



Director’s Report to the Board of Forestry

715 P Street

Sacramento, California

January 23-24, 2024



Resource Management

Forest Practice Program

Watershed Protection Program

- The Exemption/Emergency Monitoring Crew has completed 54 percent of the monitoring site samples for the 1038(d) Drought Mortality Exemption. Additional field samples have been scheduled for the month of February 2024. The program expects to complete the sampling and prepare the Exemption Monitoring Report by summer of 2024.
- On December 12, 2023, program staff led the first meeting of the Monitoring Working Group, which seeks to establish common principles for the design and implementation of monitoring programs between the various CAL FIRE Resource Management Programs.
- On December 20, 2023, program staff presented a talk entitled, “Hillslope Runoff and Sediment Production After Wildfire and Post-Fire Forest Management on the Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest, Lake County” to the State Water Resources Control Board Wildfire and Forest Resiliency Roundtable Meeting.

Forest Practice Enforcement and Timber Operator Licensing (LTO)

- The CAL FIRE Information Technology Research Development and Innovation Program has automated the LTO Training Class certificate issuance process. It is expected this new application will decrease the time interval between student training completion and certificate receipt and save the LTO Program Coordinator several hours of data entry and mail processing.
- The LTO Program is moving ahead with a zero-dollar contract for online credit and debit card payment for LTO licensing renewals and new applications. This change is expected to provide expedited payment options for the public and a more efficient process for the Department.

The following tables summarize LTO and Enforcement activities since the last report:

Table 1: Forest Practice Civil Penalty Collection

Case Status	# of Cases	Amount Collected	Total Amount Due
Adjudicated	27	\$139,250	\$400,800
Default	69	\$343,450	\$1,165,626
Paid per CPO	21	\$174,000	\$174,000
Settled	110	\$876,455	\$942,255
Totals	227	\$1,533,155	\$2,682,681



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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)).

Table 2: LTO License Status

Table 3: Civil Penalties Case Status

Status	#	Status	# of Cases
New Applications Rec’d	51	Under Review	3
Renewal Applications Rec’d	360	Developed for Signature	3
New Licenses Issued	22	CPO Signed, Mailed, Served	17
Licenses Renewed	323	Hearing(s) to be Scheduled	3
Incomplete Applications Rec’d	37	Settlement Mitigation	6
Applications Returned	23	Payments	19
Refunds Issued	5	Probation	3
Insurance Certificates Rec’d	101	Judgement Needed/Granted	38
		Default/Final Order	17
Total Active Licenses	1,145	Total	109

Resource Protection and Improvement Program

Urban and Community Forestry

- California will host the Council of Western State Foresters, Urban Forestry Coordinators annual meeting in Sacramento from February 27-29, 2024.
- Green Schoolyards grant agreements were delivered to 29 applicants which will allow activities on approximately 180 K-12 public school campuses statewide. Green Schoolyards Childcare Facilities grant applications have been evaluated and awards are in process.

Forest Entomology and Pathology Program

- The disease ghost canker of pines has been found in more areas of southern California outside of Orange County. The disease is caused by the fungi *Neofusicoccum mediterraneum* and *N. parvum*. The fungi are known to cause diseases in in grapes and fruit trees but had never before been found in pines. Staff will be surveying to determine the extent of the disease.
- Invasive shot hole borers were found in traps in the City of San Jose. Further surveys found infested sycamore trees in the area and at a site within a mile radius. Surveys found at least 12 infested sycamores including at least two that appear to be acting as “amplifier” trees. “Amplifier” trees produce very high



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numbers of beetles to spread to other potential host trees. Samples were collected for DNA analysis to determine the exact species involved. This is the first find of the pest in northern California. A group is forming to work on control and, hopefully, eradication of the infestation.

Forest Biometrics Program

- Stand level information was provided to Lewis A. Moran Reforestation Center for the seed orchard project on a new demonstration state forest (DSF) in the Shasta-Trinity Unit.
- Staff completed the analysis of Timber Atlas Inventory data for Noble DSF and is working on the analysis of Timber Atlas Inventory for Miller DSF, both located in the Shasta -Trinity Unit.

