



## Director’s Report to the Board of Forestry

715 P Street

Sacramento, California

June 18-19, 2024



## **Resource Management**

### **Forest Practice Program**

- The Watershed Protection Program assisted in workplan creation for the fuels (i.e., linkage between harvest, soil moisture, fuel loading, and fuel moisture) component of Northern Arizona University’s research project titled “Forest Management to Promote Resilient Coast Redwood Forests” conducted on Jackson Demonstration State Forest’s Caspar Creek watershed.
- The field sampling for the §1038(d) Drought Mortality and Unmerchantable Sawlog Exemption was completed on June 13, 2024.
- Staff is nearing completion of California Forestry Report #8, which will present findings from the second phase of post-fire Emergency Notice of Timber Operations monitoring.

### **Forest Practice Enforcement and Timber Operator Licensing (LTO)**

- The contract for the service to pay for timber operator licensing fees with a credit/debit card has been submitted for signature. Upon contract approval and implementation of the service, an announcement will be broadcast to the LTO community.

Table 1: Forest Practice Civil Penalty Collection

Case Status	# of Cases	Amount Collected	Total Amount Due
Adjudicated	28	\$141,250	\$438,800
Default	71	\$354,549	\$1,204,580
Paid per CPO	23	\$230,000	\$230,000
Settled	112	\$886,205	\$948,505
Totals	227	\$1,612,004	\$2,821,885

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)).



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Table 2: LTO License Status

Table 3: Active Civil Penalties Case Status

Status	#	Status	# of Cases
New Applications Rec'd	26	Under Review	3
Renewal Applications Rec'd	12	Developed for Signature	4
New Licenses Issued	25	CPO Signed, Mailed, Served	15
Licenses Renewed	12	Hearing(s) to be Scheduled	6
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	10	Settlement Mitigation	6
Applications Returned	10	Payments	23
Refunds Issued	0	Probation	3
Insurance Certificates Rec'd	102	Judgment needed/In Judgment	40
		Default/Final Order	14
<b>Total</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>Total Active Licenses</b>	<b>1406</b>		

**Forest Practice Administration**

- Online submission functionality for Timber Harvesting Plans (THPs) through the California Timber Regulation Environmental Evaluation System (CalTREES) went live for the regulated public on June 10, 2024.
  - Revised THP and Notice of Intent (NOI) forms have been uploaded to the Forest Practice forms webpage. October 11, 2024, is the sunset date for THP and NOI submission on the previous forms.
  - A memo has been broadcast informing the regulated public of the new functionality of online THP submittals and the revised THP and NOI forms.

**Forest Practice Review Teams**

- Redding Review Team hosted the Basic Forest Practice class the week of June 3, 2024, using the U.S. Forest Service classrooms at Northern Region Headquarters and LaTour Demonstration State Forest. This is an annual week-long training hosted by CAL FIRE for all Review Team agencies and members.
- Reviews of ownership-wide demonstrations of “Maximum Sustained Production of High-Quality Timber Products” pursuant to Forest Practice Rule Section 913.11(a) [933.11, 953.11], commonly referred to as “Option (a),” are occurring in the Coast Forest District. One Option (a) is now in the field review stage and submission of another new Option (a) is anticipated this month.



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### **Resource Protection and Improvement Program**

#### **Urban and Community Forestry**

- CAL FIRE's Urban and Community Forestry grants funded by the US Forest Service through the Inflation Reduction Act were submitted by 128 applicants requesting nearly \$150 million. \$30.8 million is available to award. Application reviews and scoring will occur during June and July.
- CAL FIRE is cooperating with the US Forest Service to contract with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to conduct an updated statewide urban tree canopy cover analysis.

#### **Forest Entomology and Pathology Program**

- Staff participated in multi-agency field visits and conversations oriented toward adaptive management of forest health issues using prescribed fire: one in the Mendocino County pygmy forest on Jackson DSF and CA State Parks property, and one at Humboldt Redwoods State Park.
- Staff worked with collaborators to actively track the growing infestation of *Phytophthora ramorum* (cause of sudden oak death) in Del Norte County, especially in watersheds where the pathogen was only recently detected in stream water.
- Staff worked in collaboration with LA County Fire, US Forest Service and Mountain Resource Conservation Authority to provide educational resources for support and establishment of an "Invasive Insect Management Unit" within LA County Fire to combat the new invasive Goldspotted Oak Borer infestations in LA County.
- Staff, in collaboration with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, State Parks, US Forest Service and private landowners, established and is maintaining seven early detection monitoring traps for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) along the I5 corridor between Red Bluff and Oakhurst. Additional four monitoring trap locations will be placed along Highway 101 between Goleta and Montecito. EAB threatens all species of ash found in California and nearly all age classes. An established population was detected in Forest Grove, west of Portland OR, in 2022. In June 2024 it was reported from Vancouver BC.
- Staff is working with municipal arborists and State Park personnel to track and mitigate the spread of Mediterranean Oak Borer (MOB) in Sacramento and El Dorado Counties.

