



Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

Resources Auditorium
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



January 2019

Resource Management

Forest Practice Program

Plan Submissions (through 12/31/2018)

- **THP Submissions:** The number of THP submissions through December 2018 was approximately 11% higher than December 2017 (279 compared to 251 in 2017).
- **NTMP Submissions:** The total number of NTMP submissions through December 2018 was nearly 19% higher than December 2017 (19 compared to 16 in 2017). One-hundred sixty-five (165) NTOs were submitted through December 2018 compared to one-hundred fifty (150) through 2017.
- **Exemption Notice Submissions:** Exemption submissions were approximately 18% lower compared to December last year (1,866 compared to 2,279 in 2017). The number of Drought Mortality Exemptions filed through December this year was approximately 73% lower than last year (201 compared to 741 in 2017); the acreage covered was approximately 71% lower (24,228 acres compared to 82,233 acres in 2017).
- **Emergency Notice Submissions:** Emergency Notice submissions were significantly higher in December 2018 than December 2017 (272 compared to 113 in 2017). Likewise, the amount of acreage under Emergencies increased significantly over December 2017 (31,126 acres compared to 10,546 acres in 2017).
- **Plan Approval:** The number of THPs approved through December 2018 was approximately 16% higher than the number approved in December 2017 (268 compared to 232 in 2017). The number of NTMPs approved through December 2018 was nearly equal to the number approved in December 2017 (15 compared to 14 in 2017).

Watershed Protection Program Update

- Watershed Protection Program staff completed work on the Woolsey-Hill Fires Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) report and it has been posted on the CAL FIRE webpage. Drew Coe, Forester II, attended a workshop on December 18th -19th with United State Geological Survey and News Weather Station staff in Oxnard to reach agreement on post-fire debris flow threshold definitions for early warning to residents. Watershed Protection Program staff have been tracking debris flows, hyper-concentrated flows, mud flows, and flooding associated with the Holy and Woolsey Fires from two significant storms this fall.
- Stacy Stanish, Forest Practice Biologist, has made significant progress on documents to support a possible draft Spotted Owl Resource Plan (SORP) for the interior Northern Region. The goal is to provide multiple landowners with a programmatic approach to avoid take of NSO specific to northern interior geographic area.

Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) Activities [Updated from the TRFRF Database (01/01/2018 through 12/31/2018)]

- Since January 1, 2018, the Department has expended 159,716 hours in conducting Forest Practice Program activities funded by TRFRF. An additional 10,631 hours of Forest Practice Program activities not funded by TRFRF has also been completed. Combined, Department staff has recorded 170,347 hours of Forest Practice-related activities through December 31, 2018.

Timber Operators Licensing (LTO) and Forest Practice Enforcement Updates

- The LTO class in Willits was conducted during the second week in January, and the class in Redding will be conducted February 5-6 at the Sierra-Cascade Logging Conference.

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

Table: LTO License Status

Status	# of Cases
New Applications Rec'd	11
Renewal Applications Rec'd	176
New Licenses Issued	7
Licenses Renewed	278
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	36
Applications Returned	8
Refunds Issued	0
Insurance Certificates Rec'd	58

Table: Active Civil Penalties Case Status

Status	# of Cases
Under Review	5
Developed for Signature	13
CPO Signed, Mailed, Served	9
Hearing(s) Pending	7
Final Order Pending/Served	9
Settlement Mitigation	3
Due and Payable	2
Payments	15
Probation	4
Judgement Needed	16
Total	83

Resource Protection and Improvement Program

Lewis A. Moran Reforestation Center (LAMRC)

- LAMRC staff expect to post bids this month for contracts to construct the new hybrid greenhouse/shadehouse and restoration of the two existing greenhouses.
- The speculative seed order for this year will be for 80,000 seedlings, comprised of Ponderosa Pine, Sugar Pine, Douglas-fir, and Incense Cedar. 50,000 seedlings will be grown at the USFS Nursery in Placerville through the joint agreement with CAL FIRE, USFS, and the El Dorado County Resource Conservation District; 30,000 will be grown by LAMRC.

