THE ANGORA FIRE: WHAT WILL BE THE FUTURE FOREST?

A Workshop Presented by
University of California Cooperative Extension

Lake Tahoe Community College

November 3, 2007

Workshop Objectives

Provide information to Lake Tahoe residents and resource managers that will enable them to anticipate how the vegetation in the area affected by the Angora fire will look over time.

Describe potential management actions that could be used for ecological restoration in the burned area.

Use empirical evidence from other burned areas and vegetation simulation tools to predict outcomes of different management actions.

Describe monitoring activities underway or planned to evaluate the effectiveness of management activities in preventing environmental degradation and achieving restoration.

Workshop Agenda

Angora Forests and the Effects of the Fire: Dr. Richard Harris

Forest Ecology of the Tahoe Basin: Dr. Michael Barbour

Land Use Impacts on Tahoe Forests: Dr. Joe McBride

Forest Restoration Alternatives: Dr. John Helms

Lunch (provided)

Forest Service Process and Approaches to Restoration: Eli Ilano

California Tahoe Conservancy Approaches to Restoration: Judy Brozo-Clot

Field Monitoring Methods: Susan Kocher and Daylin Wade

Simulation of Future Vegetation: Mike De Lasaux

Discussion, Questions and Answers: All

Format

Please hold your questions until the end of each presentation.

Questions that cannot be answered on the spot will be recorded and referred to the appropriate agency or individual to be answered later.

Responses to questions will be sent to participants by e-mail and posted on the El Dorado County Cooperative Extension website http://ceeldorado.ucdavis.edu/