#### **Forest Biometrics Program**

- Biometrics Staff provided a four-day class to CAL FIRE staff in mensuration, forest sampling designs, and growth and yield.
- Supporting Mountain Home DSF in assessing mortality in old growth giant sequoia trees that occurred after the 2020 Castle Fire.



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- Supporting several DSF in training seasonal hires in forest sampling.

### **Demonstration State Forests**

#### ***Boggs Mountain and Las Posadas***

- Licensed Timber Operator Juan Soria Environmental Resource Services Inc. are performing salvage timber operations in response to February storms blow down event.
- Staff have noticed an increase in tree mortality on Las Posadas. Unit staff is assisting with falling roadside hazard trees and slash clean-up.

#### ***Jackson***

- The Jackson Advisory Group (JAG) Meeting held May 8, 2024, introduced Amy Wynn as the new Chairperson, replacing George Hollister. Jamie Sammut from CAL FIRE Legal provided Bagley Keene Training. The JAG reviewed the proposed Pyrosilviculture THP and found it in conformance with the Forest Management Plan and New Vision. Dr. Sarah Bisbing, University of Nevada Reno provided a presentation on the Coastal Adaptive Management Experiment. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 19, 2024.
- Deputy Chief Emily Smith accepted a promotion to Staff Chief, Wildfire Planning and Statistics, within the Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Program. Mendocino Unit Deputy Chief Ryan Smith will oversee JDSF going forward. We thank Chief Smith for the leadership she has provided to JDSF and the JAG.
- The pre-burn treatment for the Fire Fuels Mitigation project funded by CAL FIRE's Forest Health Research Grant is nearly complete. Pre-burn treatment includes lop and scatter and mastication. Burning will commence in the fall.
- Caitlin Grace and Lynn Webb attended the UC Cooperative Extension tree school and shared tree thinning techniques for small landowners. Additional discussion topics included soil health, small landowner financial considerations, woody biomass utilization, and agroforestry.
- Erik Wahl visited the "Roundhouse" campground with the Shoreline Riders, a local equestrian group, to discuss potential conversion to a horse camp. The project also has the support of the Back Country Horseman of Lake and Mendocino.
- A right of entry agreement was signed with Trout Unlimited for the North Fork of the South Fork (NFSF) Noyo River input of down and live trees to improve fish stream habitat within the lower 1.6 miles of the NFSF Noyo River.
- Broadcast burning started on the Red Tail THP. Approximately 80 acres has been treated. Burning is scheduled to be completed during the first week of June. Control line construction on the Thompson Gulch VTP are done, and burning is anticipated to occur in early July 2024.



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### ***LaTour, Big Bend, Miller, and Noble***

- The Royston/Senapol 24 Timber Sale was approved by the Department of General Services on April 29, 2024, and a pre-operations start-up meeting with the Licensed Timber Operator was held on May 30, 2024.
- Forest Manager Jason Poburko met with State Lands Commission (SLC) at Noble Demonstration State Forest (NDSF) to discuss inventory options and future collaboration pertaining to the establishment of a CalVTP inclusive of the SLC lands adjacent to NDSF.
- Staff supported the CAL FIRE Mensuration and Growth and Yield class that included field work at LaTour and Noble Demonstration State Forests.

### ***Mountain Home***

- Tulare County Roads and Parks are planning to open the roads to Mountain Home on June 14, 2024, in time for Father's Day weekend. Staff with the support of the Tulare Unit are prepping roads, trails, campgrounds, and water systems in preparation for opening day.
- The forest hosted a multi-agency forest pest and disease training on June 13, 2024, with a focus on monitoring giant sequoia post-fire decline in support of the Giant Sequoia Lands Coalition.

### ***Soquel***

- Soquel remains closed to all public use Monday-Friday except on Public Holidays to accommodate operations on the Sulphur THP and a Forest Health Grant administered by Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.
- In coordination with Cal Poly Swanton Pacific Ranch Fuels and Vegetation Education (FAVE) program, two public field workshops will be held June 27 and 29, 2024 that will cover timber management, forest health, and fire safety. Each workshop has 50 sign ups that are all filled. The participants will view forest health grant work and timber operation areas in the forest.
- Monterey Bay Search Dogs held a canine training on Sunday May 19, 2024, in the western areas of the forest.
- Timber falling for the Sulphur THP (1-22-00090-SCR) continued and log hauling began May 1, 2024, shipping approximately 8 to 12 truckloads per day.
- Dr. Richard Cobb's research team from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo visited the forest to collect data for a comprehensive study on fuel treatments on May 24-25, 2024.
- Herpetology research continued with egg mass count surveys of Foothill Yellow-legged frogs in Soquel Creek led by CAL FIRE Retired Fire Captain Lawrence Erickson. Upland surveys for herps were also conducted.



