Director's Report to the Board of Forestry



**Teleconference Meeting** 



November 3-4, 2021

# **Resource Management**

# Forest Practice Program

# Watershed Protection Program Update

- Staff continue to wrap up Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) assessments and assistance for the Caldor and Dixie Fires. A WERT is composed of California Geological Survey (CGS) and CAL FIRE Foresters from the Madera Mariposa and the Fresno Kings Units are assigned to the Alisal Fire in Santa Barbara County.
- Staff completed an internal draft of the §1038(c)(6) 150-300 foot Structure Protection Exemption monitoring report. The draft is currently under internal program review and presentation to the Board is anticipated in the fall-winter.
- Exemption and Emergency Notice Monitoring Staff are making very good progress on field sampling of §1038.3 Forest Fire Prevention Exemptions.

## Timber Operator Licensing (LTO) and Forest Practice Enforcement Updates:

The LTO Program anticipates offering training classes in December 2021 and February 2022, respectively.

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

Table 1: LTO License Status		able 2: Active Civil Penalties C	ase Status
Status	#	Status	# of Cases
New Applications Rec'd	11	Under Review	3
Renewal Applications Rec'd	14	Developed for Signature	5
New Licenses Issued	6	CPO Signed, Mailed, Served	2
Licenses Renewed	13	Hearing(s) to be Scheduled	14
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	13	Settlement Mitigation	6
Applications Returned	14	Payments	22
Refunds Issued	0	Probation	1
Insurance Certificates Rec'd	32	Judgement Sought/Needed	25
		Final Order/Default	16
Total Valid LTOs	1380	Total	94

Table 1: LTO License Statue Table 2: Active Civil Departies Case Statue

Case Status	# of Cases	Amount Collected	Total Amount Due
Adjudicated	26	\$398,800	\$109,200
Default	46	\$785,800	\$263,300
Paid per CPO	16	\$135,000	\$135,000
Settled	91	\$780,405	\$685,605
Totals	179	\$2,100,005	\$1,193,105

Table 3: Forest Practice Civil Penalty Collection

Forest Practice Enforcement Program penalty collection from January 1, 2016 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)).

## **Resource Protection and Improvement Program**

## **Urban and Community Forestry**

- CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry grant projects are in the process of being added to Cal Mapper so that information will be viewable in calendar year 2022.
- CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry grant concept proposals have been reviewed, resulting in invitations to 53 organizations to submit project applications for funding. Awards of \$26.5 million are expected to be made in early to mid-December.
- The California Urban Forest Council hosted a virtual conference October 14-15 and focused on urban wood and biomass utilization that was well-attended. This aspect of urban forestry is growing and innovating rapidly. The program has had discussions with Cal Recycle about this opportunity and remains a driver of this effort.

## **Demonstration State Forests**

• The Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council is finalizing the land donations to CAL FIRE with the goal of having the acquisition agreements in place by the end of 2021 with final signatures and escrow to follow in the first half of 2022.

## Jackson (JDSF)

- The Forest Manager Position continues to have no applicants.
- The Takachar study is beginning field testing of their equipment to produce biochar.
- The California Department of Fish and Wildlife Bobcat study has been extended to collar and collect information from additional animals.
- Field tours of the forest have resumed. Staff has led tours for the California Licensed Foresters Association, Humboldt State University, and the University of California Berkeley. Additional tours for mycology students and local Mendocino College classes are being planned.

## Soquel (SDSF)

- Geologists from the California Geological Survey conducted ongoing monitoring of the Large Wood Project in Soquel Creek.
- Fish habitat and population monitoring using electrofishing was conducted in the East Branch of Soquel Creek by a local fisheries biologist team. Water levels in the creek were so low that only three of the usual four locations were sampled.
- Forestry Aides began a recreation survey to gather information from forest visitors and assess recreational use of the Forest.

## LaTour

- Recreation surveys from camping permits have documented 523 user days at the campgrounds.
- LaTour hosted the Sierra-Cascade Intensive Forest Management Research Cooperative tour on September 27<sup>th</sup>. Tour stops included the various plantation operations, the FRAP variable density thinning study, AMEX study and embedded common garden trials, Shasta College Mastication project, Tabletop Mountain variable retention, and the Christmas tree site.
- During the weeks of September 13-17 and September 20-24, the Shasta College Heavy Equipment Logging Operations (HELO) class conducted mastication operations. There were 3-4 students per week and stayed in the barracks under the Unit's MOU with Shasta College (photos below of Shasta College students).



