



Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

Resources Auditorium
1416 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California



March 2019

Resource Management

Forest Practice Program

Plan Submissions (through 01/31/2019)

- **THP Submissions:** The number of THP submissions in the month of January 2019 was nearly identical to submissions in January 2018 (23 compared to 24 in 2018).
- **NTMP Submissions:** The total number of NTMP submissions in January 2019 was nearly identical to submissions in January 2018 (2 compared to 1 in 2018). Zero (0) NTOs were submitted in January 2019 compared to one (1) in January 2018.
- **Exemption Notice Submissions:** Exemption submissions were approximately 20% lower compared to January last year (94 compared to 118 in 2018). The number of Drought Mortality Exemptions filed in January this year was approximately 77% lower than last year (6 compared to 26 in 2018); the acreage covered was approximately 63% lower (427 acres compared to 1,165 acres in 2018). The approval of new Forest Practice Rules for Exemptions in February 2019 will alter reported submission statistics beginning in April 2019.
- **Emergency Notice Submissions:** Emergency Notice submissions were approximately 21% higher in January 2019 than submissions in January 2018 (17 compared to 14 in 2018). Remarkably, the amount of acreage under Emergencies was exactly the same in January 2019 as January 2018 (1,477 acres in January of both years).
- **Plan Approval:** The number of THPs approved in January 2019 was approximately 12% higher than the number approved in January 2018 (29 compared to 26 in 2018). Three (3) NTMPs were approved in January 2019 compared to zero (0) approved in January 2018.

Watershed Protection Program Update

- A draft version of the Exemption and Emergency (EX-EM) Notice monitoring pilot project report is nearing completion. The draft report will be provided to the Board and Review Team agencies for review and comment in mid-March. It is anticipated the final version of the report would be presented to the Board at the May meeting. Following completion of the draft report, staff will begin planning for Exemption and Emergency Notice monitoring work that will occur in 2019. Extensive protocol changes

will be needed based upon the Board's recent Forest Practice Rule changes pursuant to SB 901, as well as the lessons learned from the pilot monitoring project.

- Staff is part of a group working on a draft Eastside Spotted Owl Resource Plan (SORP), with the goal of finalizing the document by Spring 2019. The SORP will provide multiple landowners a programmatic approach to avoid take of northern spotted owl (NSO) specific to one geographic area.

Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) Activities [Updated from the TRFRF Database (01/01/2019 through 1/31/2019)]

- Since January 1, 2019, the Department has expended 11,634 hours in conducting Forest Practice Program activities funded by TRFRF. An additional 786 hours of Forest Practice Program activities not funded by TRFRF has also been completed. Combined, Department staff has recorded 12,420 hours of Forest Practice-related activities thus far in the new year.

Timber Operators Licensing (LTO) and Forest Practice Enforcement Updates

- The LTO class at the Sierra-Cascade Logging Conference was well attended. The instructors received positive feedback from the students.
- The backlog of civil penalty cases has been addressed. All 2018 cases are in process or have been adjudicated. Two new cases have been received in 2019.

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

Table: LTO License Status

Status	#
New Applications Rec'd	9
Renewal Applications Rec'd	13
New Licenses Issued	7
Licenses Renewed	9
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	5
Applications Returned	1
Refunds Issued	0
Insurance Certificates Rec'd	35

Table: Active Civil Penalties Case Status

Status	# of Cases
Under Review	2
Developed for Signature	17
CPO Signed, Mailed, Served	6
Hearing(s) Pending	5
Final Order Pending/Served	10
Settlement Mitigation	1
Due and Payable	2
Payments	17
Probation	4
Judgement Needed	17
Total	81

Resource Protection and Improvement Program

Urban and Community Forestry (UCF)

- Grant project applications for FY 2019-20 are due March 15, 2019. Currently there are 45 projects invited to submit applications. A "List of Concept Proposals invited to submit Project Applications" provides further details about the applicants and can be found on our UCF Grants webpage at: http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry_grants
- Recently the Program completed an urban wood utilization tour with various stakeholders and developed a video with the CAL FIRE Communications Program. The video has been publicly released.
- The California Urban Forestry Advisory Committee (CUFAC) met February 6-7. Their work towards developing an updated strategic plan for the program is making progress.
- California Arbor Week is this week from March 7-14 and begins with California Arbor Day on March 7th. Program and other CAL FIRE staff will attend many Arbor Day events statewide to present the Tree City USA awards in partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation. In addition, Program and Communications staff will be working with California ReLeaf on the Arbor week campaign.

