



## Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

CNRA Auditorium  
715 P Street  
Sacramento, California



December 6-7, 2022

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## **Resource Management**

### ***Forest Practice Program***

- The Timber Operator Licensing Program has begun processing annual license renewals and staff anticipates this will continue through December and into the new year. The Program is continuing to partner with the Humboldt-Del Norte Unit as well as Shasta College for the delivery of Licensed Timber Operator training classes. Additional classes will be scheduled for early 2023.

### **Forest Practice Administration**

- Staff in coordination with Board staff have begun work on the 2023 Forest Practice Rulebook.
- Program staff continue to support the Forest Practice Law Enforcement and Northern Region Coast Forest Practice District Review Team programs by conducting harvesting plan review, Forest Practice Rule interpretation, administrative civil penalty Complaint and Proposed Order development, and Coast District Duty Forester support.

### **Watershed Protection Program**

- Staff from the Forest Practice Biology division presented on behalf of CAL FIRE at the California Licensed Foresters Association Botanical Resources Workshop on November 18, 2022.
- Staff monitoring specialists in coordination with staff from the other Review Team agencies have completed over 51% of the field sampling site visits for the second round of post-fire emergency notice monitoring.

### **Forest Practice Enforcement and Timber Operator Licensing (LTO)**

- Enforcement Program staff are developing a scope-of-work for contracting of personal service to respondents of Complaints and Proposed Orders (CPO). The Program has experienced recurring difficulty with service by mail in instances where respondents have chosen to ignore or avoid receipt of CPO service by mail.
- Planning has commenced for the annual CAL FIRE 2023 Forest Practice Enforcement Training of Unit Forest Practice and Fire Prevention staff.

The following tables summarize LTO and Enforcement Activities since the last report.

Table 1: Forest Practice Civil Penalty Collection

Case Status	# of Cases	Amount Collected	Total Amount Due
Adjudicated	24	\$126,000	\$418,800
Default	52	\$281,700	\$1,006,580
Paid per CPO	15	\$151,000	\$168,000
Settled	97	\$783,205	\$881,505
Totals	188	\$1,341,905	\$2,474,885

Forest Practice Enforcement Program penalty collection from 2017 to present. Adjudicated are cases that were decided by hearing. The difference in Amount Collected and Total Amount Due indicates respondent is making payments or a judgement is needed. Penalties collected are deposited in the State's General Fund per (PRC§4601.1(d)).

Table 2: LTO License Status

Table 3: Active Civil Penalties Case Status

Status	#	Status	# of Cases
New Applications Rec'd	28	Under Review	6
Renewal Applications Rec'd	160	Developed for Signature	10
New Licenses Issued	9	CPO Signed, Mailed, Served	12
Licenses Renewed	49	Hearing(s) to be Scheduled	6
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	24	Settlement Mitigation	6
Applications Returned	45	Payments	22
Refunds Issued	0	Probation	1
Insurance Certificates Rec'd	59	Judgement Needed/Granted	32
		Default/Final Order	17
Total Active Licenses	1397	Total	112

## **Resource Protection and Improvement Program**

### **Urban and Community Forestry**

- The Urban Wood Academy (sponsored in part by CAL FIRE) will convene experts from around the United States to discuss goals for urban wood utilization, diversion, product diversification, and industry expansion. The Academy will be held December 13-15, 2022, at Palomar College in San Marcos.
- Interdepartmental and Interagency reviews of Urban and Community Forestry Grant guidelines are being reviewed and are receiving edits prior to the release of the guidelines for public comments.

- Ongoing conversations with the USDA Forest Service will result in an advice letter for CAL FIRE to apply for a portion of the \$1.5 billion Urban and Community Forestry funding through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Encumbrance, award, expenditure, and liquidation terms and requirements are pending. Staff are tracking IRA encumbrances of \$3 billion to the US Environmental Protection Agency to mitigate extreme heat and \$3 billion to the US Department of Transportation for access to greenspace and parks and other topics specific to Urban and Community Forestry. The California Climate Investments Strategy is proposing a significant (yet to be determined) increase in Urban and Community Forestry investments to sequester, store, and avoid carbon emissions as part of the Natural and Working Lands group of strategies.

