

Good Fire at Acjachemen “Junco” Meadow

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Cleveland National Forest

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“All or part of every national forest and grassland is carved out of the ancestral lands of American Indians and Alaska Native peoples. Indigenous communities across the country still maintain strong historical and spiritual connections to the land, connections that have not been extinguished despite changes in land ownership.”

U.S. Trust Responsibility

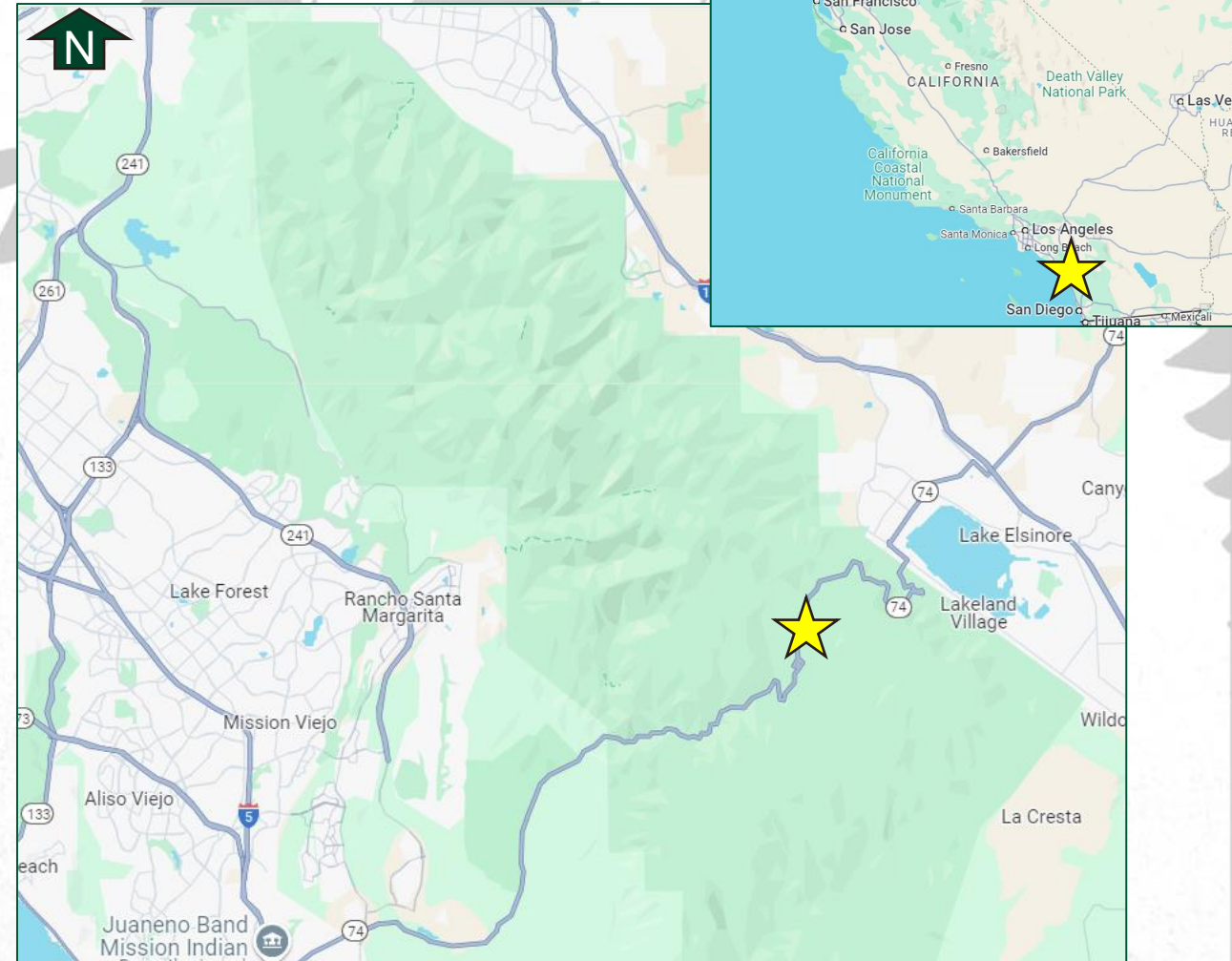
“Every part of the Forest Service involves Tribal relations; every Forest Service employee shares in that responsibility.”