California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)

- Staff is working with our Grants Unit to create the CFIP advancement option, which was signed into law in 2018.
- Staff and management are working on a spending plan to utilize \$1.5 million in California Climate Investment (CCI) funds granted to the CFIP program. This funding will be used exclusively for reforestation in many of the forested areas burned in the 2018 fires.

Forest Legacy

- Two conservation easement projects closed in late 2018, Pacific Union College and Black Butte. There are currently nine (9) additional conservation easement and fee title purchase projects under review.

Forest Pest Management

- Forest Pest Management staff are working with CAL FIRE units to finalize Goldspotted Oak Borer (GSOB) Zone of Infestation recommendations. It is anticipated the recommendations will be presented to the Board at the March 6th meeting.
- The annual Forest Pest Conditions Report is currently in review. However, the final report may be delayed by the federal government shutdown due to the need for federal review and publishing.

Forest Management Task Force

- The Task Force met on January 14, 2019. The meeting was recorded and the webinar and supporting materials are available at www.CAForestTaskForce.org. The remaining meetings for 2019 will be held on the second Monday of the month (on November 18th, the meeting will be held on the third Monday), from 1:00-4:00 PM in the Coastal Room of the CalEPA building. Register for the webinar for all events in 2019 at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8523140755732613891>.
- On December 21st, the President issued the Executive Order "[Promoting Active Management and America's Forests, Rangelands, and other Federal Lands to Improve Conditions and Reduce Wildfire Risk](#)," which commits the Departments of the Interior (DOI) and Agriculture (USDA) to more robust active management of American forests and grasslands.
- The [January 2019 Draft California 2030 Natural and Working Lands Climate Change Implementation Plan](#) (Plan) is now available. The Plan is a multi-agency joint collaboration that aims to coordinate all natural and working lands programs under a united approach that will move California toward the combined goal of maintaining a resilient carbon sink and improved air and water quality, water quantity, wildlife habitat, recreation, and other benefits.

Fire Protection

Fire Protection Program

Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery

- Last month, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement made 10 arrests and issued 61 citations (excluding PRC 4291).
- Last month, the State received \$2,508,022 resulting from CAL FIRE Civil Cost Recovery actions.
- On November 16, 2019, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement officers arrested two suspects connected to a burglary of a CAL FIRE station during the Camp Fire. Personal items, food, and a private vehicle owned by a firefighter were allegedly stolen. Officers found the vehicle and subsequently arrested Robert DePalma and William Erlbacher, both of Concow. The two were arrested on five felony counts ranging from alleged vehicle theft to looting during an emergency and possession of stolen property. DePalma's and Erlbacher's bail was set at \$250,000 each.

Fire Protection Operations

- The AVL/MDT project continues to move forward with 14 CAL FIRE Units completed, totaling 754 AVL/MDT mobile installations. The next installation site is in the Mendocino Unit beginning January 8, 2019.
- Telecommunications is nearing completion of distributing approximately 5,900 new Relm P150CMD HT radios to CAL FIRE Units. The final three Units (Butte, Nevada Yuba Placer and Riverside) are scheduled to receive new radios in January 2019. The P150CND radios will replace the legacy GPH radios with new technology and hundreds of additional frequencies. This will provide field personnel consistency in the style of radio and will remove the requirement to have additional frequency loads created by Cal OES Public Safety Communications, thus reducing costs to the telecommunications program. New mobile radios will also be distributed to Units in January and February.
- The first of two National Fire Danger Rating System 16 (NFDRS16) workshops on January 7-11 was postponed. CAL FIRE and USFS personnel are hosting the two workshops at the Wildland Fire Training Center (WFTC) as a collaborative effort to provide a smooth transition to NFDRS 16. In addition to covering the rollout of NFDRS16, the workshops will provide CAL FIRE attendees the instruction and guidance to develop and/or continue work on their Unit Fire Danger Operating Plan (FDOP). CAL FIRE has 30 attendees scheduled to attend each workshop.

