



Pine Valley Fuel Break

Increased Fiscal Year 2003 Hazardous Fuels Reduction funding provided by National Fire Plan implementation has permitted the Cleveland National Forest to re-establish and extend the Pine Valley Fuelbreak. Pine Valley is a rural community of approximately 1,000 residents about 60 miles east of San Diego, located in the center of the Descanso Ranger District. The entire urban intermix community is at risk from wildland fire. A fuelbreak was established on the east side of the community many years ago to provide protection from the threat of Santa Ana wind-driven fires, however funding limitations in recent years restricted maintenance of the fuelbreak and the fuelbreak's ability to protect Pine Valley from wildfire was significantly reduced. Taking advantage of an increased workforce built over the last three years as a result of National Fire Plan implementation; hand work, mechanical treatment, and prescribed fire were used this year to re-establish the fuelbreak and extend it on the north side of Pine Valley. This work has reduced the risk of damage to the community by wildfire and provided a line of defense for firefighters should a fire occur. With the continued availability of National Fire Plan Community Assistance funds, plans are in the works to increase public involvement and work cooperatively to reduce risk, minimize hazards, and protect the values in Pine Valley.