## **Demonstration State Forests**

### ***Jackson***

- Blencowe Watershed Management completed placement of 185 pieces of large woody debris on the Hare Creek Mainstem Instream Habitat Enhancement Project. This restoration work is sponsored by Trout Unlimited's North Coast Coho and Steelhead Restoration Program and funded through a grant by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- The Jackson Advisory Group (JAG) met on November 15, 2022. Their meeting included a site visit to the Red Tail Timber Sale to investigate community concerns about harvesting large trees. After discussion with the operator, CAL FIRE staff, and the community, the JAG was satisfied CAL FIRE was upholding their commitments to modify existing timber sales made on August 19, 2022. The JAG also visited a planned fuel break in the Mitchell Creek watershed to discuss items to include in this demonstration project.
- A community meeting was held in Caspar on November 16, 2022, to discuss fire hazard reduction on Jackson and the surrounding communities. CAL FIRE was joined by the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District, Mendocino County Fire Safe Council, Mendocino County Prescribed Burn Association, and the UC Cooperative Extension. This was a valuable community conversation and follow-up meetings are being planned.
- The Caspar Creek Paired Watershed Experiment celebrated 60-years of advancing our knowledge of forest watershed science with a community open house held on November 12, 2022.
- Prescribed burning has been completed in 3 units of the Parlin timber harvesting plan. UC Cooperative Extension staff installed study plots to inform the weather and moisture conditions to prescribe in their upcoming Redwood Fire Fuels Mitigation Study.
- CAL FIRE staff toured a proposed acorn grove improvement project to learn the project objectives from local tribal representatives. Tan Oak acorns, once they drop to the ground, are quickly infested with weevils, which make them unfit for collection. Using prescribed fire to burn the understory, acorns infested with weevils are burned off and when new acorns drop the spread of weevils is slowed. This allows more time for acorns to remain on the ground and be collected. During the tour, participants learned how to quickly identify weevil-infested acorns and the importance of acorn collection in tribal traditions. CAL FIRE appreciates the opportunity to partner with and learn from Tribal expertise in JDSF.



*CAL FIRE Prescribed Fire Chief and Tribal Liaison Len Nielson, Sherwood Valley Tribal Preservation Officer Valerie Stanley and JDSF staff distinguish between acorns that are and are not infested with weevils. The photo on the right shows the whole acorn with the entry mark. The split acorn shows the interior damage done by the weevil.*

***LaTour***

- The Royston/Senapol 23 Timber Sale has been developed for the 2023 logging season. It covers 543 acres and will generate approximately 5.4 MMBF.
- Rice Logging removed 41 loads of biomass totaling 672 bone dry tons (BDT) from the 1978 Whitmore Fire Plantation.
- 73 acres of the Whitmore Fire Plantation thinning project received follow-up mastication.
- The Shasta College Forest Health and Protection Class, under the tutelage of CAL FIRE's Curtis Ewing, held a weekend class field trip on October 10-11, 2022.

***Mountain Home***

- Post-Castle Fire salvage logging operations concluded for the year on October 21, 2022. An Emergency Notice to support further salvage operations in 2023 has been filed and accepted.
- All new fixed-radius plots for the Continuous Forest Inventory program have been established and stem mapped. Measurements are scheduled for the 2023 field season.

***Soquel***

- A field tour of the forest for California State Senator John Laird and members of his staff was held on October 19, 2022. The tour included stops at the planned prescribed burn and research sites in the forest, the Summit Road fuel break, and the Noren properties to discuss public access challenges.

- Forest Manager Angela Bernheisel led a field trip for 20 students in the Parks Operations class at West Valley College on October 20, 2022. CAL FIRE personnel from Corralitos Station Engine 1774 provided an educational presentation about helicopter landing zone considerations in park and open space settings. Students also learned about vegetation treatment planning.



*Prescribed fire at Soquel.*



*Sen. John Laird discussing forest health and planned fuel breaks at Soquel.*

- The first broadcast burn since Soquel Demonstration State Forest establishment was conducted on November 4, 2022. Over 25 invited guests and media attended to watch from a safe distance and learn about the goals of fuel treatment and prescribed fire. The San Jose Mercury News featured a front-page article on Sunday, November 7, 2022 ([link](#)).

### **Forest Entomology and Pathology**

- Bark beetle activity continues to increase around the state, particularly in the central and northern Sierra Nevada and the counties around Clear Lake.
- The California Forest Pest Council Meeting was held at the University of California – Davis on November 16-17, 2022, with some 85 people in attendance.
- Work continues on the impacts of large wildfires and Mediterranean Oak Borer and Gold Spotted Oak Borer.
- Staff will be working with the National Park Service, the US Forest Service, and others to determine the cause of what is killing Joshua trees in southern California.

### **Prescribed Fire and Environmental Protection**

#### **Prescribed Fire**

- The State Certified Prescribed Fire Burn Boss will have its fourth class offering for the initiation of task books on December 5-12, 2022. This program continues to help increase capacity needed to reach necessary pace and scale for prescribed burning in California. More information is available at [State Certified Prescribed-Fire Burn Boss \(ca.gov\)](https://www.ca.gov/state-certified-prescribed-fire-burn-boss).
- The new Prescribed Fire Claims Pilot Fund work group met on November 18, 2022, to review the implementation process and procedure for the pilot program. Several partners are involved in the process per the requirements in the legislation (SB 926).