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### **Prescribed Fire and Environmental Protection Program**

#### **Prescribed Fire Program**

- We are currently at a total of 79,381 acres of fuel reduction projects this fiscal year with 23,868 acres of prescribed fire acres.

#### **Vegetation Management Program**

- We continue to process the environmental documents to support fuel reduction and prescribed fire projects.

#### **Environmental Protection Program**

- CALFIRE will be gathering comments on the new Water Board General Order proposal. There is a workshop scheduled for June 26, 2024, with an in person or virtual option. Here is the link to the notice. Notice of Staff Public Workshop Regarding Regional General Waste Discharge Requirements for Vegetation or Sediment Removal or Management Activities for Fire or Flood Risk Reduction ([govdelivery.com](http://govdelivery.com))

#### **Tribal Affairs Program**

- Nothing new to report

#### **Cultural Resources Program**

- Nothing new to report

### **Wildfire Resilience Program**

#### **Reforestation Services Program**

- Seed Bank staff released the 2024 Cone Crop Survey Memo, providing resources and guidance for Departmental staff to assist with cone surveys and collection. Early season observations show that this may be a productive season for several native species.
- RSP held an inaugural four-day cone collector climber course at Boggs Demonstration State Forest May 6-9, 2024, which taught basic tree climbing skills and safe work practices to 24 students from CAL FIRE and affiliated organizations.
- RSP has received notification that the USFS State, Private and Tribal Forestry Program is planning to award CAL FIRE \$18M for reforestation to support three private industrial forestland owners recovery efforts from recent destructive wildfires. The funding will be sub awarded to California Forestry Association to distribute the funding. Private industrial forestland owners include Sierra Pacific Industries, Collins Pine Company and Big Creek Lumber. All of the funding will support reforestation needs as a result of the Dixie, CZU Complex and Monument Fires.



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### **California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP)**

- CFIP is on standby for accepting new grant agreements due to the budget freeze. In May 2024, staff had approximately \$1.1M in new agreements that are being drafted but will not be signed or implemented until the budget issues are rectified. One notable proposed project in this funding batch is a 130-acre post fire restoration project within the footprint of the 2020 North Complex in Butte County. This proposal includes reforestation and release treatment on lands that were salvage logged under an emergency notice and partially reforested following the fire.

### **Forest Stewardship**

- WFR block Grants – Solicited and then awarded 4 new block grants, however only two were executed and encumbered prior to General Fund spending freeze. Glenn County RCD was awarded \$3M for post fire forest restoration on private timberlands within the Mendocino National Forest that were affected by the Ranch Fire. CARCD was also awarded approximately \$3M to continue technical assistance and wildfire resilience work.
- Forest Stewardship Program executed seven new Joint Forest Stewardship Committee mini grants, only two additional mini grants were affected by the budget freeze and did not get executed in time.

### **Forest Legacy Program (FLP)**

- The 2024 Forest Legacy Program grant solicitation is on hold pending the spending freeze. If the solicitation moves forward, nine applicants will be invited to submit a full application to compete for up to \$10M.
- The Forest Legacy Program is sending a representative to attend the National Forest Legacy Program meeting in Kalispell Montana the week of June 10, 2024. The trip is funded through a federal grant from the USFS.
- In May 2024, the 246-acre Pacific Union College Phase two conservation easement project was completed. The easement is adjacent to an existing easement held by CAL FIRE and the Las Posadas State Forest. With this new easement there is now 2,000 acres of contiguous protected forestland in Napa County.
- The FLP is working on four federally funded FLP projects and seven state funded FLP projects. When completed, these projects will total over 50,000 acres of conserved forestland.

### **Climate and Energy Program**

#### **Wood Products & Bioenergy**

- Staff notified successful Business & Workforce Development grant applicants of award offers on May 29, 2024, and began executing grant agreements.



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	# Award Offers	Funding Amount
<b>Workforce Development</b>	5	\$6 million
<b>Business Development</b>	15	\$11 million
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>\$17 million</b>

- Hosted a CAL FIRE table at the Together Bay Area Conference in San Francisco on May 6, 2024. The conference explored regional collaboration opportunities to support land conservation, Tribal alliances, and secure stable funding.

