

Black Mountain Fire Recovery Update

Sierra Foothill Conservancy has been working tirelessly on the restoration efforts since the recent Goose Fire broke out on July 30th impacting 865 acres of the Black Mountain Preserve. SFC staff is currently conducting an extensive post fire assessment and outlining restoration plans by reaching out to specialist resources related to soil, vegetation and post fire management.

We have found that the land burned in a characteristic mosaic; some areas are burned severely and pose erosion and other issues, while others burned at a natural understory and thinning level which should result in a healthy rejuvenation of the plant communities and an excellent wildflower year. SFC will use this opportunity to survey and monitor post-fire succession for the listed *Carpenteria* plant which is known to be located on the Black Mountain Preserve as well as other species. What a great potential for citizen science learning opportunities! Offers for collaborations with California Native Plant Society and graduate students from Merced and Fresno are coming in and we hope to consolidate all these efforts into gathering important information on the effects of fire on our Preserve community.

The fire also caused widespread damage and as a result, extensive repairs to infrastructure with significant additional staff time are needed in the upcoming months for restoration efforts in erosion control, vegetation rehabilitation and recovery from the impact of fire management. We estimate the recovery costs will exceed \$100,000 and although we plan to pursue funding from NRCS and other agencies involved in fire recovery, there are many unexpected consequences to the fire on our Black Mountain Preserve.

We are asking for your help in the recovery process and would like you to please consider donating to the Black Mountain Recovery Fund. Your previous support for the important conservation work that Sierra Foothill Conservancy is doing in this region made a great impact – and we know with the support of the community we will see amazing recovery in the coming months on the Preserve we all care for so dearly.



You can make a donation today through our safe and secure online donation page by clicking on the “Donate Now” button. Or mail your check to Sierra Foothill Conservancy, PO Box 691, Mariposa CA 95338 with “Black Mountain Recovery Fund” in the memo.