Demonstration State Forests

Sawmill

- The San Bernardino Unit has completed the Sawmill Demonstration State Forest Vegetation Treatment Project (Cal VTP) to conduct 30 acres of prescribed burning, 90 acres of mechanical treatment, 30 acres of manual treatment, and 40 acres of herbicide application under the Wildland-Urban Interface Fuel Reduction Treatment Type. Treatments are expected to begin in early 2024.

Jackson

- Mastication work continues on the Fire Fuels Mitigation Research Project. Two contracted crews, Iron Response and T. Bloyd Excavating, are simultaneously working on the twelve mastication units.
- Recreation Program Manager Erik Wahl continues to assess pygmy forest habitat with State Parks staff for restoration, including introduction of beneficial fire. Consultations with Fish & Wildlife are being scheduled to determine eligibility for the project to fall within the recent addition to PRC Section 21080.56, providing a new Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects (SERP), part of CDFW's "Cutting the Green Tape" Program.
- Slash pile burning continued on the Red Tail and Chamberlain Confluence THPs. Approximately 40 piles were burned this season.
- Work continues on the Camp One THP, AMEX THP, Pyro silviculture THP, and Emergency Notice for Fuel Hazard Reduction and Forest Fire Prevention Exemptions.
- During the weeks of November 6 and 13, 2023, local reforestation contractor Vasquez Reforestation completed approximately 23 acres of precommercial thinning in the Water Gulch THP group openings.



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Prescribed Fire and Environmental Protection Program

Prescribed Fire Program

- Prescribed fire and fuel reduction projects continue to be accomplished taking advantage of the good weather and vegetation conditions. Currently the [Interagency Treatment](#) Tracker has 96,463 acres completed for prescribed fire from all of the cooperating agencies. CAL FIRE is reporting 40,205 acres of combined fuel reduction with 20,475 acres of prescribed fire.

Vegetation Management Program

- The Vegetation Management Program continues to use the two programmatic Environmental Impact Reports, the California Vegetation Treatment Program (Cal VTP) and the Chaparral Management Plan (CMP) and other CEQA documents for fuel reduction projects. CAL FIRE has updated the CEQA website to be in compliance with Public Resources Code Section 4137 and the CEQA documents may be found at [CAL FIRE CEQA Documents](#) link.

Environmental Protection Program

- The next 5-day CLFA Archaeological course will be offered in March 2024 and the class is already full.

Tribal Affairs Program

- CAL FIRE held interviews for a Tribal Affairs Deputy Director position. Look for an announcement in next month's report.

Cultural Resources Program

- There are two Senior Environmental Scientist positions for Cultural Resources that are in the final stages of hiring. Look for an announcement in next month's report.

Wildfire Resilience Program

Reforestation Services Program

- 257,613 conifer seedlings have been grown for Reforestation Center clients. In addition, approximately 25,000 excess seedlings are now available.
- The Statewide Reforestation Coordinator joined the first meeting of the newly formed CAL FIRE Monitoring Working Group, which is working on developing standards specific to evaluation of seedling plantings unrelated to the Forest Practice Rules.
- The seed bank acquired 126.23 pounds of processed seeds from a total of 210 bushels of cones collected Statewide this season. Next season is expected to have a much larger cone crop.



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California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)

- CFIP closed 2023 with 132 open grants. Of these:
 - 83 new grants funded in 2023.
 - 49 grants were still open from prior years.
 - For the 83 new grants funded in 2023, \$8 million was encumbered to accomplish the following:
 - 14,802 acres contracted for management plans.
 - 3,573 acres contracted for reforestation and forest health treatments.
- CFIP continues to fund individual projects, with ongoing application selection happening every two months.

Forest Stewardship

- \$500 thousand in grant funding was allocated by the Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee / California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (Joint Committee). This funding was provided by CAL FIRE for small capacity grants and to allow the Joint Forestry Committee to have direct input on selecting small state grants.
 - 10 grants were awarded in December 2023 and grant agreements are being completed now.
- Staff are completing the final steps to launch a new solicitation to award \$8 million dollars in Wildfire Resilience Block Grants. This will allow local entities to craft a program of technical and financial assistance in a way that is tailored for their region.