### Forest Health

- Successful applicants for FY2023-2024 Forest Health and Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration grants were notified of their awards on April 4, 2024. Seventeen Forest Health and nine Post-Fire Reforestation awards for \$153 million were offered. The funds appropriated to Post-Fire Reforestation and Regeneration are from the General Fund and are therefore currently frozen but grant agreements for Forest Health awards are in process.
- The North Coast Resource Partnership (NCRP) released its RFP for the NCRP Forest Health Regional Pilot. NCRP will be offering technical assistance and application support with RFFC funding. Applications are due August 4, 2024, and awards are expected in fall 2024.
- Regional Pilot Grants:
  - Southern California: Forest Health (Resource Management) and Wildfire Prevention Grants (Office of the State Fire Marshal) staff worked together to align the workflows of the two programs into a single structure to support a pilot regional-scale grant to organizations in Southern California. We expect the grant agreement to be signed later this summer.
  - Sierra Nevada: Final steps underway toward a grant agreement supporting the Sierra Nevada (Crystal Basin—Healthy Eldorado Landscape Partnership) Regional Pilot.
- Forest Health staff attended the Coast Ridge Forest Council’s Regional Planning Meeting on May 23, 2024, in Sonoma County and presented information on our program’s successes and application process.
- Forest Health presented to the USFS R5 Partnership & Collaboration group on May 30, 2024. We shared outcomes from the FY23-24 grant solicitation, plans for future solicitations, and grant application best practices.

### Climate Change

- California Climate Investments [Annual Report](#) was released on May 8, 2024, and highlighted the impact of the Forest Health program, including an estimated





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reduction of 20.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent since the program's inception.

- Attended a workshop on natural lands climate infrastructure in Mariposa County hosted by the Nature Conservancy in Mariposa on June 12, 2024.

### **Tribal Wildfire Resilience**

- Tribal Wildfire Resilience grants have also been affected by the General Fund budget freeze. Previously announced awards that have not yet been executed are on hold.
- Held kickoff meetings with the first three executed Tribal Wildfire Resilience Grants.
- Coordinated with CNRA to take over five grants from their Tribal Nature-Based Solutions grant solicitation. CAL FIRE will fund and manage these grants.
- The next solicitation is postponed due to the statewide budget uncertainty.

### **Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force**

- The June edition of the [Governor's Monthly Update](#) is now available.
- The [next meeting](#) of the Task Force will be July 12, 2024, in Sacramento. The agenda will include a review and forecast of state and federal budgets, an update on treatment tracking and core metrics, and a focus on regional organization around multi-agency investments. There is no need to register for the in-person meeting. Register to attend virtually [via Zoom](#).

### **Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)**

#### **Forest Health Research Grants**

- The Forest Health Research grant program was open in January 2024 and received 85 concept proposals requesting a total of \$42 million. Review of proposals by an interagency technical review panel is now complete. FRAP intends to award approximately 13 awards for scientific research projects addressing wildfire and forest management for \$4.5 million. Award announcements will likely be made to applicants the week of June 17, 2024.

#### **Wildfire Science**

- FRAP has amended agreements with San Jose State and Chico State Universities to expand research and monitoring related to prescribed fire effects.

#### **Forest and Rangeland Assessment**

- FRAP staff continue to make progress on developing chapters for the Forest and Rangeland Assessment report. Once draft chapters are completed, they will have both internal and external review. The Program anticipates having complete drafts for all chapters by September 2024 and to release the report in Fall 2024.



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### **Adaptive Management Experiments (AMEX)**

- The Coastal AMEX project is moving forward with a new research site at Jackson Demonstration State Forest. Harvest prescription and experimental design are currently under development. Pre-treatment monitoring is expected to occur throughout the summer of 2024.

### **Forest Management Scenarios**

- FRAP is conducting a modeling project with American Forests to evaluate the effects of different management scenarios on carbon storage compared to a "Business as Usual" (BAU) scenario. Nadia Tase and Kendall Dyer will provide an update of the project with a presentation of model results at the June 2024 Board of Forestry and Fire Protection meeting.

## **Fire Protection**

### **Fire Protection Program**

#### **Law Enforcement/Civil Cost Recovery**

- Through May 2024, CAL FIRE Law Enforcement Officers have made 55 arrests and issued 130 citations.
  - 38 of those arrests are for Arson.
- In FY 23-24, approximately \$148.9 million in suppression costs has been collected by Civil Cost Recovery.

#### **Fire Protection Operations**

- The Wildfire Forecast Threat Intelligence Integration Center transitioned to its summer staffing schedule of seven days per week coverage on June 1, 2024.
- For May, CAL FIRE Intel 641, incident awareness and assessment aircraft, flew 18 flights for 40 flight hours, the intelligence data obtained is being shared with multiple agencies within the California Natural Resources Agency.

