



Director’s Report to the Board of Forestry

715 P Street

Sacramento, California

December 10-11, 2024



Natural Resource Management

Forest Practice Program

Watershed Protection Program

- The Mountain Fire Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) evaluation was completed in Ventura County.
- Staff presented a talk on cumulative effects analysis guidance for watershed impacts at the California Licensed Forester’s Association fall workshop on November 15, 2024.
- Staff were involved in the submission of two abstracts titled “Canopy cover reduction impacts on transpiration rates in *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and *Sequoia sempervirens*” and “Annual Water Yield Responses to Coast Redwood Forest Harvest” for the American Geophysical Union (AGU) annual meeting.
- A presentation given by staff in May 2024 for the USDA Forest Service Climate Change Integration Team Webinar on transportation infrastructure climate resilience titled “Road Network and Fire Interactions: Process and Principles for Mitigation” was posted online:
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/r5/climatechange/?cid=fseprd1212079>

Forest Practice Administration

- Staff are working on inserting new Forest Practice Rules and statute changes into the forthcoming 2025 edition of the Forest Practice Rulebook.

Forest Practice Enforcement and Timber Operator Licensing (LTO)

The following tables summarize Timber Operator Licensing and Enforcement Activities since the last report.

Table 1: Forest Practice Civil Penalty Collection

Case Status	# of Cases	Amount Collected	Total Amount Due
Adjudicated	29	143,550	473,760
Default	72	364,549	1,184,080
Paid per CPO	24	242,000	242,000
Settled	115	969,005	907,705
Totals	235	1,699,104	2,793,545

Table 2: LTO License Status

Status	#
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Table 3: Active Civil Penalties Case Status

Status	# of Cases
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New Applications Rec'd	33	Under Review	4
Renewal Applications Rec'd	255	Developed for Signature	5
New Licenses Issued	23	CPO Served	7
Licenses Renewed	247	Hearing(s) to be Scheduled	7
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	25	Settlement Mitigation	1
Applications Returned	28	Payments	19
Refunds Issued	0	Probation	5
Insurance Certificates Rec'd	125	Judgment pending	41
		Default/Final Order	15
Total Active Licenses	1617	Total	104

Resource Protection and Improvement Programs

Urban and Community Forestry Program

- A contract with Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo to draft a statewide strategic plan to increase urban tree canopy cover has been implemented and will be informed by a statewide urban canopy cover analysis of 2018 and 2022 high resolution imagery. There will be a change analysis between these imagery sets (projected to be completed by January 30, 2025).
- A program representative attended the Council of Western State Foresters annual meeting November 4-8, 2024, as chair of the Urban and Community Forestry Committee. The committee develops strategies for assistance to urban constituents, interacts with federal counterparts on grants and programs, and coordinates interstate collaboration.

Resource Improvement Programs

Forest Entomology and Pathology

- A new infestation of invasive shot hole borers has been found in Santa Cruz County near the town of Felton, Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park, and along the San Lorenzo River. DNA analysis has shown that this invasive shot hole borer is a different species from the two previously known in California. This insect and its associated fungus are from south and southeast Asia and have been established in the southeastern United States and Argentina. Work is ongoing to determine the host range, the extent of the infestation, and the potential impacts of the pest.
- A single invasive shot hole borer was found in a trap in San Mateo County. So far, no infested trees have been found, but surveys and monitoring are on-going.

Forest Biometrics

- Staff completed the initial estimate of standing inventory in a significant timber trespass incident by reconstructing individual tree metrics based on stump diameters.

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Demonstration State Forests

Boggs Mountain and Las Posadas

- Five educational trips displaying the wide variety of mushroom species at Las Posadas in December and January will be held in collaboration with MycoVentures and Napa Valley Truffle Festival.
- Friends of Boggs Mountain, supported by CAL FIRE resources, hosted a community workday on November 16, 2024, to work on the new Game Trail. In a sign of the great progress being made in restoring the trail network, local mountain bike groups have been re-applying for special use permits to hold practices and races.

