

Tehama County Resource
Conservation District



What is an RCD?

- Is a special district
- 103 in CA
- 80% of state represented by an RCD
- Work in partnership with USDA-NRCS
- Cannot levy taxes
- Local conservation services on a voluntary basis

Tehama County RCD

- Consolidated twice, 1987 and 2005
- 5 member board of local landowners
- No funding from County or State
- Currently working from grants and agreements
- We are not a regulatory agency – all of our programs are on a volunteer basis

Tehama County RCD's Mission

To assist citizens with managing, conserving and improving the natural resources of Tehama County.

To carry out our mission we provide
a variety of services to our
community

Tehama County RCD

Tehama County RCD Services

Host workshops
for residents
and landowners



Tehama County RCD Services

Facilitate education
programs for
students and
teachers throughout
Tehama County.



Tehama County RCD Services



Beneficial Plants of Tehama County (and other Publications on website)

Tehama County RCD Services



Manage grazing
leases on the
Tehama Wildlife
Area for CA
Department of
Fish and
Wildlife.

Tehama County RCD Services

Have an herbicide applicator available for rent to the public



Tehama County RCD Services



Provide a Mobile
Irrigation Lab

Purpose:

Provide irrigation water
management assistance to
growers at NO COST

Tehama County RCD Services

Provide management services for the Shasta Tehama Watershed Education Coalition and other local organizations



Tehama County RCD Services

Produce fire and
watershed
management
plans



And implement
projects identified in
those plans, for
example:

- Antelope Creek
Geomorphology Study to
determine best tributary
for fish passage
- TCRC staff collecting
data, Stillwater Sciences
doing analysis









Tehama County RCD Services



And fuel breaks in eastern Tehama County using TCRC's chipper (also available for rent along with a crew to operate it)

The New Law

Things Have Changed:

- The new state law extends the defensible space from 30' to 100'.
- That doesn't sound like much - just 70' - but

compare an:

area with 30' clearance = 2,826 ft²

vs.

area with 100' clearance = 31,400 ft²

11 times more area

What Does the Law Say?

- Spacing depends on slope, height of vegetation and fire risk.
 - Steeper slope = more spacing
 - Higher vegetation = more spacing
 - Higher fire risk = more spacing
- Identify the two zones:
 - 0' - 30' Defensible Space Zone
 - 30' - 100' Reduced Fuel Zone

Fire Safe Landscaping

- What is your current level of risk?
- What are you willing to spend to be safe?
- Money
- Time
- How much can you afford to lose?

