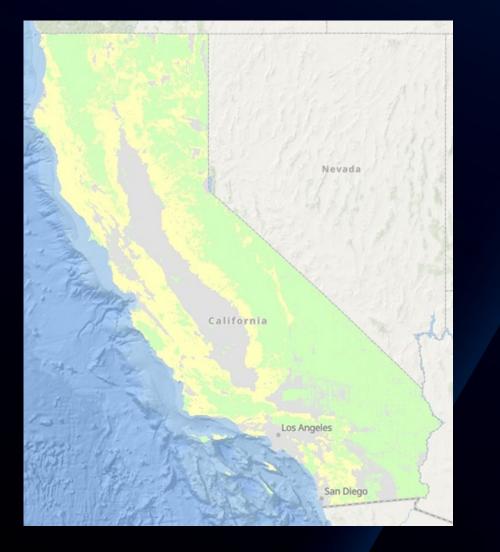


# **State Responsibility Area (SRA)** 2025 Five-Year Review

#### 2025 SRA Review





CA Department of Forestry & Fire Protection Office of the State Fire Marshal Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation

#### Emily Smith,

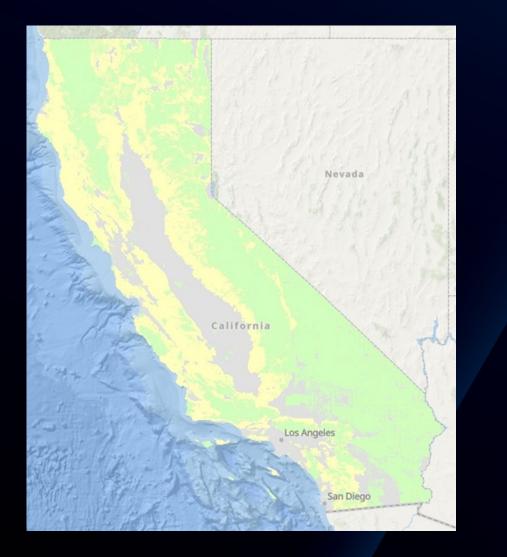
**Staff Chief** *Wildfire Planning and Statistics* 

#### Scott Witt, Deputy Chief

Pre-Fire Planning

#### 2025 SRA Review



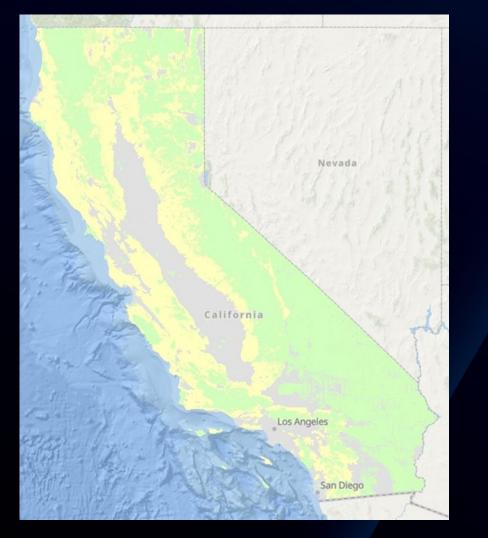


#### **RESPONSIBILITY AREAS**

California is divided into areas assigning the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires: LOCAL = LRA (gray), 1/5 of CA STATE = SRA (yellow), 1/3 of CA FEDERAL = FRA (green), 1/2 of CA The State contains about 100m acres

#### Legal Basis for SRA





#### **PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE** (PRC)

<u>DIVISION 4.</u> FORESTS, FORESTRY AND RANGE AND FORAGE LANDS [4001 - 4958]

PART 2. PROTECTION OF FOREST, RANGE AND FORAGE LANDS [4101 - 4789.7]

<u>CHAPTER 1.</u> Prevention and Control of Forest Fires [4101 - 4205]

ARTICLE 3. Responsibility for Fire Protection [4125 - 4137]

### PRC 4125 (Classification...)



 (a) <u>The Board shall classify all lands within the state</u>, without regard to any classification of lands made by or for any federal agency or purpose, for the purpose of determining areas in which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires is primarily the responsibility of the state...

### PRC 4125 (....and Review)



- (b) On or before July 1, 1991, and <u>every 5th year</u> thereafter, the Department shall provide copies of maps identifying the boundaries of lands classified as state responsibility pursuant to subdivision (a) to the county assessor for every county containing any of those lands.
- <u>The Department shall also notify</u> county assessors of any changes to state responsibility areas within the county resulting from periodic boundary modifications approved by the Board.