Jackson

- Five public and three Tribal meetings have been held in Ukiah and Fort Bragg to start the review of the Forest Management Plan. Three additional meetings are planned on December 12, 13, and 16, 2024. CAL FIRE, with support from Clifton Environmental, will then produce a draft plan in early 2025 before seeking additional public and Tribal feedback.
- The Mendocino Unit conducted prescribed fire operations on 250 acres to support the Fire Fuels Mitigation Forest Health Research Grant project. Researchers from Cal Poly Humboldt, UC Berkeley, and UC Cooperative Extension collected fire effects and fire behavior data. CAL FIRE biologists removed and then re-installed their acoustic monitoring and game cameras to assess impacts to wildlife.
- The Recreation Task Force met on November 8, 2024. They discussed planned shaded fuel breaks in high use recreation areas and the planned conversion of Roundhouse Campground to a horse camp. They also continued to address the issue of unsanctioned trails.
- Stream temperature data from 33 sample locations on the forest during the 2024 summer stress period (June-September) have been collected and processed.
- Maintenance removals of barred owls (BADO) by the University of Wisconsin are ongoing on JDSF. A total of 147 barred owls have been lethally removed on the Greater JDSF area since the project started in November 2021. Most BADO recolonizations at previously occupied sites continue to be sub-adult birds, which indicates that the non-territorial "floater" population is young and are dispersing in from areas where removals are not being conducted. A total of 48 birds have been removed in 2024 (12 adult; 36 subadults).

LaTour, Ellen Picket, Big Bend, Miller, and Noble

- The Royston/Senapol 24 timber sale is complete. The sale harvested a total of 5.18 million board feet (MMBF) and removed 32,055 tons of biomass, generating \$377,274.64.

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- The Boucher Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) “Feller Buncher in the Watercourse Lake Protection Zone (WLPZ) study” has been completed. Staff from the Forest Practice Monitoring Program collected baseline data before the operations started. A total of 19 loads of chips of predominantly Lodgepole pine were removed from the meadow restoration on the north side of Atkins Creek. The Unit on the south side of the creek and nearby wet areas were not able to be operated due to winter setting in.
- On October 29, 2024, two Trinity County school groups attended the 2024 Capital Christmas Tree Harvest. Both groups received training on the purpose of a DSF, cone/tree identification, what tools foresters carry and what they should focus on if they think this is cool job that they might want to do when they grow up.
- On November 19, 2024, Forest Manager Jason Poburko participated in the Forestry Mentorship Program’s Job Application and Interview Workshop open to students looking to improve their resume development skills.

Mountain Home

- Forest Manager Jim Kral was a guest speaker at the California Forest Pest Council on November 13, 2024, at UC Davis. He discussed management strategies to protect old-growth giant sequoia as part of a panel of experts.
- Anthony Ambrose, Wendy Baxter, and others from Ancient Forest Legacy arrived on the forest to continue their research on bark beetles on November 6, 2024. They applied a systemic pesticide to one tree that was known to have giant sequoia bark beetle in it. This research is being closely watched by the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition as one of the first active treatments to control bark beetle in giant sequoia.

Soquel

- The local California Licensed Foresters Association group toured the forest on October 31, 2024, to discuss the recent Forest Health treatments, prescribed burn area, and several stream crossings within the Sulphur THP. There was much to discuss, and everyone appreciated a field visit as an alternative to the monthly breakfast meetings.
- Assistant Forest Manager Colin Noyes met with Santa Cruz Mountain Trail Stewardship and Santa Clara County staff on a tour to discuss single track mountain bike trails, e-bikes and trail planning to assist Santa Clara County Parks within their upcoming feasibility study focused on potentially adding more mountain bike trails to their trail system as well as conducting a study on e-bike use.
- Mushroom gathering permits were offered beginning on October 29, 2024, via the same online system used for the 2023-24 season. 113 permits have been issued so far, including an additional 262 people.

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- One Special Use Permit was issued for four mushroom foraging and identification workshop days that will bring in \$380 to Forest Resource Improvement Fund (FRIF).

Prescribed Fire and Environmental Protection Programs

Prescribed Fire

- There are currently 82 projects covering 10,823 acres enrolled in the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund.

Vegetation Management (VMP)

- The program has accomplished 15,850 acres of prescribed fire since July 1, 2024. This will vary from Cal Mapper reported numbers, as VMP numbers are only for VMP projects.

Environmental Protection

- There are currently six Good Neighbor Authority Agreements in various stages of development. Details will be reported when agreements are executed.

Cultural Resources

- Program staff conducted an archaeological refresher class at full capacity in the Redding area.

