

Forests and Fire

-Amanda Benton, Forestry Program Manager, Napa RCD-

Recent Conditions Were Not Fire Resilient



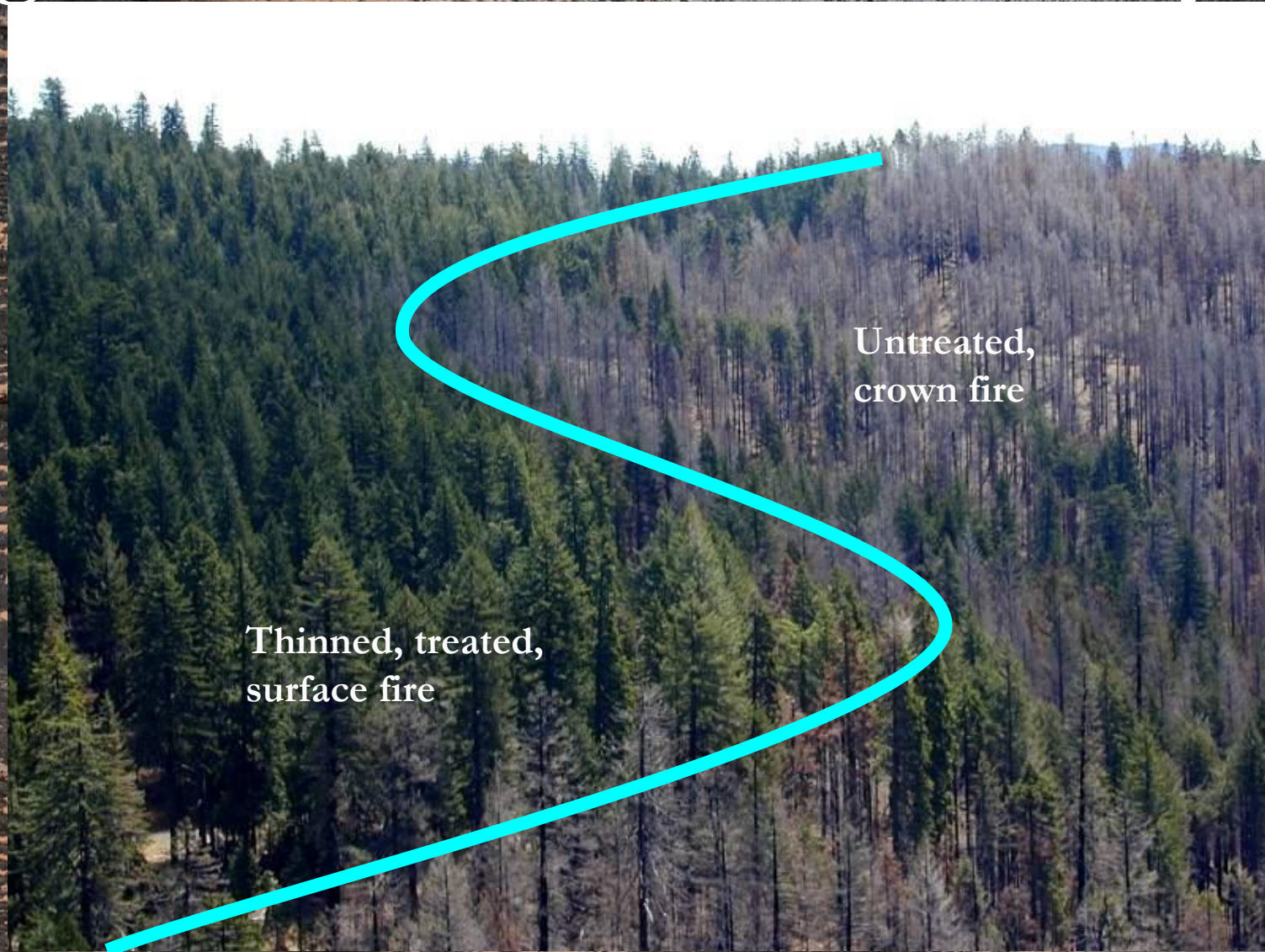
Recent Conditions Were Not Fire Resilient



