



State Board of Fire Services

September 25, 2026

CAL FIRE

Office of the State Fire Marshal



Call to Order

Welcome!

- ▶ If you have technical difficulties during this meeting, please contact Carrie Lewis at:
 - (916) 980-9352 or carrie.lewis@fire.ca.gov



Roll Call / Quorum

- ▶ **Daniel Berlant** - State Fire Marshal
- ▶ **Anale Burlew** - CALFIRE, Chief Deputy Director
- ▶ **Dan Terry** – California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Program
- ▶ **Caroline Thomas Jacobs** - CalOES
- ▶ **Donald Butz** – Fire Districts Association of California
- ▶ **Zoraida Diaz** – California Fire Chiefs Association
- ▶ **David Rocha** - California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs
- ▶ **Edward A. Foster Jr.** - California State Firefighters Association
- ▶ **David Gilotte** - International Association of Firefighters
- ▶ **Frank Lima** - California Labor Federation
- ▶ **Peter Munoa** - CAL FIRE Firefighters, Local 2881
- ▶ **Darrell Roberts** - California Professional Firefighters
- ▶ **Michael S. Williams** - Volunteer Firefighter
- ▶ **Robert Magee** - City Government
- ▶ **Cindy Gustafson** – County Supervisor, Placer County
- ▶ **Len Nielson** - Cultural Burn Liaison



Approval of the May 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes



STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 13, 2026

10:00 am - 12:00 pm Pacific Standard Time

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Daniel Berlant, CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Donald Butz, Fire Districts Association of California, Vice Chair
Matthew Sully, CAL FIRE
Yvonne de la Peña, California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Program
Caroline Thomas Jacobs, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Zoraida Diaz, California Fire Chiefs Association
David Rocha, Fire Chief, California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs
Ed Foster, California State Firefighters Association
Michael Williams, California State Firefighters Association *
Cindy Gustafson, County Supervisor
Len Nielsen, Cultural Burning Liaison

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Peter Munoa, CAL FIRE Firefighters, Local 2881
David Gillotte, International Association of Firefighters
Frank Lima, California Labor Federation
Janet Ruiz, Insurance Industry
Robert Magee, City Government

STATE FIRE MARSHAL STAFF:

Vickie Sakamoto, Assistant State Fire Marshal
Andrew Henning, Assistant Deputy Director
Chris Fowler, Division Chief
Brice Bennett, Division Chief
Wendy Collins, Division Chief
Carrie Lewis, Analyst II
Danh Dao, Analyst I

* Attended meeting virtually

A) CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chair Vickie Sakamoto called the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) meeting to order at 10:06 am.

1. Welcome and meeting logistics.
2. Roll Call was held; there was a quorum with 11 members present in person and one member attending via Zoom.



Approval of the September 25, 2026 Meeting Agenda



STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES

Meeting Announcement and Agenda

Friday, September 25, 2026

10:00am - 12:00pm Pacific Standard Time

Sacramento

Natural Resources Headquarters Building, Room 2-302 A/B
715 P Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

This meeting can be joined virtually by following this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81794833685> (join as guest if prompted to log in)

Or participants may call into the meeting at the following phone number.

Teleconference Line: 669-444-9171

Conference ID: 817 9483 3685

1. CALL TO ORDER

Daniel Berlant

- A. Welcome and Meeting Logistics
- B. Roll Call/Establish Quorum
- C. Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2026
(Discussion/Public Comment/Action)
- D. Approval of September 25, 2026, Meeting Agenda
(Discussion/Public Comment/Action)
- E. Announcements

2. CONSENT ITEMS

A. State Fire Training Division

(Discussion/Public Comment/Action)

- 1. [CAL FIRE Training Centers ALA Reaccreditation](#)
- 2. [Consumnes Fire Department ALA Reaccreditation](#)
- 3. [Contra Costa County Fire Protection District ALA Reaccreditation](#)
- 4. [Hayward Fire Department ALA Reaccreditation](#)
- 5. [Santa Monica Fire Department ALA Reaccreditation](#)
- 6. [Compton College ARTP Accreditation](#)
- 7. [Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Pump \(2024\) Curriculum](#)
- 8. [Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Aerial \(2024\) Curriculum](#)
- 9. [Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Tillered \(2024\) Curriculum](#)
- 10. [Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Wildland \(2024\) Curriculum](#)
- 11. [Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Water Tender \(2024\) Curriculum](#)