## **Mountain Home**

 Due to mill capacity constraints, one salvage logger is delivering 6-7 loads a day from SQF Complex impacts.

- A kick-off meeting was held with the American Forests to support Castle Fire reforestation efforts. American Forests has about \$250,000 of private and CCI Forest Health grant funds for site preparation, planting, vegetation control, and cone collecting. American Forests will also be working with the Sequoia National Forest and some portion of these treatments will cross administrative boundaries.
- Forestry Aides are working on a comprehensive re-survey of the old-growth giant sequoia.

#### Forest Entomology and Pathology

- New spot infestations of gold spotted oak borer have been located in Orange and San Bernardino Counties. Surveys are ongoing to determine the extent of the infestations.
- All nine impacted counties in Southern California have had their Invasive Shot Hole Borer grants for tree removal and proper disposal extended for an extra year due to slow downs of work because of Covid-19.
- Pine Bark beetle activity continues to expand throughout the Sierra Nevada region, even at high elevation.
- Drought conditions remain a major concern resulting in direct mortality or encouraging insects and diseases on numerous host species. Oaks throughout the state and various species in the greater San Francisco area are especially impacted.
- The US Forest Service has provided funding for research on control options for the Mediterranean oak borer killing valley and blue oaks in Lake, Napa, Sonoma and Sacramento Counties.
- The California Forest Pest Council annual meeting will be held virtually on November 18-19, 2021. The meeting is free and open to the public. This year will be the 70<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Council.

#### **Forest Biometrics**

- The Forester II Biometrics Specialist position has been filled and a new employee and will start in December or January. This will add much needed capacity to the program.
- A Senior Environmental Scientist position has been added from the new budget, further enhancing program capacity. This position will be overseen by the Program Manager and will be tasked with primary responsibility to coordinate and oversee the Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) intensification effort as well as provide analysis of the data generated from the project.

## **Prescribed Fire Program**

- Prescribed fire projects are ramping up with the favorable cooler weather and fuel conditions in California.
- Len Nielson, Prescribe Fire Staff Chief, visited a prescribed burn in Orleans last week with the Forest Service and the Mid Klamath Watershed Council Orleans/Somes Bar Fire Safe Council participating as part of the Prescribed Fire Training Exchange program.

- Forest Service with the partnership of the group and a CCI Forest Health grant have been doing an outstanding job creating a defendable buffer around the town of Orleans with thinning, brush reduction, and prescribed fire on Forest Service and private property in a cross-boundary project.
- Online Burn Permits continued progress for the new online permitting continues with the collaborative process from multiple agencies assisting and supporting the development.
- The Covell Ranch Forest Health and Fuels reduction project has been approved (unanimously) by the Coastal Commission with the use of a Public Works Plan and the CalVTP. More projects are expected to use the CalVTP in the Coastal Zone for the future to increase the pace and scale of fuels reduction and prescribed fire. The San Louis Obispo Unit made an outstanding effort to accomplish addressing the dynamic concerns posed by various agencies and the public for the project.
- Vegetation Management Program CAL FIRE continues to receive Vegetation Management Plans compliant with the Chaparral Management Program Environmental Impact Report for projects that have a best fit for the use or renewal in the Vegetation Management Program.
- The new Strategic Plan for Prescribed Fire, Cultural Burning, and Managed Natural Fire is going to have a workshop to provide the public with the opportunity to comment and review on October 26, 2021.

#### **Environmental Protection**

• CEQA Documents – Notice of Exemptions and Mitigated Negative Declarations continue to be submitted and have been posted on the State Clearing House website for fuel reduction projects in the State Responsibility Area (SRA).

## Wildfire Resilience Program

## Caldor Fire Emergency Restoration Team (CALDOR EFRT)

• CAL FIRE is preparing an agreement with the EI Dorado Resource Conservation District to fund the Caldor EFRT to help reforest private, nonindustrial lands in the Caldor Fire burn areas. This team will work across several organizations to assess private forested properties for restoration needs, prepare prescriptions for treatments, select contractors, and implement site preparation and planting efforts. This concept was identified in the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Action Plan and represents a pilot project intended to take immediate action following destructive wildfires on private forest lands.

## Lewis A. Moran Reforestation Center (LAMRC)

- Cone processing is underway. Seed Bank staff have received approximately 2100 bushels of cones this season.
- The Nursery is on track to produce over 221,000 seedlings this season. Staff expect to overproduce relative to our contracts by approximately 36,000 seedlings which will be distributed to other landowners as speculation production.