Aviation Management Unit/Tactical Air Operations

- Dennis W. Brown was selected as the new Senior Aviation Officer, Chief of Aviation effective January 1, 2019. Dennis previously held the position of Aviation Officer III, Chief Pilot, at the Aviation Management Unit, and will do an excellent job transitioning into his new role.
- All CAL FIRE fixed-wing air attack bases have been downstaffed with the exception of Ramona and Hemet. Helicopters in the Northern Region are on a rotational schedule with two helicopters available with staffing for water dropping or air rescue needs. All Southern Region helicopters are staffed as deemed necessary by the region.
- All Exclusive Use airtankers and helicopters have been released and their contracts have been terminated.
- CAL FIRE acquired a new hangar lease at McClellan Airpark in support of the C-130 airtanker program.
- On January 6, 2019, the first two pilots and two mechanics departed for a month-long training at Flight Safety in Florida in preparation for the first new S70i Blackhawk helicopter arriving in May 2019.
- CAL FIRE will be participating in the annual MAFFS training of the 146th Air Lift Wing at Channel Islands the last week of January.
- CAL FIRE and CHP Air Operations met on November 29, 2018, regarding improved emergency airspace coordination during major fires/disasters. It was a productive meeting and future CHP Flight Crew Trainings will take place during the Spring of 2019 and continue annually thereafter. The California Airspace Coordination Group will meet the last week of January 2019 regarding improving multi-agency airspace coordination during emergencies.

Mobile Equipment

- Two Automotive Technicians at Davis Mobile Equipment Facility were hired in January. These positions will provide critical assistance and continuous dedication in getting new vehicles equipped and outfitted.
- The CAL FIRE Fleet Acquisition Plan is currently working its way through departmental review and will be ready for the Department of General Services shortly. This will be the earliest we have ever submitted the plan for their analysis and approval. Once approved, CAL FIRE can begin purchasing vehicles utilizing Fiscal Year 2018 funds.

Cooperative Fire Program

Conservation Camp Program

- The Ventura Training Center (VTC) Workgroup met the week of December 11th and completed the formal Memorandum of Understanding between CAL FIRE, the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation and the California Conservation Corps outlining operations of the newly established Ventura Training Center.
- The statewide Conservation Camps population for Wednesday, January 2, 2019: The current statewide shortage of fire crew members assigned to fire crews is 921 (A decrease of 86 from 1007 as of December 19, 2018). The inmate population stands at 84% (+2%) of capacity while crew capacity stands at 72% (+2%).

Local Government Program

- The Local Government Program document 'Salary, Pay Differentials, and Operating Expense Schedule FY 2019-2020' was released on January 1, 2019. This annual document, compiled in association with the CAL FIRE Classification and Pay Unit of Human Resources, updates and memorializes personnel and operating rates to be used in conjunction with the Department's Local Government Fire Protection Reimbursement ('Schedule A') Agreements with local government agencies throughout the state.
- Deputy Chief Gabrielle Avina reported and assumed leadership of the Local Government Program on January 14, 2019, following the retirement of Deputy Chief Tom Hostetter.

State-Federal Program

- On January 18, 2019, the State-Federal Program is scheduled to release the annual "Allotments for Contract Counties, 2018-2019 Fiscal Year". Commonly known as the 'Gray Book', this document memorializes funding for the six California counties which provide SRA fire protection services on behalf of the state. Public Resources Code (PRC) §4129 directs that there shall be budgeted sums to be allocated to those counties at least equal to the direct costs of fire protection which is determined pursuant to PRC §4130. Included are the counties of: Kern, Los Angeles, Marin, Orange, Santa Barbara and Ventura.

Safety/EMS Program

- The CAL FIRE Safety Program hosted a Safety Officer Workshop in Los Osos, California. Represented were each of the Unit and Region Safety Officers as well as members of CAL FIRE Incident Management Team Safety Officers. The workshop allowed the employees time to network and share ideas as well as provide updates on new roles and responsibilities, interacting with Cal/OSHA, developing accident reports, trends in firefighter behavioral health, and provided resources to assist in the prevention of accident and injuries within CAL FIRE.
- The CAL FIRE EMS Program staff processed 37 (+2) internal Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) recertification applications in the month of December.
- On January 3, 2019, the CAL FIRE Safety Program hosted an Executive Board of Review for the Serious Accident Review Team report for the Carr Incident. The accident review involved a local government firefighter fatality, a private hire bulldozer fatality and a firefighter burnover. The Board established action plans to implement statewide in the hopes of preventing these types of accidents from occurring again. Cal/OSHA also conducted an investigation of both fatalities – concluding no violations had occurred.