- The Governors Prescribed Fire Task Force subgroup for a training center continues to build a proposal in compliance with the AB 624 which requires the State Fire Marshal, on or before July 1, 2023, to develop a proposal to establish a prescribed fire training center. The intent of developing a training center will be to build capacity and expertise in prescribed fire across California's diverse landscapes and communities. The Center will involve private, tribal, state, and federal partners.
- The US Forest Service released their response to the 90-day prescribed fire pause from Chief Randy Moore. The Forest Service is not back to full speed for prescribed fire yet on all Forests in California, but they are working on the implementation of recommendations from Chief Moore. The report identified 7 key recommendations to improve the USFS prescribed fire program.

### **Vegetation Management Program**

- The California Vegetation Treatment Program Environmental Impact Report (CalVTP) continues to be used by CAL FIRE and other lead agencies. Currently, CAL FIRE has 12 VTPs of the 32 listed VTPs listed on the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection website from all lead agencies.
- CAL FIRE has continued to assist with messaging about use of the CalVTP through trainings and conferences with other stakeholders.
- There are currently 97 Chaparral Management Plans (VMPs) that are open for CAL FIRE and various other CEQA compliant documents to increase the pace and scale of fuel reduction.

### **Cultural Resources Program**

- On November 10-11, 2022, CAL FIRE participated in the Leok Po Demonstration and Workshop at the Cache Creek Nature Preserve in Yolo County. Leok Po in the Wintun language means 'good fire' and this event showcased California Native American use of fire to enhance cultural resources and help restore the environment. Several byproducts from cultural fire are used to create important resources for native people in California. The event was also featured in the news [here](#).

## **Wildfire Resilience**

### **Reforestation Services Program**

- Seed requests are being accepted through the end of 2022, via an online interest form. Requests are being reviewed in batches, prioritized, and transacted before distribution to an approved commercial nursery for sowing.
- The inaugural meeting of the California Reforestation Pipeline Cooperative was held on November 4, 2022, in Sacramento with over 40 people attending. Facilitated by American Forests as part of the State's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan, meetings plan to occur quarterly around the state comprised of a diverse array of stakeholders.

### **California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)**

- The program continues to solicit applications on a 2-month cycle; however, the program is awaiting the introduction of the 22/23 Fiscal year funding in order to continue to fund projects.

## **Climate and Energy**

- Program leads are voluntarily engaging in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion trainings through CalLearns, CalHR's training system.

### **Climate Change**

- Climate change staff are collaborating with the California Natural Resources Agency through the Natural and Working Lands Science Team to provide input on the development of a carbon sequestration project registry required by SB 27.
- Dedicated staff have started gathering information in preparation for required semi-annual reporting due to the Air Resources Board at the end of December 2022. The report involves Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund/California Climate Investments funding spent on Forest Health and associated grant programs and fuels reduction crews from June 1, 2022, through November 30, 2022.

### **Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force**

- The Task Force published a [November Governor's update](#), which includes information on the new Reforestation Pipeline Partnership.
- The November 21, 2022, Task Force meeting was canceled. The next meeting will be held in Calabasas, February 2-3, 2023. Dates and locations for all [2023 Task Force meetings](#) are available on the Task Force website.

### **Forest Health**

- The next Forest Health grant solicitation will open on December 15, 2022. It will include funding for 4 project types: Forest Health, Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration, Tribal Wildfire Resilience Implementation, and Tribal Wildfire Resilience Planning. Draft grant guidelines have been released to the public for a 30-day public comment period and formal consultation with tribes has been requested. Please refer to the [Forest Health website](#) for more information.
- Forest Health staff are participating in the Forestry and Natural Resources Career Mentorship Program. The mentorship offers college students insights and guidance on their upcoming graduation and career.
- Forest Health staff are participating in the 3-part National Indian Justice Center Training coordinated through the California Climate Investments program. Trainings include topics such as tribal consultations, CA tribal land bases and governmental infrastructure, and the historic trauma and colonialism on CA tribes.

### **Wood Products and Bioenergy**

- Program announced new awards of \$14 million to business and workforce development projects, including \$3 million to Sierra Pacific Industries to help develop a new seedling nursery in Siskiyou County that will produce up to 25 million trees annually.
- Program lead John McCarthy represented CAL FIRE at the Forest Innovation Summit, sponsored by the Swedish American Chamber of Commerce, which was held in San Francisco on October 13-14, 2022.
- Staff represented CAL FIRE at the California Resilient Careers in Forestry Kick-off event on November 9-10, 2022.

## ***Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)***

- The model for Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) will be rolled out in 2023 for both SRA regulation and LRA recommendation. The updated and improved hazard assessment model takes into account local climate to describe specific fire weather scenarios and probabilities. This improvement allows for the local influence of fire weather on wildland fire behavior, and an extraction of local wind vectors to drive firebrand transport into non-wildland areas where modeling fire spread and hazards presents unique difficulties.
- FHSZ modeling has been completed for SRA lands and the data and maps are currently in the process of Regulation Approval by the Office of Administrative Law. Public Hearings for the regulation have been scheduled in all 56 counties that contain SRA and will be completed by mid-January. We anticipate FHSZ approval sometime in early 2023.