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

- CAL FIRE's full suite of aircraft will be staffed and positioned across California June 17, 2024.

#### **Mobile Equipment Program**

- The first two of 10 bulldozers from the 2022-23 Emergency Surge Capacity and Response Enhancement Budget Change Proposal process will be deployed to the field in June 2024. Additional bulldozers will be deployed throughout the summer.



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## **Cooperative Fire Protection**

### **Local Government Program**

- The Local Government Program and Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC), in coordination with the EMS program, have been working on the placement of Cal-JAC students in Units for preceptorship. Currently the Units of SDU, LNU, and CZU have accepted students. This effort is in part to the new MOU with Cal JAC enhancing paramedic recruitment and retention.
- LG Program has recently developed new templates for unit guidance to align with verbiage in the Local Government agreements (LG-1). The templates include a cooperator 12-month notification of intent (board resolution template) to continue services. If the letter of intent is not received, 6-month following, CAL FIRE will issue a letter to cooperators notifying the cooperator that CAL FIRE will be continuing service at a specified level and will bill for services. This template is signed by the Directors designee, the Deputy Director of Cooperative Fire, and routed through the regions to Unit. These templates will align the current process with long standing language in the LG-1.

### **State/Federal Programs**

- Program is developing a checklist for all CAL FIRE personnel for international travel including IT hardware & software requirements, employee insurance coverage (health and workers compensation), personal security, and reference links for personal security considerations.
- The California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) is under revision with a final draft for all agencies executive review in the next month. There are remaining considerations in discussion amongst the signatory agencies as business practices have changed since the last revision. This is an interagency negotiated agreement blending the policies and procedures of Federal and State agencies.

### **Hand Crew Program**

- A Microsoft Teams Meeting was held on Monday June 10, 2024, for culinary recruitment with the California Military Department from Camp Roberts. This recruitment effort is to support the hiring of military service members and fill vacancies in CAL FIRE cook and food service technician classifications. This collaboration is ongoing and looks to include 30 service members from Camp Roberts.
- On June 12, 2024, an open house celebration took place at Pilot Rock Fire Center and demonstrated the successful transition of the former CDCR Camp to a CAL FIRE Firefighter I Fire Center.
- The Master Cooperative Agreement between CAL FIRE and the National Park Service (NPS) was awarded on June 10, 2024. This agreement authorizes



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CAL FIRE Hand Crews to perform wildland fire fuels management, conservation activities, and outdoor resources and recreation projects on NPS lands.

- As if May 29, 2024, the crew status is as follows:
  - 61 of 152 CDCR Crews are Type I and available for statewide response.
    - 13 CDCR Crews are staffed at less than 12.
    - 78 CDCR Crews are down staffed.
  - 27 of 32 CCC Crews are Type I and available for statewide response.
    - 2 CCC Crews are staffed at less than 12.
    - 3 CCC Crews are down staffed.
  - 24 of 38 FFI Crews are Type I and available for statewide response.
    - 10 FFI Crews are Type II I/A and training.
    - 4 FFI Crews are hiring and training.
  - 14 of 14 CMD Rattlesnake Crews are Type I and available for statewide response.

### **Safety/EMS Program**

#### *Safety Program*

- Public comments have been submitted to the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board on their latest revision of the indoor heat illness prevention regulations. These regulations will impact vehicle maintenance shop and aircraft hangar type buildings.
- The Safety Program and the San Diego Unit are using the recent lithium-ion battery storage facility fire in Otay Mesa as an opportunity to conduct PPE research from these types of incidents. The focus will be on contamination/exposure levels and best cleaning practices. This is believed to be a first of its kind research with impacts to the fire service on national and international levels.
- A research and development pant evaluation of single layer carcinogenic particulate blocking pants has begun. The 40 pants received do not exist anywhere else and required a first of its kind variance by Cal/OSHA to conduct the evaluation.

#### *EMS Program*

- The program is adding two EMS Battalion Chief positions and has recently hired its first Research Data Analyst. These positions will support the field with the increased demands of maintaining EMS regulation compliance.
- The migration of CALFIRS and CALePCR is beginning this month. This will better integrate the two platforms and preload dispatch information for fire and EMS incident reporting, resulting in decreased redundant workload and shortened report timeframes.

### **Training Program**



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- CAL FIRE, as a National Association of State Foresters member, is hosting the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Introduction to Incident Management Teams Course (S-320) (ALPHA) at Natomas Training Center from June 25 to 27, 2024. The course attendees will be from CAL FIRE, the Bureau of Land Management, Local Government, the National Parks Service, the United States Forest Service, and fire personnel from other states.