- To date, staff is accepting orders for the 2022-2023 seedling year of 116,000 seedlings and have plans to sow an additional 20,000 seedlings as a speculative order intended to supply landowners impacted by the Caldor and Dixie fires. Staff continues to consider expansion of our speculation order to account for increasing needs in the 2021 wildfire areas.
- Nursery staff are working with the USFS to expand our capacity to grow an additional 50-70,000 seedlings for lifting in 2023.

#### California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)

- Prop 68 funding that was previously encumbered, but went unused by the Grantees, has been reallocated into three new CFIP projects. Program staff will continue to monitor Prop 68 funded CFIP agreements and reallocate any funding that goes unutilized by Grantees.
- Program has selected the first batch of new CFIP projects funded by the \$10 million Early Action funding which Program received in June 2021. Approximately \$4 million in CFIP projects will be encumbered over the next month with additional projects being selected on October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- CFIP program intends to offer at least \$2 million in funding every 2 months, which allows for the Grants Unit to process the contracts in between selections.

#### Forest Legacy Program (FLP)

 CAL FIRE FLP staff met with Director Thomas Porter and Deputy Director of Resource Management Matthew Reischman on Monday, October 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Federal FY23 FLP project selections and the Forest Health Grant-Forest Legacy FY21 project selections. Director Porter approved our selections and the FLP Team submitted the Federal projects on October 18<sup>th</sup> and is currently awaiting approval to prepare the award letters for the successful Forest Health Grant applicants.

#### Climate and Energy Program

#### Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force

- The Task Force's Prescribed Fire Work Group has released for review a Draft Strategic Plan for Prescribed Fire, Cultural Burning, and Prescribed Natural Fire. The plan establishes how the state, and its partners will significantly increase the pace and scale of these forest management activities through 2025. The plan also establishes acreage targets for a broad spectrum of state and federal agencies, tribes, and nongovernmental partners; taken together, these entities have committed to expand beneficial fire use to 440,000 acres annually by 2025. Comments on the plan are due by November 2, 2021, to the ForestTaskForce@fire.ca.gov.
- The next full meeting of the Task Force will be held remotely on November 18, 2021. Register for the webinar on the Task Force's interim website.

## Forest Health Program

- FY 20-21 Forest Health awards have been executed. Approximately four of the projects are already conducting on-the-ground treatments.
- The program, along with other CAL FIRE grant programs, are preparing to go live with a new grant network management platform called eCivis. All internal staff and external grantees have completed training provided by eCivis.
- The program has been inputting projects into CalMAPPER.
- The program is currently hiring a Forestry Assistant II with another Forestry Assistant II position currently in the advertisement process.
- The program is currently hiring an Environmental Scientist-Compliance Specialist whose primary duties will be to review and advise on environmental compliance documents for Forest Health projects.
- Program staff have been heavily involved with fire incident response. Half of the program staff have been committed to fire response for over 70 days so far this year.

## Wood Products & Bioenergy (WPB) Program

- Wood Products and Bioenergy received total funding allocation of \$24M that will fund business and workforce development grants.
- Program staff continues drafting the documents required to launch the new Wood Product and Bioenergy grant program with goal to be making grants by the end of the calendar year.
- The WPB grant program aims to be the first to launch a solicitation using the new eCivis grants management software.
- Program staff are helping organize an event for Bioenergy Day 2021 at a pyrolysis demonstration near Roseville.
- Forester II John McCarthy successfully completed his fire training requirements.

# Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)

- FRAP has awarded 11 new Forest Health Research Grants for a total cost of \$3.8 million. We anticipate making a second round of awards following a one-time budget allocation that is expected within a few weeks. Collectively, the research grants help implement many of the objectives in the Boards Research Plan.
- Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) continues to work on model development and producing draft FHSZ maps for pilot counties within the next 6 weeks. The Project has experienced delays due to computing resources and model development.
- The 2020 forest ecosystem and harvested wood product carbon inventory continues to be delayed due to 2020 FIA data collection delays as a result of Covid-19 and wildfire limitations in the 2020 and 2021 field seasons. Report delivery may be as late as Fall 2022.

