

California | Amador Calaveras Cornerstone Collaborative Landscape Restoration Project | 2016



Total acreage of
landscape: 390,904

Partners

- Amador County Veterans Organization
- Amador Firesafe Council
- Amador-Calaveras Cooperative Association for Biomass Utilization (ACCABU)
- Blue Mountain Community Renewal Council
- Blue Mountain GIS
- Buena Vista Biomass Power
- BLM
- CA Department of Fish and Wildlife
- CA Indian Manpower Consortium
- Calaveras Foothills Firesafe Council
- Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions (CHIPS)
- Calaveras County District 2
- CalFauna
- CalFire
- Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center
- Central Sierra Resource Conservation and Development Council
- Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch
- Foothill Conservancy
- Forest Service – Eldorado & Stanislaus NF
- Gwen Starrett
- Heissenbuttel Consulting
- John Hoffmann
- Mary Boblet
- Motherlode Job Training
- NRCS
- Pacific Gas and Electric Company
- Sierra Forest Legacy
- Sierra Nevada Conservancy
- Society of American Foresters
- Smith's Grinding
- Steve Wilensky
- The Nature Conservancy
- Vicini Brothers Green Material Recycling
- West Point Fire District

2015 Results

- \$1.6 million estimated total labor income
- 1,945 acres of fuel reduced near homes
- 1,617 acres of forest vegetation improved
- \$304,000 partner match on National Forest System lands



The Big Lily Gap Biomass Demonstration Project on BLM land outside West Point is part of the ACCG Cornerstone's all-lands approach. © <http://acconsensus.org>

The Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group Cornerstone Project covers 390,904 acres, including the headwaters of four significant California rivers: the Stanislaus, Calaveras, Mokelumne, and Consumnes. The watersheds are important ecological, social and economic resources whose value extends from the Sierra west to the San Francisco Bay Area. The project works to enhance forest and watershed resiliency - reducing the risk of damaging mega-fires, protecting municipal water supplies, and supporting local jobs.

As President of the Foothill Conservancy, and a long-time resident and environmental activist, Katherine Evatt knows Amador and Calaveras Counties. Katherine fondly remembers the first meeting of the Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG). Katherine saw the group's launch as "an opportunity to do a great thing by getting people from different walks of life together to help our community and watersheds."



Katherine Evatt © Brent Parsons

Later, Katherine helped develop the ACCG's Cornerstone CFLR proposal. The CFLR project encompasses 390,904 acres within the Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forests. It will produce about 143,000 CCF of sawtimber and 66,000 green tons of biomass. It is anticipated that more than \$9 million will be saved in future wildfire management costs. The CFLR project aims to create and maintain an estimated 204 part and full-time jobs, with a labor value of approximately \$796 million.

Katherine incorporates local socioeconomic benefit into ACCG's work even though her group's primary focus is the environment. "I live here, first and foremost," explains Katherine. "We need to do what we can to put local people to work making our forests healthier and our communities safer from the threat of wildland fire."

The ACCG is proud that they continue to work together after encountering challenges like the 2015 Butte Fire, which destroyed over 500 homes.

The Butte Fire, one of the most destructive in California history, started in the Mokelumne River Canyon. The fire spread rapidly into the Calaveras River Watershed and obliterated entire communities. Katherine believes that ACCG's projects helped protect other communities and its collaborative relationships support post-fire efforts. "The Butte Fire was heartbreaking. If we had started these restoration efforts 20 years ago, we might not have lost 500 homes." The ACCG is leveraging the group's expertise and creativity to address tree mortality and support the infrastructure needed to handle dead and dying trees.

Contact information

Kimberly Grissom
ACCG Administrator
Kimberly@bluemountaingis.com / (209) 479-0868