## **Fire Protection**

### ***Fire Protection Program***

#### **Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery**

- During the month of October 2022, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement officers made 20 arrests and issued 18 citations (non-4291).
- CAL FIRE Civil Cost Recovery has received \$215,760.03 in recovered fire suppression costs for the month of October.
- On October 16, 2022, CAL FIRE resources in Butte County responded to a vegetation fire in the community of Palermo. A CAL FIRE law enforcement officer responded and conducted the fire investigation. The officer interviewed a witness who stated his grandson had likely started the fire and struck him with a golf club. The witness advised the officer the suspect fled into the nearby tree line. The officer located and detained the suspect who admitted to striking his grandfather and starting the fire. The suspect stated he lit the fire to stay warm, but it escaped his control after he passed out. The officer arrested the suspect and transported him to Butte County Jail where he was booked for recklessly causing the fire (PC 452) and assault with a deadly weapon (PC 245).
- On October 19, 2022, a team of CAL FIRE law enforcement officers arrested a 37-year-old Red Bluff man for committing arson to forest land in the areas surrounding the city of Red Bluff. This was the culmination of a serial arson investigation. The man was booked into Tehama County Jail on multiple counts of arson to forest land, use of an incendiary device, and enhancements due to the ongoing State of Emergency. He was held on \$6,600,000 bail.

#### **Fire Protection Operations**

- Due to current and predicted weather and fuel conditions, on November 21, 2022, CAL FIRE down-staffed statewide from Peak Staffing Level (356 engines) to Transitional Staffing Level (243 engines-1 engine per station). In total 113 engines were down staffed.
- CAL FIRE and California Wildfire Coordinating Group (CWCG) Incident Management Team (IMT) Incident Commanders (ICs) conducted a joint meeting to discuss the Unified Command incidents that occurred in 2022 and to continue to develop methods for enhancing the coordination between agencies on these incidents.



- Six CAL FIRE Command Centers have been selected to participate in a Next Generation 911 – Cloud based Call Handling Equipment (911 Phone Systems) trail. Sponsored by Cal OES State 911, CAL FIRE will conduct the testing of the newly approved 911 Phone Systems helping to ensure this equipment functions correctly in a “real world” emergency call taking environment prior to being purchased and installed by local and state 911 dispatch centers statewide.

### **Aviation Management Unit (AMU)/Tactical Air Operations (TAO)**

- CAL FIRE S70i #11 is being accepted the week of December 12-16, 2022. CAL FIRE #12 is scheduled to be accepted in the late 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2023. Prado (San Bernadino Unit) and Alma (Santa Clara Unit) Helitack Bases have completed their initial CAL FIRE HAWK training and are operational with the new aircraft. This makes 7 out of 10 CAL FIRE bases operational with the new aircraft
- The next C-130 Retardant Delivery System (RDS) Executive Steering Committee (ESC) occurred on November 30, 2022. Staff continue to hold ongoing discussions with the USAF to move the RDS modification from Lockheed Martin Greenville, SC to CAL FIRE AMU. The USAF, Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) who ensures the integrity of the contract requirements are being met in the new proposal conducted a site survey of CAL FIRE AMU facilities during November 29 through December 1, 2022. The first C-130H RDS completion is estimated for 1<sup>st</sup> QTR. of 2024.
- AMU has received a request from Indonesia and Turkish government authorities to visit our program in support of their aerial firefighting operations. Staff continues to work with our leadership on establishing appropriate timeframes for these events to transpire.
- Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Aerial Ignition has been utilized on several prescribed fire projects with great success. Two additional CAL FIRE remote pilots are attending training in February 2023 to expand our capability.

### **Mobile Equipment Program**

- The security enhancements to the facility in response to the earlier rash of catalytic converter thefts and other vehicle damage have been completed.

## ***Cooperative Fire Protection***

### **Cooperative Fire Programs**

#### State and Federal Programs

- United States Coast Guard (USCG) and CAL FIRE have entered into an agreement. This agreement will allow USCG employees to shadow CAL FIRE Incident Management Team (IMT) members in various Incident Command System (ICS) positions during team deployments.
- The 2023-2024 State Fire Capacity (SFC) Project and Workshop Solicitation Memo are out with a due date of December 15, 2022. These grants allow CAL FIRE to host workshops, and meetings and upgrade/update equipment. Funding for this program comes through the United States Forest Service.