Training Program

- The Training Center three story dormitories is currently in the finishing phases. The associated concrete and paving work has been difficult to compete with the recent rain. The project is scheduled to be completed by April 2019.
- Phase one of the Training Center water loop replacement project is complete. This includes the complete replacement of the upper water loop. The building hook ups are scheduled to be completed in March 2019.
- Training Center Solar Project is 90% complete. The remaining 10% will be completed by a new vendor per DGS.
- On January 7, 2019, Regular Basic Course (RBC) Peace Officer Academy #58 started their 22 weeks of training. This class has 23 students.
- On January 7, 2019, Emergency Command Center Academy #124 started their four weeks of training. This class has 17 students.
- On January 21, 2019, both the Training Center and Training Center South will be hosting Firefighter Academy FFA#1-19 and FFA#2-19. Both locations are expecting to have the max number of academy students of 48 per class.
- On January 22, 2019, the Training Program will be hosting a Department Statewide Training Working Group (STWG) meeting in Sacramento to review and update Department Training standards.

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. Six Investor-Owned Utilities (IOU) are required to submit plans annually.

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.

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 structures fires to medical aides.

Land Use Planning

- Staff continue to work with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to approve and renew Firewise USA Communities. To date there are 183 active Firewise USA communities which moves California's ranking as the #1 state in the nation with Firewise Communities.
- Land Use Planning staff continue to address questions on building issues following the 2017 and 2018 fires.
- Staff is beginning the planning stages with Board Staff of implementing AB 2911 and the new subdivision review requirements. The Governor's Budget included funding for this 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.
- FY 2017-18 Fire Prevention Grant Agreements have all been signed, authorizing work to begin on the 142 grants, totaling nearly \$80 million in funding.

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through December, 2018

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2017		2018	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(a)&(b)	10% Dead, Dying or Diseased Fuelwood or Split Products	Cascade (Redding)	393	2,035,221	418	2,452,610
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	109	332,646	103	505,953
		Riverside (South)	1	240	1	240
		Sierra (Fresno)	52	250,666	64	273,733
		Totals	555	2,618,773	586	3,232,536
1038(k)	Drought Mortality	Cascade (Redding)	150	9,639	76	3,961
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	16	4,232	7	4,020
		Riverside (South)	1	200		
		Sierra (Fresno)	574	68,162	118	16,247
		Totals	741	82,233	201	24,228
1038(j)	Forest Fire Prevention PILOT Project	Cascade (Redding)	12	1,524	29	2,391
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	67	5	369
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	161		
		Totals	14	1,752	34	2,760
1038(i)	Forest Fire Prevention Project	Cascade (Redding)	5	427	4	341
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	2	348		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	57	1	269
		Totals	8	832	5	610
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Cascade (Redding)	145	298	162	279
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	80	211	64	150
		Riverside (South)	3	8	1	3
		Sierra (Fresno)	35	57	22	43
		Totals	263	574	249	475
1038(l)	Oak Woodland Management (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			4	79
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals			4	79
1038(m)	Post Fire Recovery (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			14	32
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals			14	32
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Cascade (Redding)	94	117,658	138	139,909
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	21	26,954	50	25,887
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	202	331,555	160	255,754
		Totals	317	476,167	348	421,550
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Cascade (Redding)	184	468	215	384
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	119	170	119	230
		Riverside (South)				

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2017		2018	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Sierra (Fresno)	25	58	31	85
		Totals	328	696	365	699
1038(c)(6)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) Includes exemptions previously submitted with both 0-150ft and 150-300ft options	Cascade (Redding)	19	157	26	139
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	18	87	26	113
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	8	37	1	3
		Totals	45	281	53	255
1038(d)	Substantially Damaged Unmerchantable Sawlog	Cascade (Redding)	3	358	1	2
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	3,493		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	7
		Totals	4	3,851	2	9
1038(g)	Woody Debris and Slash Removal	Cascade (Redding)	2	483	2	102
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	2		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	1	3	171
		Totals	4	486	5	273
	All Exemptions	Grand Total	2,279	3,185,645	1,866	3,683,506