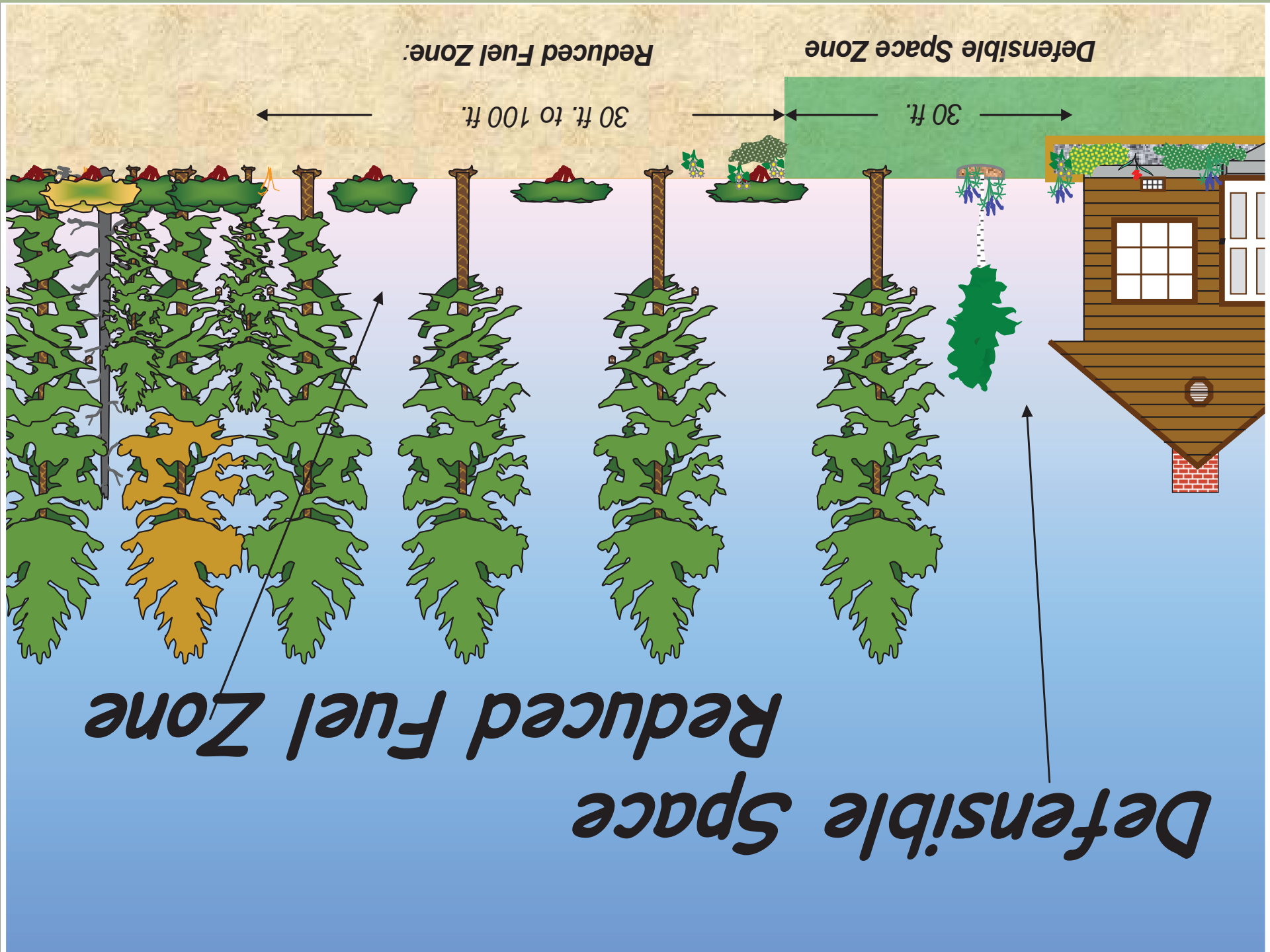
Know the Basics of Fire

Fuel + Oxygen + Heat = Fire

Which of these 3
can you control?

Fuel Is...

- Dry or dead vegetation
- Wood siding, roofing, decking
- Trees
- Woody shrubs or perennials
- Firewood and kindling



Defensible Space Zone

Reduced Fuel Zone:

30 ft.

30 ft. to 100 ft.