## PRC 4126 (SRA Definition)



Lands covered wholly or in part by forests or by trees producing or capable of producing forest products. Lands covered wholly or in part by timber, brush, undergrowth, or grass, whether of commercial value or not, which protect the soil from excessive erosion, retard runoff of water or accelerate water percolation, if such lands are sources of water which is available for irrigation or for domestic or industrial use. Lands in areas which are principally used or useful for range or forage purposes, which are contiguous to the lands described in subdivisions (a) and (b).



The Board shall not include within SRA any of the following lands:

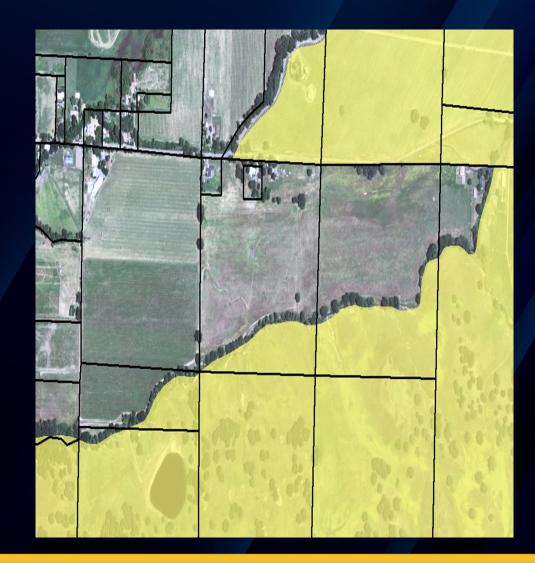
- Lands <u>owned or controlled by the federal government</u>... (FRA).
- Lands within the exterior boundaries of <u>any city</u>... (LRA, incorporated).
- Any other lands within the state which do not come within any of the classes which are described in Section 4126. (LRA, unincorporated)

## PRC 4128 (Lines of Convenience)



...the Board may, for purposes of <u>administrative</u> <u>convenience</u>, designate:

- Roads
- Pipelines
- Streams
- or other <u>recognizable</u> <u>landmarks as arbitrary</u> <u>boundaries</u>



### **Ongoing SRA Review Schedule**

#### CUMUNUM DEPARTMENT OF CALLER PROTECTOR GRALER BOOM

#### This is NOT related to Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ)

- FHSZ SRA has concluded, effective 01 April 2024
- FHSZ LRA remapping is beginning
- FHSZ remapping occurs independently of SRA 5-year reviews
- Next Statewide SRA 5-year review will be in 2030
- Special SRA Reviews are performed as needed
  - Annual "automatic" reviews:
    - Federal ownership changes
    - City Incorporation changes





- Statewide consistency in classifying SRA.
- Enable CAL FIRE to respond in a timely manner to land-use changes.
- Sufficient time for local governments to plan for changes in the classification of SRA.
- Public involvement about decisions of classification of SRA.

#### **BOF Classification System**

SRA classification follows a specific process using Board guidance, across five distinct levels State Responsibility Area Classification System







STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY BOARD OF FORESTRY CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION REVISED October 6th, 2010



#### What changes are made?

CUITOTINA DEPARTMENT OF THE PROTOCOLOGY CAL FIRE PROTOCOLOGY SINCE 1685

SRA changes can be grouped into 3 categories:

- Cities annexing SRA lands (automatic)
- Changes of ownership to and from Federal (automatic)
- Land use changes  $\leftarrow$  /  $\rightarrow$ 
  - Development / Densification (generally one-way)
  - Agriculture (back & forth possible)

#### **Development / Densification**



Continuous urbanization averaging more than three residential and/or commercial units per acre over 250 or more acres.



#### Agricultural



Long term nonflammable crops such as orchards and vineyards which are irrigated and <u>cultivated</u>. (Annuals such as row crops and grain, are not, a longterm modification.)