Demonstration State Forests

Program

- Forest Managers interviewed over 80 seasonal Forestry Aide candidates at Humboldt State, UC Berkeley, Cal Poly, and in Sacramento. Approximately 22 positions are available for the 2019 field season.

Jackson

- The 23 Gulch Timber Sale was awarded to Willits Redwood Company. No bids were received on the Chamberlain Confluence Timber Sale which was heavy to whitewoods. This likely reflects a general low marketability of those species in the current timber market. The sale will be held over to 2020 to allow for a bridge replacement project to occur on the timber sale road network.
- The GHG Forest Health Grant proposal process generated interest by researchers in three different project proposals on the Forest, ranging from biomass to terrestrial lidar.
- A contract is being developed with the California Conservation Corps to establish an intern program for the JDSF Recreation Program. Corps members would maintain all campgrounds and day use areas, plus build and repair infrastructure such as fences, outhouses, sign boards, etc.

LaTour

- The Boucher Timber Sale was awarded to Trinity River Lumber Company.
- Staff presented to the “Introduction to Natural Resources” class at Shasta College to bring attention to summer employment opportunities within the State Forest Program, including opportunities at the L.A. Moran Reforestation Center.
- Staff aided in the tours of fourth graders and proctoring of the FFA forestry competition at the Sierra-Cascade Logging Conference.

Lewis A. Moran Reforestation Center (LAMRC)

- LAMRC held its first Advisory Group meeting on February 20th. The purpose of the group is two-fold: to provide for greater transparency to clients and the public for the activities occurring at LAMRC with the restarting of the nursery program and upgrading of the seed bank, and to provide an avenue for input and suggestions with respect to seed and reforestation needs.

- LAMRC will be sowing seed for 30,000 seedlings this month (March). Species to be sown are Ponderosa Pine, Sugar Pine, Douglas-Fir, and Incense-Cedar. These are in addition to the 50,000 seedlings the USFS Nursery in Placerville will be growing on LAMRC's behalf, and are part of the 480,000-seedling order being grown in cooperation with the USFS Nursery and the El Dorado County Resource Conservation District. Seed zones and associated species were chosen based on the areas of tree mortality in the southern Sierra, and areas affected by the Carr and Camp fires of 2018.

California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)

- The CFIP Program has received \$1.5 million in California Climate Investment (CCI) Funding for reforestation projects. Staff has been conducting outreach along with creating applications/agreements to encumber the reforestation funds. We expect to fully encumber this funding in a very short timeframe.
- The staff continues to be involved in beta testing the WebGrant's online system. Current testing centers around WebGrant's new user interface (NUI).

Forest Legacy Program

- Efforts to close 9 currently open legacy projects continue. This includes review and editing of conservation easement documents, drafting of contracts and completion of due diligence documentation. Legacy staff submitted scores on the current round of CCI grant applications for Legacy projects. Federal Forest Legacy projects were submitted to the USFS for further scoring.

Forest Pest Management

- A public meeting was held in the community of Oak Glen to prepare for actions against the Gold Spotted Oak Borer infestation. The infestation is the first in San Bernardino County.
- Staff is planning a June 2019 training session, in conjunction with the US Forest Service, on forest insect and disease recognition and management. The training session will be conducted in Redding.

Climate and Energy Program

- Reviewing 42 Forest Health grant applications totaling \$180 million in request. Awards will be announced in March.
- Developing Forest Health project monitoring plan to be rolled out this summer.
- Continuing support for Forest Management Task Force.

- Coordinated report required under Executive Order N-05-19, recommendations to Governor Newsom on rapidly deploying resources.