Forest Legacy Program (FLP)

- Program staff are continuing to advance existing projects and working with CAL FIRE's Grants Management Unit to complete the grant agreements from the 2023 Forest Legacy solicitation.
- No new Forest Legacy solicitations are anticipated in 2024.

Climate and Energy Program

Wood Products & Bioenergy

- The Program opened a new solicitation for Business and Workforce Development Grants on January 16, 2024. Applications will be accepted until March 8, 2024, and there are up to \$20 million in funds (GGRF) available to award. This followed a one-week public comment period on the draft grant guidelines in early January 2024.



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- Participated as a panelist at the California Energy Commission's Climate Innovation Program Forests and Agriculture Workshop on December 12, 2023.

Forest Health

- Forest Health closed its FY 2023-2024 solicitation on January 15, 2024. Some preliminary results:
 - Received 66 applications, including 56 standard Forest Health grants and 10 for the pool of funds available for Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration
 - Total funding requested: \$329,725,784 for Forest Health (\$120M available to award) and \$57,662,271 for Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration (\$50M available)
 - Geographic distribution of applications:
 - North Region (53): AEU – 7; BTU – 1; CZU – 3; HUU – 5; LMU – 11; LNU – 3; MEU – 4; MRN – 1; NEU – 4; SHU – 3; SKU – 5; TGU – 6
 - South Region (13): BDU – 1; FKU – 1; KRN – 1; MMU – 5; SLU – 1; TCU – 2; TUU – 2
- Forest Health program executed a grant agreement with Humboldt County for a \$10 million regional pilot supporting the North Coast Resource Partnership. Work continues toward grant agreements for regional pilot awards in the Sierra Nevada and Southern California regions.

Climate Change

- Submitted California Climate Investments end-of-year reporting on Forest Health and Forest Carbon Plan implementation (including Fuels Reduction Crew projects) to the California Air Resources Board.
- Submitted project profiles for two Forest Health projects to the California Air Resources Board to be published as part of the next California Climate Investments Annual Report.
- Provided information to Environmental Protection staff to meet year-end environmental compliance reporting requirements under Public Resources Code Section 4137.
- Began engaging with the California Natural Resources Agency and partner agencies to revise California's Natural and Working Lands Climate Smart Strategy, per AB 1757.

Tribal Wildfire Resilience

- A Tribal Wildfire Resilience grant solicitation is under development for Spring 2024. Tentatively, applications will be due in late spring. Program staff are



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working with California Natural Resources Agency Assistant Secretary Geneva Thompson on the solicitation updates and timeline.

- Awarded proposals from the previous Tribal Wildfire grant solicitation continue to move toward finalized grant agreements.
- Program staff attended the Association for Fire Ecology Congress and met with existing and potential grantees and attended presentations about fire ecology and cultural land management.

Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force

- A [public workshop](#) will be held on February 9, 2024, to gather feedback on a list of proposed Core Metrics that will be used to track and report progress toward resilient landscapes.
- A [recording and recap of the Dec. 15, 2023](#) meeting is available.
- 2024 [Task Force Meeting Schedule](#):
 - April 4 - 5, 2024 – Southern CA Regional
 - June 20, 2024 – Sacramento (1:00 – 4:00 p.m.)
 - Sept 26 - 27, 2024 – Sierra Regional
 - Dec. 13, 2024 – Sacramento (9:30 – 12:00 p.m.)
- The [Task Force's January 2024 monthly update](#) is available on the Task Force website.

Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)

Forest Health Research Grants

- CAL FIRE (FRAP) has released our next Forest Health Research Grant solicitation. The solicitation is open for concept proposals until January 31, 2024. Up to \$4.5 million dollars from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund will be awarded from this solicitation. Research proposals from this solicitation will lead to scientifically rigorous studies that help us evaluate climate impacts on forests and understand the effectiveness of management actions designed to promote wildfire resilience. The open solicitation can be found at https://gn.ecivis.com/GO/gn_redir/T/wb0bgrw0acml.