Precipitation impact in harvested areas



Megram Fire, Humboldt County 1999



Thinned, treated,
surface fire

Untreated,
crown fire

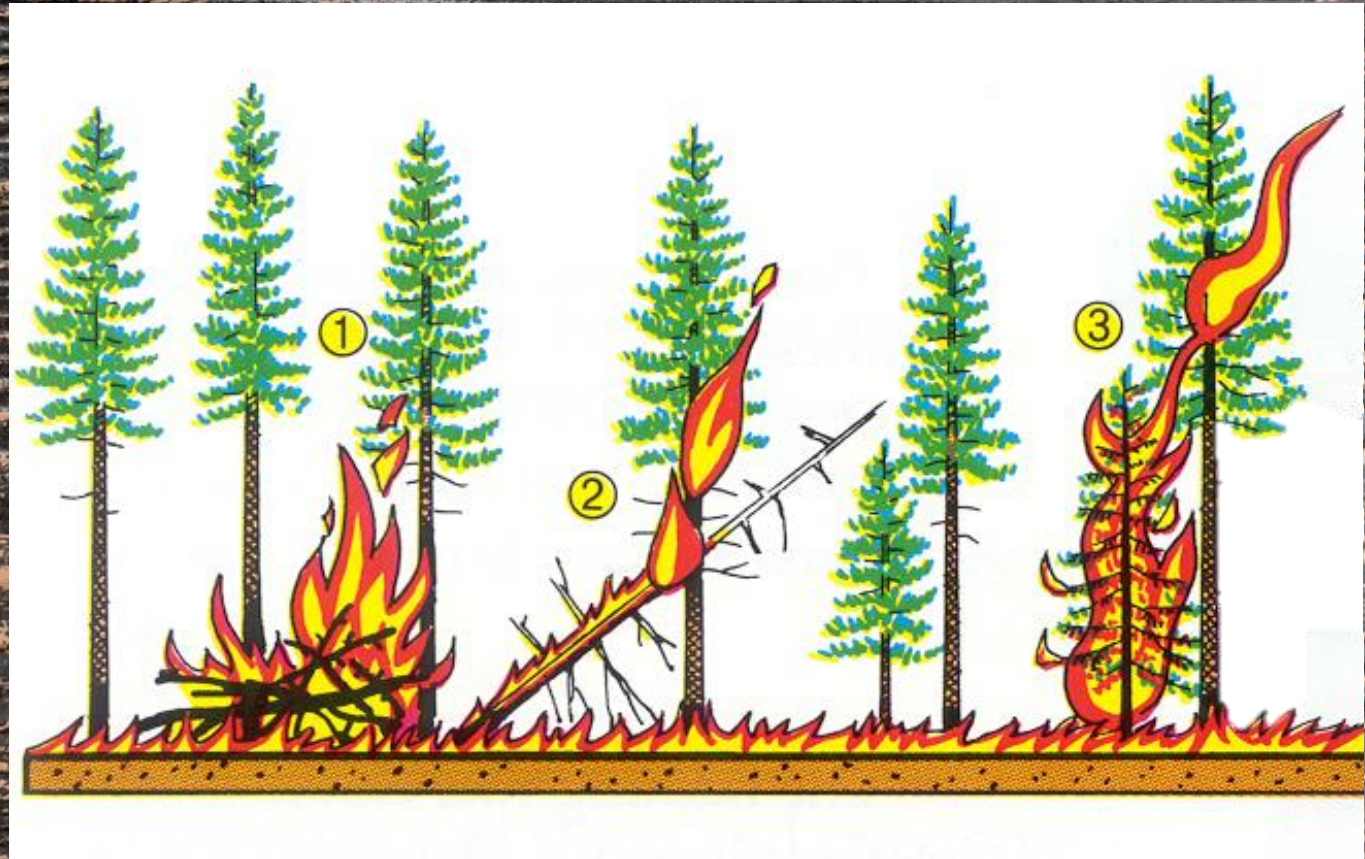
How Fires Burn

Fuel Profile:

Surface

Ladder

Crown

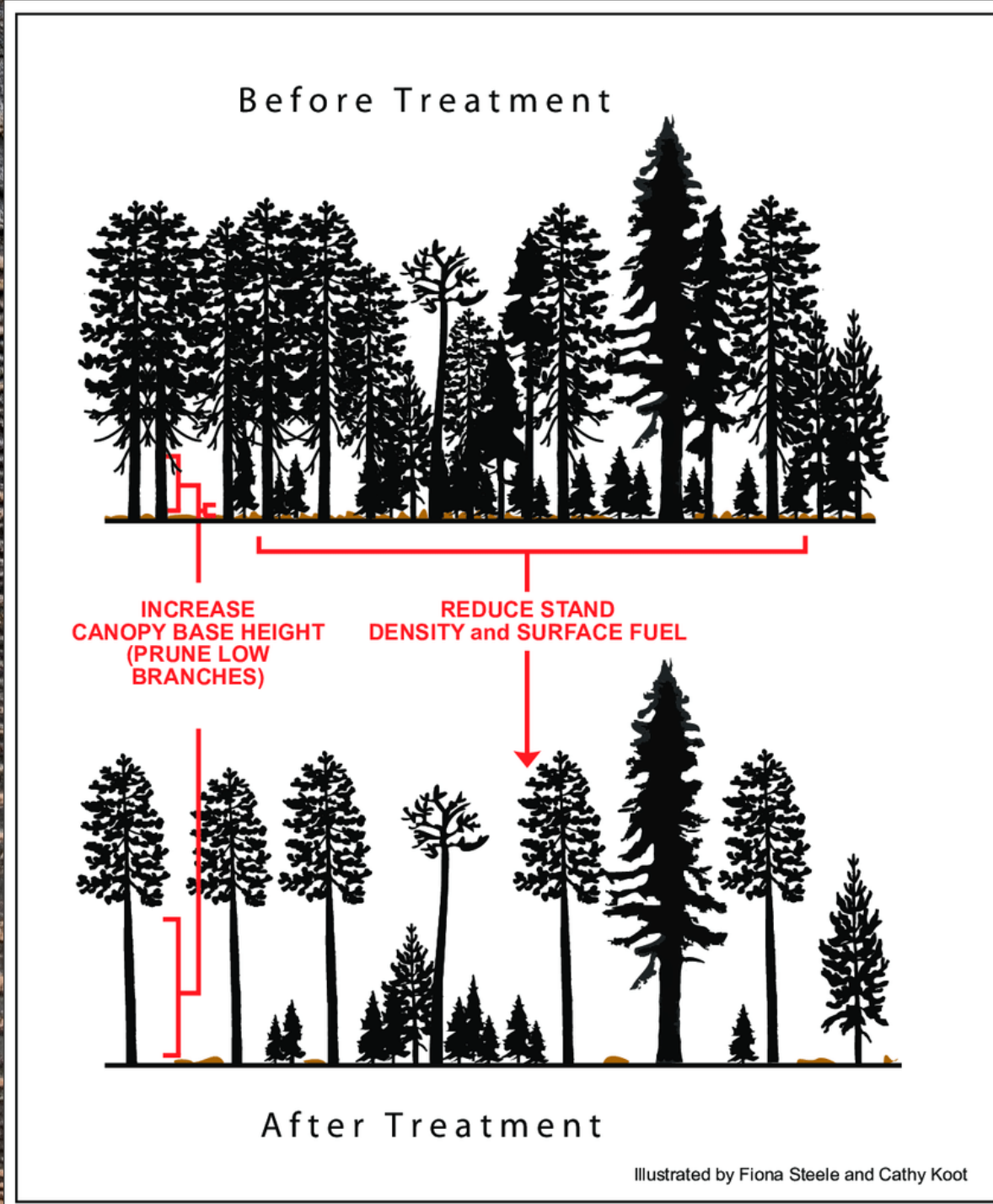


Principles of Thinning to Reduce Fuel Loading

Reduce density (fewer trees)

Increase spacing

Want fewer, bigger trees







Strategic Fuel Reduction Treatments: Oak Woodlands

Lack of fire leads to deciduous oak woodland decline

Remove encroaching DF to release oaks





Commercial thinning

Photo: UCANR



Goats

Photo: Rick Satomi



Mastication treatment



Hand treatment

Photo: Tom Banse for Northwest Public Radio

**Ways of
Getting
it Done:**

**Mechanical
vs.
Hand Crews
vs.
Cultural**

Prescribed Burning

Appropriate tool under the right conditions



Tools to Get Started

Technical Assistance

- Resource Conservation Districts (RCD)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Consulting Registered Professional Foresters (RPF)
- UC Co-operative Extension (UCCE)

Cost-Share Programs

- EQIP – Environmental Quality Incentives Program (NRCS)
- CFIP – California Forest Improvement Program (CAL FIRE)

Rx Burn Help

- VMP – Vegetation Management Program (CAL FIRE)
- UC Cooperative Extension Fire Advisor - PBAs



How do we get this
done?

Forest Management Plan

- Goals and Objectives
- Future needs and uses
- Sustainable, healthy, and resilient forests



Thank You

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