

February 28, 2025



California Wildfire Mitigation Program Authority

Home Hardening Initiative



CWMPA Board of Directors Public Meeting

CWMPA Board of Directors Public Meeting

Call To Order and Roll Call

Welcome Message

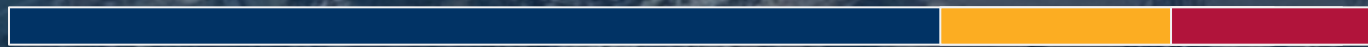
Consent Agenda Items

- Approval of November 19, 2024, Meeting Minutes



California Wildfire Mitigation Program Authority

Home Hardening Initiative



CWMPA Board of Directors Public Meeting

Discussion and Action Items

CWMP Pilot Program Update:

Cal OES Hazard Mitigation Assistance

Special Projects Unit (SPU) Staffing Report

CWMP Grant Expenditures

CWMP Engage Portal

PJ0512 Project Time Extension

CWMP Framework Document

SPU Staffing Report

- Fully Staffed since November 2024
 - Brandon Gresham – Senior Grants Management Analyst

CWMP Grant Expenditures

Total Project Costs as of December 31, 2024

Subrecipient	County	Expenditures to Date
El Dorado County Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience	El Dorado	\$ 93,736
North Coast Opportunities	Lake	\$ 1,088,030
San Diego County Fire Protection District	San Diego	\$ 304,353
Shasta County Fire Safe Council	Shasta	\$ 470,567
Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District	Siskiyou	\$ 344,140
Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services	Tuolumne	\$ 75,811
CWMP TOTAL		\$ 2,376,636

CWMP Engage Portal Enhancements

New development contract January 2025

Current Focus

- Improving reporting capabilities
- Better user experience
- Increasing efficiency

Between March and July

- Cost capture
- Mitigation tracking

PJ0512 Project Time Extension

Current period of performance ends July 2025

Time Extension requested until July 2026

- Further develop the CWMP Framework
- Completion of CWMP Engage Portal
- Ample time for closeout

CWMP Framework

Framework Documents – Draft Version 2.2

- Primary aim is to support the development of Home Hardening Projects across the state
- Intended to be used at any scale and agnostic of funding
- Aligned with PJ0512 deliverables for FEMA

Deliverables

- Core Document
- CWMP Appendices
- FEMA Appendices
- Other Appendices
- Sample Forms and Templates

Draft Copies

- Available at the back of the room
- CWMP Website

CWMP Pilot Program Update:

CAL FIRE

After 34 years of dedication to the fire service, Chief Dennis O'Neil decided to retire in December 2024

CAL FIRE Staff has continued with the development of the new Home Hardening Assessment Application

CAL FIRE staff continue to support the California Wildfire Mitigation Program with technical assistance with recommended retrofits and associated standards

Home Ignition Zone/ Defensible Space Assessor training was conducted on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, and Thursday, February 20, 2025. Four new assessors were trained: two from San Diego and two from Shasta WSRCD. Two assessors from North Coast Opportunities Lake County took the training as a refresher

San Diego County Fire Protection District in San Diego County

FEMA EHP Update -

- Biological Assessment(BA) complete for all three project areas, Dulzura, Campo, and Potrero, including the expanded areas
 - Submitted four Phase II reports for “Issue Properties”
 - First community to submit Phase II reports, working out process for review with FEMA
 - Pending Record of Environmental Consideration (REC) for the additional 69 “No-Issue” properties in the expanded area

Site-Work Updates –

- Construction started on two additional sites
 - One complete as of this week, the other will be complete in next couple of weeks
 - Total: Two Complete and One In Progress

San Diego County Fire Protection District in San Diego County

Site Work Photos -



- Non-combustible awning over window and window trim
- Non-combustible swamp cooler stand
- Retrofitted foundation vents
- Replaced combustible skirting