Acknowledgements

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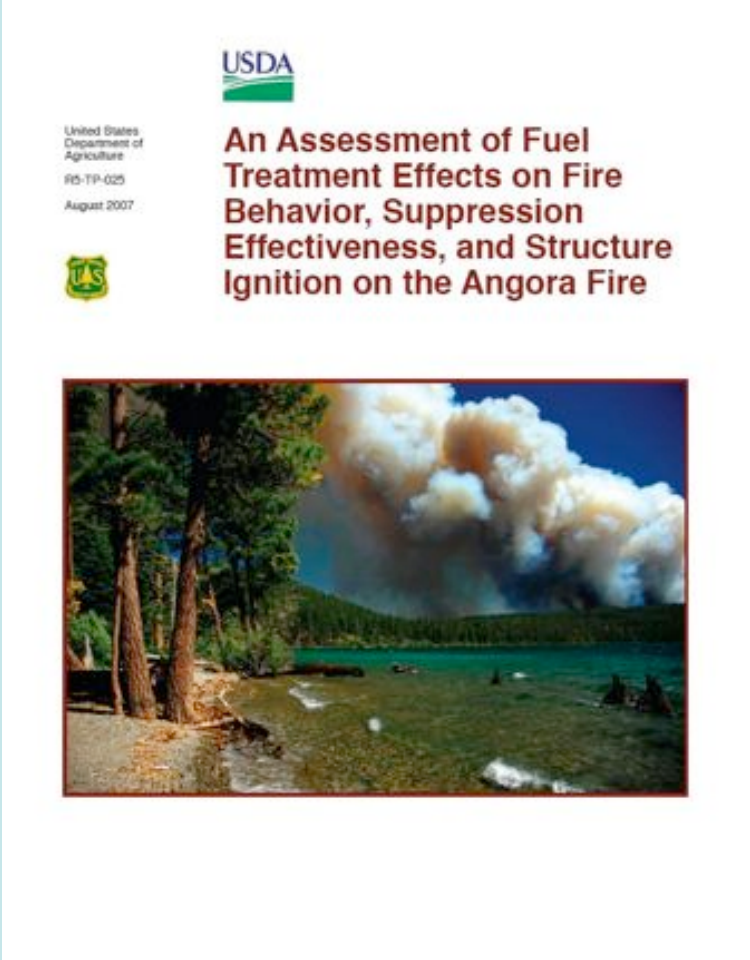
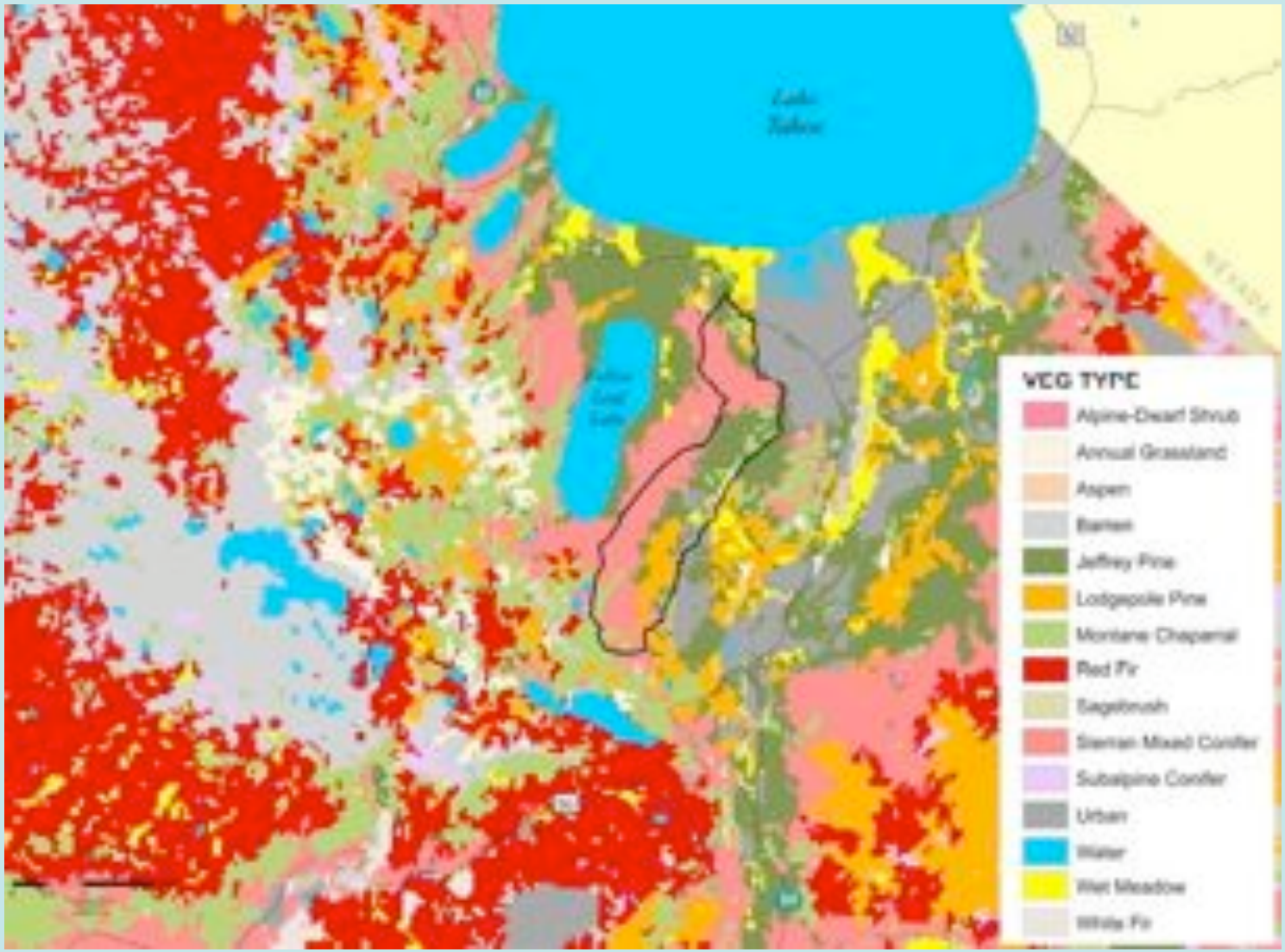
Field studies could not have been completed without the cooperation and staffing provided by the California Tahoe Conservancy and US Forest Service.