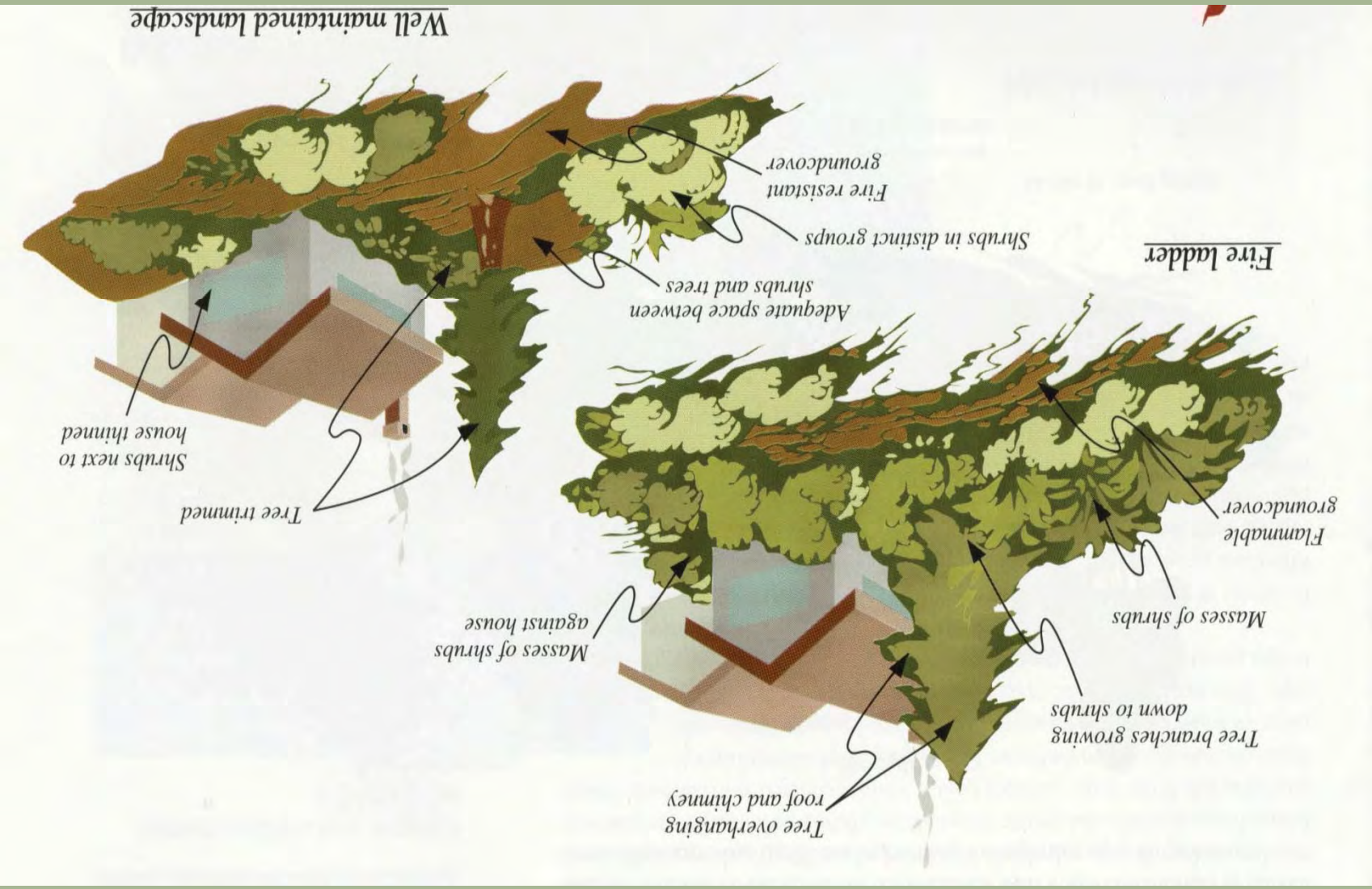
Reduced Fuel Zone

Defensible Space

A Step by Step Guide

1. Determine your DEFENSIBLE SPACE.
2. Remove DEAD or DYING vegetation.
3. Break up CONTINUOUS vegetation.
4. Eliminate LADDER FUELS.
5. Make your defensible space LEAN, GREEN and MEAN.
6. Keep up with regular MAINTENANCE.

Understanding the Fire Ladder





Defensible Space Does Work!

Realities of Firefighting

- How can you improve the odds of your home surviving a fire?
- A word from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection...

The Realities of Fire Fighting

The decision tree for a fire captain.....
Can I get my engine and crew in
and out safely?