- The 2023-2028 California Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (CFMA) meetings continue. The working group has identified areas of the current agreement that need rewording and updating. The current agreement will expire in March of 2023 and an extension has been put in place to ensure problems will not arise if the deadline is not met.
- Continuity of Operations was sent out to Programs/Regions/Units. The Continuity of Operations allows CAL FIRE to ensure that Primary Mission Essential Functions (PMEFs) continue to be performed during a wide range of emergencies, including localized acts of nature, accidents and technological or attack-related emergencies.
  - California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG) Direct Protection Area (DPA) Annual Review reminder was sent out to the Regions and Units. DPA changes are due December 1, 2022, from the Units. Any negotiated changes between agencies will need to be submitted through the DPA Data Steward on January 6, 2023.

#### Local Government Program

- The Local Government Program has two outstanding cooperative agreements which are going through the renewal process.
- The Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians has submitted a termination notice. The tribe has elected to end its cooperative agreement with CAL FIRE to establish its own internal fire department. CAL FIRE will assist the tribe throughout the process as requested. All employees working within the agreement can be absorbed locally within the Amador-El Dorado Unit.
- The 2023 Local Government Workshops have been announced at the following locations with dates, 1000-1530 hours:
  - January 17, 2023, Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit - Merced County Emergency Operations Center 3500 Apron Avenue, Atwater, CA 95301
  - January 24, 2023, Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit - Yountville Community Center 6516 Washington Street, Yountville, CA 94599
  - February 7, 2023, Butte Unit - Oroville Headquarters 176 Nelson Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965
  - February 16, 2023, San Diego Unit - San Diego County Operations Center 5520 Overland Avenue, San Diego, CA 92123

#### Administrative Support

- Remaining vacancies are in the process of being filled with two positions currently posted on CalCareers.
- Efforts have continued on Coordinating Salary Savings drill with Budgets Office and Human Resources.
- The Administrative Support Program is supporting Fire Protection and Cooperative Fire Protection with Budget Change Proposal (BCP) finalization for FY 2023-24 as well as budgeting with 2022-23 BCP roll out.

## **Camps and Crews Program**

- The current statewide strength of Type I Hand Crews is 126 of the 227 funded. This includes 62 California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) crews staffed out of a total of 152 funded, 22 California Conservation Corps (CCC) Crews staffed out of 30 funded, 30 of the 32 funded CAL FIRE Firefighter I Crews and 12 of the 13 funded California National Guard Crews.
- The current CDCR inmate crew strength is 960 inmates out of the allocated 2584, leaving the Conservation Camp Program with a shortage of 1624 inmates. The total CDCR Camp population is at 60% with a crew capacity of 37%.
- CDCR has completed the transfer of all inmates from California Correctional Center (CCC) to Sierra Conservation Center (SCC). SCC is now the primary training center of inmate firefighters for 27 of the 30 Conservation Camps throughout the state with the closure of CCC.

## **Safety/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program**

- The EMS Committee met on October 18-19, 2022. An increased call volume related to Fentanyl overdoses was discussed. The EMS Program is working with the San Bernadino Unit to distribute information and lessons learned after several recent calls in the Unit.
- The transition from separate Electronic Patient Care Reports (ePCR) and Defensible Space Inspection (DSI) iPads to a single CAL FIRE iPad continues. The Units are well into this transition with several already completed. This transition deadline is December 1, 2022.
- The EMS Program continues to work with Image Trend and Office of the State Fire Marshal and the CAL FIRE Incident Reporting System (CALFIRS) to make updates to our platform that will allow ePCR data to be transferred to other agencies in “real time”. Timing for this feature is likely to be January/February 2023 due to contracting and vendor programming timeframes.
- The Safety Program, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Working Group (PPEWG), and Research, Development and Innovation continue to work on a long-term electronic PPE tracking program that will make meeting the requirements of the new Cal/OSHA regulations coming in January 2023 easier to achieve.
- Business Services Office (BSO), Tech Services, and Safety continue to develop a plan for the multi-year installation of PPE extractors and dryers as funded in the Fiscal Year 22/23 budget.
- The Safety Program continues to be engaged on two major Cal/OSHA projects related to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) wildland respiratory protection and PPE requirements. Meetings involving respirator product development, future wear trial discussion, regulation development, and regulation updating are all occurring. The Safety Program has expanded the monitoring of and our public comment input into the NFPA standards update process. The importance of these NFPA standards has taken on new meaning now that Cal/OSHA is using these as the basis for new regulations.

## **Training Program**

- Greg Belk has been selected as the Forestry and Fire Protection Administrator (Staff Chief) for Statewide Training effective November 1, 2022. Greg was previously assigned as the Deputy Chief of Southern Region Training. We welcome Chief Belk into his new leadership position.
- Former Statewide Training Program Chief, Catherine (Cat) Frazer, will retain CAL FIRE Training Centers oversight and responsibilities.
- The Joint Apprenticeship Committee (SubJAC) meeting for October 27, 2022, was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. Unit submitted requests for Open List Fire Captain Non-Apprentice Training Plans (eight received) were reviewed and approved via an email vote.
- The Statewide Training Committee (STC) meeting was held on November 17, 2022. The Employee Development Guide for Fire Apparatus Engineer was approved by STC and is being submitted for Department and CAL FIRE Local 2881 review and approval.
- The last Academy graduation (Company Officer Academy) of 2022 was held on November 18, 2022.
- In 2022, the Training Center hosted 601 Firefighter Academy students and 534 Company Officer Academy students. Of the 1135 students who began the training, 1029 successfully completed their training. Students who did not complete the training were released based on medical reasons, voluntarily withdrawing from the training, or failing written or performance exams.

