Effectiveness Monitoring Committee - Initial Concept Proposal

Date Submitted:

May 06, 2025

Project Title:

Improving Forest Resilience through Integrated Riparian Buffer and Fuel Load Management

Project #:

(To be assigned by EMC)

Principal Investigator(s):

Dr. Generea Thompson

Affiliation(s) and Address(es):

LM HUB INC, Houston, Texas

Applying Organization:

LM HUB INC

Primary Contact Phone Number(s):

[redacted]

Primary Email Contact(s):

[redacted]

Collaborators:

N/A

Project Duration:

3 years (July 2025 - March 2028)

Project Description:

This project will evaluate the effectiveness of current Forest Practice Rules (FPRs) on fire hazard reduction and riparian zone management by testing how well integrated buffer zones and fuel reduction techniques improve forest wildfire resilience and watershed protection. We will monitor sediment levels, fuel load changes, and riparian health in treated versus untreated areas on private

and public timberland across northern and central California.

Methods include pre- and post-treatment assessments of sediment delivery to watercourses, field fuel measurements, remote sensing for vegetation structure, and statistical modeling. Results will be shared via EMC presentations, publications, and policy recommendations.

CMQs Addressed:

- 1h - WLPZs and fire behavior
- 2a - Sediment delivery from forest management
- 6c - Fuel load and fire hazard reduction
- 12a - Forest wildfire resilience and climate response

Geographic Application: Northern and Central California; potential statewide applicability

Requested Funding:

$928,000

Funding Breakdown:

FY 2025/26: $188,000

FY 2026/27: $315,000

FY 2027/28: $425,000

Brief Justification of Costs:

Funding will support personnel, field equipment, data analysis software, travel for data collection, and dissemination of results including policy briefs, technical papers, and stakeholder workshops.