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Reforestation Post Creek Fire

High Sierra Ranger District - Sierra National Forest



Creek Fire

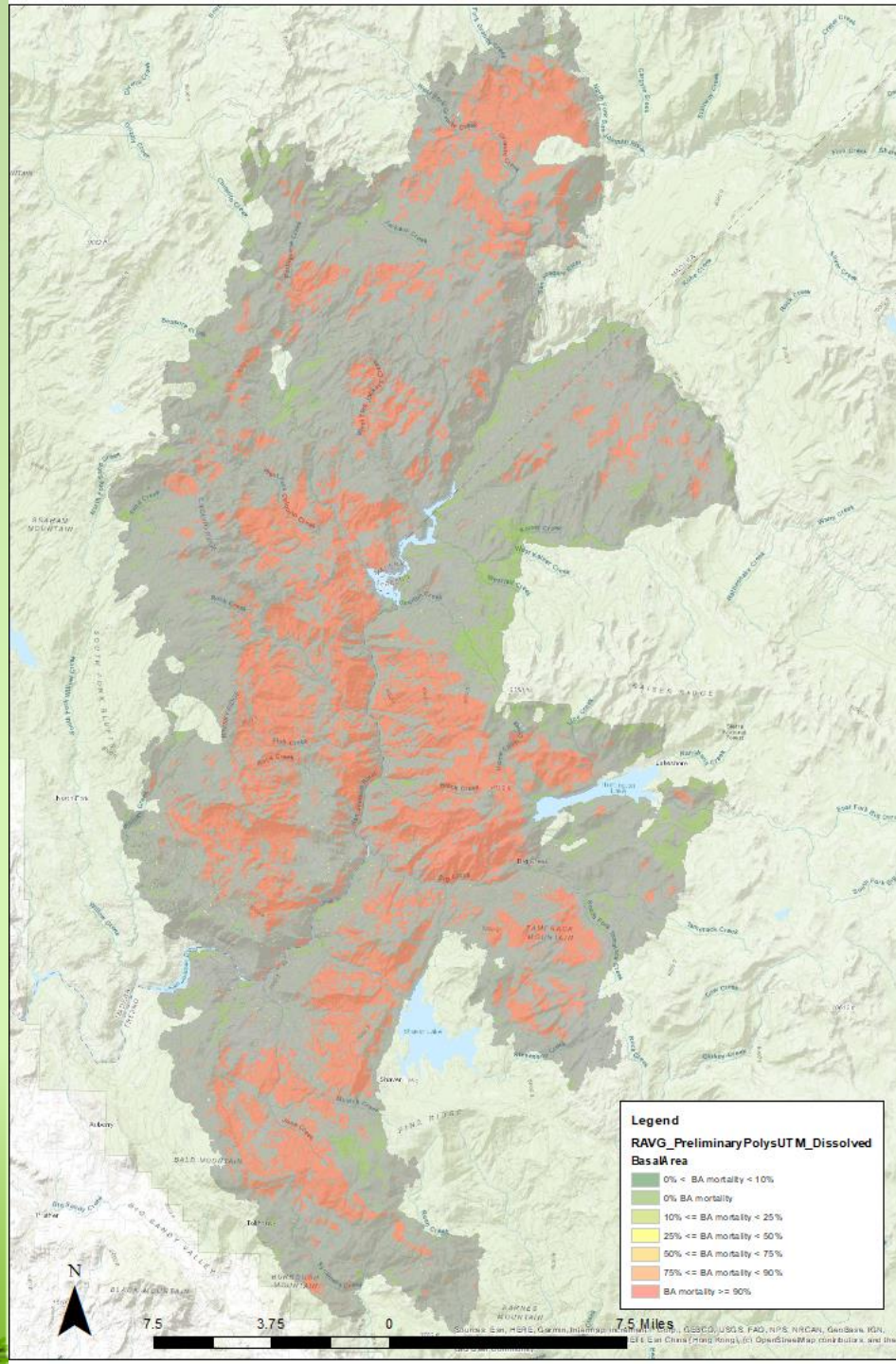
BRIEF INTRODUCTION



Creek Fire

- ✓ September of 2020
- ✓ Burned approx. 380,000 acres
- ✓ At the time, was the largest single fire in CA
- ✓ Burned through several existing fire scars on the forest