- Forest ecosystem and harvested wood product utilization scenario development for carbon modeling in a BOF funded project with American Forests, Michigan State University, USFS Northern Institute for Applied Climate Science, and the Canadian Forest Service has begun. Scenario development will begin with a technical expert committee convened with participants from Universities, Federal and State Agencies, Private Industry, and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force Science Advisory Panel. American Forests is exploring ways to engage with tribal representatives as well. Draft scenarios will be vetted through public engagement.
- CAL FIRE in partnership with the Oregon Department of Forestry, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Provincial Government of British Columbia, Canadian Forest Service and the US Forest Service will be participating in a panel discussion at the Society of American Foresters meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> regarding the BOF funded Pacific Coast Temperate Forest Carbon Report.
- FIA Intensification FRAP has received a new staff position to assist with FIA Intensification and forest carbon reporting.

# Fire Protection

## **Cooperative Fire Program**

#### Local Government Program

- The City of Oroville SB 239, Full-Service Cooperative Fire Protection Reimbursement Agreement with CAL FIRE was approved by the Department of Finance and is continuing to move forward. The Unit and Coop Fire are working with several programs in anticipation for a July 2022 transition. This will be the first local government agreement with a transition of employees since 2016.
- The final benefit rates for FY 21-22 have been distributed. FY 21-22 saw an increase due to the Health/Dental/Vision rates. This was due to various data anomalies that occurred after the full year transition into FI\$Cal, causing understated expenditures. This issue has since been corrected in the final rates.

#### Conservation Camp/CCC Program

- The current statewide strength of Type I California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Fire Crews is 57 crews staffed out of a total of 152 funded CDCR Type I Fire Crews. There are an additional 8 CDCR Crews staffed but with a crew strength of less than 12 which makes them unavailable for statewide response. There are currently 26 California Conservation Corps (CCC) Type I Fire Crews staffed out of 28 total allocated. That leaves the Camps Program with a total of 83 Type I Fire Crews available for statewide response out of the total 180 funded crews.
- The Camps Program currently has one camp and one CCC Fire Center affected by COVID. Ben Lomond Camp has transported all inmates to California Correctional Center in Susanville and all inmates from that camp are on quarantine which leaves that camp with no fire crews. One crew from Placer Fire Center is currently on quarantine. The total number of crews on quarantine are two CDCR crews and one CCC crew for a total of three statewide.

 Program was notified by CDCR recently mandating that any person (contractor, medical staff, custody staff, Chaplain, etc.) who enters institutional grounds shall either be fully vaccinated (2 weeks following last injection) or shall wear a N-95 mask at all times. Furthermore, any staff that are not fully vaccinated shall test twice weekly for COVID-19.

At this time, there has been no direction on whether this mandate will apply to Conservation Camps.

#### **Fire Crew Program**

- The current statewide strength of Type I CAL FIRE Firefighter Crews is 20 crews staffed, 12 crews permanently funded and 8 Augmentation crews funded through December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- The current strength of Type I California National Guard Rattlesnake crews is 12 staffed out of 13 funded. There is 1 unavailable crew as the service members are attending Individual Development Training. The funding for these crews has been extended through December 31<sup>st</sup> by Title 32 for COVID Mission. Once Title 32 funding ends these crews will be staffed through the remainder of the fiscal year through a combination of General Fund, Early Action and Augmentation funding.
- CSR and CNR have coordinated with the Units to host the Fire Crewmember Firefighter training for 39 service members this week at Camp Roberts. This training will help with statewide staffing Rattlesnake crews with attrition and turn over.

## **State and Federal Programs**

• Fire Management Assistance Grant (FMAG) Summary 2021:

The FMAG approved incident reimbursement process and can result in up to 75% of costs reimbursed for Emergency Measures to mitigate the incident. The Presidential Declaration has the ability to reimburse up to 100% of costs reimbursed, Emergency Measures, Debris Removal and Permanent Work. The purpose of FMAG is to provide supplemental federal public assistance to states and local government to fight fires burning on public (non-federal) or privately owned forest or grassland.