### *Statewide Training*

- The 2025 Training Calendars for the Regions, Statewide Training, and Training Centers are finalized.
- Curriculum Management and Training Policy & Procedure staff have worked hard to update seven (7) Aviation Management courses, as well as many additional CAL FIRE 4000 Training Handbook updates.

### *CAL FIRE Training Centers*

- The CAL FIRE Regular Basic Course (RBC) graduated 30 Peace Officers on Friday, June 7, 2024. These Law Enforcement Officers are currently in their Field Training Program.
- Several 2024 calendared Fire Control Training classes were retooled to meet the current hiring and training needs of the Department with an emphasis on Firefighter I training to bring current to the latest State Fire Training requirements. These classes increase the potential applicant pool for the Fire Apparatus Engineer exams and process.

## **Office of the State Fire Marshal**

### **Wildfire Risk Reduction**

- Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee:
  - The Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee meeting was held on June 13, 2024, where the Committee received a presentation from Len Nielsen on the Liability Fund program update as well as the Hazard Mitigation Programs overview presentation from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).
  - The next Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee meeting will be held on July 16, 2024.
  - For information on this monthly meeting, visit our website at: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/committees/wildfire-mitigation-advisory-committee>

### **Wildfire Preparedness**

- Defensible Space:
  - CAL FIRE has launched a comprehensive education campaign to highlight the importance of DSpace and the Ember-Resistant Zone.



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- Burn Permits: Since the launch of the new application, nearly 140,000 burn permits have been issued through the CAL FIRE burn permit platform.
- Home Hardening:
  - The first home has been retrofitted through the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP). Located in the Kelseyville-Riviera community, the home had defensible space and home hardening work done to better prepare it for wildfire resilience.
    - The CWMP had a site visit on June 13, 2024, to the first home.
- Utility Wildfire Mitigation Program:
  - Our outreach for teaching powerline safety and identification is growing with teaching classes for CAL FIRE's DSI program and Unit level.
  - Our ignition Dashboard is continuing to be updated, and improvements are being made to make it user-friendly for tracking utility-caused ignitions.
  - Continue working with OEIS to review this year's updates for Investor-Owned Utilities Wildfire Mitigation Plans.
  - Next year's Wildfire Mitigation Plans required to be submitted will be three-year plans.

### Wildfire Planning and Statistics

- Pre-Fire Planning:
  - Annual updates to Unit Fire Plans have been received. Unit Fire Plans should be published to the internet in July.
  - State Responsibility Area (SRA) five-year review is ongoing. Unit submittals are due to Region on July 26, 2024.
  - Fuels Treatment Effectiveness Reporting Temporary Directive was sent out on May 2, 2024. The first training was held on June 4, 2024.
- Wildland Fuels Reduction Reporting:
  - In the process of completing Fuels Crews six-month CCIRTS Report that is due by June 12, 2024, and then finalized by Climate and Energy and due to CARB.
  - CalMAPPER Version three - Preparing for production push to the current version, which includes numerous enhancements to the interface.
  - CalMAPPER Version four - Working with Technosylva and internally on developing Version 4 that will include new data entry workflows.
- CalStats:
  - As Fire Departments across California become aware and prepared for the transition of National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) to National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS), they could be one of 50 Departments that will beta test the new system starting in August.
    - CAL FIRE has requested to participate in the beta test to ensure the complex system is ready for transition.



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- 2023 Redbook Update: Continue to work with both Regions and Sacramento Communications to ensure data has been reviewed and verified.

### **Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance**

- Land Use Planning:
  - 17 Safety Elements are in the informal review process with staff, 46 other jurisdictions have early engagement working with staff.
  - Three Safety Elements will be processed and up for review by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BOF) for the June Resource Protection Committee (RPC) Meeting. Alameda, Solano Counties and City of Irvine.
- Subdivision review.
  - Staff have completed over 2000 surveys and have been processed through the BOF.
  - 99 Fire Safety Surveys will be on the June RPC Meeting (Chino Hills, City Dunsmuir, San Bernadino)
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Firewise USA:
  - Celebration of 800th community in good standing in California took place on May 18, 2024, KenCrest Ridge in Ventura County
  - Currently at 850 communities in good standing statewide
- Land Use Planning for Wildfires class:
  - Last course for this year held on May 16, 2024
  - Planning for several more dates in early 2025
  - Next step is to create an advanced course focusing on plan alignment
- State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations
  - Continue to support Units and Local Government
  - Work continues on Intro to State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations course
- Wildfire Prevention Grants Program (Burke):
  - Sacramento Review was held on May 21, 2024, for the FY 23-24 Wildfire Prevention Grants solicitation.
  - Executive Review for the FY 23-24 Wildfire Prevention Grants is scheduled for late July 2024.