Wildfire Resilience Programs

Reforestation Services

- Program continues to solicit interest in seed and seedling orders through its online request portal. Private and non-federal public forest landowners can submit needs through the end of the calendar year.
- Seed processing operations continue steadily because of a banner cone collection year that brought in 4,630 bushels of cone primarily of ponderosa pine sources from the central and northern Sierra.
- The second of three rounds of seedling lifting will occur during the second week of December 2024 comprising, in total, nearly 300,000 containerized conifer seedlings for planting by landowners during the fall 2024-spring 2025 timeframe.
- A revised hardwood seedling price proposal has been developed to update previous fees last utilized by the program 25 years ago. The prices, quantities and analysis seek Board adoption at a future regular meeting.

California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)

- The California Forest Improvement Program October 2024 funding batch awarded grants to 14 new projects for a grant total of \$1.8 million. These grants put 1,410 acres under forest management plan and will result in 714 acres of on the ground treatment.

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- A new batch of project funding opens January 1, 2025, and program staff are anticipating at least a dozen additional project applications.

Forest Legacy (FLP)

- 2024 State Forest Legacy solicitation awarded funding to four new Forest Legacy Projects for a total of \$8.5 million. This brings the total number of Forest Legacy projects currently in development to 16.
- The United States Forest Service has announced the funding of the Arrowhead Ridge #2 Forest Legacy project. This small strategic tract project in San Bernardino County is funded by the Inflation Reduction Act.

Climate and Energy Programs

Wood Products & Bioenergy

- Staff hosted a quarterly coordination call between state agencies supporting forest biomass utilization on November 5, 2024. CAL FIRE, Board of Forestry, California Energy Commission, Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development (GO-Biz), Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (formerly Office of Planning & Research), California Public Utilities Commission, and California Department of Food & Agriculture were represented. Deputy Secretary Lisa Lien-Mager (CNRA) also attended.
- Staff presented information about our grant program at the San Mateo County Fire Safe Council Meeting on November 13, 2024, the event 'Biomass & Beyond: The Future of Our Forests and Working Lands Regional Meeting' in Folsom on November 20, 2024, and the Butte County Grants Workshop for Tribes on November 20, 2024.

Forest Health

- All three Regional Landscape Pilot grants have now been executed: County of Humboldt for the North Coast Resource Partnership (\$10M Forest Health), Great Basin Institute for the Healthy Eldorado Landscape Partnership (\$7M Forest Health), and the RCD of Greater San Diego County for the Southern California Wildfire Resilience Partnership (\$5M Forest Health/\$5M Wildfire Prevention).
- Forest Health Program opened their FY 24-25 Forest Health grant solicitation on November 13, 2024, with up to \$70 million available for grant projects. All applications will be due on January 15, 2025. Awards are scheduled to be announced in Spring 2025. For more information, please visit the Forest Health grant website at www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/grants/forest-health.

Climate Change

- Staff revamped and reorganized CAL FIRE's California Climate Investments reporting to the California Air Resources Board to ensure that more granular information is available to the Legislature and the public for the CAL FIRE programs that receive California Climate Investments funding.

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- Staff submitted a concurrence request to the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for use of a Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects for a Forest Health grant. This appears to be the first time CAL FIRE has used this "Cutting the Green Tape" tool for streamlining compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act.

Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force

- On December 13, 2024, the Task Force will host a meeting in Sacramento <https://wildfiredtaskforce.org/meetings/> that will highlight recent research guiding California's efforts to respond to increasing wildfire risks in a changing climate. The Task Force's Science Advisory Panel will provide key findings on reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire, impacts of wildfire to ecosystems and public health, post-fire restoration, and new technologies and innovations to accelerate progress toward resilience. These findings will help inform the Task Force's 2025 Action Plan. The meeting will also feature a preview of CAL FIRE's 2024 Forest and Rangelands Assessment. The meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the CNRA Auditorium, 715 P St., Sacramento (no registration necessary) and via Zoom (registration required).
- Task Force 2025 Meeting Dates:
 - March 27-28: Regional Meeting – Marin County
 - June 6: Sacramento, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 - September 4-5: Regional Meeting – TBD
 - December 12: Sacramento, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)

Forest Health Research Grants

- FRAP is currently soliciting concept proposals for the Forest Health Research Grant Program. Concept proposal applications closed on November 14, 2024. FRAP received 101 concept proposals. Awards are expected to total at least \$4 million. We anticipate awarding approximately 15 research grants in total.
- For additional information please see: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/Home/What-We-Do/Grants/Forest-health-research-program>

Forest and Rangeland Assessment

- FRAP continues to make progress on the update to the Forest and Rangeland Assessment report. Of the 13 chapters in the report, 6 are now fully developed and either submitted or through the external review stage.
- FRAP has been asked to give a short presentation on the Forest and Range Assessment at the WFR Task Force meeting on December 13, 2024.