Two (2) Presidential Declarations:

- Dixie Incident Butte, Plumas, Shasta, Lassen, and Tehama Counties (CABTU-009205).
- Caldor Incident Amador and El Dorado Counties (ENF-024030)

Six (6) FMAG Approved Incidents:

- Lava Siskiyou County (CASHF-000949)
- River Nevada and Placer Counties (CANEU-020628)
- Monument Trinity County (CASHF-001187)
- French Kern County (CACND-002796)
- Fawn Shasta County (CASHU-010480)
- Alisal Santa Barbara County (CALPF-002759)

- The State and Federal Programs is preparing for the annual Continuity of Operations update. Both Northern and Southern Regions will receive an email prior to November 1<sup>st</sup> with updated direction and instructions. The Continuity of Operations is an Executive Order S-04-06 enacted in 2006 that requires State agencies and departments develop and maintain a Continuity of Operations Plan to ensure the safety and security of the public and the resumption of time-sensitive operations and services for all California citizens and state employees during any emergency or disruption of vital governmental services and operations.
- The Annual DPA Review letter will be distributed shortly by CWCG Chair, Jennifer Hinkley (Fish and Wildlife Services). Annual DPA changes are submitted by participating California Wildfire Coordinating Group (CWCG) agencies on an annual basis to the USFS Data Steward per the California Wildfire Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (CFMA). Prior to submission, changes should be vetted by all affected agencies and include appropriate documentation, where necessary. State and Federal Programs will provide support and submission directions to the Northern and Southern Regions, the annual email will be sent prior to November 1, 2021.

## Safety/EMS Program

- AB 450 was signed into law by Governor Newsom. This law creates a Paramedic Disciplinary Review Board aimed at bringing consistency to the process and discipline decisions. This will affect all CAL FIRE employees in paramedic classifications as well as those employees that are not in paramedic classifications but remain certified as paramedics. An analysis of impacts to address the increased workload that the EMS Program will see as a result of this law is being assessed.
- AB 579 was signed into law by Governor Newsom. This law exempts CAL FIRE from having to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) from the California Prison Industries Authority (CALPIA). Changes to the current PPE procurement process are being worked on.
- The Safety Program continues to work through the procurement process with CAL FIRE's Business Services Office (BSO) and the Department of General Services (DGS) on the purchase of helmets for the Heavy Fire Equipment Operators (HFEO). The delays being seen in overseas shipping are one of the issues being worked through.
- Jesse Morris has filled the Division Chief position in the Safety Program effective October 11<sup>th</sup>. Jesse previously worked in the Nevada Yuba Placer Unit and has a wealth of experience in the logistics section with our incident management teams.

#### **Training Program**

- The Training Center continues to work actively on revising Handbook 4000 and made significant strides on policies and procedures under 4007, 4012, 4029, 4043 for review and final approval.
- The Training Center continues to seek opportunities to engage in the partnership process at Training Center South in Riverside.

- With the transition of the Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) into SAC HQ as of October 18<sup>th</sup>, all OSFM records are now within the Records Management System (Vector Solutions).
- Law Enforcement Update: The Training Center has received the Taser purchase and are working on the inventory and roll out of training program for all CAL FIRE Peace Officers.

## Fire Protection Programs

#### Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery

- During the month of September 2021, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement officers made 36 arrests and issued 72 citations (non-4291).
- CAL FIRE Civil Cost Recovery has received \$2,485,724.58 in recovered fire suppression costs for the month.
- On September 9<sup>th</sup>, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers made two separate fire related arrests in Amador County. CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers in cooperation with the Amador County Sheriff's Office arrested an adult male for recklessly starting a fire near the City of Jackson. The same evening, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers, after a multi-day investigation, arrested an adult female on suspicion of a series of arson fires in the community of Plymouth.
- On September 13<sup>th</sup>, a CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officer investigated and arrested a female outside of lone after witnesses observed her walking away from a vegetation fire. All three suspects were booked in the Amador County Jail on arson charges.
- On Monday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers responded to a structure fire in the City of Mendota. While units were responding, it was determined there were two separate fires within one block. One was a debris fire up against a structure that ultimately caused damage and the other was a dumpster fire. CAL FIRE Officers investigated both fires and determined the cause to be arson. After conducting interviews and reviewing video surveillance a suspect was identified. The suspect was located and subsequently booked into Fresno County Jail for arson to a structure PC 451(c) and arson to property PC 451(d).
- In the afternoon hours of September 22<sup>nd</sup>, CAL FIRE and allied fire agencies were dispatched to a reported vegetation fire near Fawndale Road, near Redding. Earlier in the day, employees in the area reported seeing a female trespassing on the property and acting irrationally. At approximately 8:00 PM while firefighters were engaged in fighting the fire, a woman walked out of the brush near the fire line and approached firefighters stating she was dehydrated and needed medical treatment. She was transported off the fire line and medically evaluated and treated. She was interviewed by CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers who were investigating the fire. Information was gathered leading officers to believe she was responsible for causing the fire. She was subsequently arrested and booked into the Shasta County jail on arson charges.