Type of 1052 Emergency Notice		2017		2018				
		Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres		
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Cascade (Redding)	89	8,834	131	18,923		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	12	736	131	11,625		
		Riverside (South)						
		Sierra (Fresno)	12	976	10	578		
		Totals	113	10,546	272	31,126		
<u>Emergency Conditions</u> More than one condition can be selected per Notice of Emergency Timber Operations - acreage may be reflected multiple times		Drought		Cascade (Redding)	2	29	6	1206
				Coast (Santa Rosa)				
				Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	7	255	1	339
				Totals	9	284	7	1545
		Fire		Cascade (Redding)	81	8490	64	6036
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	10	711	93	7866
				Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	1	500	3	510
		Totals	92	9701	160	14412		
		Insects		Cascade (Redding)	4	281	12	972
				Coast (Santa Rosa)				
				Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	9	428	8	407
		Totals	13	709	20	1379		
		Other		Cascade (Redding)	4	63	1	191
Coast (Santa Rosa)								
Riverside (South)								
Sierra (Fresno)								
Totals	4	63	1	191				
Fuel Hazard Reduction		Cascade (Redding)	1	3	3	53		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)						
		Riverside (South)						
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	53	2	177		
		Totals	3	56	5	230		
Sudden Oak Death Disease		Cascade (Redding)						
		Coast (Santa Rosa)						
		Riverside (South)						
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	100		
		Totals			1	100		

**CALENDAR YEAR 2018
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH December, 2018**

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	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
THPs Received	154	152	82	105	0	0	15	22	251	279
THPs Returned	42	34	17	22	0	0	7	15	66	71
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	155	130	84	84	0	0	14	18	253	232
THPs with NON-Concurrence	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	0
THPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THPs Approved	143	148	78	98	0	0	11	22	232	268
THP Approved Acres	36,951	29,547	46,938	74,101	0	0	3,807	5,635	87,696	109,283

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
NTMPs Received	12	17	3	1	0	0	1	1	16	19
NTMPs Returned	2	6	2	1	0	0	1	0	5	7
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	13	15	2	2	0	0	0	1	15	18
NTMPs with NON-Concurrence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	11	13	3	2	0	0	0	0	14	15
NTMP Approved Acres	1,491	2,021	3,874	755	0	0	0	0	5,365	2,776
NTOs Received	120	134	17	23	0	0	13	8	150	165

CALENDAR YEAR 2018 TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH December, 2018