ACTION ITEMS

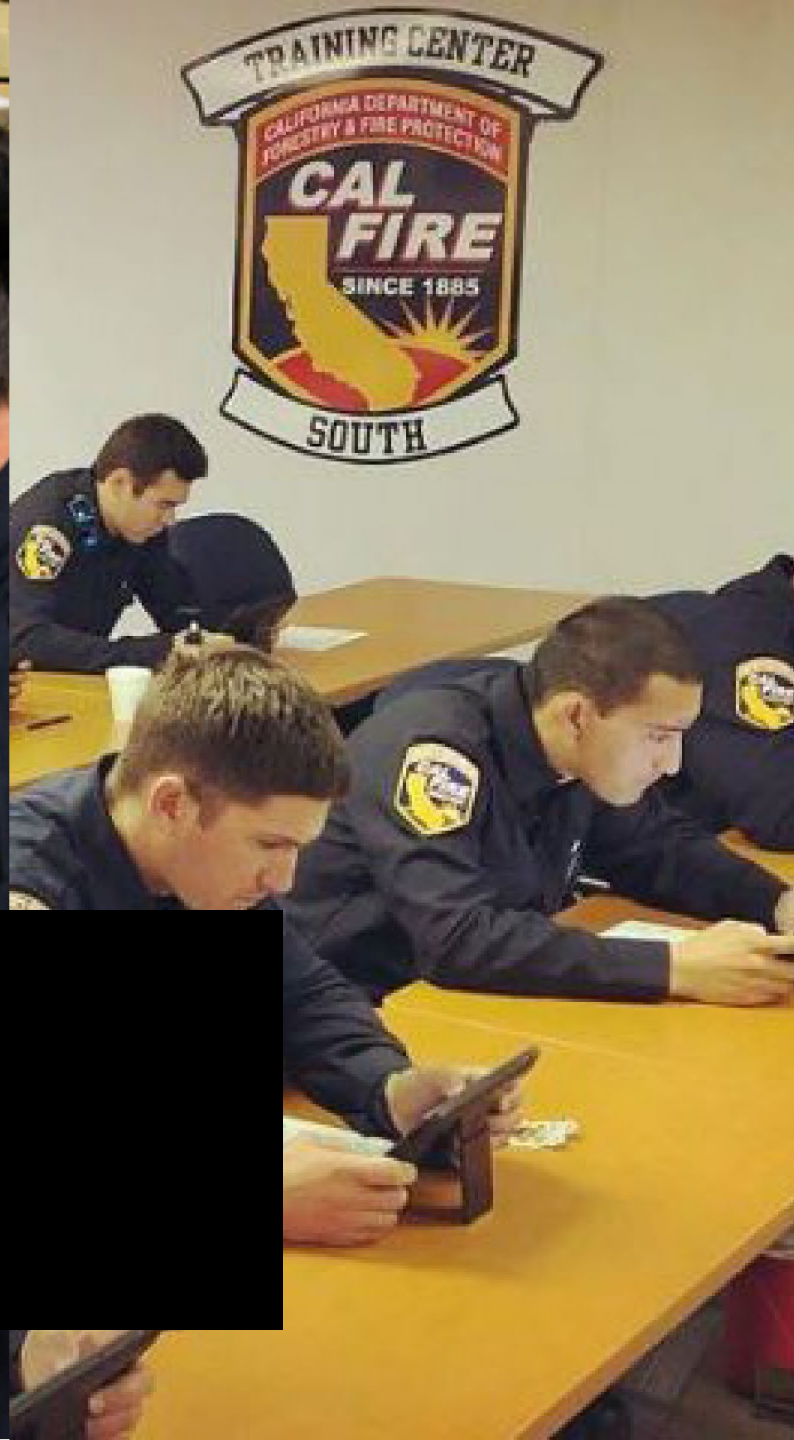
A. [NWCG and California Specific Curriculum Alignment](#)

- 1. Internal SFT Update
- 2. Further SME Analysis
- 3. Discontinuation from SFT Catalog
- 4. S 212 Update