FSM 1500, Ch 1560 & FSH 509.13

- The federal Indian trust responsibility is also a legally enforceable fiduciary obligation on the part of the United States protect tribal treaty rights, lands, assets, and resources, as well as a duty to carry out the mandates of federal law with respect to American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and villages.
- Tribes are unique among all parties that the Forest Service engages with. They are not partners. They are not stakeholders. They are not a special interest group. They are sovereign nations with a unique political relationship with the United States dictates how we engage.

Acjachemen “Junco” Meadow

- Acjachemen (Juaneño), Payómkawichum (Luiseño), and Tongva (Gabrieleno)
- Trabuco District, Cleveland NF
- Seasonal meadow
- Coast live oaks, elderberry, California buckwheat, basketbush, rushes



Cleveland National Forest

Project Goals

“Approximately 26 acres in the Junco Meadow area located between the Ortega Highway and Decker Canyon Road would be treated over a four-year period using broadcast burns that are timed to encourage the growth of native grasses and to discourage the growth of non-native species.” (Decision Memo Old Dominion Fuel & Vegetation Treatment Project, 2010)

Decision Memo

Old Dominion Fuel and Vegetation Treatment Project

*Trabuco Ranger District, Cleveland National Forest
Orange and Riverside Counties, California
Township 6 South, Range 5 West, Sections 7, 8, 18, and 20
Township 6 South, Range 6 West, Sections 12 and 13*

1. Background

The Trabuco Ranger District proposes to reduce the risk of fire spread in the vicinity of El Cariso Village and Blue Jay Campground by performing prescribed burning and mechanical fuels treatments. In addition to reducing the risk of fire spread, proposed activities would promote forest health, reduce invasive species, and rejuvenate native grass species.

The proposal would treat approximately 250 acres of vegetation using a combination of mechanical treatments and prescribed fire. The project contains four primary treatment areas:

1. Approximately 113 acres along the North Main Divide Road (3S04) would be treated using a broadcast burn to target 60 to 80 percent of the brush.
2. Approximately 81 acres in the Blue Jay Meadows and surrounding oak woodland area would be broadcast burn with targets of: 80 to 100 percent consumption of the grasses in the meadow; 50 percent reduction of the litter and duff component under the oak woodland; 60 to 80 percent reduction of the encroaching brush in both the meadow and oak woodland.
3. Approximately 25 acres between the Mystic Oaks Resort and Long Canyon Road (6S05) would be treated mechanically by hand cutting 50 to 60 percent of the brush into piles or windrows, followed by prescribed burning of the piles or windrows under favorable weather conditions.
4. Approximately 26 acres in the Junco Meadow area located between the Ortega Highway (State Route 74) and Decker Canyon Road would be treated over a four-year period using

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Spring



2015



2020

2015



2021



April/May 2020- Pre-Fire Conditions



March 2021- Broadcast Burn



Chairwoman Lucero of the Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation, Mr. Sanchez of the Chia Café Collective and Audrey Pazmino, Archaeologist (CNF) discuss burn plans



Basketbush igniting



Fire engine crew wet lining





Condition





Shortpod mustard!



Engine crew weeding

Airport Fire 2024- Acjachemen Meadow



Airport Fire 2024- Acjachemen Meadow



Airport Fire 2024- Acjachemen Meadow



Airport Fire 2024- Blue Jay Meadow



9/16/2024



9/26/2024

Acknowledgements

- Chairwoman Heidi Lucero, Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation
- Abe Sanchez, Chia Café Collective
- Cleveland NF staff



Thank You!

Questions?

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