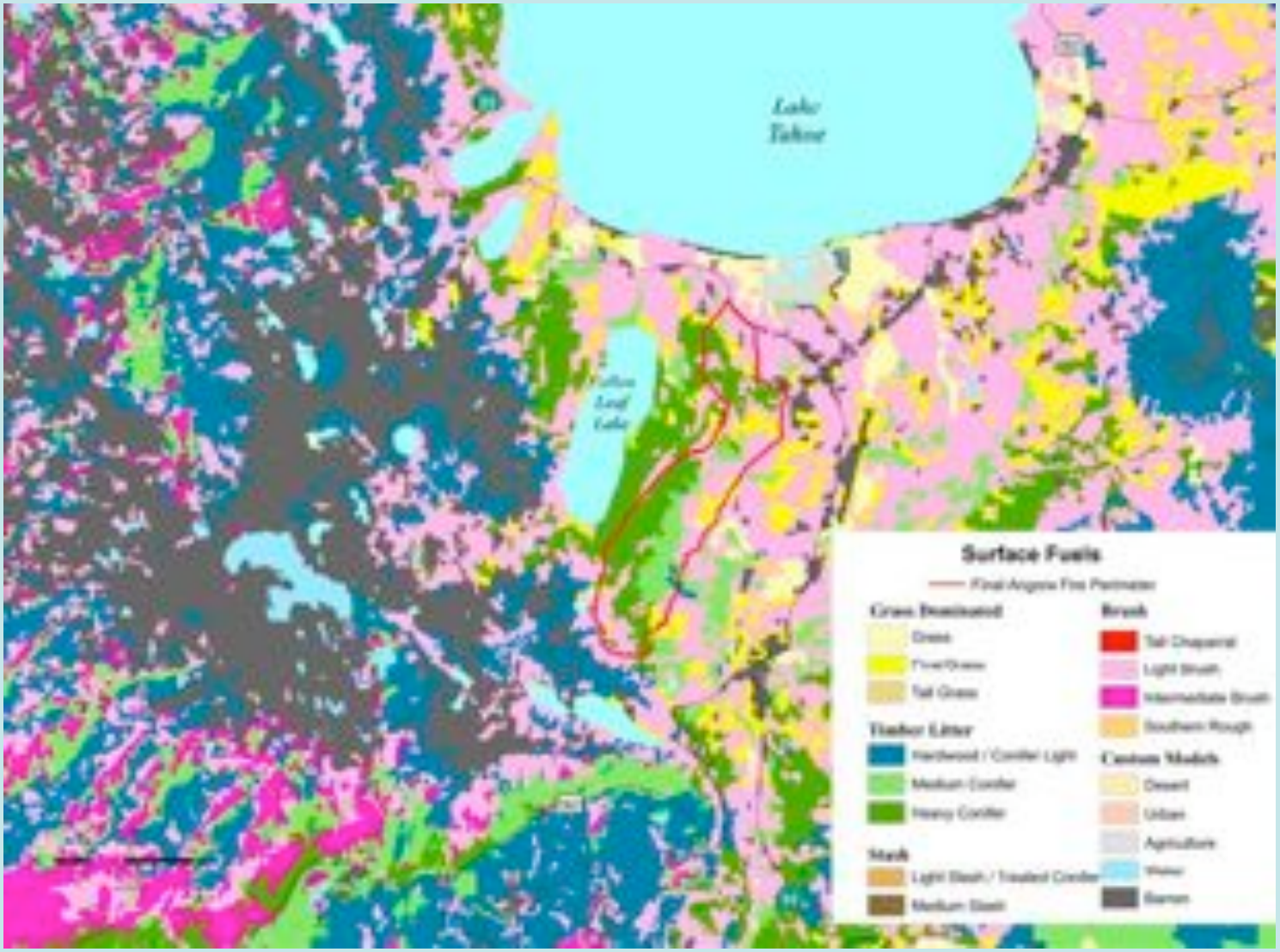
Workshop Focus:
Effects on Forest Vegetation
For Additional Information:



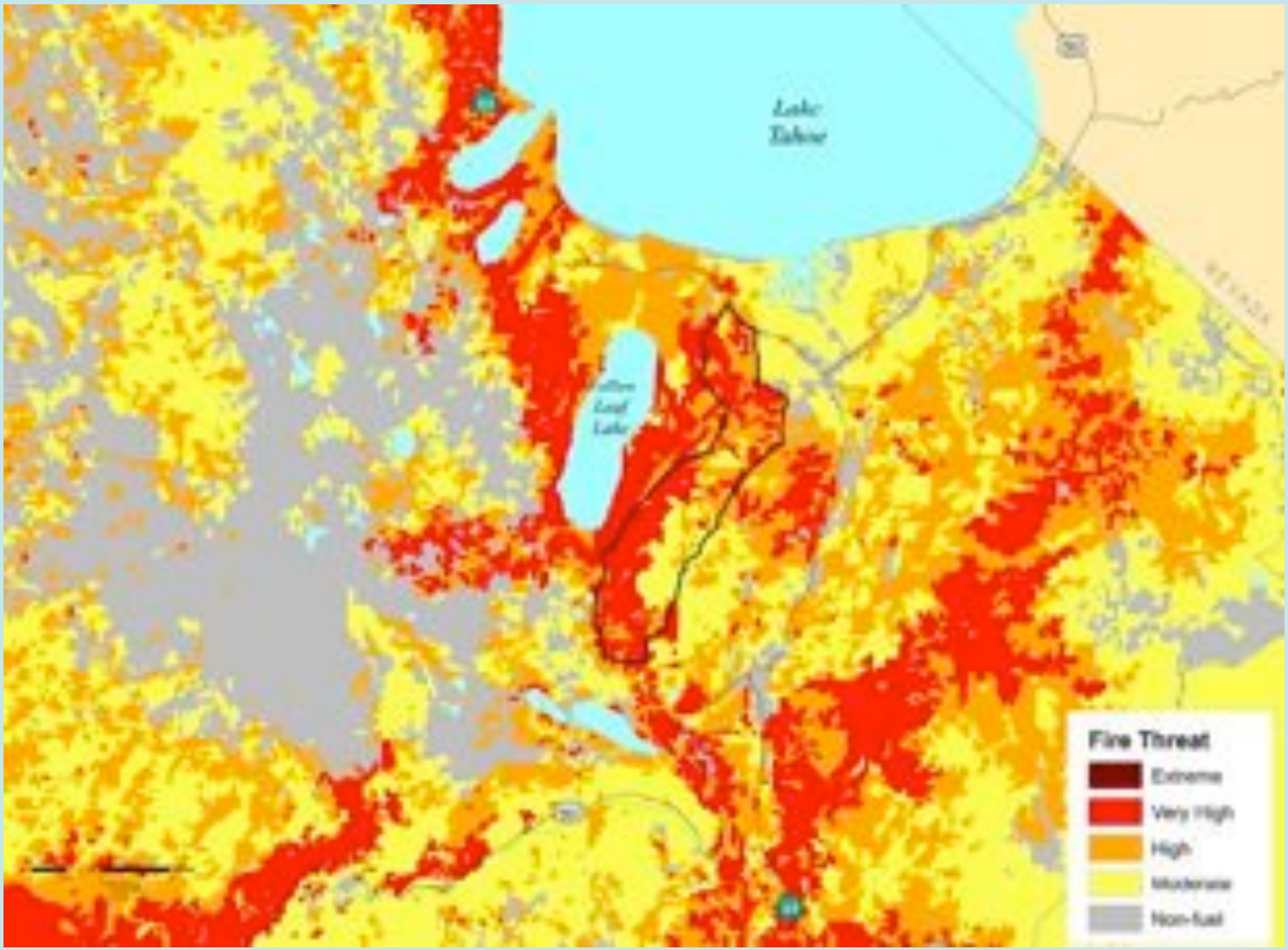
Pre-Fire Forest Conditions

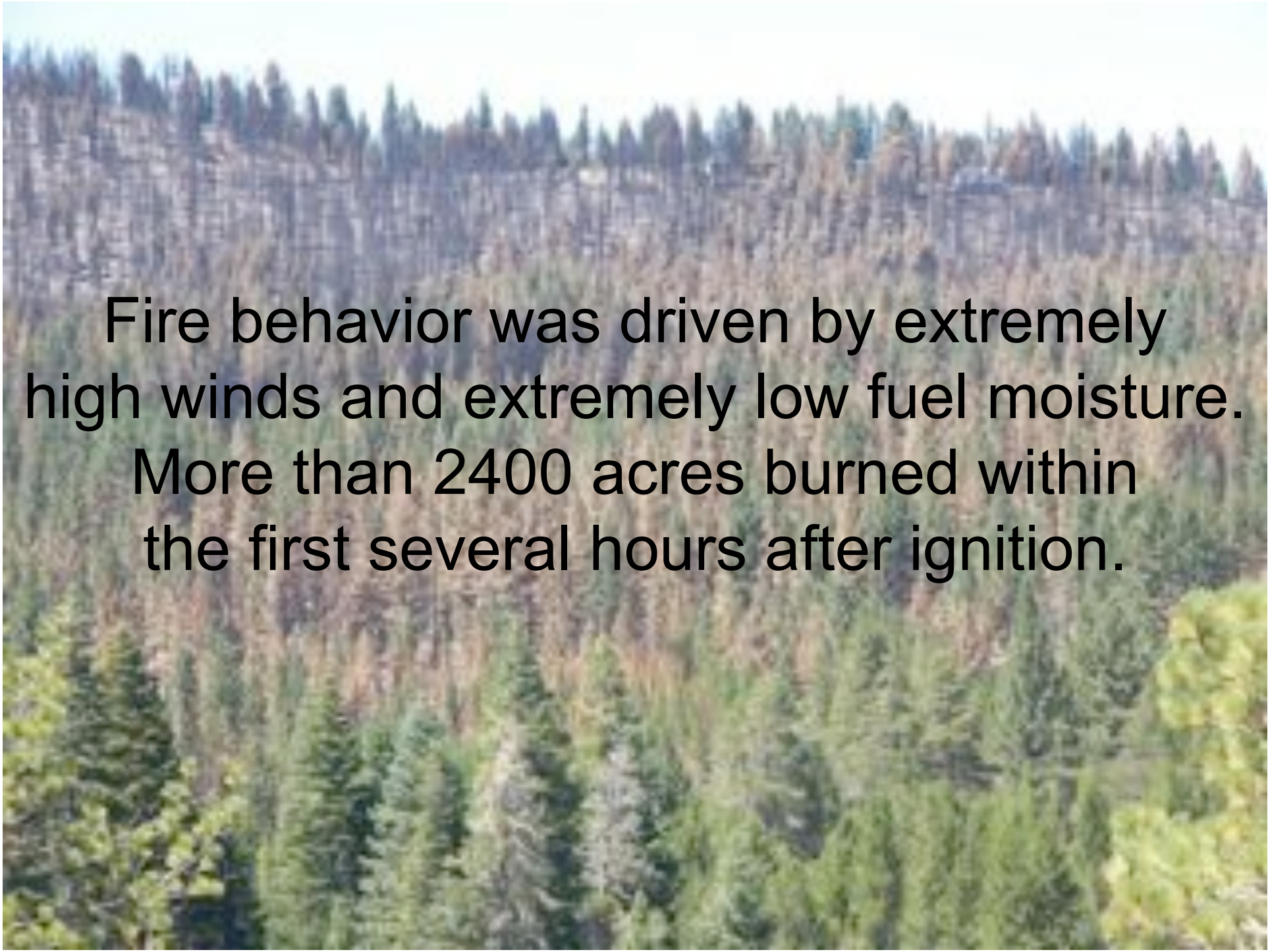


