

News Release



For Immediate Release
January 10, 2014

Contact:
Rich Adams
Sierra District Forester
(530) 581-5746
rich.adams@parks.ca.gov

Matt Green
Sector Superintendent
(530) 273-3212
matt.green@parks.ca.gov

Empire Mine State Historic Park To Undergo Fuel Reduction Project To Reduce Wildfire Risk, Impact

Project will begin January 13, 2014; some trails will be impacted intermittently

GRASS VALLEY, Calif.—In an effort to reduce the risk and severity of wildfires, Empire State Mine State Historic Park will begin a fuel reduction project on Monday January 13, 2014 and wrapping up in February. During this time, trails on Union Hill will be subject to intermittent closure in areas in the interest of public safety where heavy machinery will be operating.

“This is an ongoing effort designed to protect the park and the surrounding communities from wildfires as much as possible,” said Sierra District Sector Superintendent Matt Green. “We hope to reduce the fuel load and provide defensible space to the park property boundary, and to improve the health of mixed conifer and oak forests to reduce the risk of catastrophic a wildfire.”

A large mobile masticator will be used to chip small trees and brush within the project area. There will be 100-foot undisturbed buffers on select trails and a 200-foot buffer on the park boundary. The chipped material will be left on site.

Work will be performed by Sierra Nevada Forestry Services of Yuba City, California. This

project was made possible by a Healthy Forests grant from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Visitors looking for information on trail closures can visit [Empire Mine Park's web page](#).

For questions or additional information about the project, contact Sierra District Forester Rich Adams at (530) 581-5746.