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## Communications

### Statistics

- Total Incident Responses for 2024: 258,077
- California has experienced 262 new wildfires since the last report on June 3, 2024. 234 were within CAL FIRE’s jurisdiction.

Year to date Wildfire Statistics as of: June 3, 2024 (CAL FIRE AND FEDERAL)		
<u>Intervals</u>	<u>Wildfires</u>	<u>Acres burned</u>
2024 Combined Year to Date (CAL FIRE & Federal)	1,769 (+262)	41,926 (+7,532)
2023 Combined Year to Date (CAL FIRE & Federal)	1,605	2,987
5 Year Average (utilizing same date ranges as above)	2,295	27,701
<b><i>Numbers are subject to change until the final fire season reports are completed and tabulated.</i></b> <i>(2024 stats include all wildfires dispatched to by CAL FIRE in SRA &amp; LRA as reported in CAD, SRA wildfires within Contract Counties and federal data based off NIFC Incident Management Situation Report and Department of Defense).</i>		

### Education and Safety Messaging

- Statewide fireworks safety and enforcement messaging will begin June 25, 2024.
- Summer fire prevention and safety messaging continues into July 2024.
- Extreme heat safety messaging is ongoing as needed.

### Program and Project Messaging

- The CAL FIRE website continues to see numerous enhancements to the incidents page and map, including near real-time aircraft activity, integration of ALERTCalifornia cameras and increased incident updates.
- ‘Grants at Work’ video series continues to highlight wildfire resilience projects, including Forest Health, Wildfire Prevention, Business and Workforce Development and Green Schoolyards.

### Traditional and non-Traditional Media

- Aviation training is featured in the latest VLOG posts from [Airborne Firefighters](#).

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

### NDEAM event in October

- Our DEI team is involved in planning National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) with the California Highway Patrol, which takes place in





## Director's Report to the Board of Forestry

715 P Street

Sacramento, California

June 18-19, 2024



October. NDEAM celebrates the value and talent that workers with disabilities bring to America's workplaces and economy. It reaffirms our commitment to ensuring that disabled workers have access to quality jobs year-round. This year's official theme, "Access to Good Jobs for All". More information to come on that as planning continues.

### **External DEI Workgroup collaboration**

- Our DEI Manager leads an external DEI workgroup that includes subject matter experts from various State Departments. This workgroup evaluates DEI metrics and explores ways to improve data collection on the effectiveness of departmental initiatives and examine departmental efforts for racial equity in Codes of Conduct.

### **Qualified Appraisal Panel (QAP) Demographic Annual Report**

- Due on July 1, 2024, the QAP is currently being drafted. Mandated by Government Code section 19795(a), this report requires all state agency EEO Officers to monitor the composition of oral panels in departmental examinations. It is essential for state agencies to prevent practices that could influence the outcomes of oral interview examinations and to avoid discrimination against prospective candidates. When selecting panel members, it is important to consider individuals who represent the diversity of the state civil service workforce (Cal. Code Regs. §195).

### **Revamping Upward Mobility Program**

- The Upward Mobility Program is a career development initiative designed to provide state employees in Low-Paying Entry-Level (LPEL) classifications with opportunities to advance to Entry-Level Technical, Professional, and Administrative (ELTPA) classifications. This information is reported annually through our Workforce Analysis Report submitted to CalHR. If any of your staff are in LPEL positions and wish to further their careers through this program, please have them contact our DEI program for more information and assistance.

### **Language Access**

- Our DEI program is currently working on expanding Language Access policies and procedures in accordance with GovOps guidelines. This includes developing language access strategies and policies to improve language access within state government. We are creating a statewide language access framework to ensure Limited English Proficient (LEP) individuals have equitable access to departmental participation, services, and programs. For more information on language access, please reach out to me or email our DEI program.

