residents provided hundreds of volunteer hours to cut and move tree limbs and brush to five chipping sites located throughout the community. Thanks to PG&E funding and everyone's hard work the community will be more fire safe should a wildfire ignition happen in Sunol.



Before



During

Professional tree service crews removed over 50 dead trees adjacent to homes on 38 private properties.



Before



During

Residents provided hundreds of volunteer hours to cut and move tree limbs and brush to 5 chipping sites located throughout the community. PG&E funds were used for professional contractor chipping services.

Funding provided by Pacific Gas and Electric Company and a National Fire Plan grant from the Cooperative Fire Program of the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, Pacific Southwest Region, through the California Fire Safe Council.

Project partners included Fire Safe Sunol Coalition, CAL FIRE Santa Clara Unit, Alameda County Public Works and residents of Sunol.