- Road clearance
- Overhanging trees
- Bridges
- Other hazards

15 3 2013

Narrow Driveway

Overhanging Trees

Propane Tank



**Is there a way out?
Overhanging trees
Narrow road**



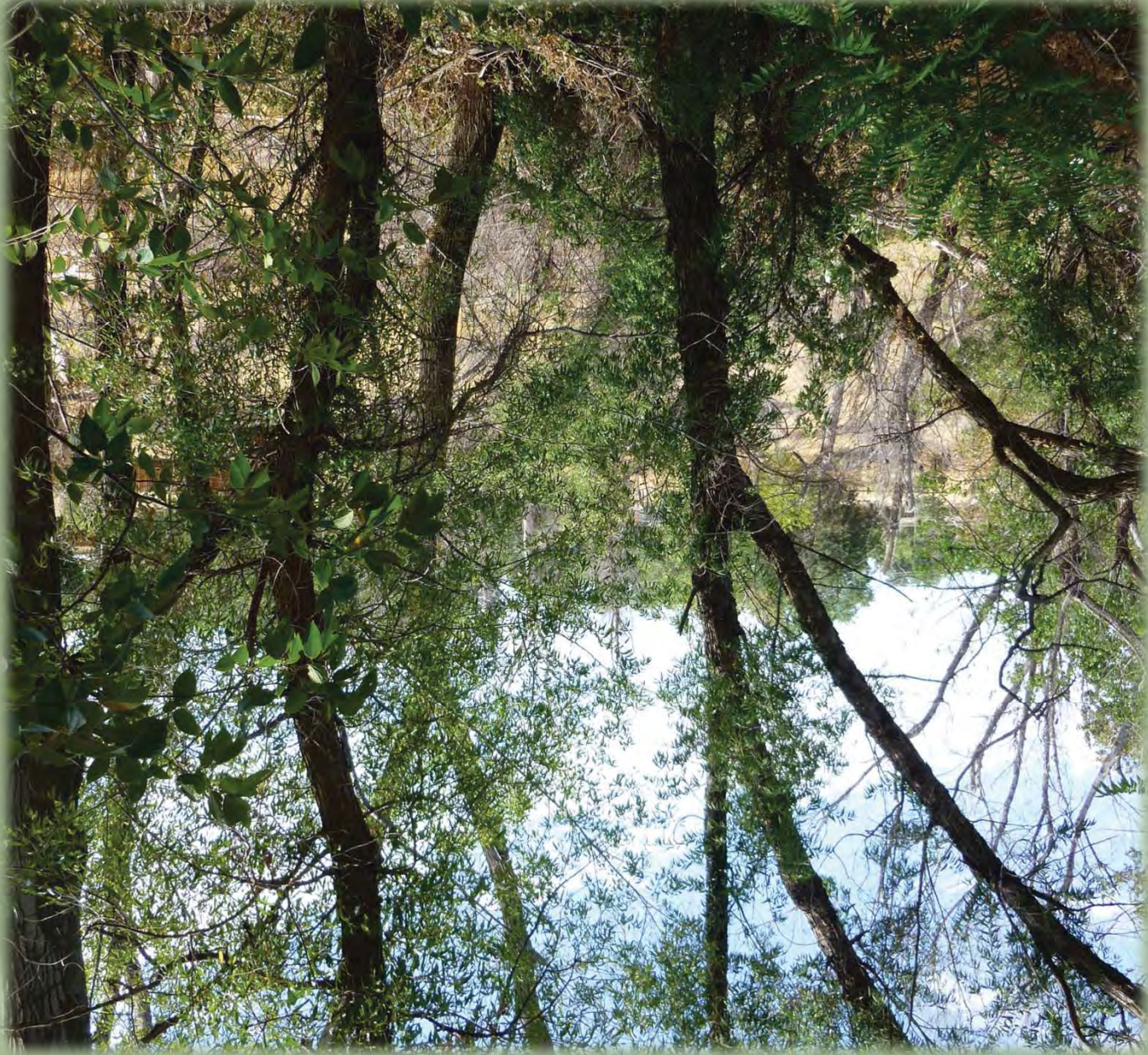
Good Safe Access is Important
for YOU & the Fire Department



Remember...

How you build and
maintain your home and
property can make a
difference!