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through June 06, 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)	65	531,019	77	569,931
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	34	34,048	26	12,135
		Riverside (South)	1	240	1	250
		Sierra (Fresno)	16	2,337	11	4,744
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>567,644</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>587,060</b>
1038(a)&(b)	10% Dead, Dying or Diseased Fuelwood or Split Products	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038.6 (03/2019)	Butte Post Fire Recovery	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(a) (03/2019)	Christmas Trees	Cascade (Redding)	5	117,399		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	14	1	14
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>117,413</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>
1038(k)	Drought Mortality	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	Drought Mortality and Unmerchantable Sawlog v2019	Cascade (Redding)	20	5,069	23	3,287
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	286	5	86
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5,355</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3,373</b>
1038(j)	Forest Fire Prevention PILOT Project	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(i)	Forest Fire Prevention Project	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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
1038.3 (03/2019)	Forest Fire Prevention v2019	Cascade (Redding)	7	540	9	636
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	15	1,344	17	979
		Riverside (South)	1	269	1	191
		Sierra (Fresno)			2	24
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2,153</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>1,830</b>
1104.1(a)	Less than 3 Acre Conversion	Cascade (Redding)	31	55	21	29
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	23	52	11	27
		Riverside (South)	1	1		
		Sierra (Fresno)	2	4	7	9
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>65</b>
1038(l)	Oak Woodland Management (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(e) (03/2019)	Oak Woodland Management v2019	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	8	181	10	594
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>594</b>
1038(m)	Post Fire Recovery (effective 01/01/2018)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038.5 (03/2019)	Post Fire Recovery v2019	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	Post Fire Recovery v2020	Cascade (Redding)	9	24		
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	2	6		
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	5		
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1104.1(b)&(c)	Public / Private Utility Right-of-Way	Cascade (Redding)	8	5,837	7	6,342
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	13	512	12	183
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	4	37	4	169
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>6,386</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6,694</b>

California Forest Practice Rules - Exemptions and Emergency Notices  
Accepted by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection through June 06, 2024

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)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(c)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet)	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(c) (03/2019)	Structure Protection (0 to 150 feet) v2019	Cascade (Redding)	51	311	57	142
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	66	152	62	165
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)	5	15	3	6
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>313</b>
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)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(c)(6) (03/2019)	Structure Protection (150 to 300 feet) v2019	Cascade (Redding)	3	11	4	28
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	16	72	9	40
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)			1	5
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>73</b>
1038(d)	Substantially Damaged Unmerchantable Sawlog	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
1038(g)	Woody Debris and Slash Removal	Cascade (Redding)				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)				
		Riverside (South)				
		Sierra (Fresno)				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>All Exemptions</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>699,880</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>600,016</b>

Type of 1052 Emergency Notice		2023		2024						
		Admin Area	Number of Plans	Acres	Number of Plans	Acres				
Notice of Emergency Timber Operations		Cascade (Redding)	44	11,580	22	2,501				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)	15	915	15	890				
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)	16	2,976	3	90				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>15,471</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3,481</b>				
<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)	4	662	7	1,952		
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	1	93	1	272		
				Riverside (South)						
				Sierra (Fresno)	2	191				
				<b>Totals</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>946</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2,224</b>		
				Fire		Cascade (Redding)	43	11,240	14	541
						Coast (Santa Rosa)	9	660	12	580
						Riverside (South)				
						Sierra (Fresno)	5	1,057	2	85
						<b>Totals</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>12,957</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1,206</b>
				Insects		Cascade (Redding)	4	794	12	1,867
						Coast (Santa Rosa)			1	272
						Riverside (South)				
						Sierra (Fresno)	2	191	2	60
						<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>985</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>2,199</b>
				*Others		Cascade (Redding)	52	12,892	46	5,956
				Coast (Santa Rosa)	22	1,390	28	2,861		
				Riverside (South)						
				Sierra (Fresno)	6	600	9	220		
				<b>Totals</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>14,882</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>9,036</b>		
Fuel Hazard Reduction (RM65)		Cascade (Redding)	3	406	3	69				
		Coast (Santa Rosa)			1	33				
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)	1	3	1	56				
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>158</b>				
Fuel Hazard Reduction		Cascade (Redding)								
		Coast (Santa Rosa)								
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)								
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				
Sudden Oak Death Disease		Cascade (Redding)								
		Coast (Santa Rosa)								
		Riverside (South)								
		Sierra (Fresno)								
		<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>				

**CALENDAR YEAR 2024  
TIMBER HARVESTING INFORMATION THROUGH June 06, 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	64	69	12	21	0	0	2	1	78	91
THPs Returned	31	32	8	9	0	0	2	1	41	42
THPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	45	55	5	16	0	0	0	2	50	73
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	36	58	12	20	0	0	1	7	49	85
THP Approved Acres	8,177	14,382	6,056	14,129	0	0	572	3,326	14,805	31,837

Year Comparison	Coast (Santa Rosa)		Cascade (Redding)		Riverside (South)		Sierra (Fresno)		Totals	
	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024
NTMPs Received	6	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	7	5
NTMPs Returned	4	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	5	4
NTMPs Pre-Harvest Inspections	5	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3
NTMPs Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTMPs Approved	1	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2
NTMP Approved Acres	77	833	0	0	0	0	105	0	182	833
NTMPs with NON-Concurrences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NTOs Received	24	29	3	7	0	0	1	0	28	36

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 June 06, 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