Forest Management Task Force

- The next meeting will be Monday, March 11, from 1:00 – 3:30 PM in the CalEPA Coastal Room, 1001 I St., Sacramento.

Fire Protection

Fire Protection Program

Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery

- Last month, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement made 6 arrests and issued 14 citations (excluding PRC 4291).
- Last month, CAL FIRE received \$1,805 resulting from Civil Cost Recovery actions.

Fire Protection Operations

- To date, including installs in Siskiyou Unit, we have completed 836 AVL/MDT mobile installs. Next up is Lassen Modoc Unit beginning February 26th followed by San Bernardino Unit scheduled March 26th.
- SCOUT (Situational Awareness and Collaboration Tool) - Planning Meeting held at Cal OES on Tuesday February 5th. The meeting purpose was to discuss key 2019 objectives for the SCOUT program, including core elements of a major platform uplift proposal to be presented to the SCOUT Executive Committee in late February/early March for funding consideration.
- Annual Emergency Command Center Chiefs' workshop scheduled for last week of February 2019.

Aviation Management Unit/Tactical Air Operations

- S-70i Blackhawk Helicopter Implementation Group progress:
 - Communications Program continues working on future Director's Messages and a "media day" sometime after the arrival of the first S70i Blackhawk.
 - Two Pilots successfully completed Flight Safety Training in Orlando Florida.
 - Two AMU personnel completed S70i Maintenance Training.

- Additional Pilots and Mechanics will be attending future courses.
 - Implementation Group continues working on current and proposed staffing levels, scheduling and training curriculum changes for fire and air rescue operations.
 - Training plan for the training of the first Helitack Base (Vina) being finalized for late summer.
 - Members of the group visited LA County Fire Department for a thorough orientation to their Blackhawks and flight operations.
 - First S70i airframe expected in May. The second aircraft is delayed due to a trucking accident while being transported across the US. Damage still being evaluated by Sikorski in their South Carolina facility.
- The annual MAFFS training with the 146th Air Lift Wing at Channel Islands was cancelled due to the Federal Government shut-down. The training will need to take place after they return from their upcoming deployment or their availability for fire missions this summer will be affected.
 - CALFIRE will be providing training to the 8 different CHP Air Operations Divisions throughout California this spring. Training will focus on safe operations and airspace coordination during wildland firefighting operations.
 - The Aviation Safety Conference held in San Diego on January 14-16 was well attended and a great success.
 - TAO attended the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Annual Aviation Meeting in Florida January 28-31. Our attendance was valued and we will be hosting next year's meeting in Sacramento, per the group's request. They are very interested in our aviation program and visiting AMU.

Cooperative Fire Program

Conservation Camp Program

- Between February 13th-15th, 17 conservation camp crews were mission tasked through the Office of Emergency Services to perform emergency (non-fire) assignments throughout the state. Crews were dispatched to Shasta, Solano, Colusa, Riverside, Calaveras and Mono Counties for flood fighting, snow removal and road clearing associated with recent winter storms.
- The statewide Conservation Camps population for Wednesday, February 13, 2019: The current statewide shortage of fire crew members assigned to fire crews is 1116 (A decrease of 11 from 1127 as of January 30, 2019). The inmate population stands at 78% (-6%) of capacity while crew capacity stands at 67% (-5%).

Local Government Program

- The Local Government Program is working cooperatively with the Northern Region and Butte Unit on two issue papers addressing the potential of State forgiveness of near term costs associated with Local Government Fire Protection Reimbursement Agreements between CAL FIRE and the Town of Paradise and the County of Butte. In light of the catastrophic losses associated with the Camp Fire (18,000+ structures), both the Town and County are projecting significantly diminished revenues in the foreseeable future.

State-Federal Program

- On January 23rd, CAL FIRE, CalOES and other local government fire service representatives attended the first 2019 meeting of the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) Committee. Due to the federal government shut down, none of the federal signatories (USFS, BLM, NPS, USFWS and BIA) were in attendance. This was the first in a series of meetings focused on potential revisions to the current CFAA document, which expires and is subject to renewal by December 31, 2019.