Wildfire Science

- CAL FIRE's Board Representative attended a San Jose State University's Business and Industry Agreement meeting for wildfire science research group in mid-January 2024. This is a National Science Foundation sponsored arrangement where members vote to support short-term research projects.



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- FRAP gave a presentation for the National Institute for Science and Technology/ NIST/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/American Society of Civil Engineers Workshop Series: Leading Practices for Use of Climate Projections in Community Resilience Planning and Design of Buildings and Infrastructure.
- FRAP organized a research and monitoring workshop at a Fire Ecology workshop (AFE) in December; over 80 attendees. Program staff are working on a white paper to summarize the workshop findings.

Forest and Rangeland Assessment

- FRAP is targeting the second quarter of 2024 for completion and public release. Expect draft chapters to be completed by end of January.

Adaptive Management Experiments (AMEX)

- A prescribed burn was conducted on our AMEX site at LaTour. That completes the implementation of the experiment at that site.
- A 3-year maintenance agreement has been executed for AMEX.

Fire Protection

Fire Protection Program

Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery

- In 2023, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement officers made a total of 248 arrests and issued 544 citations.
 - Of the total arrests, 111 were for Arson.
- In fiscal year 23/24, \$74.7 million has been collected by Civil Cost Recovery.

Fire Protection Operations

- There are seven CAL FIRE personnel that have passed the S590 Fire Behavior Analyst pre-test, this is the most we have sent at one time, nationally 35 passed the exam

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

- NSW Rural Fire Service requested assistance with airspace management strategies in response to fire activity and complexities experienced in October and November. Collaboration occurring through a series of virtual meetings
- Five flight crew personnel from Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control (DFPC) are attending S70i Front Seat Initial training between January 22 and February 9, 2024.



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- State of California has taken ownership of seven C-130H aircraft, allowing for CAL FIRE (AMU) to take lead on the next phase in the process, which is installation of the retardant delivery systems. AMU is in the process of acquiring the tanks

Mobile Equipment Program

- Working to complete the 2024/25 Fleet Acquisition Plan by March 2024.

Cooperative Fire Protection

Local Government Program

- The Local Government Program transitioned the four 2024 Local Government Workshops from in-person to virtual. This was done in effort to reduce expenditures as requested by the Department of Finance Budget Letter. This modified workshop will provide guidance on cooperative fire protection agreements, policy updates related to agreement staffing requirements, and reconciling employee/agreement billing.

State/Federal Programs

- The State, Federal, and International Program drafted an Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) Policy (8514) which was presented to the CAL FIRE Department Leadership Team. This updated policy covers the new EMAC Policy giving direction on ordering/receiving equipment, billing, and paying invoices from other states.

Hand Crew Program

- The Hand Crew Program transitioned the 2024 Hand Crew Workshop from in-person to virtual to reduce expenditures as requested by the Department of Finance Budget Letter. To meet the intent of the in-person workshop, the Hand Crew Program has been working with cooperators, developing a virtual conference scripting and efficient delivery method based on original in-person agenda items. The goal is to limit the amount of time online while still providing essential information sharing.

Safety/EMS Program

Safety Program

- The Wildland Firefighting Protective Ensemble Specification has been updated and distributed to all employees. The updates include removing the fire resistant additive from the silkscreen ink and moving the responsibility for the inmate firefighter orange silk screening to Salt Creek and Cuesta Camps due to the changes at CalPIA.



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- Several Temporary Directives are under development to address PPE care and maintenance while the corresponding policies are in the approval process.
- The Safety Program is working to define rain and cold weather gear as PPE in policy. These policies are in the approval process. This project will identify a specification for these items to make the purchasing process standardized. The Business Services Office (BSO) and Uniform Advisory Committee (UAC) are engaged with Safety in these discussions.
- Due to the concerns of Lithium-Ion batteries and the ability to properly clean PPE after these incidents, the Safety Program is creating a contract for CO2 PPE cleaning. This contract will allow the Department to utilize these services soon and this request is being expedited by BSO. This contract is anticipated to be in place by March. Thank you to BSO for their assistance in helping Safety explore options for this unique service with limited vendors while understanding the immediate need for this capability.
- The annual vehicle accident statistics forms (ME-60) are currently being completed by the Units/Programs and routed to the Safety Program for creation of the annual report. This year's report will be different than past years due to the changes in the vehicle accident report process which includes a distinction between accidents and incidents.
- Facility IIPP binders are undergoing their annual review. An updated Covid Prevention Plan was recently sent out due to regulatory changes.