Sampson Slough



Sampson Slough

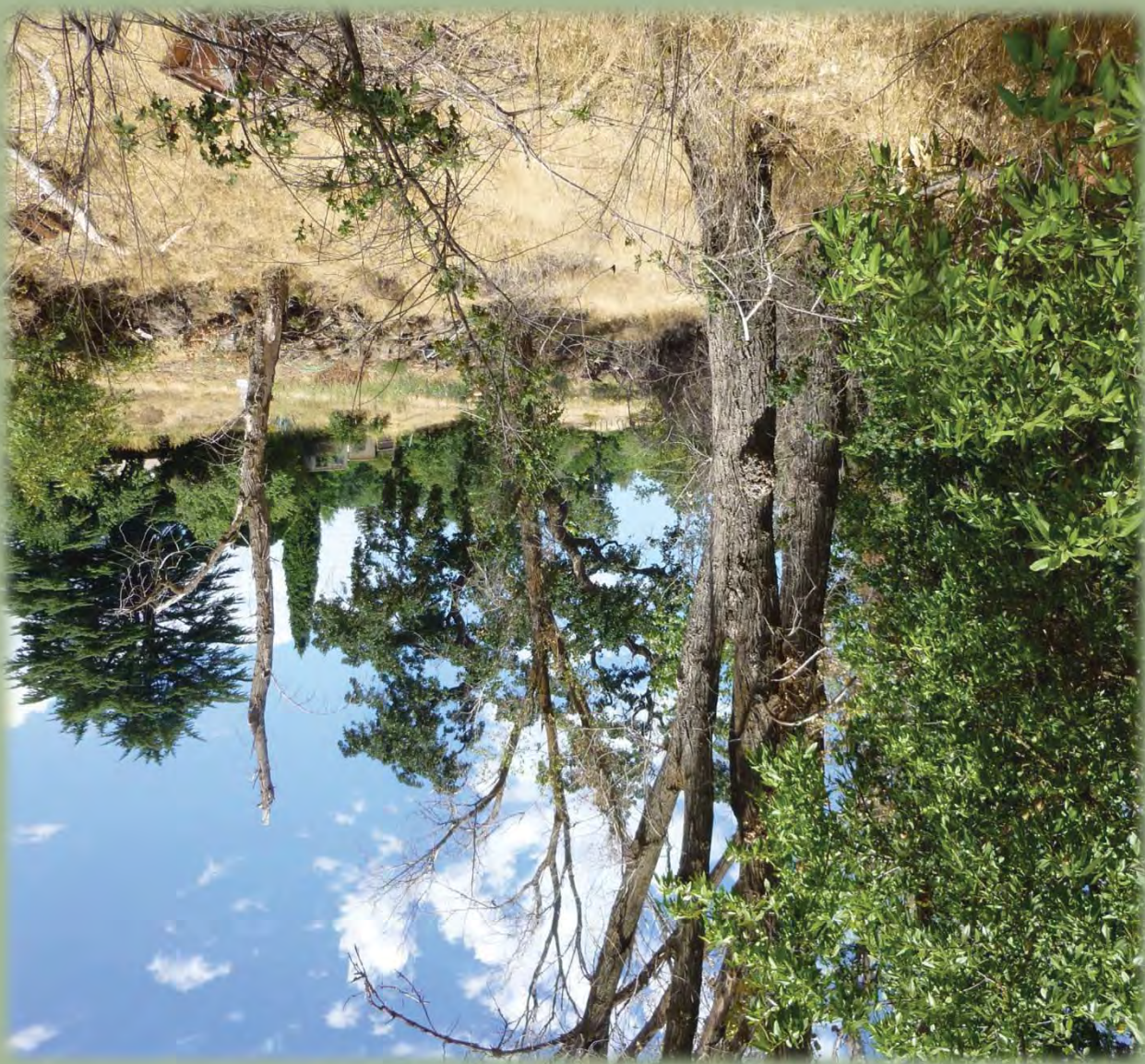
Behind the Tehama County Welcome Center



Sampson Slough

Behind KFC





Unsafe Fuels
Sampson Slough

Sale Lane after June 3, 2013 Fire
East Sand Slough



Community Created Defensible Space Paynes Creek Slough North of Antelope Blvd



Do the Math...

LEAN, GREEN and MEAN	+
DEFENSIBLE SPACE	+
DEAD or DYING FUELS	-
CONTINUOUS VEGETATION	-
LADDER FUELS	-
MAINTENANCE	+
<hr/>	
A FIRE SAFE LANDSCAPE	=

Resources

- UCCE Master Gardeners <http://ceeldorado.ucdavis.edu>
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection www.fire.ca.gov
- Firewise www.firewise.org
- U.C. Forest Products Lab www.ucfpl.ucop.edu
- Sunset Magazine www.sunset.com
- Will Your Home Survive? By R. D. Harrell & William C. Teie
- California Wildfire Landscaping by Maureen Gilmer

Contact Info

- Phone: (530) 527-3013 ext. 5

- Address: 2 Sutter Street, Suite D

Red Bluff, CA 96080

- Website: <http://www.tehamacountyrcd.org>