Pre-Fire Surface Fuels

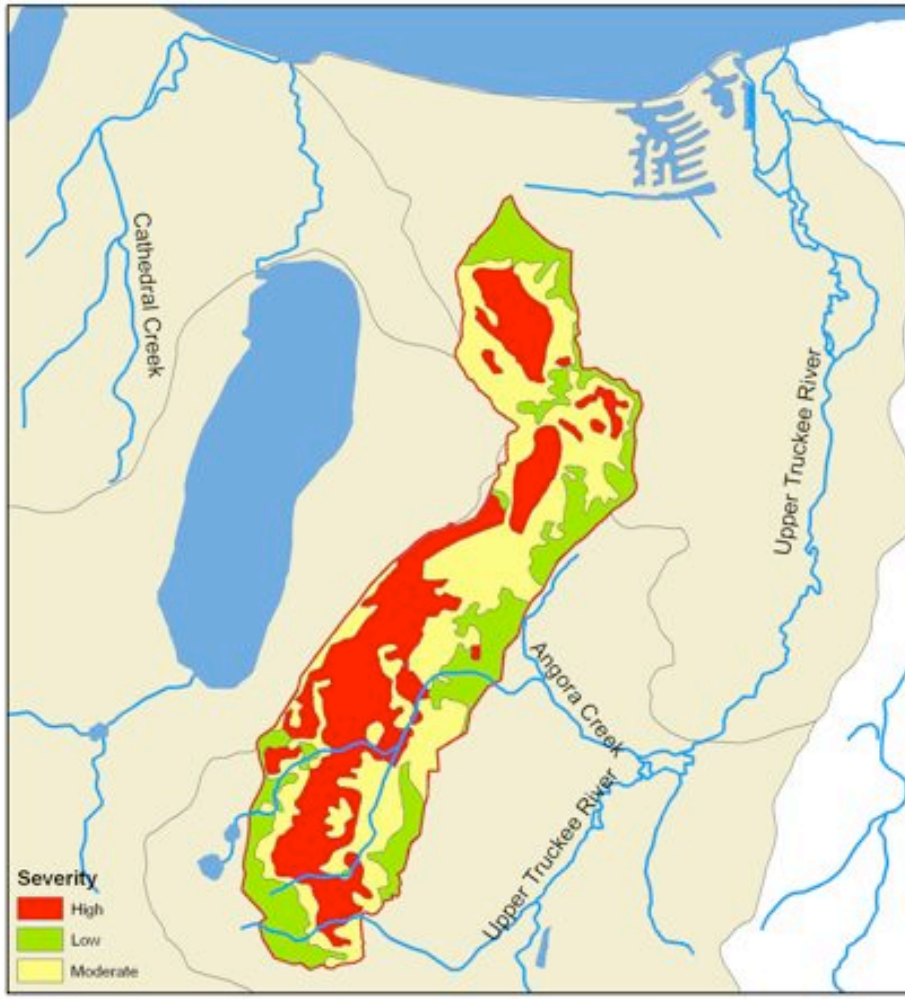


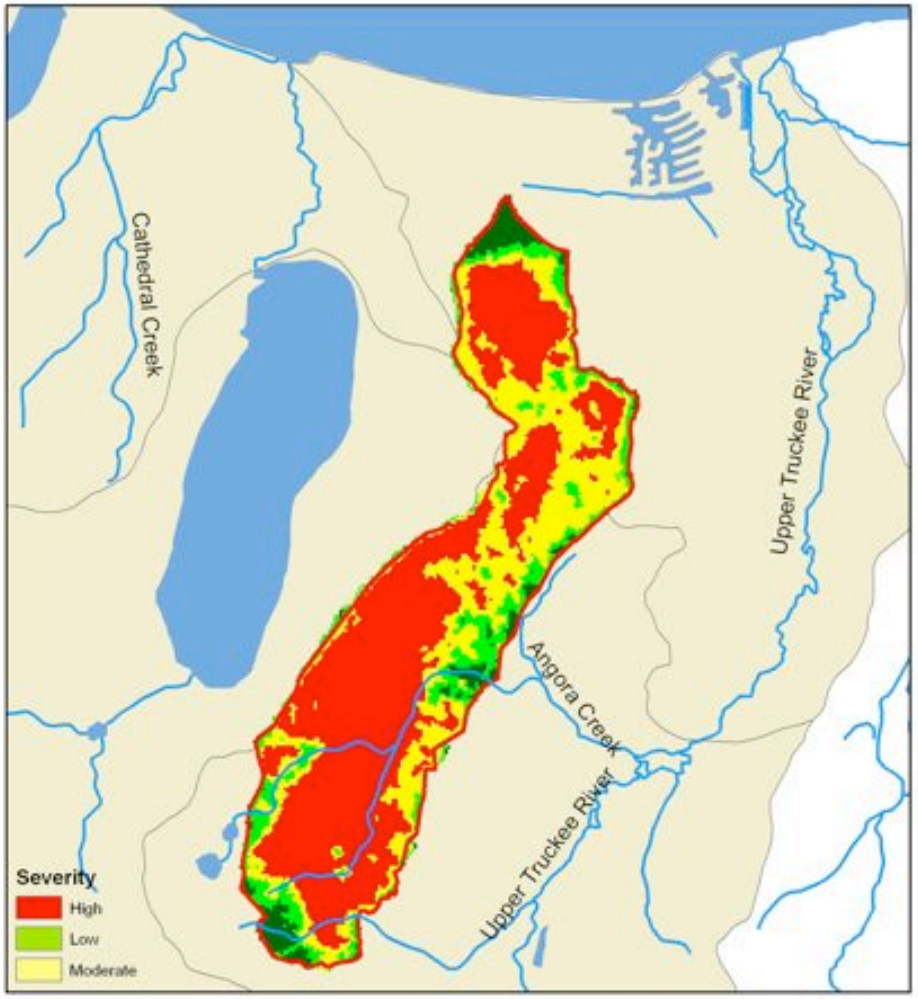