- Replaced existing ramp and stairs with non-combustible ramp



- Replaced first foot of deck boards with non-combustible materials

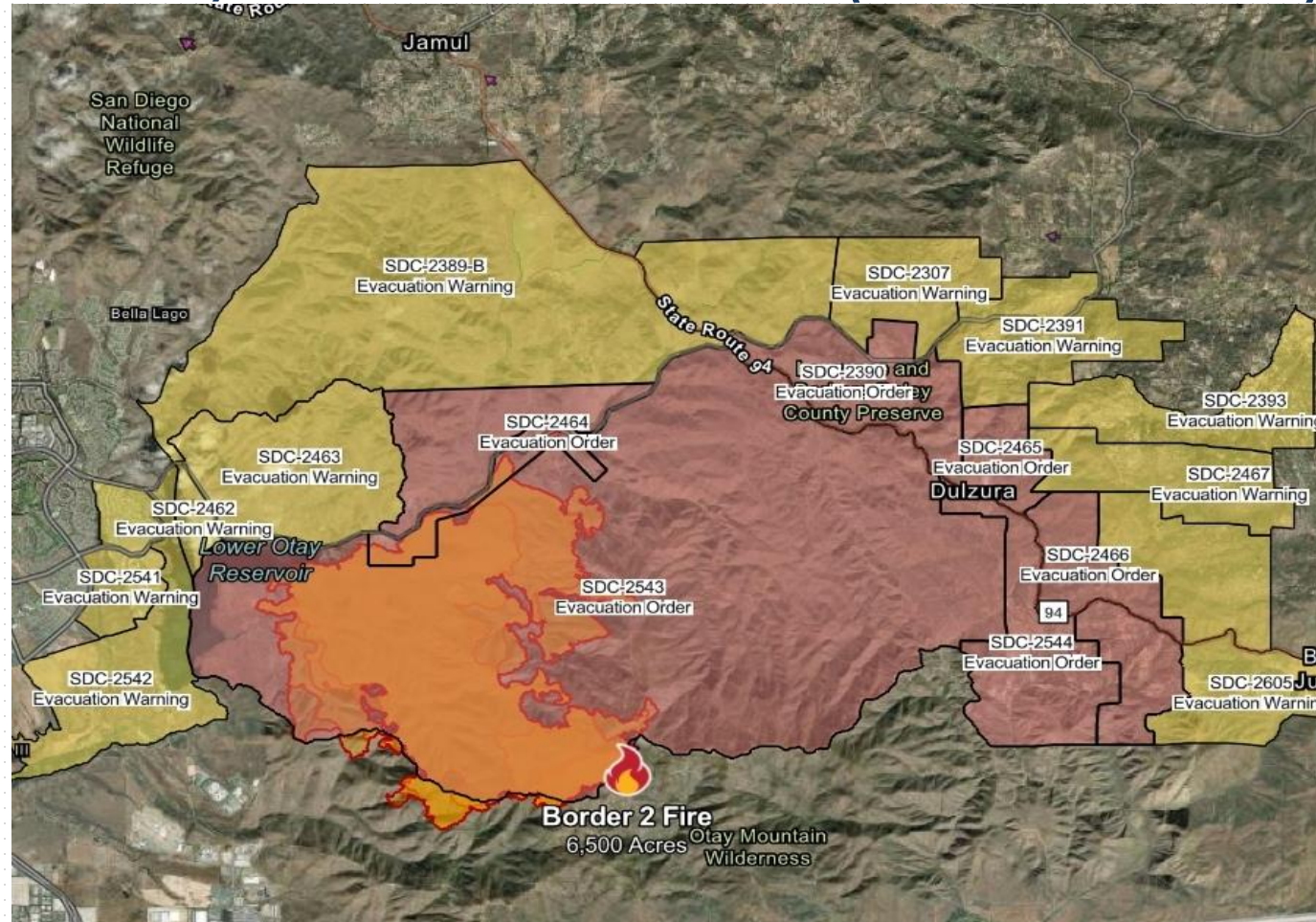
San Diego County Fire Protection District in San Diego County

Defensible Space Inspections in Campo -

- Warning letters are citing combustibles within 10 feet of propane enclosures
 - HOA now requiring replacement of vinyl fence enclosures for all homeowners regardless of participation in CWMP
- Also citing combustibles within 5 feet (Zone 0)



CWMP Pilot Program Update: San Diego County Fire Protection District in San Diego County – Border 2 Fire (01/23/2025)



CWMP Pilot Program Update:

Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District in Siskiyou County

Site Work Updates – Batch One

- Pending some final Zone 0 work, work halted due to snow

Site Work Updates – Batch Two

- Tree removal has begun for second batch of seven homes, will complete Zone 0 debris removal in spring