## Fire Protection Operations

- The new National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 988, will go into effect July 2022. This will be similar to 911, in that callers who dial 988, anywhere in the nation, will be connected to Suicide Prevention. In preparation for the 988 implementation, all area codes that include 988 prefixes will be required to start using 1+10 digit local dialing starting October 24, 2021. This will impact all phone numbers in the following area codes 209, 530, 562, 626, 650, 707, 925, 949, and 951. This affects 14 of our 21 Units as well as both Regions and Sacramento HQ. Operations, Command & Control, and Telecommunications programs have taken steps to ensure our Emergency Command Centers are prepared to make the transition, as all pre-programmed dialers to cooperators, other command centers, gate codes, etc. needed to be checked and/or updated.
- Multiple enhancements to CAL FIRE's suite of Technosylva products were undertaken based on feedback from CAL FIRE staff. This includes integration of IR data and layers, and correction of several bugs. Continued engagement with several of our CWN and Exclusive Use Incident Awareness and Assessment (IAA) platforms both fixed wing piloted and UAS, to ingest full motion video and high resolution imagery in near to realtime to be displayed in the application. Field deployment of fiResponse has been very successful and has integrated in daily operations for all CAL FIRE major attack incidents.

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

- AMU is currently developing a Helicopter Night Vision Google (NVG) training syllabus and formulating policies and procedures for the Department. AMU Instructor Pilot Carding and Helitack Cadre training is set for November 29 thru December 3. The first night base (Vina Helitack) is scheduled for training December 6-10, 2021.
- AMU will be hosting the Aviation Working Group (AWG) meeting scheduled for November 17-18, 2021.
- Hollister (CAL FIRE HAWK #6) and Howard Forest (CAL FIRE HAWK #7) S70i Transition Training will be conducted at McClellan November 8-19, 2021. This will be a joint training for the two bases where both will be trained simultaneously.
- Jake Sjolund, Deputy Chief of TAO, will be assuming the Lead of the S70i Implementation Group effective November 2, 2021, due to an upcoming retirement.
- AMU in collaboration with TAO and Intel are in the process of developing an Aerial Incident Assessment and Awareness (IAA) program. A draft proposal has been submitted to CAL FIRE Leadership for review and comment.
- AMU is in the process of transitioning from fire season support to winter maintenance based on current and projected weather patterns. Five A-450 Basic UAS Operations courses have been scheduled for December 2021 through February 2022 that will add approximately 100 more agency Remote Pilots to program.
- Five A-450 Basic UAS Operations courses have been scheduled for December through February that will add approximately 100 more agency Remote Pilots to program. One S-373 UAS Incident Operations course is currently scheduled in April 2022.

• The UAS Program is beginning the initial phases of implementing aerial ignition for 2022.

#### **Mobile Equipment Program**

- The Mobile Equipment Program is currently preparing the Department's Vehicle Replacement Fleet Acquisition Plan for executive review. The Fleet Acquisition Plan for vehicle funding originating from newly funded Budget Change Proposals has been completed for executive review.
- Type III Fire Engine, Detachable Gooseneck Trailer, and ECT Specifications are all currently at the Department of General Services (DGS), pending review before going out to bid. Current contracts expire in May of 2022.
- Mobile Equipment Program is currently acquiring vehicles and parts for fire engine rollover protection testing, with the intent for the Department to better understand the dynamics of engine rollovers and how we can improve on the design of future fire engines and possibly retrofit existing apparatus.

# Office of the State Fire Marshal

## Wildfire Planning and Engineering Division

 Work continues with Cal OES to develop the foundation for the California Wildfire Home Hardening Program that encourages cost-effective structure hardening/retrofitting and facilitates vegetation management (DSpace and neighborhood/community fuel reduction/modification). A comprehensive list of retrofits has been established. Currently, we are working on building and testing a mobile based app that will be used to evaluate each property for retrofit and defensible space needs.

#### Wildfire Prevention Engineering

- On July 1, 2021, the Department launched a new website at fire.ca.gov/dspace whereby sellers' real property can request a defensible space inspection from CAL FIRE when applicable to receive documentation of a compliant defensible space inspection as required by AB 38. The survey sellers complete to request an inspection continues to evolve as we implement this new program.
- Work continues on the development of the Model Defensible Space Program that shall be made available for use by cities and counties as required by SB 190.
- Staff continues to work on automating all Department burn permits. Collaboration with CAL FIRE Unit staff and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will ensure the process will function as designed and be able to share prescribed fire data with CARB. The goal is to increase the ease with which the public can obtain a burn permit (online), streamline the process, create an electronic geospatial database, and allow for better reporting. We anticipate a release date of May 2022.
- As of October 22, 2021, over 3,500 structures have been damaged/destroyed this year compared to over 10,500 structures damaged/destroyed for the same period last year. To date we have had 13 damage inspection team deployments to major wildfires across the state.