Safety/EMS Program

- On February 14, 2019, at approximately 6:15 AM, a Type I fire engine from the Deer Springs Fire Protection District (San Diego County) was responding to a reported vehicle fire. While traveling on Old Highway 395, the fire engine left the roadway and came to rest on its side 30 feet down an embankment. The fire engine sustained significant damage. Three CAL FIRE firefighters were transported to a local hospital for treatment and subsequent release. An accident review team is reviewing this accident.
- 37 EMT Certification/Recertification Apps received and processed in the month of January. Current certified EMTs: 976.
- CAL FIRE's Research and Development Program has processed over 40 R&D inquiries since January 1, 2019. The R&D proposals submissions looked at new equipment, products, methods and innovative ways to enhance CAL FIRE's capabilities. Additionally, the R&D Program has submitted 16 archived proposal to the RFI2 project. The RFI2 is being conducted in response to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-04-19 and seeks innovative ideas in relation early wildfire detection and prediction of its path of travel.

Training Program

- The three-story dormitory DGS project is currently in the finish work phase, trim, floors etc... Anticipating occupancy by April 2019.
- The Training Center solar project is not completed. DGS refuses to sign off on the project until repairs are made by the vendor.

- Training Center paving project is complete.
- FFA#1-19 (Training Center) and FFA#2-19 (Training Center South) graduate on March 8, 2019.
- Regular Basic Cadet Academy (Peace Officer Training) is in its 7th week. Last week one student had to resign due to a medical issue.
- The Training Center is building an educational video with the Communications Program from the Carr Fire capturing the fire tornado event.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering

- The Program continues to work with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in an analysis of the structural damage caused by the 2018 Camp Fire in Butte County. CAL FIRE is working to encourage a federal analysis of the damage.
- Staff continues to work with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) in implementing SB-901 and the development of the new Utility Mitigation Plan Program. 10 Investor-Owned Utilities (IOU) are required to submit plans annually.
- Increased bill analysis on proposed regulation and potential impact to Department and Program.
- Staff is currently working on developing a list of low cost retrofits per AB-2911.

Fire Plan

- Staff are working on the annual Fire Plan Report that will be presented to the Board in the near future.
- Staff are working with the Fire Resource and Assessment Program (FRAP) and the Board to begin the SRA (State Responsibility Area) Review. Following this review, a remapping effort of the Fire Hazard Severity Zones will begin.
- 2018 Statewide ignitions & fire perimeters have been validated by Units & submitted to FRAP.
- Annual CalMAPPER training is occurring in the Southern Region.

CalFIRS (CAL FIRE Incident Reporting System)

- In January, the department rolled out a new incident reporting system (CALFIRS - CAL FIRE Incident Reporting System). The new system will track all incidents responded to by the department from wildfires to structure fires to medical aides.

Land Use Planning

- December retirements of the Assistant Chief and Battalion Chief of Southern Region LUP staff. Battalion Chief position was recently filled by internal candidate. Assistant Chief position is still vacant but in the process of filling.
- Increased participation by field staff on Local Hazard Mitigation Plan development with local jurisdictions. CALOES utilizing LUP staff to assist in dissemination of information regarding requirements and compliance.
- LUP field staff are now interacting with local communities interested in becoming and those already recognized as Firewise communities. Sacramento program Chief will still maintain "State Liaison" responsibilities with NFPA.
- Increased bill analysis on proposed regulation and potential impact to Department and Program.

Fire Prevention Grants

- 290 Fire Prevention Grant applications were received in December 2018, requesting \$190 million. Staff are beginning the review process. Up to \$155 million is available for fire prevention and forest health grants.
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- The last of the SRA FPF grants are closing out this Month.