EMS Program

- The EMS Program has begun building the "test site" for the integration of CALFIRS and CALePCR. This test site will allow the Program to validate the interoperability of the two programs and the planned upgrades. The Unit EMS Coordinators have been asked for information to aid in the gathering process.
- Handbook 7243, Burn Injuries and Treatment, has been updated. The biggest change is the addition of 20CRW which is 20 minutes of cool running water in the first three hours. We are one of the first departments in the nation to implement this new procedure for the treatment of burns to our employees. Program will host several Teams meetings for the field on the new policy.

Statewide Training Program

- Effective February 5, 2024, Staff Chief Catherine (Cat) Frazer will have oversight of the Training Program, which includes Statewide Training and the CAL FIRE Training Centers.
- On January 1, 2024, Andrew Kibby was promoted to Statewide Training as an Assistant Chief with responsibility for Statewide training courses involving



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Command and Control Staff positions. Chief Kibby previously held the position of Battalion Chief, Training Bureau, Riverside Unit.

- Statewide Training is currently planning to provide approximately one hundred courses in 2024, including five sets of Continued Professional Training (CPTs) to cover Basic Fire Protection Knowledge and Skills Examinations annual required training.

Academy Training Program

- In the last two months of 2023, Battalion Chief Mike Weidner, Fire Captain Rob Engel, and Assistant Chief Sean Sunahara retired.
- 2024 Academies began on January 8, 2024, in Lone - Law Enforcement Regular Basic Course (RBC), Company Officer Academy, Firefighter Academy, and Emergency Command Center Academy
- RBC has 32 students in the class, a record number for the course.
- Training Center North began an 11-week Fire Control Training Academy on January 15, 2024.
- Recruitment of Food Service personnel continues to be a challenge, requiring a contract for dinner meals.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Wildfire Risk Reduction

- Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee:
 - Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee is meeting again on February 20, 2024, where the Committee will receive a presentation from the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection on a brief update on the timing status of the regulations for Zone Zero as well as a presentation from the California Department of Insurance (CDI) on the framework for "Safer from Wildfires".
 - For information on this monthly meeting, visit our website at:
<https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/boards-committees/wildfire-mitigation-advisory-committee/>

Wildfire Preparedness

- Defensible Space:
 - Statewide SRA Total for Fiscal Year-To-Date 2023-2024:
 - 136,416 inspections completed, 55% of the goal (250,000 Goal)
 - Continuing the update for the Field Maps app



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- Qualified Entities training is starting to be scheduled
- Burn Permits:
 - Statewide SRA Fiscal Year-To-Date 2023-2024:
 - 39,251 requested – 35,945 issued.
 - 87,034 issued since the Jan 3, 2023, launch.
 - Burn permit is adding additional app updates
 - Home Hardening:
 - CAL FIRE staff continue to support the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP) program.
 - CAL FIRE staff have released a new Wildfire Home Hardening website which includes a Home Hardening Self-Assessment Application.
<https://www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening>
- Utility Wildfire Mitigation Program:
 - Personnel continue to consult on the Wildfire Mitigation Plans (WMP's) for the Independent Transmission Operators (ITO's), Liberty, and PacifiCorp.
 - The ITO's will be finalized and published on January 29, 2024.
 - Liberty will be finalized and published on February 5, 2024.
 - PacifiCorp will be finalized and published February 12, 2024.
 - As of January 1, 2024, personnel have spent over 450 hours in meetings and have been involved in 14 management reviews for the current WMP filing process.
 - Scheduling a training session for Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety (OEIS) and other agencies for mid-Mach to go over PRC 4292/4293, powerline equipment identification and inspections.
 - Continuing to work with a few utilities and manufacturers for the Public Resource Code 4292 Equipment Exemption process.
 - The review and update of the 2024 CAL FIRE Power Line Fire Prevention Field Guide Communication Clearance process (CAL FIRE 330) continues to move forward through all the signatory process.