## **Office of the State Fire Marshal**

### ***Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division***

#### **Land Use Planning**

##### Fire Safe Regulations

- We are currently developing some training webinars for CAL FIRE and Contract County staff on interpreting and enforcing the State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations.

##### Firewise USA

- California continues to lead the nation with 600 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Firewise USA Communities in good standing, equating to over 25% of all NFPA Firewise USA Communities nationwide. Staff are fielding lots of inquiries statewide as interest in the program continues to grow. Staff is in the process of preparing a news release to be distributed shortly and will also be presenting a certificate of congratulations to the 600<sup>th</sup> community to celebrate this momentous occasion.

#### **Wildfire Prevention Grants**

- We anticipate opening the next solicitation period on December 14, 2022, with a close date of March 15, 2023. Please visit our [Wildfire Prevention Grants](#) webpage to stay informed on the latest information.

## **Pre-Fire Planning**

- The State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) map will be released publicly in December.
- The SRA FHSZ map public hearings in the 56 counties with SRA will start in December 2022, and conclude in January/February 2023, as required by Public Resources Code Section 4203.
- Simultaneously, the 45-day public comment period for the regulatory process with the Office of Administrative Law will start in December 2022, and conclude in January/February 2023, as required by the Administrative Procedures Act.
- Staff continue to work on improving the CalMAPPER (CAL FIRE's fuels reduction project reporting tool) quality assurance and quality control measures to improve data entry and accuracy.

## **California Incident Data and Statistics (CalStats)**

- The 2021 Redbook is now final and can be located on the CAL FIRE Stats and Events internet page.
- Staff are working to streamline the incident quality assurance/quality control process to the Department to complete future Redbooks more efficiently.
- Sent out our first quarterly CalStats newsletter to all Fire Departments in the State that are reporting National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) data. This was focused on tips, tricks, and updates on how to import their NFIRS data into eNFIRS and how the validation process works.

## **Wildfire Preparedness**

- Burn Permits
  - The online burn permit continues to progress and will go live on January 1, 2023. Staff are continuing to make improvements to the application, create training materials (documents and videos), and user guides. Unit training will start on November 28 and last through the month of December.
- Home Hardening and Defensible Space
  - Collaboration continues with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services developing the framework for the Home Hardening Program. In addition to the initial three pilot project sites in Dulzura (San Diego), Whitmore (Shasta), and Kelseyville Riviera (Lake), the communities of Ponderosa Hills (Tuolumne) and Weber Creek (El Dorado) have been added.
  - Staff have been working with the Defensible Space program to design an online Home Hardening Self-Assessment. The expected completion date is December 2022.
  - CAL FIRE has completed just over 200,000 inspections to date for the calendar year which is 51,395 more than the same time last year.

## **Utility Wildfire Mitigation**

- Identified Cooperative and Publicly Owned Utilities within CA that have their own infrastructure that intersects with SRA. Starting to acquire their contacts and GIS infrastructure data to assist with emergency response, firefighting, and prevention efforts.
- Staff are working on updating the Power Line Fire Prevention Field Guide for 2023.

## **Tribal Affairs/Cultural Resources**

### ***Tribal Affairs***

- There were four events on November 29, 2022, for Native American Heritage Month at the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Headquarters in Sacramento.
  - Career Pathways for Native Americans in State Service Panel: A panel was focused on connecting with high school and college-age Native Americans with the goal to share resources and knowledge needed to plan for and achieve meaningful state careers to support themselves, their communities, and their ancestral lands. Topics discussed during this panel included the benefits of state service, recruitment and outreach, and information on how to apply for state service. Captain Polar Bear from the Siskiyou Unit was on the panel.
  - Honoring Native Voices in State Government Panel: A brown bag lunch conversation with a panel of Native American state employees who shared their experiences working for the State of California, the importance of cultural competency as it relates to the complex identities of being a Native person, and tips to be a stronger ally for Native people and colleagues in the workplace.
  - Site Tour of the Future California Indian Heritage Center - For State Employees Only: An in-person site tour of the future California Indian Heritage Center in the beautiful location at the confluence of the Sacramento and American rivers in West Sacramento. Participants received information from the State Parks project team with updates on the development and design of the California Indian Heritage Center.
  - Native American Heritage Month Happy Hour - For State Employees and Guest: An informal networking and community happy hour event. This happy hour event was open to state employees and their guests.