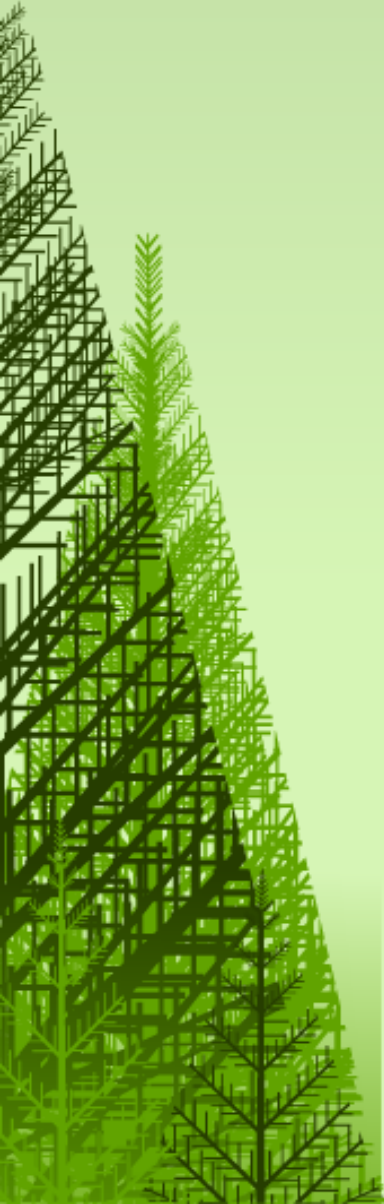


✓ 104,000 acres at high severity

✓ Need for reforestation of 100,000 acres

✓ 1 billion board feet within the fire footprint burned



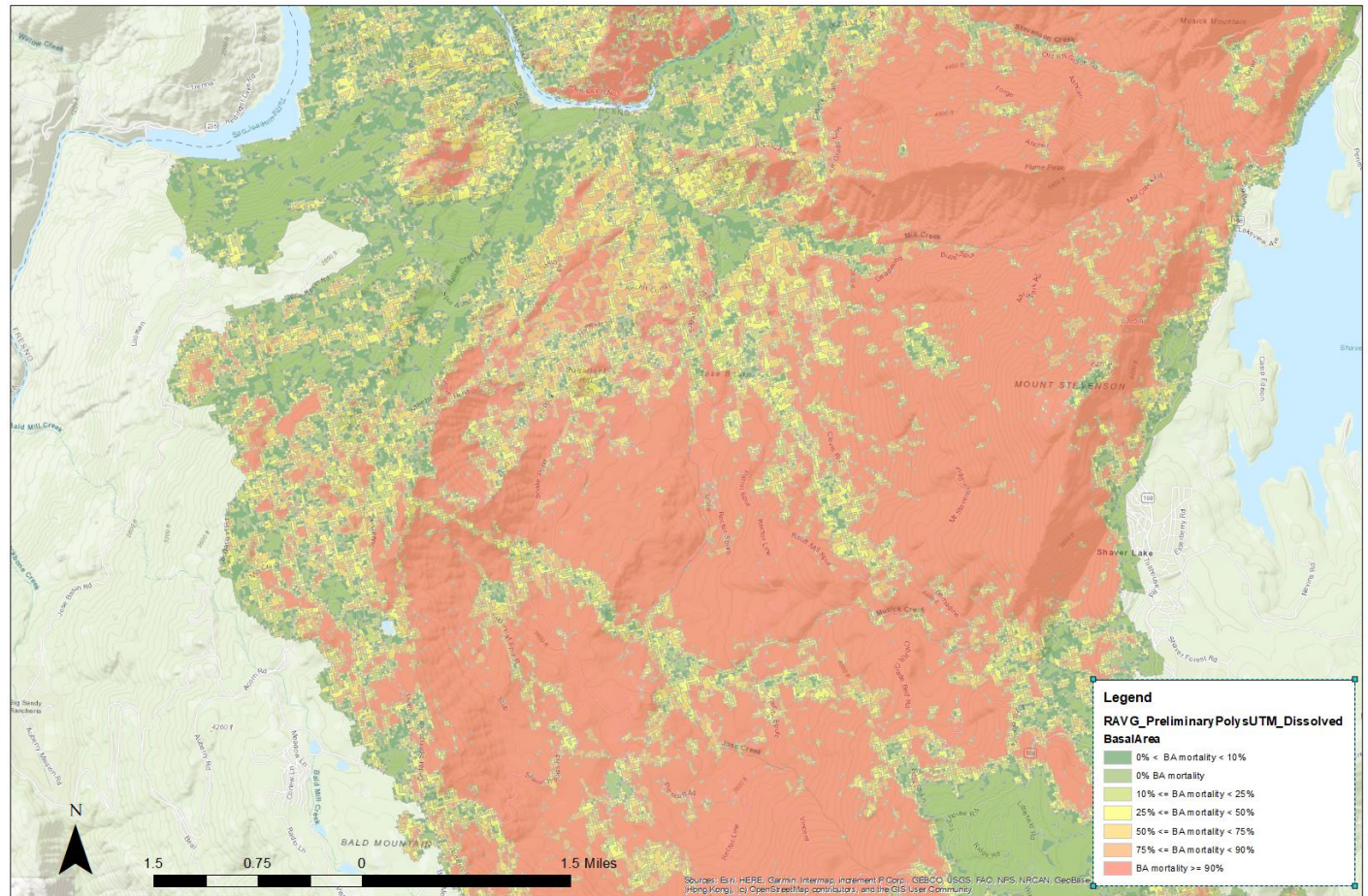


Post Creek Fire – December 2020

PLANNING



Project - Jose Basin CCI



- Received CCI grant in Jan. 2020
- 99% of the project area burned at moderate to high severity
- Overall grant objectives of fuel reduction, site preparation and fuel breaks would need to be re-evaluated



