

2021 Guzzler Infrastructure Rehabilitation Replacement Project Proposal and Scoping Notice

The Shasta McCloud Management Unit (SMMU) is requesting funding to remove eighteen wildlife guzzlers that were damaged during the Lava Fire and to replace ten of them with new Boss Tank guzzlers. One guzzler was damaged by suppression efforts while the rest were directly damaged by the fire within its boundary. The guzzlers are no longer functional and beyond repair. Through a partnership with California Deer Association (CalDeer) and Siskiyou County Fish & Game Commission, the guzzlers have been maintained since 2015 and provided access to water in the lava fields where it can otherwise be a limiting factor for wildlife.



Figure 1. Fire-damaged 1000-gallon fiberglass circular guzzler on left, Reiff fiberglass guzzler after the fire on right.

Existing roads will be used to access all guzzler sites with some heavy equipment (backhoe, etc.), pickup trucks, and hand tools used for removal and installation. Some road hand brushing may be needed to transport new guzzlers to sites, but no new roads will be created. Noise generating activities will be short in duration, approximately 1 day per site. Ground disturbance will be limited to the guzzler sites.

Sixteen of the damaged guzzlers were 500-gallon Reiff guzzlers with a footprint of 5' wide x 5' long and buried up to 3' deep. The other two were 1,000-gallon circular guzzlers with a footprint of 10' diameter and buried up to 2' deep. Ten new Boss Tanks will be placed over the old footprints and are 8.4' wide x 15.8' long and would be buried up to 2' deep. Once installed, the new guzzlers will continue to be maintained through the partnership between CalDeer and the SMMU. The proposal is location on the north side of Mount Shasta in the Lava Fire area (Hotlum and Bolam vicinity). Please refer to the map.

Preliminary analysis indicates this proposal qualifies under 36 CFR 220.6 (e) (6) (timber stand and/or wildlife habitat improvement). If you have information you feel that we may not be aware of or feel there are extraordinary circumstances regarding the proposed action, please send that information to District Ranger Carolyn Napper ATTN: Emelia Barnum at: <mailto:stnf-comments-smmu@usda.gov> (subject line: Guzzlers) by

November 2, 2021. Please ensure email attachments are in plain text (.txt), rich text (rtf.), Word (.doc, .docx), or portable document (.pdf) format. Comments received, including names and addresses, will be part of the public record for this proposed action. For further information, email Emelia at emelia.barnum@usda.gov.



Figure 2. Boss guzzler.

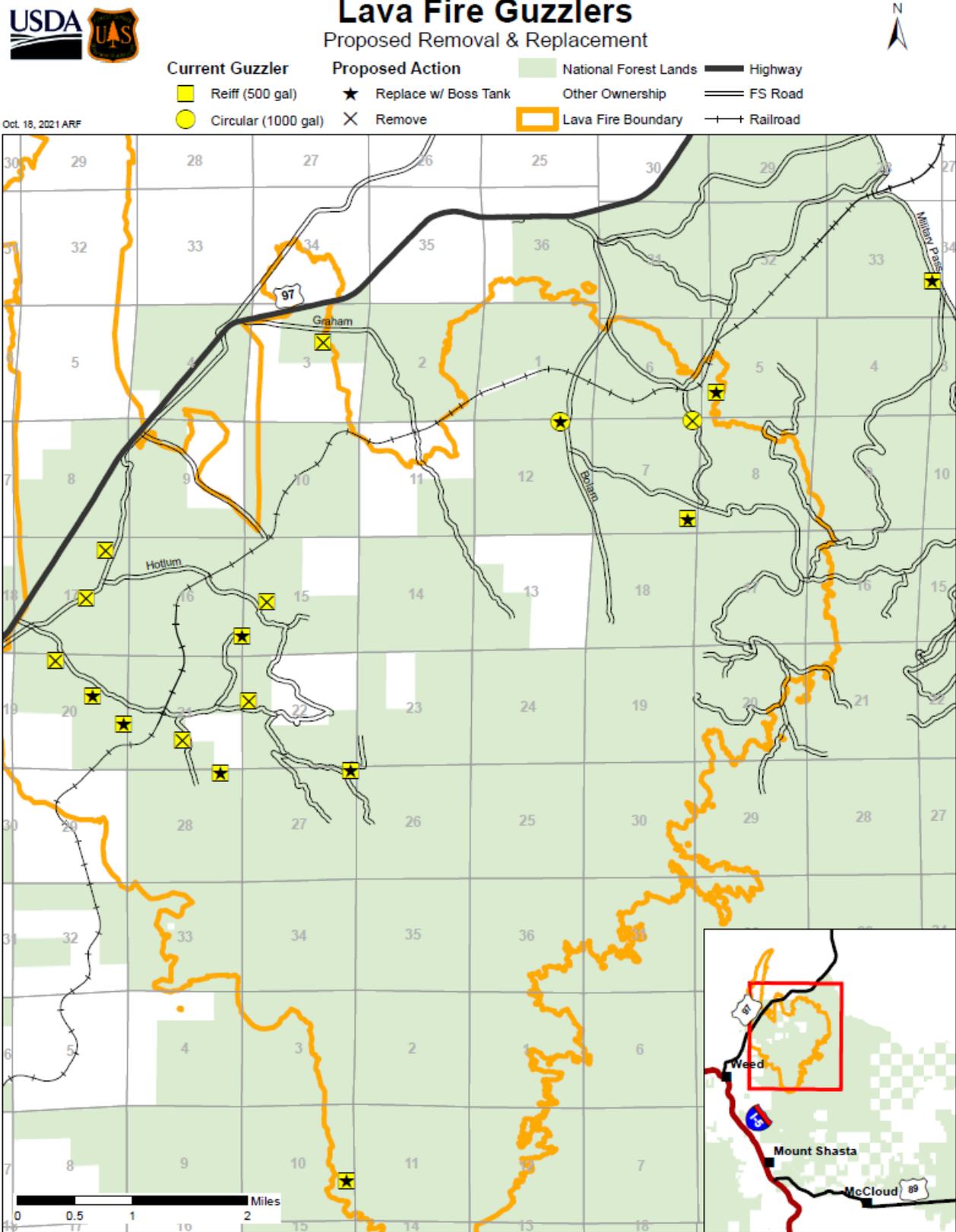


Figure 3. Map of guzzlers to be replaced with a Boss Tank and those to be removed