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Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA)

- There are three contractors working throughout the state and the 2024 field season concluded on November 15, 2024. We are at approximately 97% of completion of plots with access granted, or 83% of all plots.
- Through FIA Intensification, California is moving from a 10-year to a 5-year remeasurement cycle. Though we haven't yet fully achieved 5-yr intensification, we are at about 6-7 years on re-measurement. This is better than much of the country which is at 12-13 years due to several challenges the FIA program has been facing in recent years.
- In 2025, we will move to sub-panel sampling system like other United States Forest Service (USFS) regions where state-partnered intensification occurs. This provides more flexibility to better match overall data collection capacity depending on fluctuations in staff or budgets while still providing a statistically robust estimate of forest conditions.
- This is a dynamic program that requires flexibility between CAL FIRE and the United States Forest Service- Pacific Northwest Region (USFS-PNW) depending on the resources available each year. Other efforts to bring more flexibility to the program are underway such as initiating a new agreement with USFS-PNW to receive funds to pay for field data collection through CAL FIRE data collection contractors. This leverages funding USFS-PNW has available for specific actions and indirectly supplements in-kind work contributed by CAL FIRE staff to support the program.

Prescribed Fire Monitoring

- Significant prescribed fire monitoring achievements occurred this fall with Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit (TCU) in the South Grove Natural Preserve at Calaveras Big Trees State Park.
- Through a UC Climate Action Grant - CAL FIRE partnership with UC San Diego is underway to support fire and fuels monitoring and burn planning through their BurnPro 3D platform.
- The research partnership with Chico State University at the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve (BCCER) is already actively assessing impacts from the 2024 Park Fire. BCCER remains committed to prescribed fire and offers a data rich environment to monitor treatment effects, wildfire resilience, and ecocultural stewardship in mixed oak woodland systems.

Spatial Data

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- High resolution imagery (15 cm) statewide coverage for 2024 is expected to be released and available to CAL FIRE by the Hexagon Contractor by the end of the calendar year, 2 months ahead of schedule.
 - The California Technology Agency and State Geographic Information Office (GIO) hosted "Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Day" – a state government event on November 21, 2024. CAL FIRE programs were well represented with several speakers participating in presentations. Themes include the use of GIS to enhance cross-departmental collaboration, situational awareness, and strategic planning.

Risk Modeling

- Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) Modeling for Local Responsibility Area (LRA) has been completed with review edits confirmed. Final Model outputs are under quality assurance review and are on target for December data finalization. The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) and FRAP staff are working on map and web products needed for LRA outreach and data delivery.

Fire Effects and Forest Monitoring Research

- Initial research scoping discussions with UC Berkeley Center for Forestry on extension of the current research contract have been initiated. Topics under consideration include working to develop a Federated Data Collection, Library, and Analytics package for field data on forest condition. Pilot areas include Blodgett Forest Research Station, Mountain Home Demonstration Forest, and Latour Demonstration Forest. Other research topics under consideration for development include prescribed fire in coastal pygmy forest ecosystems, expanded research into Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Cultural Burning, and new Internation.

Fire Protection

Fire Protection Program

Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery

- Through November 2024, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers have made 267 arrests and issued 682 citations. 140 of these arrests are for Arson.
- In FY 2024-25, approximately \$1.9 million in suppression costs have been collected by Civil Cost Recovery.

Fire Protection Operations

- On November 11, 2024, CAL FIRE began installing Automated Vehicle Locating (AVL) 2.0 hardware & software into emergency response vehicles in the San Diego Unit to replace the AVL 1.0 system that was previously installed. The AVL

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2.0 system provides improved speed and locating abilities utilizing cellular, radio (VHF), and satellite connectivity for more effective resource coordination. These installs will continue until all 21 CAL FIRE units are completed.