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

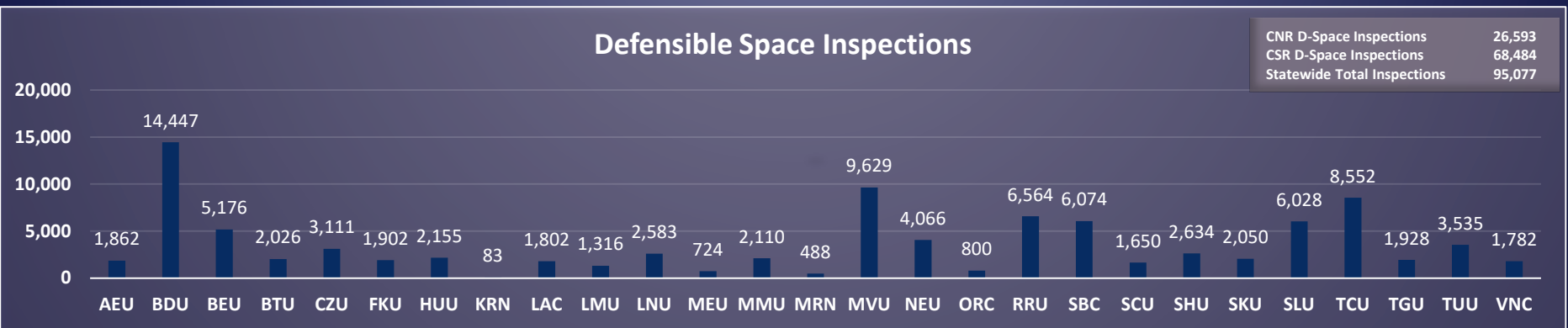
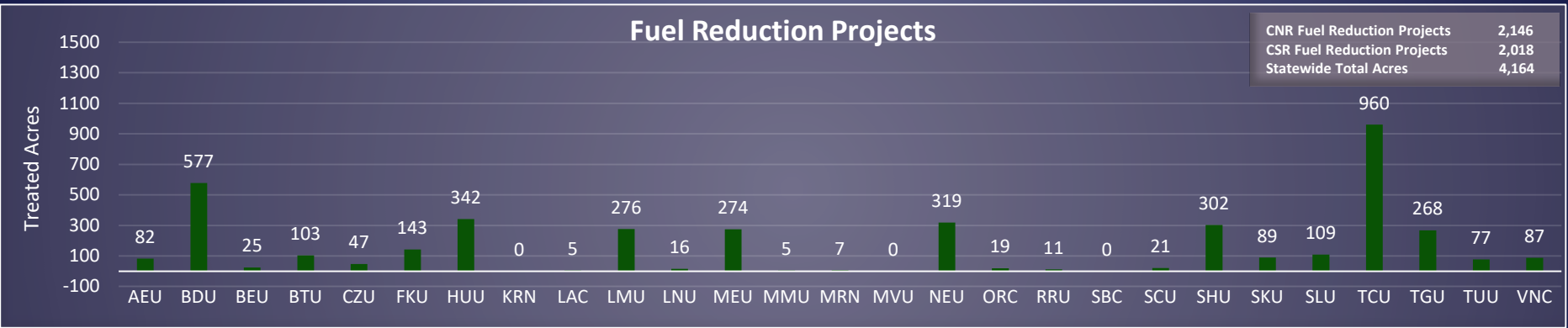
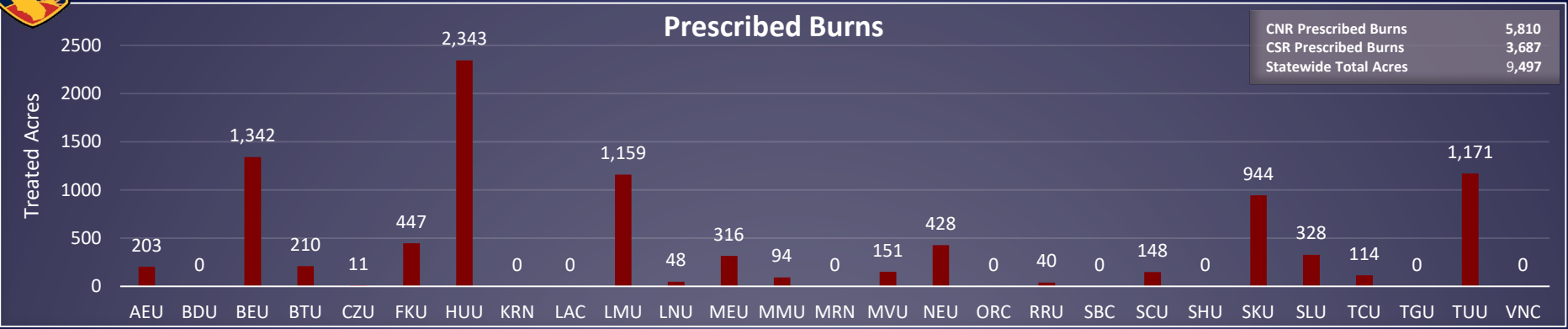


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Acres represent those reported on the Notice as accepted by the Department and may not reflect actual operations on the ground.

Data Source: CalTREES

Fire Prevention Target Goals – FY 2018-2019 (July 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018)



	Target	Completed	% Completed
Broadcast/Prescribed Burn	25,000	9,497	37.99%
Combined Fuel Reduction Projects	20,000	4,164	20.82%
Defensible Space Inspections	250,000	95,077	38%