



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL



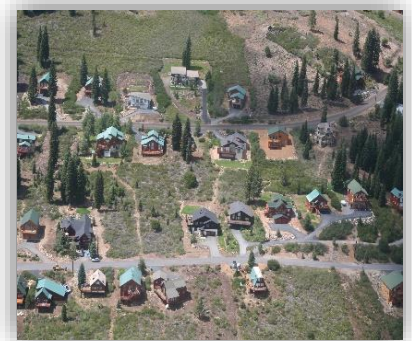
Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation

The CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal's Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division works with federal, state, and local agencies, Native American tribes, non-profit entities, and other stakeholders to prepare California communities against the devastating effects of wildfire. The various programs within the division allow CAL FIRE to continue to build local and regional capacity, as well as developing, prioritizing, and implementing strategies and projects that create wildfire prepared communities. The tasks involve working with stakeholders on wildfire planning to reduce wildfire risk and increase community resiliency, conduct fire hazard compliance inspections, and provide education and grant opportunities for wildfire prevention efforts. The Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division encompasses the following program areas:

California Incident Data and Statistics: The California Incident Data and Statistics (CalStats) Program at the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is a statewide emergency incident data collection program that analyzes and distributes statistical information reported by fire departments throughout the state.

Fuels Treatment Effectiveness Reports: Almost every day, CAL FIRE, our partners, and grantees are conducting hazards fuels reduction work through prescribed fire, manual and mechanical treatments. These efforts result in modified vegetation that change fire behavior, reduce impacts to ecosystems, and promote community resilience. Fuels Treatment Effectiveness Reports showcase how these fuels reduction efforts not only assist firefighters in suppression efforts, but also how fuels treatments protect the life, property, and natural resources of California.

Land Use Planning: As part of the Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance Program, the Land Use Planning Program has been established to coordinate regional and local efforts with state policies, strategies, and programs for community wildfire mitigation in order to improve wildfire preparedness and prevention, with an emphasis on the most vulnerable communities. Land Use Planning assists 56 counties in the State Responsibility Area and 189 cities with lands designated as very high fire hazard severity zones in the Local Responsibility Area with fire hazard planning to address the unreasonable risk from wildfire. This program also works with the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to review subdivisions of more than 30 dwelling units in wildfire prone areas built without secondary emergency egress to improve both public evacuations and emergency access.





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Pre-Fire Planning: The California Fire Plan establishes a framework for reducing the risks associated with wildfire. By placing the emphasis on what needs to be done long before a fire starts, the fire plan strives to reduce firefighting costs and property losses, increase firefighter safety, and enhance ecosystem health. The program works on fire hazard severity zone and state responsibility area mapping, implementation of fuel reduction projects, and wildfire mapping.

Wildfire Preparedness: Strives to reduce or eliminate hazards and risks by removing or reducing heat sources and modifying or reducing ignitable fuels. The program tasks consist of defensible space, home hardening, damage inspection, and burn permits.

Wildfire Prevention Grants: Provides grant opportunities for fire prevention efforts in and near fire threatened communities that focus on increasing the protection of people, structures, and communities. This enables government entities and nonprofit organizations like fire safe councils to fund activities that include hazardous fuel reduction, and wildfire prevention education and planning.

Wildland Fuels Reduction Reporting: Wildland fuels reduction reporting implements CAL FIRE's Management Activity Project Planning and Event Reporter (CALMAPPER). CAL FIRE engages in fuel reduction work and fire prevention activities throughout the year. Preventing uncontrolled wildfire spread in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) is central to CAL FIRE's mission. Fuels reduction projects reduce fire hazards and risks by creating a break in horizontal and vertical fuel continuity that can modify future wildfire behavior and improve community protection efforts. Statewide, fuels reduction projects are planned, developed and implemented in alignment with [California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan](#) and the 2018 Strategic Fire Plan for California. Projects are identified at the Unit level and are updated annually in the [Unit Fire Plans](#). These plans are developed in cooperation with local stakeholders

Utility Wildfire Mitigation: Focuses on mitigating wildfires caused by electric utilities. The program maintains the Powerline Fire Prevention Field Guide and assists annually in the review of the Wildfire Mitigation Plans of the investor-owned utilities to ensure electrical corporations are constructing, maintaining, and operating its electrical lines and equipment in a manner that will minimize the risks of catastrophic wildfires.

More information can be found at:

osfm.fire.ca.gov