Pre-Fire Fire Threat



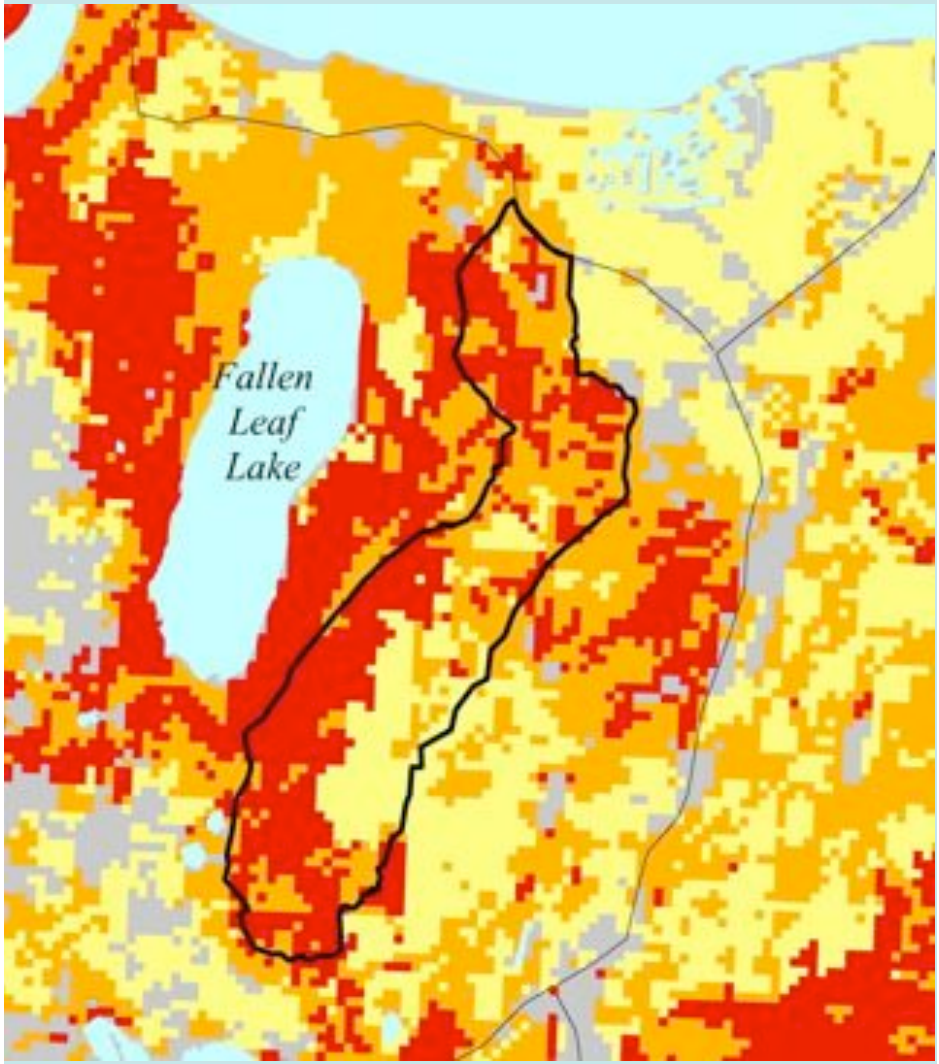

Fire behavior was driven by extremely
high winds and extremely low fuel moisture.
More than 2400 acres burned within
the first several hours after ignition.