Contractor Training

- Will be conducting contractor training for their participating contractors
 - Training will help the contractors with the bidding process

CWMP Pilot Program Update:

Shasta County Fire Safe Council in Shasta County

Site Work

- 3 defensible space projects completed, 3 more to begin March 3, 2025
- RFQ will be released next week for DSpace on 3 additional homes
- Completed 11 assessments since January 1st
- First home hardening bid walk for 2 homes in Whitmore.
 - Three GCs attended.
 - Currently reviewing bids and will award contract by February 28

Staff

- Contracted a Labor Compliance Consultant

FEMA

- Biological Assessment has been completed
 - Awaiting Final signatures and approval

CWMP Pilot Program Update:

North Coast Opportunities in Lake County

Site Work

- 18 Homes have been completed
- 5 homes in active construction
- 7 SOW in development
- 2 to start in the bid process this week

Staff

- Looking to double staffing and home production in 2025

Community Engagement

- January 25th Community Event:
 - Showcased approved CWMP retrofit materials with a presentation & meet-and-greet
 - Hosted in person and on Zoom for virtual participation.

CWMP Pilot Program Update:

Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services

EHP Phase I Update

- Biological Assessment has been approved
 - Awaiting final signatures and approval

Staff

- Hired a Full time Analyst
- In the process of hiring two more staff members
 - One more Analyst
 - One Project Manager
 - Secured an Office space for the Project Manager

Community Outreach

- Interest from Homeowners and Contractors on how to apply
- Have done social media updates and mass mailers to maintain interest

CWMP Pilot Program Update:

El Dorado County Office of Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience

EHP Phase I

- Phase I Deliverables have been submitted to FEMA
 - 74 No Issue Properties

Program Documents

- Continuing to work on drafts of the Master Agreement, Right of Entry and Tri-Party Agreement

Staff

- RFQ for construction manager extended to February 25
 - 3 responses received

CWMP Authority - Executive Director Report

- CWMPA Program Coordinator Position – Shawn Oberbruner
- Monthly CWMP Report
- Support to Local and State Wildfire Home Hardening Efforts
 - Continue assistance to wildfire home hardening projects: Napa County, Sonoma County, California Fire Safe Council
- Provided access to program photos shared folder to Cal OES PIO Palmer and CAL FIRE PIO McMorrow
- Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force Goal #2
 - Fire Adapted Communities and Ascent
- CWMP Website [California Wildfire Mitigation Program](#)

CWMP Authority - Executive Director Report

- Recipient Contribution Requirements
 - Government Code 8654.8.
 - (a) The joint powers authority shall develop eligibility criteria for property owners, community organizations, and local governments who may receive financial assistance under the wildfire mitigation program in accordance with this article.
 - (b) The joint powers authority may also establish financial assistance limits and matching funding or other recipient contribution requirements, as necessary, to ensure the viability and efficient operation of the wildfire mitigation program and to maximize the program's impact on reducing wildfire risk in California.
 - 0%, 10%, 25%, of State Contribution
 - 0%, 10%, 25%, of Total Project Cost
- Form 700
- CWMPA Executive Director Evaluation

FEMA Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) Streamlining Project

- Project: Exploring opportunities to further streamline EHP reviews through participation in agreement documents with state and federal partners
- FEMA assembled team, developed and reviewed internal work priorities regarding agreements
- Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, CAL FIRE, and Cal OES Representatives Selected
- California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA):
 - California State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)

Federal Legislation Update:

- **Disaster Mitigation and Tax Parity Act 2025**

- [Text - S.336 - 119th Congress \(2025-2026\): A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received from State-based catastrophe loss mitigation programs. | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#)

- **H.R.7849 - Disaster Resiliency and Coverage Act of 2024**

- [Text - H.R.7849 - 118th Congress \(2023-2024\): Disaster Resiliency and Coverage Act of 2024 | Congress.gov | Library of Congress](#)
- The legislation includes four main provisions.
 - 1st: creates a grant program, administered through State governments, through which individual households in designated disaster-prone regions (with certain limitations) are eligible for up to \$10,000 for specified disaster resiliency work on their homes.
 - 2nd and 3rd provisions (Sections 3 and 4 of the legislation) mirror existing legislation (H.R. 4070) stipulating that payments from State-run disaster resiliency programs and payments from various federal emergency agricultural programs are not considered income for federal tax purposes.
 - 4th section provides a 30% tax credit for qualified disaster risk mitigation activities conducted by individuals or businesses. The credit is meant to complement the grant program by providing meaningful assistance to larger property owners for whom mitigation activity costs would far exceed \$10,000.