• Staff continues to work on updating the Industrial Operations Fire Prevention Field Guide that was last updated in 1999.

## Fire Plan

• Work continues validating the model inputs for the Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) remap. Once the model inputs have been finalized, the process to validate the model output for the State Responsibility Area (SRA) will begin.

## California Incident Data & Statistics Program

• Staff are finishing validating the 2020 incident data so the Redbook can be completed.

#### Land Use Planning

- Work continues with the Office of Planning and Research on a WUI best practices inventory.
- Staff are working with the Community Wildfire Planning Center to develop a training curriculum for planners. Once developed, the training will be held at several locations throughout the state.
- Staff continues to conduct surveys in multiple counties of subdivisions located in the SRA and Very High FHSZs in the Local Responsibility Area with more than 30 dwelling units without a secondary egress route that are at significant risk of wildfire. This is in response to AB 2911 and the addition of PRC 4290.5. Surveys in eight cities/counties have been completed. Staff are currently conducting surveys in over 25 cities and counties.
- There are currently 464 NFPA Firewise USA recognized communities in California, with approximately another 218 in the application process.

## Fire Prevention Grants

 The Department has been appropriated \$120 million in funding in fiscal year 2021/22 for fire prevention grants. CAL FIRE's Fire Prevention Grants program enables local organizations to implement fire prevention activities in and near fire threatened communities that focuses on increasing the protection of people, structures, and communities. These projects meet the goals and objectives of California's wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan, as well as the State's Strategic Fire Plan.

#### **CALENDAR YEAR 2021**

## TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH October 15, 2021

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

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Year Comparison	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
THPs Received	117	100	59	55	0	1	12	13	188	169
THPs Returned	39	36	25	21	0	1	3	6	67	64
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	104	100	52	40	0	0	10	11	166	151
THPs with NON- Concurrence	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
THPs Denied	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
THPs Approved	107	98	63	50	0	1	15	12	185	161
THP Approved Acres	24,972	24,304	52,824	28,203	0	25	7,990	5,249	85,786	57,781

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Year Comparison	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
NTMPs Received	4	2	4	5	0	0	1	0	9	7
NTMPs Returned	3	1	3	4	0	0	1	0	7	5
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	6	4	3	5	0	0	0	1	9	10
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	7	4	3	3	0	0	0	0	10	7
NTMP Approved Acres	2,018	461	1,132	474	0	0	0	0	3,150	935
NTMPs with NON- Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTOs Received	64	68	12	7	0	0	5	3	81	78

		ast a Rosa)		cade dding)		erside outh)		erra esno)	Tot	als
Year Comparison	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020	2021
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 2021 TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH October 15, 2021

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 October 15, 2021

			2	.020	2021		
Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres	
	i	Cascade (Redding)	217	1,242,251	216	1,269,486	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	59	438,746	55	406,145	
	10 Percent Dead, Dying Diseased,	Riverside (South)	1	240	1	4	
(03/2019)	Fuelwood, or Woody Debris v2019	Sierra (Fresno)	48	60,911	43	37,432	
		Totals	325	1,742,148	315	1,713,067	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(a)&(b)	10% Dead, Dying or Diseased	Riverside (South)					
1000(8)&(b)	Fuelwood or Split Products	Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038.6 (03/2019) But	Butte Post Fire Recovery	Riverside (South)					
		Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)	11	124,303	11	283,782	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(a)	Christmas Trees	Riverside (South)					
(03/2019)		Sierra (Fresno)	4	6,533	1	14	
		Totals	15	130,836	12	283,796	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(k)	Drought Mortality	Riverside (South)					
1000(K)	Drought Mortality	Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)	14	3,684	18	5,342	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			1	7	
	Drought Mortality and	Riverside (South)			· · · · ·		
	Unmerchantable Sawlog v2019	Sierra (Fresno)	13	3,245	78	3,365	
		Totals	27	6,929	97	8,714	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			-		
1038(j)	Forest Fire Prevention PILOT	Riverside (South)					
1000()	Project	Sierra (Fresno)			-		
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(i)	Forest Fire Prevention Project	Riverside (South)					
1030(1)		Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		TUIdIS	0	0	U	0	