Wildfire Planning and Statistics

- Fire Hazard Severity Zones:



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- State Responsibility Area (SRA):
 - CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal submitted the Final Statement of Reasons for the State Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones to the Office of Administrative Law on December 15, 2023.
 - More information:
<https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/fire-hazard-severity-zones>
- Pre-Fire Planning:
 - Units have been validating a last review of DPA recommendations.
 - Annual Facility dataset edits will be finished in January.
 - 5-year SRA review will begin summer of 2024, to be concluded June 2025.
 - Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) development/toolkit is ongoing. This will ensure a level of consistency across local & regional plans.
 - Continuing to develop the Fuels Treatment Effectiveness reporting mobile application, report templates and dashboard.
 - Unit are starting the annual Fire Plan update, due late spring.
- Wildland Fuels Reduction Reporting:
 - CalMAPPER QA/QC
 - Units and Grant programs completed their QAQC for data back to fiscal year 19/20.
 - Detailed Fuel Reduction Report
 - December acres were reported on January 10, 2024. We updated the Fiscal Year numbers back to FY 19/20.
 - CNRA Tracker Extract
 - The report locking on January 10th coincides with the CNRA Tracker extract that will start to take place at the end of the month. This is all by design to ensure that CNRA data is aligned with CAL FIRE data.
- CalStats:
 - Redbook Quality Control & Outstanding CALFIRS Reports:
 - Continuing the Redbook Review Dashboard for CAL FIRE and the Contract County Quality Control list, and subsequently uploading it to the Contract County SharePoint site.



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- Addressing discrepancies in acreage within our current Large Fire List (300 acres or more), which exhibited variations in reported acreage between FRAP perimeter, CALFIRS, 209 reports, and CAD.
- NERIS:
 - Collaborating with the west coast Office of State Fire Marshal's on the future implementation of NERIS (National Emergency Response Information System)
 - Working with other CAL FIRE programs, state agencies, and local fire departments on gathering feedback for the Draft Core NERIS Data Framework and Schemas that include fire department specifications, computer-aided dispatch, and incident data that will make up NERIS which replaces NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System) in 2025.
- Wildfire Ignition Data:
 - Working with Federal partners on uploading National Association of State Foresters (NASF) ignition data from the last three quarters to examine the data's presentation and identify any potential issues that may require attention.
 - Collaborating with Pre-Fire staff to enhance the accuracy of current ignition locations, thereby improving the reporting utilized by various agency programs.
 - Implementing changes and conducting reviews of location data reported in CALFIRS reports to ensure ease of continuous quality improvement (CQI) for reviewers.

Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

- Land Use Planning:
 - Staff continue working with jurisdictions to update the local Safety Elements in their General Plans statewide.
 - 30 jurisdiction Safety Elements were successfully updated and reviewed by the Board of Forestry (BOF) in 2023.
- NFPA Firewise USA:
 - Currently 784 communities in good standing. This number may fluctuate over the next few weeks as we work with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to finalize the yearly renewals.
 - Firewise application renewals were due by December 15, 2023. NFPA provided a two-week extension due to website portal issues.



