PLAN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR RECLAMATION LANDS

To insure the effectiveness of this fire management program, a planning strategy has been developed that compliments and augments fire planning and management activities of local communities, jurisdictions and Fire Safe Councils.

I. **Fire Prevention:** Almost all fires that start on the Reclamation lands in the American River Canyon are directly caused by human activity. As public use and other activities increase on Reclamation lands, the probability of fire ignitions also increases. Fire prevention activities on Reclamation lands include:

   A. Education.

   B. Public information.

   C. Visitor and Resource Management actions:

      1. Placement of structures and facilities.

      2. Area closures to vehicle and/or visitor access.

      3. Other uses as appropriate.

   D. Area patrols and other law enforcement activities.

II. **Fire Safe Practices for Urban/Wildland Interface Lands:** The single most effective practice to reduce the spread of wildland fire and help prevent damage to structures is to create areas of reduced and/or modified fuels. This strategy includes practices utilized by local communities and landowners adjacent to Reclamation land using the following components:

   A. Defensible Space: The area extending from a structure out to between 30 and 100 feet creating an area where fuels that allow fire to spread from the wildland to a structure or a structure to the wildland to be more easily controlled.

   B. Education: Through local fire departments, local Fire Safe Councils, and other activities.

   C. Inspections: Coordinate with State and local government to encourage defensible space regulations, and appropriate regulations for new construction.

   D. Assistance Programs: Help to identify and support fuel modification activities that encourage and assist landowners in the creation and maintenance of defensible space, (i.e. Chipper Program, mulching, composting).

III. **Fuel Management:** Reduction of wildland fuels in strategic locations will enhance fire suppression activities and provide increased firefighter safety. Fuels management activities will occur on (1) Reclamation lands adjacent to other properties that enhance defensible space activities, (2) on Reclamation lands adjacent to public access roads and trails, and (3) on Reclamation core lands to increase wildlife habitat benefits and increase water values.

* Fuel reduction techniques include: hand tools and mechanical equipment, prescribed burns, biological controls and chemical application will be available for use to reduce or modify fuels as appropriate.