



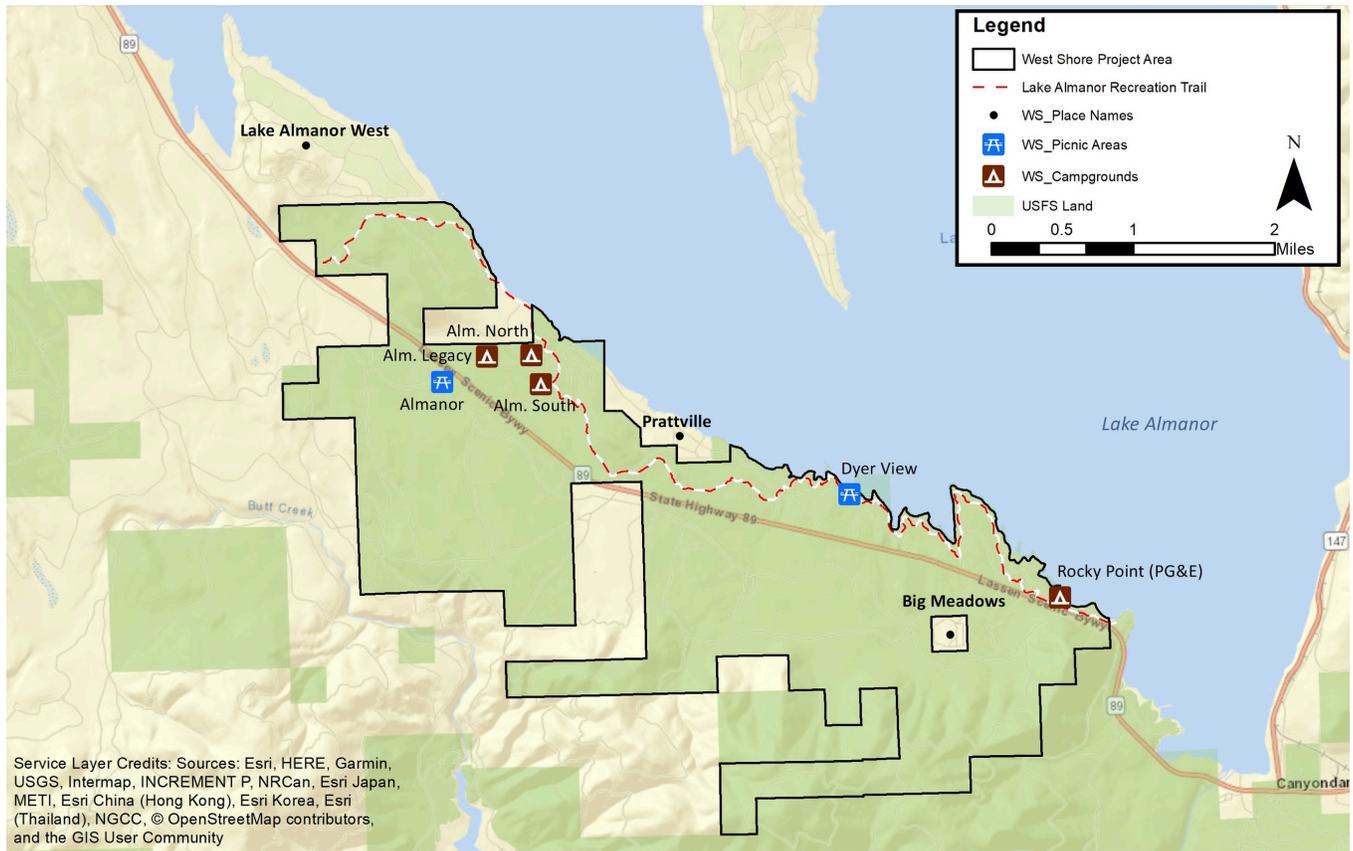
West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project



The Sierra Institute for Community and the Environment (Sierra Institute) is excited to announce the initiation of the West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project (West Shore Project) in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). This project is located along the western shore of Lake Almanor beginning at the southern end of the Lake Almanor West community and ending just north of the PG&E Rocky Point Campground. The project extends east of California State Highway 89 and encompasses approximately 6,100 acres. The purpose of the project is to plan and implement vegetation management activities within the wildland-urban interface (WUI) to: improve community resilience to wildfire, reduce levels of tree mortality resulting from stressors such as insect infestation and disease, and improve overall ecosystem health. Additionally, this project seeks to enhance the recreation experience through facility improvements and access management.

Project Goals	<p>Improve forest health, increase vegetative diversity, and provide an economic benefit to the local communities.</p> <p>Reduce wildfire threat to the ecosystem as well as adjacent communities of Lake Almanor West, Prattville, and Big Meadows.</p> <p>Improve recreation experience through improved facilities and access management.</p>
Actions	<p>The West Shore Project is currently in the initial planning stages. A decision regarding this proposal is expected in May 2020.</p> <p>Once finalized, on the ground project preparation may begin as early as Summer 2020. Following preparation, project implementation will consist of vegetation and fuels reduction activities (mechanical and manual thinning, chipping, mastication, prescribed burning, etc.), as well as recreation improvements (trail restoration, removal and maintenance; improved parking accessibility; campground maintenance, etc.). Additional information regarding the timing and implementation of these activities will be provided as the project progresses.</p>

Project Map



<p>Get Involved</p>	<p>2019: Actions for this year include initial project planning and scoping. The USFS will conduct Public Scoping from August 28, 2019 to September 11, 2019.</p> <p>Thursday September 5, 2019: The Sierra Institute will be hosting a public field trip from 10:00 - 11:30am to provide insight on the West Shore Project proposed actions and needs. Interested parties are highly encouraged to attend and provide feedback. The field trip will begin at the Dyer View parking area (coordinates: 40.202985; -121.136388) and include one additional stop. Please be prepared to drive to each location. The sites are easily accessible and walking will be kept to a minimum. Call or visit our website to RSVP by Tuesday September 3, 2019. https://secure.sierrainstitute.us/np/clients/sierrainstitute/event.jsp?forwardedFromSecureDomain=1&event=17</p> <p>2020: A public comment period for the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) will be held from January 15, 2020 to February 13, 2020.</p>
<p>Collaboration</p>	<p>This project is a collaborative effort between the U.S. Forest Service and Sierra Institute for Community and Environment. The West Shore Project is a high priority project supported by members of the South Lassen Watersheds Group, a diverse mix of local partners collaborating on multi-jurisdictional, large-scale projects to improve forest and watershed health, reduce wildfire risk, protect critical habitat, and support local industry.</p>
<p>Funding</p>	<p>Funding for the West Shore Project is provided by the California Climate Initiative (CCI) CAL FIRE Forest Health Grant Program. CCI awards Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds to implement projects which proactively restore and improve forest and watershed health. For more information regarding CCI please visit https://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/forest-health-grants/</p>
<p>Learn More</p>	<p>For more information or questions regarding the West Shore Community Wildfire Protection Project, please contact Dov Weinman at the the Sierra Institute by phone: (530) 284-1022, or email: dweinman@sierrainstitute.us, or visit https://sierrainstitute.us/programs/current-projects/</p>