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County Extends Hazard Tree Program Deadline Over 200 Parcels Already Registered for Tree Removal

(South Lake Tahoe, CA)—El Dorado County has extended the deadline for private property owners to sign up for hazard tree removal in the Angora Fire burn area.

Property owners now have until 5:00 PM Monday, September 17 to sign up for the program—a 10-day extension from the original deadline.

"Extending the deadline is the right thing to do," said El Dorado County Chief Administrative Officer Laura Gill. "The county has put together a cost-effective opportunity for residents and property owners, and we want to make sure everyone affected has ample time to take advantage of it."

Under the program, hazard tree removal is available to all private property owners in the burn area at little or no cost.

The county selected the lowest bidder, Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) to complete the hazard tree removal work. SPI offered a bid of zero, with a not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000 to cover any unforeseen, extraordinary costs. SPI's zero bid was nearly \$1.1 million lower than the next lowest bid.

Since the program was made available in late August, 214 sites are now registered for the county's tree removal program. To date, 500 tons of hazard trees have been diverted to the lumber mill.

"Hazard trees will have to come down one way or another as a matter of public health and safety," said Gill. "It's great to be able to put them to good use while they are still salvageable."

Property owners may sign up for the hazard tree removal program by completing a Rightof-Entry Permit, as well as a Right-of-Entry Permit Addendum. Both forms must be returned to the County Environmental Management Department at:

> 3368 Lake Tahoe Blvd., Suite 303 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Homeowners who previously participated in the structural debris removal program need only complete and submit the Right-of-Entry Addendum. Both forms are available at <u>www.edcgov.us/angora</u>.