B. [Ethical Leadership for Instructors \(2026\) Curriculum](#)

C. [SBFS Member On-Boarding Documents](#)





State Fire Training

State Fire Training Division

Consent Items

- ▶ CAL FIRE Training Centers ALA Reaccreditation
- ▶ Consumnes Fire Department ALA Reaccreditation
- ▶ Contra Costa County Fire Protection District ALA Reaccreditation
- ▶ Hayward Fire Department ALA Reaccreditation
- ▶ Santa Monica Fire Department ALA Reaccreditation
- ▶ Compton College ARTP Accreditation
- ▶ Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Pump (2024) Curriculum
- ▶ Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Aerial (2024) Curriculum
- ▶ Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Tiller (2024) Curriculum
- ▶ Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Wildland (2024) Curriculum
- ▶ Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Water Tender (2024) Curriculum



State Fire Training Division

Action Items

- ▶ NWCG and California Specific Curriculum Alignment
 - Internal SFT Update
 - Further SME Analysis
 - Discontinuation from SFT Catalog
 - S 212 Update
- ▶ Ethical Leadership for Instructors (2026) Curriculum
- ▶ SBFS Member On-Boarding Documents





Office of the State Fire Marshal Division & Advisory Committee Reports

Division & Advisory Committee Reports

- ▶ **State Fire Training**
 - Staffing
 - Accredited Academy Steering Committee
 - IFSAC/ProBoard Certification
- ▶ **Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation**
- ▶ **Fire Engineering & Investigations Division**
 - Fireworks Program Update
 - National Standards Adoption
 - Education and Enforcement Efforts
- ▶ **Code Development and Analysis**
 - Title 24 Intervening Code Cycle Update
- ▶ **Pipeline Safety & CUPA**
 - Carbon Dioxide Pipeline Safety Regulations





Battery Energy Storage Systems Work Group Update



**Community Wildfire Risk
Reduction Program Framework**
Karen Collins, American Property
Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA)



