

Foothill Resource Management

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Ms Rae Charos, Chair
Kirkwood Meadows Association
5006 Gadwall Circle
Stockton, CA 95207

18 June 2022

Dear Ms Charos,

At the request of Mr. Gary Sargent and with the approval of your board, I have conducted an evaluation of the Common Areas within the Kirkwood Meadows Association development. The intent of this evaluation was to develop some recommendations for forest health and fire hazard reduction strategies on the ski-ways and other common areas tributary to Fremont, Dangberg, Merrill, Wintergreen, Yarrow and Hawkweed roads. The idea was that I would evaluate the forest cover and make recommendations for the KMA to use in hiring a contractor to thin the understory trees and dispose of the slash.

The methodology that I used for this evaluation was to visit the KMA area (on June 7, 2022) and walk the areas shown on the Amador County Assessor Parcel Maps for the area. Using those maps and an aerial photo application that I have on my cellular phone, I made notes for all of the ski-ways and common areas and mapped areas where thinning would be advisable. In my office, I estimated the number of acres of areas that I recommend that you have thinned using an instrument that estimates the number of acres per square inch. The summary of those areas is as follows:

Parcel I.D.	Assessor Map #	Estimated acres to treat
A	026-150	0.11
B	026-150	0.3
C	026-160	0.22
D	026-160	0.18
E	026-170	0.18
F	026-160	0.19
J	026-180, 026-190,026-200	4.0
I	026-150	1.44

Total 6.62 acres

The two ski-ways, parcels G & H that connect on Dangberg Road are not listed because there was no need to do any thinning or fire hazard reduction work on them.

The attached Assessor Parcel Maps show the areas I determined to need thinning. Areas outlined in yellow are treatment areas and areas outlined in blue are No Treatment areas.

My recommendations for instructions to a potential contractor are to ask for a lump-sum bid to thin trees that are less than 14 inches diameter breast height. Thinning shall remove trees or chip the trees on site. The residual spacing should be no closer than 12 feet and range from 12 to 16 feet. Selection of the trees to leave shall favor trees with full crowns, demonstrating dominance over neighboring trees. Trees within the prescribed diameter limits that are located under the crowns of larger, dominant trees shall be removed to eliminate the fuel ladder. If two healthy trees with long crowns exist in an area where no other trees exist, they may be left as a group. If a masticating machine is used, care must be taken when in the vicinity of residences. The contractor should be a

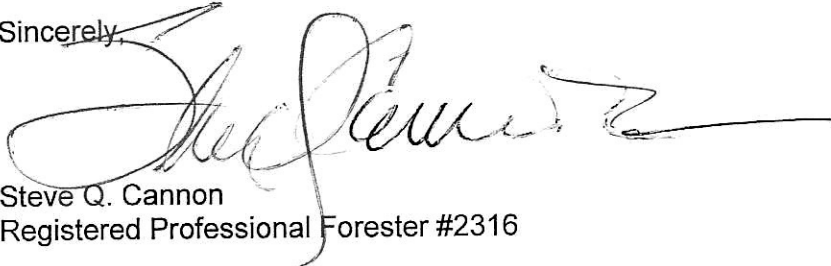
Licensed Timber Operator, either with an "A" or "B" type of license and carry liability insurance. For your information, all "A" license Timber Operators are required to carry \$2 million of liability insurance.

I included Assessor Parcel Map # 026-140 to show your board that Vail Resorts (still listed under Heavenly Valley Ltd on the Assessor rolls) owns parcel #026-141-013. I would recommend that the KMA urge Vail Resorts to conduct fuel hazard reduction on that parcel to help protect the landowners on Fremont and Merrill.

As far as my assistance to you in helping your association make this all happen, I can offer my services to flag the areas where treatments would be conducted to provide the contractor with the knowledge of where he/she would be working and not working. I could also meet with the selected contractor to ensure that the thinning guidelines are understood. I could also conduct periodic inspections to ensure that each area is completed according to the terms of the contract. These may be tasks that one of your more knowledgeable association member could perform, so I don't want you to feel that I'm trying to guarantee employment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me. I can recommend three or four contractors that I would trust to do the job to your satisfaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Cannon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve Q. Cannon
Registered Professional Forester #2316

attachments