### ***Cultural Resources***

- On Saturday November 26, 2022, Staff Chief Len Nielson attended a Cultural burn in Lockeford with Don Hankins from Chico State at the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Plant Materials site where local tribal members were able to burn approximately 6-7 acres with the local Lodi and Mokelumne Fire Departments. It was a great opportunity to train with the local fire departments, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and local Plains and Northern Miwok tribal members to utilize cultural burning.



*Kimberly Stevenot of the Northern Miwok*

- The next CAL FIRE Native American Advisory Council meeting will be held on December 12, 2022.
- Tribal Wildfire and Forest Resilience Roundtable discussions occurred on November 30 and December 1, 2022, for consultation with Tribes to provide information and suggestions for the new grant opportunity in the Forest Health Grant solicitation period for 2023.

## **Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)/Diversity Equity and Inclusion Program (DEI)**

### ***EEO***

- Over the past year, the EEO-Bilingual Services Program has been actively engaged in identifying statewide language barriers to the public we serve, with the goal to provide all embracing equitable language access and translative services to the communities we serve.
  - The Program recently conducted its bi-annual statewide language access survey over a 10-day period, in preparation of implementation plans for the year 2023 to address identified areas of need, and to provide solutions.
- The EEO Program monitors recruitment, examination, hiring, and retention policies and procedures to ensure that no non-job-related barriers or discriminatory practices exist.
  - The EEO Program recently completed its annual Qualification Appraisal Panel Report (QAP); where evaluation of the prior year's exam panel data was evaluated for equality. EEO and the Human Resources Office will continue to partner on strategies to prevent selection biases, with a framework of implementing any needed modification for the year 2023, as a method to achieve the highest level of exam equality.

## **DEI Program**

- Pleased to announce the Department's first formal establishment of the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEI) Program, under the leadership of the Equal Employment Opportunity Program. The DEI Program will lead and build upon a multipronged approach to address diversity, equity, and inclusion, both internally and externally, create a dedicated DEI intranet/internet page that will include transparent objectives, goals, milestones, strategic measurements.
  - In September, Governor Newsom signed an [executive order](#) (N-16-22) directing state agencies and departments to take additional actions to embed equity analysis and considerations in their mission, policies and practices, amongst additional legislation, highlighting diversity initiatives. This action will help expand opportunity for all by addressing disparities for historically underserved and marginalized communities.
  - Shortly thereafter, Department leadership created and submitted an 'Embedding Equity Action Plan', highlighting specific areas of priority that will promote diversity, equity and inclusion, to include the use of innovative technology and data driven systems.
  - During the first year, the DEI program intends to establish a DEI framework (inclusive of many exciting initiatives), that will be imbedded into the Department's NEW Strategic Plan, aimed at making the largest Fire Department within the State, the most diverse, equitable, and inclusive place to work.
- Highlight – Internally, the DEI Program has been working with the Department's Uniformed Advisory Committee (UAC) to enhance its current employee uniform attire selection, by embracing inclusive uniform attire for expecting persons (maternity wear), establishing vendor capabilities in the creation of formal (non-Safety) maternity wear for expecting persons, as an inclusive and welcoming approach for our current and future employees, in support of inclusivity.



**CALENDAR YEAR 2022  
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH November 20, 2022**

Note: This information is for Timber Harvesting Plans and Nonindustrial Timber Management Plans submitted to the Department during a calendar year. The numbers are the cumulative totals for the calendar year as of the specific date

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
THPs Received	110	139	62	46	2	3	13	7	187	195
THPs Returned	40	56	22	9	2	1	6	4	70	70
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	115	122	47	41	0	2	11	4	173	169
THPs with NON-Concurrence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THPs Denied	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
THPs Approved	110	113	59	40	1	3	12	6	182	162
THP Approved Acres	29,028	32,643	33,982	20,488	25	29	5,249	1,091	68,284	54,250

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
NTMPs Received	3	6	6	1	0	0	0	1	9	8
NTMPs Returned	2	4	4	0	0	0	0	1	6	5
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	4	4	5	1	0	0	1	1	10	6
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	4	3	4	2	0	0	1	0	9	5
NTMP Approved Acres	474	1,560	1,185	853	0	0	280	0	1,938	2,413
NTMPs with NON-Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTOs Received	71	106	8	3	0	0	4	4	83	113

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
WFMPs Received	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WFMPs Returned	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WFMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WFMPs with NON-Concurrence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WFMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WFMPs Approved	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WFMPs Approved Acres	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**CALENDAR YEAR 2022  
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH November 20, 2022**

Note: This information is for Timber Harvesting Plans and Nonindustrial Timber Management Plans submitted to the Department during a calendar year. The numbers are the cumulative totals for the calendar year as of the specific date



The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of or arising from the use of data or maps.