Changing Plans

At this time, the district was slated to have seedlings delivered for the same elevation as Jose Basin but meant for a different Project area that did not burn.

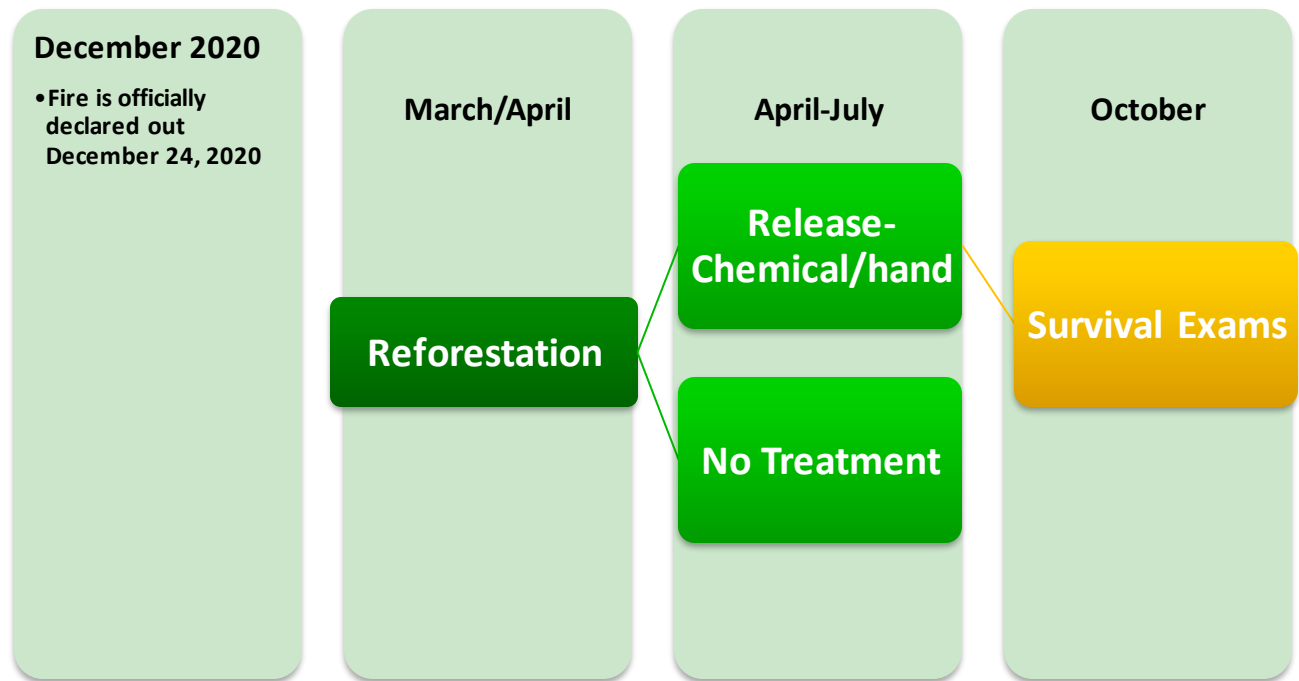
- That project area was also part of a CCI grant (separate from Jose Basin)
- Main grant activity was reforestation post beetle mortality
- Still in need of site preparation through RX burning





