



News Release

PARTICIPANTS

Natural Resources Conservation Service

County of San Diego

United States Forest Service

California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection

Forest Area Safety Task Force of San Diego

Bureau of Land Management

Caltrans

San Diego Gas & Electric

Community Organizations

Interested Stakeholders

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PROJECT COMPLETION IS A STEP TOWARDS FIRE SAFETY



San Diego County, CA, August 1, 2005 – The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has completed the removal of dead, dying and diseased trees in the Lost Valley Boy Scout Camp as part of the Watershed Recovery Project. The removal reduces the wildfire threat within the camp and to its 13,000 summer visitors.

The Lost Valley Boy Scout Camp, near Warner Springs, was a project area spanning roughly 500 acres and containing nearly 2,000 trees marked for removal. NRCS was careful not to disturb the protected wildlife that inhabits the camp by calling in endangered species biologists during the project. The completion of this project results in the NRCS serving its mission to protect life and property by removing the dead, dying and diseased trees that act as a fuel source for wildfire or as falling hazards.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service, an agency of the US Department of Agriculture, received \$30 million after the Governor of California declared a state of emergency in San Diego County, in 2004. The \$30 million is currently funding the Watershed Recovery Project, as well as many fuel reduction projects being carried out by the County of San Diego.

The Fire Safety and Fuels Reduction Program and the Watershed Recovery Project are cooperative efforts between federal, state and local agencies as well as community organizations and other interested stakeholders. The \$45 million program is funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Forest Service, County of San Diego and others. More information is available on the Internet at www.sdcdpw.org/tree or by calling the toll-free hotline at (866) 402-6044.

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USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Hotline: (866) 402-6044

Web Site: <http://www.sdcdpw.org/tree>