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through January 31, 2019

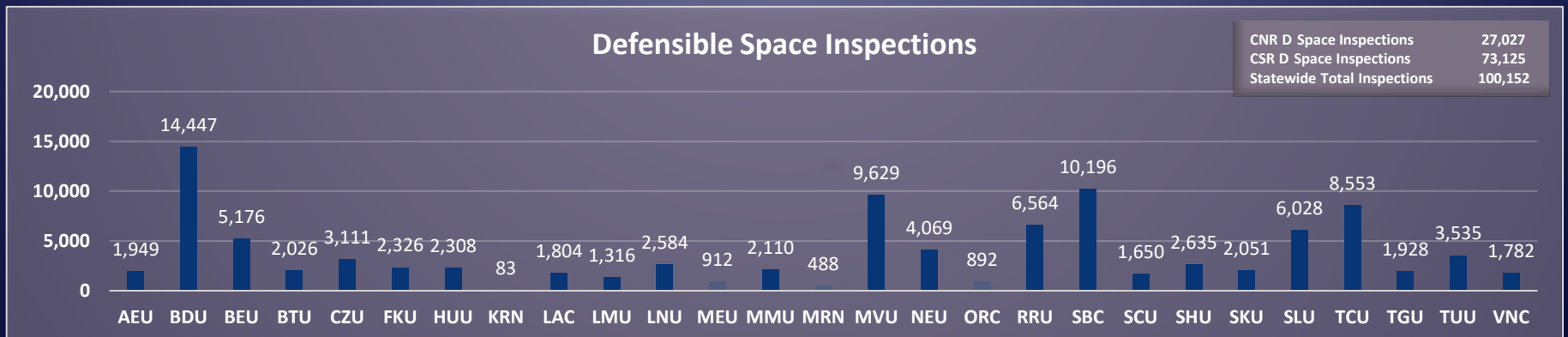
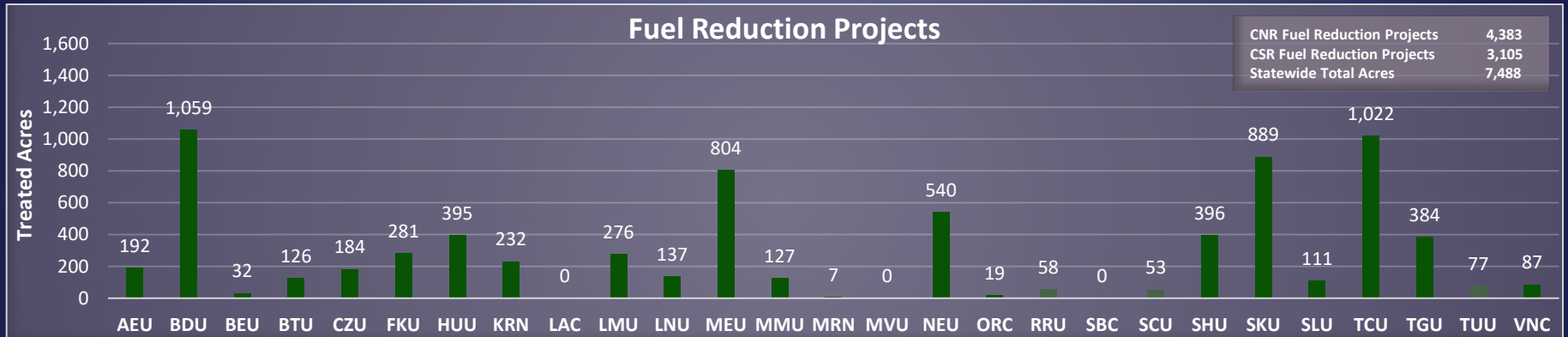
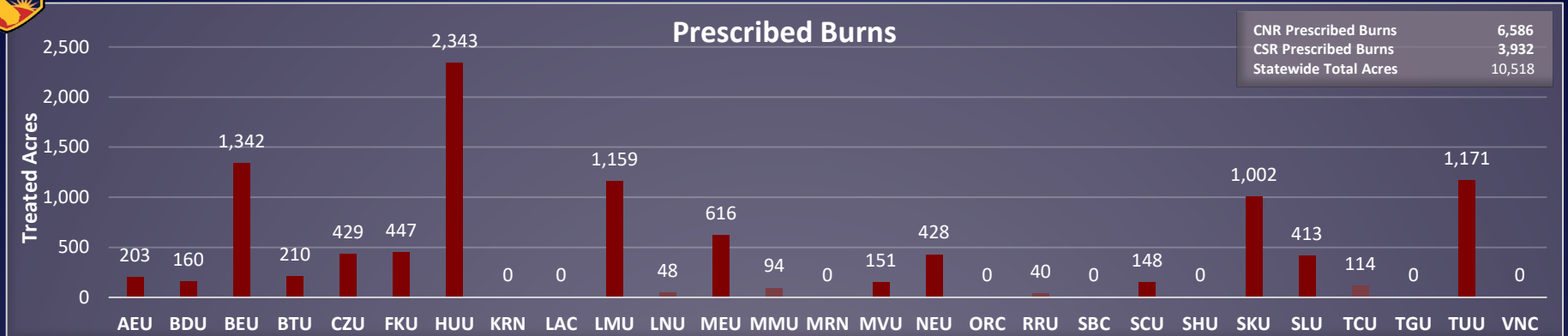
Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2018		2019	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(a)&(b)	10% Dead, Dying or Diseased Fuelwood or Split Products	Cascade (Redding)	34	203,199	39	164,807
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	6	18,518	2	2,800
		Riverside (South)	1	240	1	240
		Sierra (Fresno)	4	54,230	2	18,578
		Totals	45	276,187	44	186,425
1038(k)	Drought Mortality	Cascade (Redding)	11	253	2	321
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	15	912	4	106
		Totals	26	1,165	6	427
1038(j)	Forest Fire Prevention PILOT Project	Cascade (Redding)			1	94
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			1	183
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	120
		Totals	0	0	3	397
1038(i)	Forest Fire Prevention Project	Cascade (Redding)	2	34		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	2	34	0	0
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Cascade (Redding)	7	16	1	2
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	3	8	3	6
		Riverside (South)			1	3
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	3
		Totals	10	24	6	14
1038(l)	Oak Woodland Management (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			2	237
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	2	237
1038(m)	Post Fire Recovery (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Cascade (Redding)	2	6	10	39
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	3	1	24
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	27	4	240
		Totals	5	36	15	303
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Cascade (Redding)	15	21	9	57
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	6	10	5	7
		Riverside (South)				