Reforestation 2021

1. Options to consider, reforest Jose Basin immediately or wait
2. Need to ensure NEPA & grant compliance
3. In the end approximately 900 acres was done with about 230,00 trees



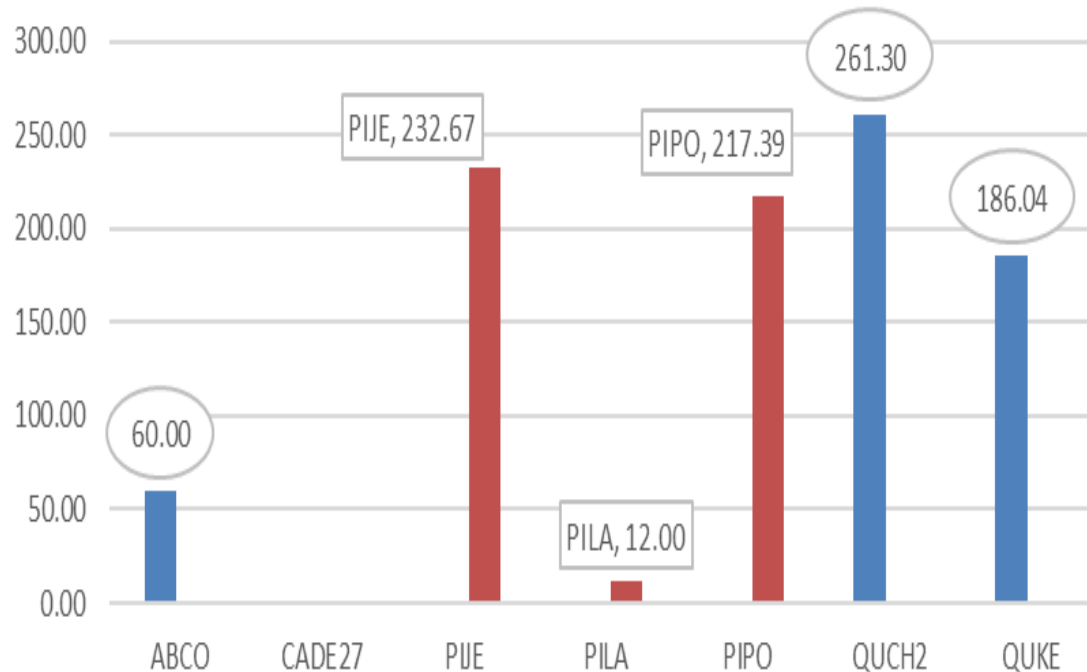
Survival Results

Overall Survival of 85%

SETTING_ID ▾

Average of NATURAL_LIVE_TPA

Average of PLANTED_LIVE_TPA



Values

■ Average of NATURAL_LIVE_TPA

■ Average of PLANTED_LIVE_TPA

SPECIES ▾

*Not all species present within each stand





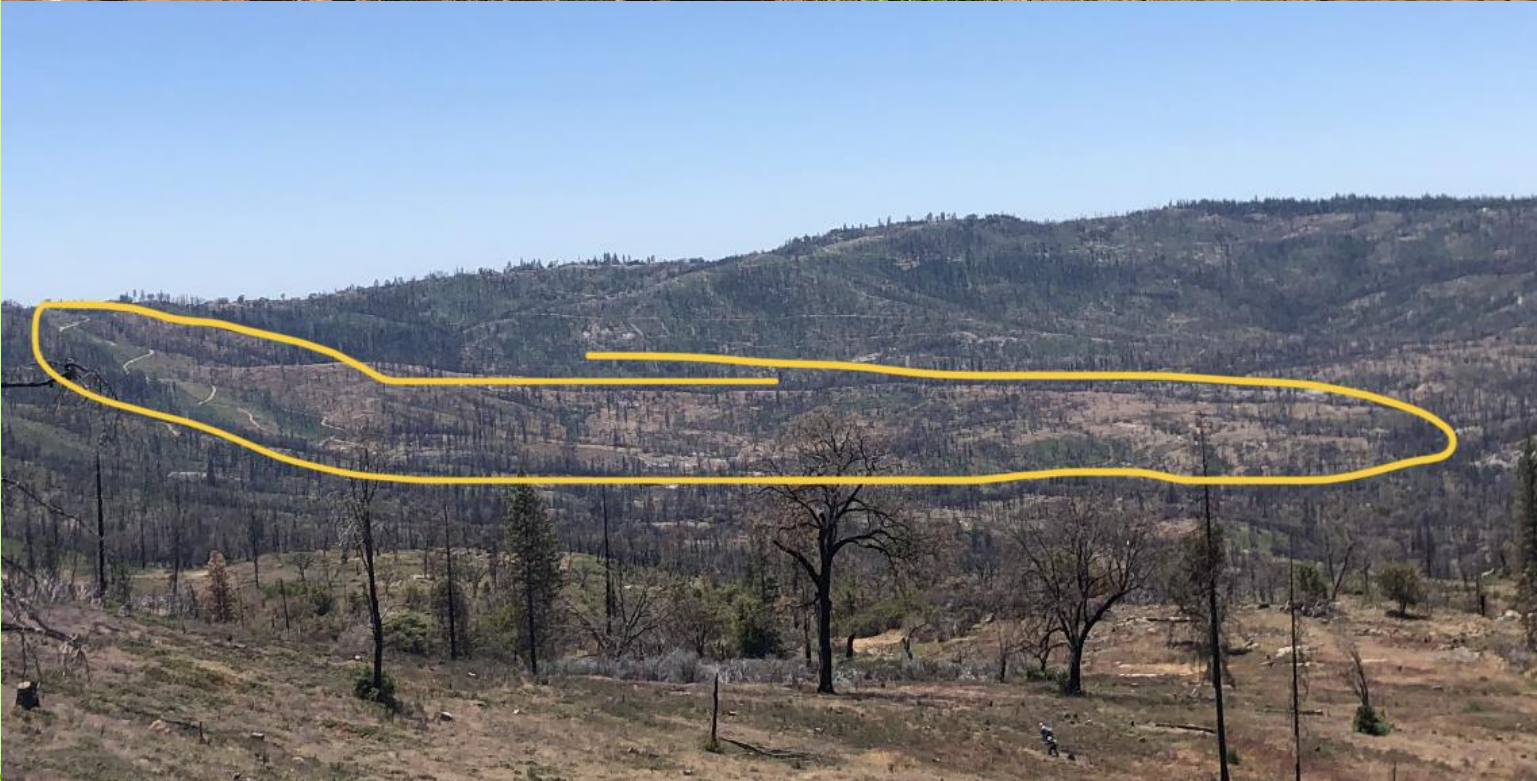


Reforestation in 2022
A YEAR LATER









Post Creek fire as of Now- Accomplished

- ✓ 1400 acres of reforestation (HSRD)
- ✓ 500 acres of mechanical site prep
- ✓ 500 acres of RX fire
- ✓ 2000 acres of release
- ✓ NEPA



Post Creek fire as of Now- Planned for 2022

- ✓ 1000 acres of site prep
- ✓ 1000 acres of fuel breaks
- ✓ 1000 acres of RX fire

Post Creek fire as of Now- Planned for beyond

- ✓ 1000s acres of site prep
- ✓ 1000s acres of RX fire
- ✓ Reforestation +++
- ✓ Release +++



References, Sources & Info

National Forest Management Act (1976) Sec. 4. (d)(1), Multiple Use, Sustained Yield Act of 1960, Organic Act

United States Forest Service, FSH 2409.17 –Silvicultural Handbook

United States Forest Service, Rojas, R., Creek Fire Rapid Resource Assessment 1–63 (2021).

Questions



Thank you!