#### Levels of SRA Review & Timelines



- 1. <u>Unit & Contract County</u> review (X)
- 2. <u>Regional</u> review (X)
- 3. <u>State</u> review (X)
- 4. <u>Director's</u> review (X)
- 5. <u>Board of Forestry</u> review (Here, now)
  - Full Board meeting, 22 January 2025
    - Opens 45-day public comment period
  - Public comment @ full Board meeting, 05 March 2025
  - Public comment period closes, 08 March 2025
  - Board action to accept/reject changes, 09 April 2025
  - Effective date, 01 July 2025

### Unit / Contract Co. Review (1st)



 When Unit / Contract County staff proposes a SRA to LRA -or-LRA to SRA change, they shall consult with staff from the local fire agencies that will be affected by the change. (Finished)

## Region Review (2nd)



The Regional review ensures that the system has been consistently applied at the Unit or Contract County level.
After completing the review, the Region SRA Coordinator forwards the areas identified for possible reclassification to the State SRA Coordinator. (Finished)





The State Review examines documentation & also conducts onsite inspections as needed.
The State Review then forwards its recommendations to the Director (Finished)



- The Director reviews all proposed changes in classification.
- Those changes that the Director approves are sent to the Board so that public hearings may be scheduled. (This, now)
- At this time, the Director notifies affected local government agencies of the proposed changes and their potential impacts. (Letters have been sent)



Statewide: 67 changes approved & forwarded to the Board
 40,470 acres LRA -> SRA

- 58,581 acres SRA -> LRA
- 31 changes in North Region
  - 489 acres LRA -> SRA
  - 29,537 acres SRA -> LRA
- 36 changes in South Region
  - 39,982 acres LRA -> SRA
  - 29,044 acres SRA -> LRA



- 31 changes in North Region (across 5 CAL FIRE Units)
  - AEU Amador El Dorado Unit
  - CZU San Mateo Santa Cruz Unit
  - SCU Santa Clara Unit
  - SKU Siskiyou Unit
  - TGU Tehama Glenn Unit

CALLER PROTECTOR CALLER SINCE 1885

• 36 changes in South Region (across 9 CAL FIRE Units)

- BDU San Bernardino Unit
- FKU Fresno Kings Unit
- KRN Kern County
- MMU Madera Mariposa Merced Unit
- RRU Riverside Unit
- SBC Santa Barbara County
- SLU San Luis Obispo Unit
- TCU Tuolumne Calaveras Unit
- VNC Ventura County

### **Board of Forestry Review (5th)**



- <u>Board of Forestry</u> review (Here, now)
  - Full Board meeting, 22 January 2025
  - Opens 45-day public comment period
- Public comment @ full Board meeting, 05 March 2025
- Public comment period closes, 09 March 2025
- Board action to accept/reject changes, 09 April 2025
- Effective date, 01 July 2025

#### **BOF Website - SRA Viewer**





#### State Responsibility Area Five-Ye

State Responsibility Areas (SRA) are recognized by the Board of Fore for fire suppression and prevention.

This classification system, which defines land for which the state as on existing law (PRC 4125-4128). The system is not based on the abil enumerated in PRC 4126:

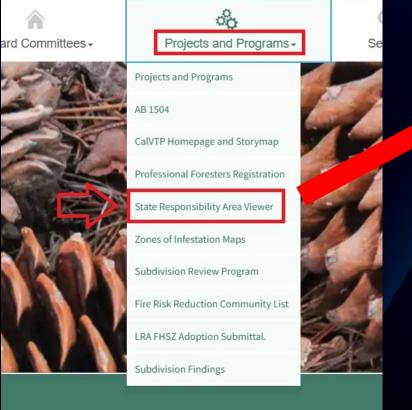
 a) Lands covered wholly or in part by forests or by trees proved undergrowth, or grass, whether of commercial value or prot, whether such lands are sources of water which is available of prigation
 b) Lands in areas which are principally used or proved for range

Lands which do not qualify as SPA are defined in PPC Section 4127.



#### **SRA Viewer**

The State Responsibility Area Viewer allo of the state. It can also be used to search **Instructions**: Enter your complete addre Use your mouse to move the location of **Legend**: Lands shadowed by a yellow ov Click Here to launch SRA Viewer



#### restry & Fire Protection

#### Public Comment

CUMPTINA DEPARTMENT CALL CALL SINCE 1985

- Now open
- This is NOT related to Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ)
  - FHSZ SRA & FHSZ LRA are separate from SRA 5-year review
  - FHSZ SRA has concluded; FHSZ LRA is beginning
- Comments may be sent via email or postal mail; only one method of submission is necessary.

Email: publiccomments@bof.ca.gov

Postal: Board of Forestry and Fire Protection P.O. Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244





#### <u>Questions?</u>

#### ABST