- In 2024, CAL FIRE Incident Management Teams (IMTs) have been deployed 16 times to 13 separate incidents.
- On December 4 - 5, 2024, CAL FIRE Incident Management Teams (IMT) Incident Commanders along with the California Wildland Coordinating Group (CWCG) IMT Incident Commanders met to conduct an after-action-review on this past summer fires, specifically to cover areas of cooperative success and any areas where improvement is needed during co-managed incidents.

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

- All Exclusive Use contracted aircraft have been released for the year. CAL FIRE aircraft are cycling into their annual maintenance periods, with five helicopters and seven fix-wing remaining staffed throughout the winter period. Helicopters will remain staffed at Vina, Alma, Hollister, Prado and Hemet. Fix-wing will remain staffed at Hemet, Ramona and McClellan

Cooperative Fire Protection

State/Federal/International Programs

- CAL FIRE will attend Chile California Council, an event hosted by the California Chile Council in Santiago, Chile. Chief Deputy Director/California State Fire Marshal Daniel Berlant, Deputy Director Helen Lopez, and Assistant Deputy Director Nathan Barclay will attend as representatives of CAL FIRE to continue discussions with the California Chile Council and Chile National Forestry Corporation (CONAF). These discussions aim to establish a broad framework for cooperation and support to enhance emergency response; reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience to wildfires; and build upon a solid foundation that enhances initiatives in wildfire management, prevention, and fire resource assessments. This effort coincides with renewed interest on the expired Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with formal meetings and collaboration to occur on December 9 and 10, 2024, in Santiago, Chile.
- CAL FIRE Riverside Unit hosted the USFS and their delegation of six from Algeria. The USFS and their International program toured two Riverside County Fire Stations, Southern Operations Command Center, and Hemet Ryan Air Base. The goal was to emphasize the cooperative efforts that are established within the CAL FIRE Riverside Unit and CAL FIRE - California fire service as a whole.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is under revision between the United States of America, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), Department of the Interior and the State of California, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The BOR has multiple water resource management projects for purposes such as irrigation, flood control, and electricity generation. Considering

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the need to protect these facilities and public lands from wildfires, Reclamation aims to manage its lands effectively to mitigate fire risks but lacks sufficient staff and resources to do so. Given that many of these lands are adjacent to private and State properties, a partnership with CAL FIRE is the most effective and efficient way of meeting this need. This collaboration focuses on implementing Pre-fire Management activities on Reclamation lands, providing mutual benefits in reducing wildfire occurrence and severity. (In pursuance of the Reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, and Reciprocal Fire Protection Act of May 27, 1955).

- An MOU is being developed between the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and CAL FIRE to enhance emergency response and resilience against wildfire threats while promoting sustainable management of California's natural resources. This MOU establishes a collaborative framework between both agencies. The agreement outlines the joint mission of the Participants to safeguard communities and improve wildfire management and prevention efforts through the exchange of expertise in operational response, disaster risk, technology, community awareness, and research. Key objectives include strengthening wildfire response capacity, promoting prevention initiatives, coordinating flood emergency responses, and ensuring effective management of multi-agency responses during natural disasters through established systems like the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the Incident Command System (ICS), recognizing the necessity for coordination between the agencies in managing their respective responsibilities.

Hand Crew Program

- CAL FIRE continues to experience a fluctuating number of available CAL FIRE Type I Hand Crews statewide. As of November 27, 2024, 142 of 236 CAL FIRE Hand Crews are staffed and available for statewide response. The number of available Hand Crews significantly impacts wildland fire suppression, conservation work, prescribed fire activities, and fuels reduction work. The available Type I crews include the following Hand Crew Models: 66 of 152 authorized California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Incarcerated Persons Hand Crews, 29 of 32 California Conservation Corps (CCC) Hand Crews, 13 of 14 California Military Department (CMD) Hand Crews, and 34 of 38 CAL FIRE Firefighter I (FFI) Hand Crews. Hand crew numbers may fluctuate due to staffing and crew typing certifications.
- The hand crew program to date has provided 4,130,567 hours assigned to emergency incidents. This includes the CDCR, CCC, CMD, and CAL FIRE FFI Hand Crew models.
- CAL FIRE hand crew program has a request from Germany to attend and audit the hand crew supervisor training. We will continue to coordinate the details to support this request.