State Legislation Update:

- **[SB616](#) Community Hardening Commission: wildfire mitigation program.**
 - Require the joint powers authority to revise the wildfire mitigation program in accordance with prescribed community hardening standards and guidelines developed pursuant to the bill's provisions, as specified.
 - Establish the Community Hardening Commission as an independent unit within the Department of Insurance, to be composed of specified members, including, among others, the Insurance Commissioner and the State Fire Marshal or Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, or their designee.
- **[AB1](#) Residential property insurance: wildfire risk.**
 - Require the Department of Insurance, on or before January 1, 2030, and every 5 years thereafter, to consider whether or not to update its regulations to include additional building hardening measures for property-level mitigation efforts and communitywide wildfire mitigation programs. As part of this consideration, the bill would require the department to consult with specified agencies to identify additional building hardening measures to consider, as well as to develop and implement a public participation process during the evaluation.

State Legislation Update:

- [AB1457](#) **Wildfires: training programs: defensible space: inspections.**

- Existing law requires the department, until January 1, 2026, to develop and implement a training program for individuals to support and augment the department in its defensible and home hardening assessment and public education efforts. Existing law requires the training program to do specified things.
- This bill would require the training program to include training consistent with the “Home Ignition Zone/Defensible Space Inspector” course plan, established by the State Fire Marshal, to ensure that individuals are trained to conduct home ignition zone inspections. The bill would also extend the operative date of both programs described above indefinitely.

- [SB662](#) **Wildfires: defensible space: education efforts.**

- Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, until January 1, 2026, to establish a statewide program to allow qualifying entities to support and augment the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in its defensible space and home hardening assessment and education efforts and requires the director to establish a common reporting platform that allows defensible space and home hardening assessment data, collected by qualifying entities, to be reported to the department, among other things.
- Existing law requires the department, until January 1, 2026, to develop and implement a training program to train individuals to support and augment the department in its defensible and home hardening assessment and public education efforts.
- This bill would extend those programs to January 1, 2031.

State Legislation Update:

- **[AB1143](#) State Fire Marshal: home hardening certification program.**
 - This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2027, the Office of the State Fire Marshal to develop a home hardening certification program that identifies the best appropriate combination of those listed products and construction assemblies, and other home hardening techniques, including defensible space, to substantially reduce the risk of loss during a fire. The bill would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal, for the purpose of developing the home hardening certification program, to convene and facilitate a workgroup, as specified. The bill would authorize the Office of the State Fire Marshal to expend funds from the Building Standards Administration Special Revolving Fund, upon an appropriation by the Legislature, for the purposes of developing the home hardening certification program and convening and facilitating the workgroup.
- **[SB499](#) Fire prevention: home hardening: defensible space: data usage.**
 - Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, until January 1, 2026, to establish a statewide program to allow qualified entities to support and augment the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in its defensible space and home hardening assessment and education efforts. Existing law requires the director to establish a common reporting platform that allows defensible space and home hardening assessment data, collected by the qualified entities, to be reported to the department and requires the director to establish any necessary quality control measure to ensure that the assessment data is accurate and reliable. Existing law authorizes the director to use the assessment data, as specified.
 - This bill would instead require the director to use that assessment data, as specified.

CWMP Pilot Program Next Steps

- **CWMP Funding Budget Act 2022** (AB-179) Funding \$13 Million
 - ~\$6 Million Committed to Siskiyou County for HMGP Grant ~\$24 million
 - ~\$7 Million Committed to Riverside County for HMGP Grant ~\$26 million
 - Both Projects submitted to FEMA on 11/21/2024 utilizing funding opportunity DR-4699-CA (California Severe Winter Storms, Straight-line Winds, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides) FEMA Review will take ~7-12 months.

