Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG) Request for Project Support | Submission Form

(Link to download word version of the submission form)

<u>Instructions:</u> Complete this form when seeking project development engagement or support from the ACCG. Before completing this form, please review the ACCG Project Development & Support Process (see <u>flowchart</u>) and ACCG Project Endorsement Guidelines (see <u>guidelines</u>). Contact the ACCG Administrator with questions: Megan Layhee, meganl.chips@gmail.com.

1. Submission Date: 11/17/2021

2. Project Name: McKays Strategic Fuelbreak

- 3. Organization/Entity Requesting Support: Calaveras Amador Forestry Team (Cal Am) and USFS
- 4. Project Proponent Contact (name, phone, and email address):

Carinna Robertson 209-813-6039 carinna.robertson@usda.gov

- 5. Committed Project Partners: Cal Am Team, Calaveras County Resource Conservation District
- 6. Grant Program (if applicable) or Prospective Funding Sources: Cal Am Team will pursue funding once the receives support.
- 7. Name and address to whom the Letter of Support from the ACCG should be addressed:

Jason Kuiken – Stanislaus Forest Supervisor 19777 Greenley Rd. Sonora, CA 95370

8. Due Date for Letter of Support:

December 1, 2021

- 9. Project Budget Total Amount: No funding requested, the Cal Am Team will pursue grant funds once project is approved.
- 10. Project Dollar Amount Being Requested through Grant Program (if applicable): \$1M \$1.5M
- 11. Has this project been presented to the ACCG before? If so, describe prior engagement with the ACCG about this project.

No, I've mentioned the project at meetings, but never formally presented.

12. Project Details

a) Describe the specific location of the project, the existing condition of the landscape, the project's purpose and need/goals and objectives, the work that will be performed and the project acreage.

The legal description: T4N R15E Sec. 27,34,35 and T5N R15E 2, 3, 4, 9, 10

Existing Conditions: Elevation 3,700-4,500, Sierran mixed conifer with high density of ground (i.e. deer brush, manzanita and poison oak) and ladder fuels (i.e oak, maple and dogwood).

Project Goals: Protect the Highway 4 communities against wildfire

Project Objectives:

- 1) Restore/maintain the historic Mckays fuelbreak.
- 2) To extend and connect the multijurisdictional cooperative fuelbreak.

Project Description: Mastication, Precommercial Thin, Biomass Removal and Salvage

Thin **Project Acres:** 1088

b) Describe the local Environmental benefits of your project. Please reference the *ACCG Principles* and *Policies* in your response (See <u>Principles</u> and <u>Policies</u> document).

This project will protect and enhance water and soil quality, reduce the frequency and intensity of wildfires that threaten the community and ecological resources, and will reduce forest fuel loads to manageable and sustainable levels.

- c) Indicate with an X which of the following local Community and Economic benefits your project will provide (See <u>Principles and Policies document</u>). The following checklist is intended to help ACCG members understand the community and economic benefits of individual projects and to provide opportunities for dialogue aimed at enhancing and promoting such benefits, when possible. Please check all boxes that you believe apply to some extent.
 - X Provides local, sustainable jobs with fair compensation.
 - X Supports and strengthens locally-owned businesses.
 - X Includes bid preference for local contractors. Local refers to those areas within the ACCG
 - X Supports local investment, purchasing and ownership of forest enterprises.
 - ☐ Includes job training and/or certification opportunities.
 - *X* Provides local community education and engagement opportunities.
 - X Reduces potential damage to life and property by promoting the creation and maintenance of fire-safe communities.
 - X Protects critical infrastructure and uses such as water and power, roads, sewer, communications, etc.
 - X Enhances or protects drinking water quality.
 - X Enhances or protects healthy forest-based activities such as recreation, hunting, and fishing, etc.
 - ☐ Creates or expands uses or local markets for "underutilized" forest products (i.e., biomass, firewood, mushroom foraging, etc.).

- ☐ Uses local and regional networks and markets to optimize local benefits (e.g., firewood sold locally in stores and distributed to those in need, Christmas trees, fiber board & wood-shaving facilities, etc.).
- *X* Includes community engagement and education in planning and implementation.
- X If cultural resources present, engages tribal representatives early and consistently from conceptual planning through implementation and monitoring to ensure respect and sensitivity to Native American cultural sites, practices, resources.
- X Protects historical or locally important sites.
- X Protects and/or enhances scenic beauty.
- X Incorporates cooperative partnerships that increase effectiveness and local competitiveness.
- *X* Includes an assessment of community and economic benefits.
- 13. Describe desired outcomes/future conditions that the project achieves/supports.
 - Our desired outcome and future conditions are for us to achieve a defensible fuelbreak that will protect our Hwy 4 community.
- 14. Describe the status of environmental documentation (NEPA/CEQA/other).
 - The area is covered under the Brown Darby EIS 2002. We just need the ACCG support to have FS staff review the EIS and determine is conditions have changed, what surveys need to occur and what is the potential affected environment.
 - If no concerns of change or existing conditions, then create a letter to the file and confirm that responsible official concurs.
 - If concerns of changed conditions, then we'll need supplemental NEPA or a revised EIA and public comment period.
- 15. Attach project map and any other supporting documentation that would enhance the ACCG's understanding of the project.