Safety/EMS Program

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Safety Program

- The Safety Program attended the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) public hearing on the proposed Emergency Response standard. The standard is proposing to adopt many National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards which will have a significant impact on fire and emergency services across the country.
- CAL FIRE led by the Safety Program will be moving forward with new software to track over 200,000 PPE items electronically as required by the 2024 OSHA regulations for employers and PPE use and care.

EMS Program

- CAL FIRE's Medical Director, Dr. Brett Rosen, attended the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) EMS Committee meeting in Boise October 30-31, 2024. This is the first time a CAL FIRE representative has attended and resulted in great collaboration with our federal partners.
- Deputy Chief Jared Andrade has been named the vice-chair of the FIRESCOPE EMS Subcommittee effective January 1, 2025. In this role he will be able to further relationships and processes to keep personnel safe, current with EMS policies, and aware of potential impacts to CAL FIRE.

Training Program

Statewide Training

- The Training Officers Conference was November 4 to 8, 2024, at the Natomas Training Center, with over 110 attendees and participants.

CAL FIRE Training Centers

- 2024 Company Officer Academy (COA) students graduated is 514, with current Firefighter Academy (FFA) students continuing into COA in January 2025 for 80 additional trained Company Officers, for a total of **594**.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Utility Wildfire Mitigation

- There have been 19 PSPS events this year. Several PSPS and red flag events were completed before recent precipitation storms across the state.
- Group1 (SCE, BVES, SDGE, PGE) Wildfire Mitigation Plans (WMP) have been completed and published.
- Group 2 WMPs (Liberty, LS Power, Horizon West, Trans Bay Cable) are set to be finalized and published by 12/31/24.

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- Staff had successful PRC 4292 and 4293 training with OEIS at Lone Training Center.
- **Wildfire Preparedness**
- Burn Permit - Application has become such a success some Air Resources boards have joined our application process, which allows us to streamline their permit process with ours. This is a great opportunity to continue our outreach to encompass all the ARB to use our application.
 - YTD Permits Issued – 73,360
 - Permits issued since May 1, 2023: 137,056
 - Damage Inspections performed in 2024: 7,379

Defensible Space

- Qualified Entity Program continues to draw interest around the state.
- Next class is scheduled in Ventura County for the month of December 2024.
- Four CAL FIRE Units are coordinating future classes beginning next year.
- **Inspection Totals**
 - Fiscal Year 2024-2025: 134,582
 - Year to Date: 282,826

Home Hardening

- CAL FIRE staff continue to support the California Wildfire Mitigation Program with technical assistance with recommended retrofits and associated standards. Home Hardening and Defensible space work is ongoing in Kelseyville Riviera in Lake County, Dulzura in San Diego County, West Mount Shasta in Siskiyou County and defensible space work is expected to begin in Whitmore in Shasta County.
- CAL FIRE staff released a beta version 2.0 assessment application for the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP) and is now working on the application report.

Wildfire Planning and Statistics

- Wildfire Planning
 - Held annual Fire Plan Workshop in November 2024 with over 60 attendees from CAL FIRE Units, Region and Program.
 - 5 Year SRA Review Level 4 occurred on Friday, December 6, 2024.
 - Fuels Treatment Effectiveness (FTE) public dashboard is available on the CAL FIRE website.
- CalMAPPER

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- Finished quarterly quality assurance report (QA/QC) on Fiscal Year (FY) fuels reduction.
 - Completing a Cal MAPPER Version 4 implementation plan for July 2025.
 - Statistics
 - Attending the International Chiefs Technology Summit and Fire Data Analysis Working Group Meeting. This meeting will have pertinent information for the NERIS transition in 2025.

Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance (CWMA)

- Land Use Planning
 - Safety Element Assessments
 - Cities of Glendora, Ventura, Camarillo, and La Verne have been formally submitted for Final Review to the Board and our staff and are on the December RPC Meeting agenda.
 - Subdivision Review
 - 17 Subdivision Fire Safety Surveys are on the December RPC Meeting Agenda – all 17 are from Siskiyou County.
 - There are 62 jurisdictions remaining (out of 247 total) that need Fire Safety Surveys completed. (4 Counties and 58 Cities).
 - NFPA Firewise USA
 - Very close to 1000 communities in good standing, announcement will come soon
 - Annual renewals began week of 12/2Land Use Planning for Wildfire in California Class
 - Scheduled four class dates in February of 2025
 - 2/11/2025 – Chino
 - 2/13/2025 – Newbury Park (Ventura Co.)
 - 2/25/2025 – Santa Rosa
 - 2/27/2025 – Chico
 - More information will be available soon at:
<https://www.communitywildfire.org/trainings/>
 - Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance (CWMA) Statewide Clearinghouse Data Center
 - Hosts a wide array of documents, research articles, best practices, and other critical resources.

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- Each submission has undergone thorough review to ensure its relevance and value to wildfire preparedness, mitigation, and risk reduction.
- <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/Community-Wildfire-Preparedness-and-Mitigation/Clearinghouse-Data-Center>
- Wildfire Prevention Grants
 - FY 2023-24 Wildfire Prevention Grants Award Notification on August 20, 2024
 - 94 Awards totaling just over \$90 million
 - Info is posted on the Wildfire Prevention Grants Website, and the CA State Library Grants Portal.
 - Grant agreements have been sent out. We anticipate all agreements to be executed by end of January 2025.
 - Beta testing for the new solicitation software from Euna Solutions has begun and will go through 2025.

Communications

Statistics

- Total Incident Responses for 2024: 555,349
- California has experienced 12 new wildfires since the last report on November 25, 2024, 9 were within CAL FIRE’s jurisdiction.

Interval	Fires	Acres
2024 Combined YTD (CALFIRE & Federal) *	7,830	1,045,204
2023 Combined YTD (CALFIRE & Federal)	6,607	308,890
5-Year Average (same interval)	7,445	1,393,548

Education and Safety Messaging

- In the runup to Christmas, messaging shifts towards home and cooking safety as well as winter safety information.

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Program and Project Messaging

- Throughout December several new Grants at Work videos will be released highlighting the valuable work that CAL FIRE's grantee partners are doing to build wildfire resilience, protect communities, and expand the pace and scale of business and workforce development in California.
- From Tuesday, December 10, to Thursday, December 12, 2024, Communications program staff will attend the 2024 California Resource Conservation District Annual Conference in Sacramento. The conference is an opportunity to meet many of CAL FIRE's partners as well as highlight the valuable work that CAL FIRE is supporting with Resource Conservation Districts across the state.
- The Communications Program will continue to highlight Vegetation Management Projects across the state and educate the public on the value of this work.

Tribal Affairs Program

Tribal Affairs Program

- CAL FIRE has made it a priority for over 300 staff including the executive team and other high-level positions to take the Tribal Consultation Training by December 31, 2024, as required by CalHR.

Tribal Wildfire Resilience

- Tribal Wildfire Resilience is preparing to open a grant solicitation this winter with up to \$5 million total available. We plan to post draft grant guidelines for public comment in December and have applications due in March. This grant funds tribal projects in planning, implementation, and workforce development related to wildfire resilience and traditional ecological knowledge.

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through December 03, 2024

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2023		2024	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(b) (03/2019)	10 Percent Dead, Dying Diseased, Fuelwood, or Woody Debris v2019	Cascade (Redding)	149	919,146	151	865,386
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	81	459,292	56	436,398
		Riverside (South)	1	240	1	250
		Sierra (Fresno)	28	27,591	35	40,903
		Totals	259	1,406,269	243	1,342,937
1038(a)&(b)	10% Dead, Dying or Diseased Fuelwood or Split Products	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038.6 (03/2019)	Butte Post Fire Recovery	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038(a) (03/2019)	Christmas Trees	Cascade (Redding)	22	287,766	19	253,369
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	3	8,953	4	8,872
		Totals	25	296,719	23	262,241
1038(k)	Drought Mortality	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
	Drought Mortality and Unmerchantable Sawlog v2019	Cascade (Redding)	65	36,910	50	11,353
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	6	145	1	245
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	20	1,198	11	143
		Totals	91	38,253	62	11,741
1038(j)	Forest Fire Prevention PILOT Project	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038(i)	Forest Fire Prevention Project	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through December 03, 2024

Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2023		2024	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038.3 (03/2019)	Forest Fire Prevention v2019	Cascade (Redding)	17	1,280	27	2,960
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	37	2,246	26	1,637
		Riverside (South)	1	269	1	191
		Sierra (Fresno)			3	41
		Totals	55	3,795	57	4,829
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Cascade (Redding)	66	103	52	69
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	53	113	30	68
		Riverside (South)	1	1	1	1
		Sierra (Fresno)	8	9	11	15
		Totals	128	226	94	153
1038(l)	Oak Woodland Management (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038(e) (03/2019)	Oak Woodland Management v2019	Cascade (Redding)	1	100		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	30	956	24	1,287
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	31	1,056	24	1,287
1038(m)	Post Fire Recovery (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038.5 (03/2019)	Post Fire Recovery v2019	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
	Post Fire Recovery v2020	Cascade (Redding)	15	45	2	10
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	5	9	4	9
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	5	1	29
		Totals	21	59	7	48
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Cascade (Redding)	16	5,862	16	7,198
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	26	591	14	198
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	14	3,847	11	13,478
		Totals	56	10,300	41	20,874

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
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Rule	Type of Exemption	Admin Area	2023		2024	
			Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
1038(f) (03/2019)	Small Timberland Owner	Cascade (Redding)	2	50		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	2	50	0	0
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038(c) (03/2019)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet) v2019	Cascade (Redding)	114	701	140	283
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	137	306	119	264
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	11	30	7	15
		Totals	262	1,037	266	562
1038(c)(6)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) Includes exemptions previously submitted with both 0-150ft and 150-300ft options	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
1038(c)(6) (03/2019)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) v2019	Cascade (Redding)	5	16	8	37
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	33	137	19	62
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			2	11
		Totals	38	153	29	110
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	968	1,757,917	846	1,644,782

Type of 1052 Emergency Notice		2023		2024						
		Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres				
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Cascade (Redding)	93	26,252	86	31,442				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	36	2,525	27	1,886				
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)	27	5,308	4	600				
		Totals	156	34,085	117	33,928				
<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)	5	1,743	13	3,397		
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	2	385	1	272		
				Riverside (South)						
				Sierra (Fresno)	2	191	1	510		
				Totals	9	2,319	15	4,179		
				Fire		Cascade (Redding)	87	24,591	72	28,761
						Coast (Santa Rosa)	26	1,904	23	1,576
						Riverside (South)				
						Sierra (Fresno)	5	1,057	3	595
						Totals	118	27,553	98	30,932
				Insects		Cascade (Redding)	9	2,622	25	6,367
						Coast (Santa Rosa)	2	297	2	584
						Riverside (South)				
				Sierra (Fresno)	2	191	3	570		
				Totals	13	3,110	30	7,521		
		*Others		Cascade (Redding)	116	31,883	145	47,203		
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	61	4,988	50	5,500		
				Riverside (South)						
				Sierra (Fresno)	6	600	11	1,240		
				Totals	183	37,472	206	53,943		
Fuel Hazard Reduction (RM65)		Cascade (Redding)	8	833	5	880				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			3	53				
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	3	6	306				
		Totals	9	836	14	1,239				
Fuel Hazard Reduction		Cascade (Redding)								
		Coast (Santa Rosa)								
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)								
		Totals	0	0	0	0				
Sudden Oak Death Disease		Cascade (Redding)								
		Coast (Santa Rosa)								
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)								
		Totals	0	0	0	0				

CALENDAR YEAR 2024
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH December 03, 2024

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	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
THPs Received	120	129	39	53	0	0	8	11	167	193
THPs Returned	55	66	18	27	0	0	3	5	76	98
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	106	123	37	42	0	0	9	9	152	174
THPs with NON-Concurrence	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
THPs Approved	100	127	38	45	0	0	5	9	143	181
THP Approved Acres	26,788	29,479	18,881	33,397	0	0	2,488	4,933	48,157	67,809

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
NTMPs Received	9	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	10	8
NTMPs Returned	7	5	1	1	0	0	0	0	8	6
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	7	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	8	7
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	7	5	0	1	0	0	1	0	8	6
NTMP Approved Acres	1,110	1,057	0	1,397	0	0	105	0	1,215	2,454
NTMPs with NON-Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTOs Received	75	79	12	16	0	0	1	1	88	96

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
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 2024
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH December 03, 2024**

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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