SB-946, Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: exclusions: wildfire mitigation payments.(2023-2024)

- **Proposition 4**
 - Grants under the Home Hardening Program to retrofit, harden, or create defensible space for homes at high risk of wildfire in order to protect California communities

CWMP Pilot Program Next Steps

- **SECTION 1. Section 91510 of the Public Resources Code is amended to read:**
 - 91510. (a) Of the funds made available by Section 91500, \$135,000,000 shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Office of Emergency Services for a wildfire mitigation grant program. The Office of Emergency Services shall coordinate with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in administering these moneys. The grant program shall assist local and state agencies to leverage additional funds, including matching grants from federal agencies. Funds may be used to provide loans, rebates, direct assistance, and matching funds for projects that prevent wildfires, increase resilience, maintain existing wildfire risk reduction projects, reduce the risk of wildfires to communities, or increase home or community hardening. Projects shall benefit disadvantaged communities, severely disadvantaged communities, or vulnerable populations.

Presentation

- **Joint Pilot Project to Build Economic Resilience in Wildfire-Prone Communities**
 - Presenters:
 - California Department of Insurance
 - InnSure
 - Board Discussion and Direction regarding engagement and participation in Joint Pilot Project

CWMPA Board of Directors Public Meeting

Discussion Regarding Updates and Revisions to CWMP Business Plan

Discussion and Action regarding CWMP Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

- Adopt Resolution 2025-1 Recommending CWMP Member Agencies amend CWMP Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement

A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE)
MITIGATION PROGRAM AUTHORITY)
RECOMMENDING AMENDMENT TO JOINT) Resolution No. 2025-01
EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT)
_____)

WHEREAS, the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (the “CWMP”) is a California joint powers authority organized under California Government Code Section 6500 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2021, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (“Cal OES”) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protections (“CAL FIRE”) (collectively “Member Agencies”) entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement establishing the CWMP for the purpose of developing and administering a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program pursuant to Government Code Section 8654.4 (the “JPA Agreement”); and

WHEREAS, the term of the JPA Agreement and CWMP was established by Government Code 8654.10(c) and expires on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, on September 22, 2024, the Governor signed into law AB 2469 which amended Government Code Section 8654.10(c) and extended the term of CWMP to July 1, 2029.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of CWMP hereby recommends to its Member Agencies that the JPA Agreement be amended to extend the term of the JPA Agreement to July 1, 2029 in accordance with Government Code Section 8654.10(c).

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM THIS 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:

Abby Browning, Chair

CWMPA Board of Directors Public Meeting

Discussion and Action regarding advance funding request, grant agreements and subrecipient agreements

- Adopt Resolution 2025-2 Authorizing Executive Director to execute advance funding request, grant agreements and subrecipient agreements

A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE)
MITIGATION PROGRAM AUTHORIZING)
ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE)
ADVANCE FUNDING REQUESTS, GRANTS, AND)
SUBRECIPIENT AGREEMENTS)
_____)

Resolution No. 2025-02

WHEREAS, the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (the “CWMP”) is a California joint powers authority organized under California Government Code Section 6500 et seq. and operating by and through its Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, CWMP is eligible to apply for and receive certain State and Federal Grants in support of its programs, services and operations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the requirements of the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), in order for CWMP to receive advance funding an Advance Funding Request Form must be executed and submitted by an authorized agent of CWMP; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the objectives of the program, the CWMP Board of Directors desires to pursue, apply for, and secure available funds through eligible State and Federal grant programs and funding opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of CWMP hereby authorizes the CWMP Executive Director to execute, file, and submit Advance Funding Request Forms, grant applications, grant agreements, and subrecipient agreements on behalf of CWMP in furtherance of CWMP programs, services and operations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director shall report to the Board of Directors as necessary regarding the status of any grant applications, awards of funding, and any related agreements entered into on behalf of CWMP.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE MITIGATION PROGRAM THIS 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINING:

ABSENT:



Abby Browning, Chair

CWMP Board of Directors Public Meeting

Meeting Schedule

- Next meeting is March 19, 2025
- CAL FIRE Natomas Training Center, 2860 Gateway Oaks Drive, Rooms 120/121, Sacramento, CA 95833

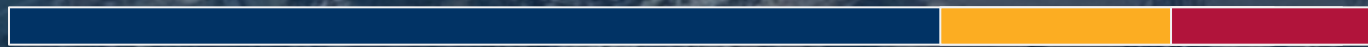
Board Member Comments

Public Comment

Adjournment

California Wildfire Mitigation Program Authority

Home Hardening Initiative



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