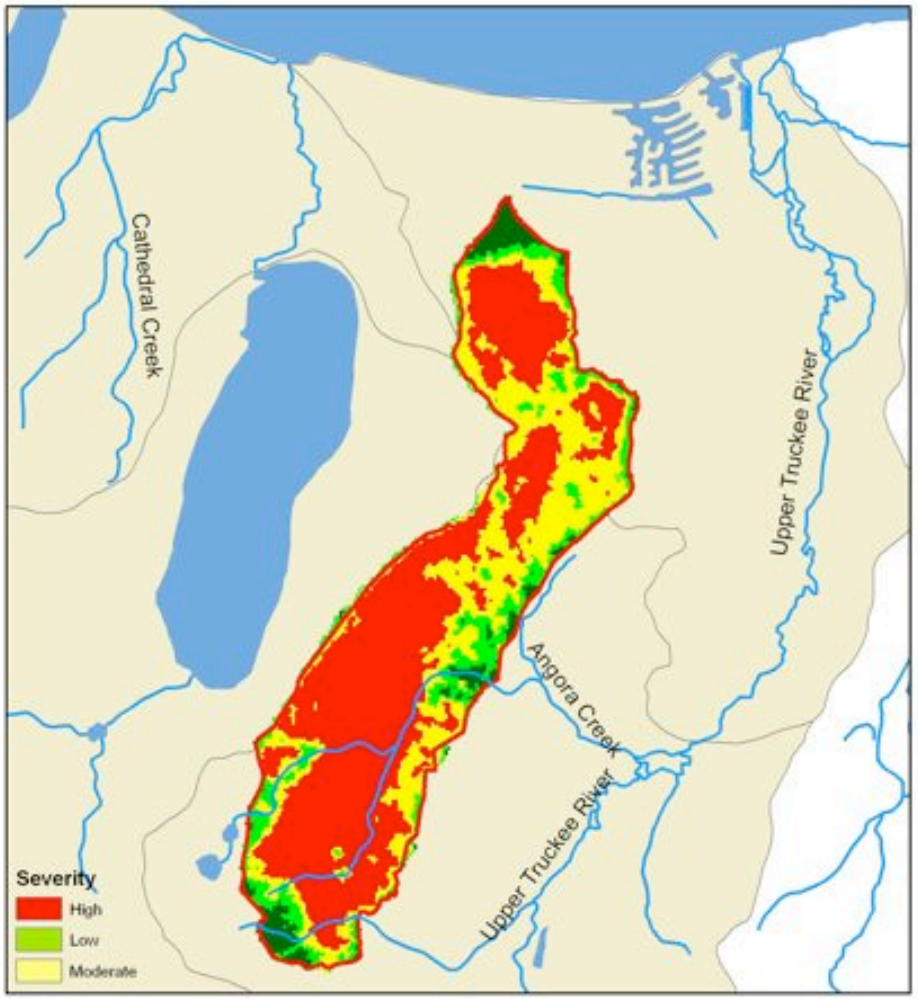
Fire Severity





Fire Threat Versus Fire Severity






Fallen
Leaf
Lake


Fallen
Leaf
Lake
burn
scar

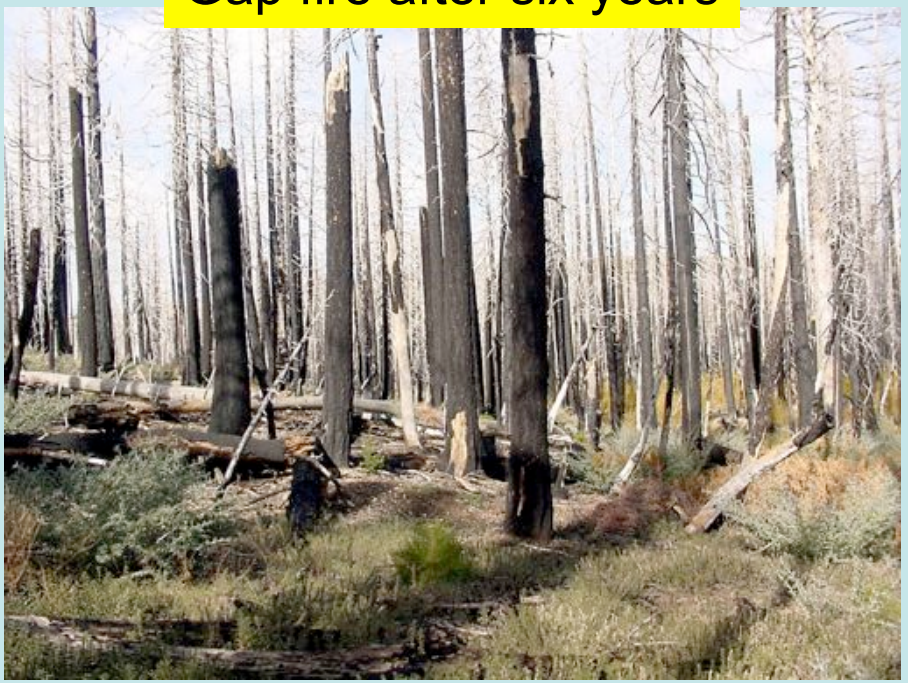

What will happen in forest stands that
are entirely dead and will not be logged?


Or, on sites that were salvage logged?

Fountain Fire 10 Years After

Angora today

Gap fire after six years



Questions to Consider

If the goal is to restore the burn to a desired vegetation mosaic as quickly as possible:

- What are the pros and cons of removing dead trees (while providing the number of wildlife snags required by the Sierra Framework and other policy)?
- Will natural regeneration achieve forest restoration? If not, why?
- Is it desirable to plant and if so, what would be the ideal planting prescription (number of trees/acre, species, size of stock, time of planting)?
- What practices can or should be used to ensure survival and optimal growth of planted trees?
- Once established, what management practices should be applied to the regenerated forest to accelerate achievement of pre-fire forest composition and structure?