#### California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through October 15, 2021

			2	:020	2021		
Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres	
		Cascade (Redding)	28	3,943	18	2,100	
1038.3 (03/2019) Fore		Coast (Santa Rosa)	22	1,361	25	1,192	
	Forest Fire Prevention v2019	Riverside (South)	1	50	1	267	
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	30	2	98	
		Totals	52	5,384	46	3,657	
		Cascade (Redding)	132	219	157	244	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	28	52	63	124	
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Riverside (South)					
110111(0)		Sierra (Fresno)	17	20	26	33	
		Totals	177	291	246	401	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(I)	Oak Woodland Management	Riverside (South)					
	(effective 01/01/2018)	Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)	1	112			
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	5	56	9	83	
1038(e)	Oak Woodland Management v2019	Riverside (South)					
(03/2019)		Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	6	168	9	83	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(m)	Post Fire Recovery	Riverside (South)					
1000(11)	(effective 01/01/2018)	Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038.5	Post Fire Recovery v2019	Riverside (South)					
(03/2019)		Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)	200	275	19	212	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	2	28	173	
	Post Fire Recovery v2020	Riverside (South)					
		Sierra (Fresno)			13	39	
		Totals	201	277	60	424	
		Cascade (Redding)	120	169,082	27	264,334	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	55	155,875	51	9,346	
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Riverside (South)			2	1,420	
		Sierra (Fresno)	86	74,549		10,727	
		Totals		399,506	98	285,827	

#### California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through October 15, 2021

			2	020	2021		
Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres	
	İ	Cascade (Redding)	5	58	1	30	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	56	1	39	
1038(f)	Small Timberland Owner	Riverside (South)					
(03/2019)		Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	6	114	2	69	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(c)	Structure Protection	Riverside (South)					
	(0 to 150 feet)	Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)	246	441	157	532	
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet) v2019	Coast (Santa Rosa)	86	1,819	114	261	
		Riverside (South)	1	7			
(03/2019)		Sierra (Fresno)	40	147	40	286	
		Totals	373	2,414	311	1,079	
		Cascade (Redding)					
	Structure Protection	Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(c)(6)	(150 to 300 feet) Includes exemptions previously	Riverside (South)					
1038(0)(0)	submitted with both 0-150ft and	Sierra (Fresno)					
	150-300ft options	Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)	27	97	11	45	
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	16	81	31	121	
1038(c)(6)	Structure Protection (150 to 300	Riverside (South)					
(03/2019)	feet) v2019	Sierra (Fresno)	2	18	3	9	
		Totals	45	196	45	175	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(d)	Substantially Damaged	Riverside (South)					
1000(0)	Unmerchantable Sawlog	Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)					
		Coast (Santa Rosa)					
1038(g)	Woody Debris and Slash Removal	Riverside (South)					
(9)		Sierra (Fresno)					
		Totals	0	0	0	0	
	All Exemptions	Grand Total	1,488	2,288,263	1,241	2,297,292	

			2020		202	21
Type of 1052 Emerger	ncy Notice	Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
		Cascade (Redding)	82	22,007	187	43,403
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	20	3,317	158	14,262
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	8	2,519	45	4,15
			110	27,843	390	61,81
		Cascade (Redding)	14	2,737	5	2,63
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
	Drought	Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			2	15
		Totals	14	2,737	7	2,78
Emergency Conditions		Cascade (Redding)	72	20,570	180	41,44
More than one condition can be		Coast (Santa Rosa)	20	3,317	153	13,40
selected per Notice of Emergency	Fire	Riverside (South)				
Timber Operations - acreage may be reflected multiple times		Sierra (Fresno)	4	2,229	38	3,74
		Totals	96	26,116	371	58,59
	Insects	Cascade (Redding)	31	7,193	10	2,06
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			8	58
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	3	5	35
*Others may include multiple emergency conditions		Totals	33	7,196	23	3,00
		Cascade (Redding)	171	42,164	219	61,38
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	4	117	26	1,75
	*Others	Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	8	1,730	12	94
		Totals	183	44,011	257	64,08
		Cascade (Redding)	16	1,724	7	25
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
Fuel Hazard Reduction	on (RM65)	Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	5	584		
		Totals	21	2,308	7	25
		Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
Fuel Hazard Red	uction	Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	
		Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
Sudden Oak Death	Disease	Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	