Acres represent those reported on the Notice as accepted by the Department and may not reflect actual operations on the ground.

Data Source: CalTREES

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through November 20, 2022

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2021		2022	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(b) (03/2019)	10 Percent Dead, Dying Diseased, Fuelwood, or Woody Debris v2019	Cascade (Redding)	228	1,387,805	171	882,741
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	59	412,269	62	440,765
		Riverside (South)	1	4	1	240
		Sierra (Fresno)	46	58,608	43	81,131
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>1,858,686</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>1,404,877</b>
1038(a)&(b)	10% Dead, Dying or Diseased Fuelwood or Split Products	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038.6 (03/2019)	Butte Post Fire Recovery	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(a) (03/2019)	Christmas Trees	Cascade (Redding)	24	298,772	15	280,571
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	4,015	1	14
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>302,787</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>280,585</b>
1038(k)	Drought Mortality	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	Drought Mortality and Unmerchantable Sawlog v2019	Cascade (Redding)	22	6,065	84	68,668
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	7	6	4,557
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	80	3,709	18	1,663
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>9,781</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>74,888</b>
1038(j)	Forest Fire Prevention PILOT Project	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(i)	Forest Fire Prevention Project	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through November 20, 2022

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2021		2022	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038.3 (03/2019)	Forest Fire Prevention v2019	Cascade (Redding)	19	2,138	18	1,594
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	27	1,257	40	2,512
		Riverside (South)	2	565	3	626
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	98	1	132
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>4,058</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>4,864</b>
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Cascade (Redding)	164	252	95	212
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	63	124	62	135
		Riverside (South)			1	0
		Sierra (Fresno)	27	34	28	32
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>379</b>
1038(l)	Oak Woodland Management (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(e) (03/2019)	Oak Woodland Management v2019	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	10	92	15	237
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>237</b>
1038(m)	Post Fire Recovery (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038.5 (03/2019)	Post Fire Recovery v2019	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	Post Fire Recovery v2020	Cascade (Redding)	22	213	14	18
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	30	174	11	70
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	13	39	20	125
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>213</b>
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Cascade (Redding)	32	265,971	37	932,540
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	54	9,489	39	2,005
		Riverside (South)	2	1,420		
		Sierra (Fresno)	22	10,795	37	49,164
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>287,675</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>983,709</b>

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through November 20, 2022

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2021		2022	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(f) (03/2019)	Small Timberland Owner	Cascade (Redding)	1	30	2	69
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	39		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>69</b>
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(c) (03/2019)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet) v2019	Cascade (Redding)	159	534	92	232
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	125	274	139	439
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	42	288	5	7
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>1,096</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>678</b>
1038(c)(6)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) Includes exemptions previously submitted with both 0-150ft and 150-300ft options	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(c)(6) (03/2019)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) v2019	Cascade (Redding)	11	45	5	39
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	32	126	48	185
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	3	9	1	1
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>225</b>
1038(d)	Substantially Damaged Unmerchantable Sawlog	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(g)	Woody Debris and Slash Removal	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>All Exemptions</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,326</b>	<b>2,465,260</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>2,750,724</b>

Type of 1052 Emergency Notice		2021		2022						
		Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres				
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Cascade (Redding)	223	59,752	183	72,495				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	161	14,533	32	2,431				
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)	53	5,242	62	17,182				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>79,527</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>92,108</b>				
<u>Emergency Conditions</u> More than one condition can be selected per Notice of Emergency Timber Operations - acreage may be reflected multiple times  *Others may include multiple emergency conditions		Drought		Cascade (Redding)	6	2,662	12	1,937		
				Coast (Santa Rosa)						
				Riverside (South)						
				Sierra (Fresno)	3	246				
				<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2,908</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1,937</b>		
				Fire		Cascade (Redding)	216	57,793	171	70,782
						Coast (Santa Rosa)	156	13,678	29	2,181
						Riverside (South)				
						Sierra (Fresno)	45	4,795	29	6,002
						<b>Totals</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>76,266</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>78,965</b>
				Insects		Cascade (Redding)	13	3,998	16	4,721
						Coast (Santa Rosa)	8	588	1	144
						Riverside (South)				
						Sierra (Fresno)	6	443	5	2,602
						<b>Totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>5,029</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7,467</b>
				*Others		Cascade (Redding)	263	83,712	233	99,812
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	26	1,752	39	2,870		
				Riverside (South)						
				Sierra (Fresno)	14	1,435	20	7,237		
				<b>Totals</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>86,899</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>109,919</b>		
Fuel Hazard Reduction (RM65)		Cascade (Redding)	7	251	6	1,948				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			2	89				
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)			2	161				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2,198</b>				
Fuel Hazard Reduction		Cascade (Redding)								
		Coast (Santa Rosa)								
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)								
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				
Sudden Oak Death Disease		Cascade (Redding)								
		Coast (Santa Rosa)								
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)								
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				