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- Subdivision Review Program:
 - 50 Fire Safety Surveys including Contra Costa County, City of Corona, City of Riverside and City of Malibu were sent to RPC meeting January 23, 2024.
 - Staff will be conducting field surveys in Marin County in February 2024.
 - Continued collaboration meetings with many statewide jurisdictions.
- Fire Safe Regulations Workgroup:
 - Committee continues building course curriculum for training on "How to Implement the Fire Safe Regulations".
 - Planning to hold pilot course later this year.
- Introduction to Land Use Planning for Wildfires in California course:
 - Registration now open for at least 10 training dates in 2024
 - Register at www.communitywildfire.org/trainings
- Wildfire Prevention Grants Program (Burke)
 - The Fiscal Year 2023-24 Wildfire Prevention Grants Solicitation is open from November 1, 2023, through January 10, 2024, at 3:00 PST.
 - The Wildfire Prevention Grants Workshop Webinar was hosted via Microsoft Teams on November 08, 2023, at 10:00-11:30 AM PST. The webinar was recorded and posted on the WP Grants webpage along with the Presentation.
 - It was attended by 327 participants. We typically have around 250 participants for reference.
 - Learn more about our Wildfire Prevention Grant program at:
 - <https://www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/grants/wildfire-prevention-grants>

Communications

Statistics

- Incident statistics for 2023: 594,971 incidents; 7,127 fires; 324,917 acres burned (*numbers are subject to change until the final fire season reports are completed and tabulated*).
- [Current year-to-date incident statistics.](#)

Education and Safety Messaging



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- The statewide Forest and Fuels campaign will begin in late January/early February 2024. This campaign consists of billboards, e-blasts, and radio public service announcements that drive traffic back to ReadyforWildfire.org, where Californian's can learn more about forest health, prescribed fire, and the efforts to ensure our forests are resilient to wildfire, pests, disease, and other potential disturbances.
- Home heating safety messaging continues this month and messages can be found on the CAL FIRE social media channels.

Program and Project Messaging

- A social media campaign will begin in early February highlighting prescribed fire.
- Several features are being prepared to showcase the C-130 aircraft fleet.
- A new social media campaign that features the 21 CAL FIRE units began this month and will continue until all units have been highlighted.

Traditional and Nontraditional Media

- A VLOG (Video Blog) featuring aerial fire fighters is now available on You Tube. While not produced by CAL FIRE, staff have supported and are promoting the project as it will feature California aerial firefighters. The series can be viewed and followed [here](#).

Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)/ Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Program (DEI)

New DEI Staff

- The DEI Program has welcomed two DEI Analysts (AGPA), Mike Fontana and Mikal Mitchell, both joining CAL FIRE on January 3, 2024. Mike and Mikal will contribute to various DEI program and Department-wide DEI related initiatives.

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through January 17, 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)	6	54,307	7	6,601
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			3	5,147
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	54		
		Totals	7	54,361	10	11,748
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)	1	13,860		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	1	13,860	0	0
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)	2	1,523		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	31
		Totals	2	1,523	1	31
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 January 17, 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)			2	54
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	23	1	126
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	1	23	3	180
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Cascade (Redding)			1	1
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	2	3	7
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	1	2	4	8
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)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
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)	1	6		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	5		
		Totals	2	11	0	0
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	4		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			2	95
		Totals	1	4	2	95

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)	1	40		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	1	40	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)	2	4	1	4
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	2	3	4	8
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	4	7	5	12
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)			1	4
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	1	4
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	20	69,831	26	12,078

Type of 1052 Emergency Notice		2023		2024		
		Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Cascade (Redding)	3	340		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			1	5
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	3	340	1	5
<u>Emergency Conditions</u> More than one condition can be selected per Notice of Emergency Timber Operations - acreage may be reflected multiple times *Others may include multiple emergency conditions	Drought	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
	Fire	Cascade (Redding)	3	340		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			1	5
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	3	340	1	5
	Insects	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
	*Others	Cascade (Redding)	3	340		
Coast (Santa Rosa)				1	5	
Riverside (South)						
Sierra (Fresno)						
Totals		3	340	1	5	
Fuel Hazard Reduction (RM65)		Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		Totals	0	0	0	0
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 January 17, 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	7	9	1	2	0	0	0	0	8	11
THPs Returned	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	1	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	7
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	2	2	6	4	0	0	1	1	9	7
THP Approved Acres	324	297	3,970	5,904	0	0	572	458	4,866	6,659

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
NTMPs Received	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
NTMPs Returned	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
NTMP Approved Acres	0	755	0	0	0	0	105	0	105	755
NTMPs with NON-Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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 January 17, 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



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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