American Property Casualty Insurance AssociationSM

Insurance, Wildfire and Mitigation

*CA State Board of Fire Services
September 25, 2026*

Karen Collins, VP, Property & Environmental



STATE OF THE INSURANCE MARKET

**Recent loss trends,
the Sustainable
Insurance Strategy
and other solutions**

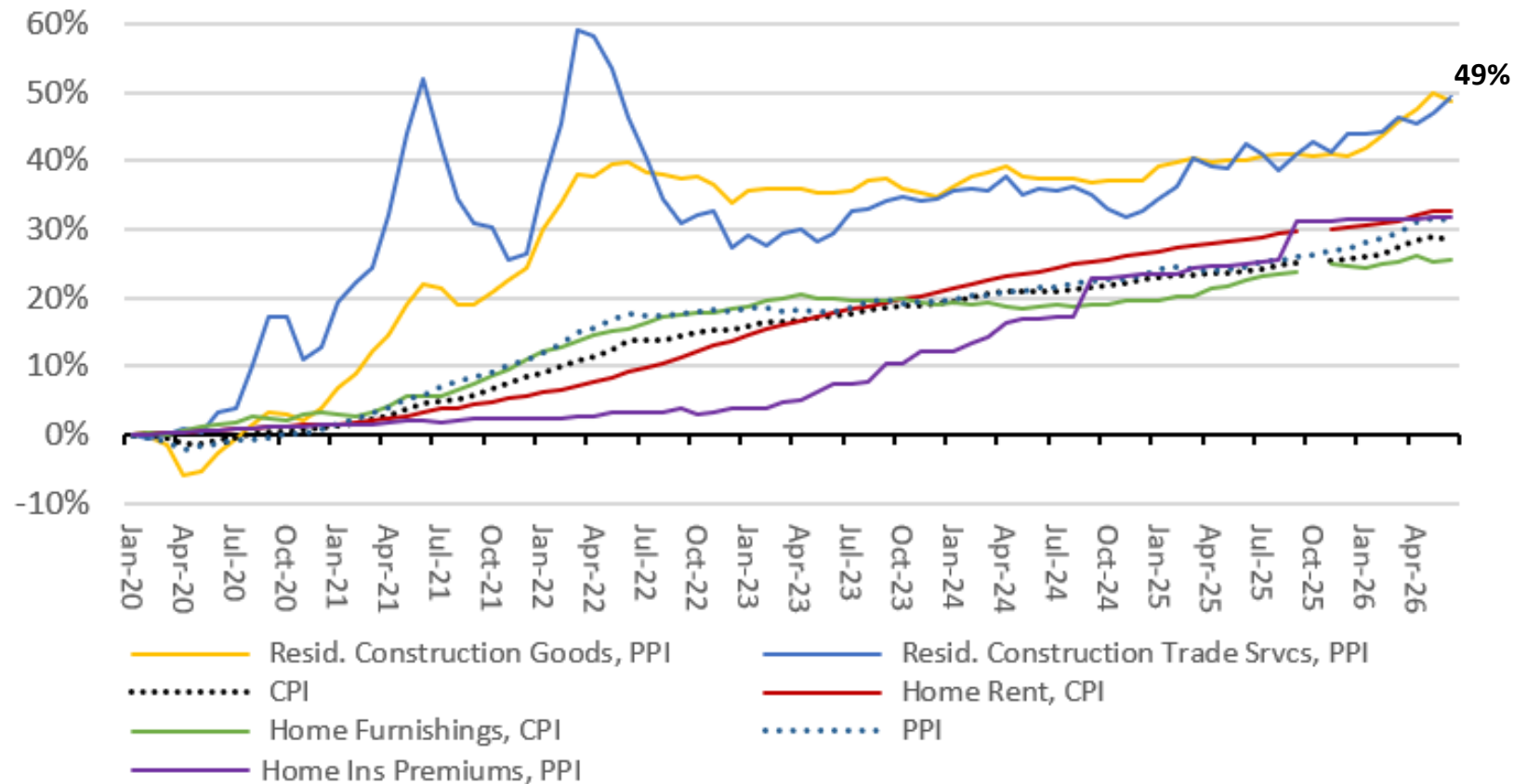


Cost Indicators: Home Insurance

Verisk: The factors causing a doubling of average annual natural catastrophe losses over the last decade are (in order of importance):

1. **A rise in exposure values and replacement costs**, represented both by continued construction in high-hazard areas and by high levels of inflation that are driving up repair and rebuild costs
2. The natural variability that comes from selecting any five-year sample of natural catastrophe experience
3. The effects of **climate change** on different atmospheric perils
4. The impacts of man-made loss drivers, such as **social inflation** and legal and **regulatory factors**

Residential Home 'Replacement Costs' Cumulative Change since January 2020



Producer Price Index: Inputs to Single Family Residential Construction, Goods; Producer Price Index: Inputs to Single Family Residential Construction, Trade Services; Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: Rent of Shelter; Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers: All Items; Producer Price Index by Commodity: Final Demand. Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data through H1 2026, as of July 27, 2026



Top 20 Costliest Insured Wildfires in U.S. (since 2017)



Rank	Insured Losses	Event	Location
1	\$40.5 B	2025 LA Fires	California
2	\$13.0 B	2018 Camp	California
3	\$11.6 B	2017 Tubbs	California
4	\$5.4 B	2018 Woolsey	California
5	\$4.6 B	2023 Maui	Maui
7	\$4.0 B	2017 Atlas	California
9	\$3.8 B	2020 Glass	California
10	\$3.2 B	2020 CZU Lightning Complex	California
11	\$3.0 B	2017 Thomas	California
12	\$3.0 B	2021 Marshall	Colorado
13	\$2.9 B	2020 LNU Lightning Complex	California
18	\$1.7 B	2020 Beachie Creek (aka, Labor Day)	Oregon
19	\$1.6 B	2018 Carr	California
20	\$1.6 B	2021 Dixie	California