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2018		2019	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Sierra (Fresno)	6	8	4	12
		Totals	27	39	18	76
1038(c)(6)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) Includes exemptions previously submitted with both 0-150ft and 150-300ft options	Cascade (Redding)	1	13		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	2	10		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	3	23	0	0
1038(d)	Substantially Damaged Unmerchantable Sawlog	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038(g)	Woody Debris and Slash Removal	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
	All Exemptions	Grand Total	118	277,508	94	187,879

Type of 1052 Emergency Notice		Admin Area	2018		2019			
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres		
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Cascade (Redding)	7	108	9	986		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	5	1,025	8	491		
		Riverside (South)						
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	344				
		Totals	14	1,477	17	1,477		
<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)				
				Coast (Santa Rosa)				
				Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	1	339		
				Totals	1	339	0	0
		Fire		Cascade (Redding)	7	108	9	986
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	5	1,025	7	489
				Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	1	339		
				Totals	13	1,472	16	1,475
		Insects		Cascade (Redding)			3	458
				Coast (Santa Rosa)				
				Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	2	344		
				Totals	2	344	3	458
		*Others		Cascade (Redding)			23	3,721
Coast (Santa Rosa)					7	339		
Riverside (South)								
Sierra (Fresno)								
Totals	0			0	30	4,060		
Fuel Hazard Reduction		Cascade (Redding)						
		Coast (Santa Rosa)						
		Riverside (South)						
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	193		
		Totals	0	0	1	193		
Sudden Oak Death Disease		Cascade (Redding)						
		Coast (Santa Rosa)						
		Riverside (South)						
		Sierra (Fresno)						
		Totals	0	0	0	0		



Fire Prevention Target Goals – FY 2018-2019 (July 1, 2018 – February 28, 2019)



	Target	Completed	% Completed
Broadcast/Prescribed Burn	25,000	10,518	42.07%
Combined Fuel Reduction Projects	20,000	7,488	37.44%
Defensible Space Inspections	250,000	100,152	40%