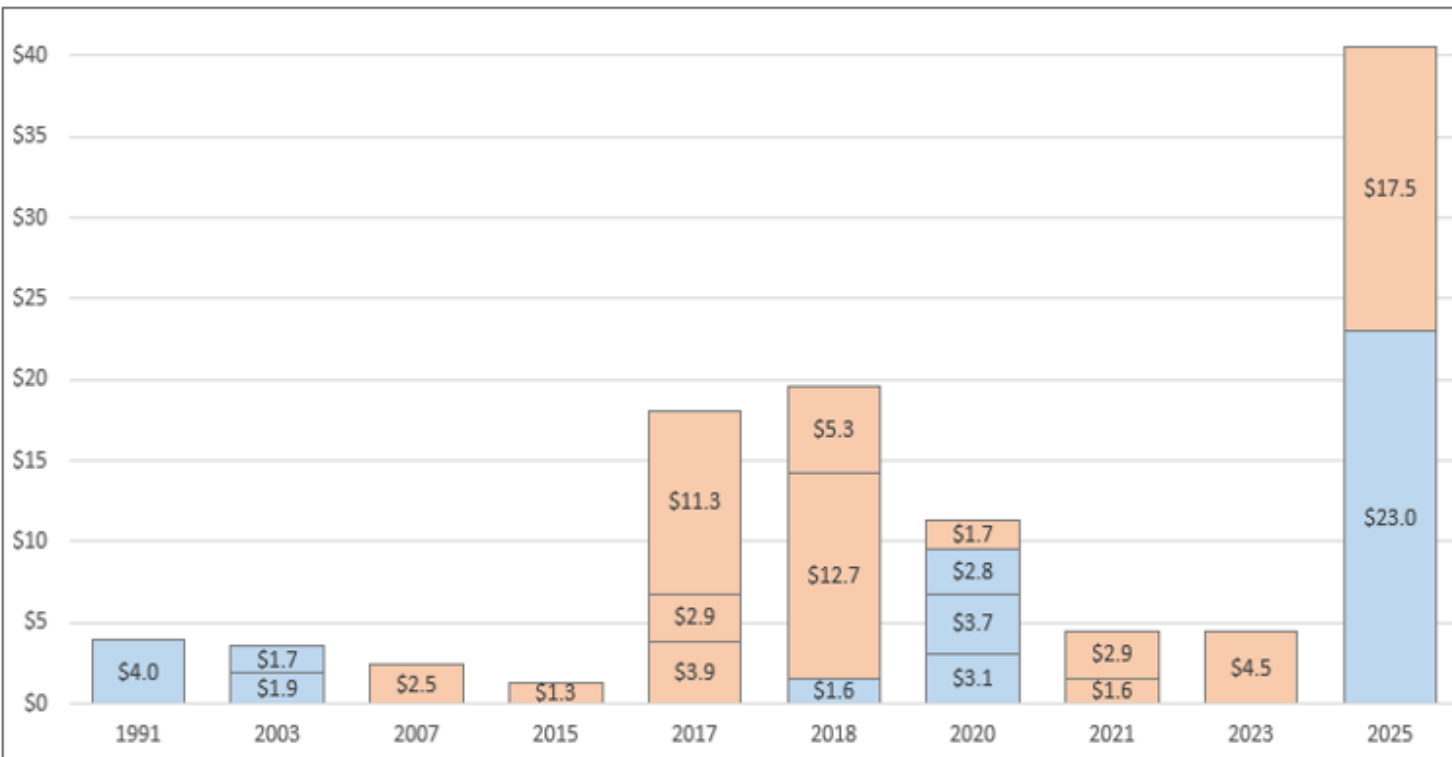
(Source: APCIA, via Aon. CPI-adjusted to 2025 dollars)



Top 20 U.S. Insured Loss Events due to Wildfire

In billions, adjusted to 2024 dollars (except 2025 L.A. fires)

Orange shading = utility-involved ignitions



	Year	Name	Location	Insured Loss (Nominal \$B)	Insured Loss (Inflated \$B)	Utility-involved ignition
1	2025	Palisades Fire	California	\$ 23.0	\$ 23.0	
2	2025	Eaton Fire	California	\$ 17.5	\$ 17.5	Yes
3	2018	Camp Fire	California	\$ 10.0	\$ 12.7	Yes
4	2017	Tubbs Fire	California	\$ 8.7	\$ 11.3	Yes
5	2018	Woolsey Fire	California	\$ 4.2	\$ 5.3	Yes
6	2023	Mau/Hawaii Wildfires	Hawaii	\$ 4.3	\$ 4.5	Yes
7	1991	Oakland Fire (Tunnel)	California	\$ 1.7	\$ 4.0	
8	2017	Atlas Fire	California	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.9	Yes
9	2020	Glass Fire (2020)	California	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.7	
10	2020	CZU Lightning Complex Fire	California	\$ 2.5	\$ 3.1	
11	2017	Thomas Fire	California	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.9	Yes
12	2021	Marshall Fire (2021)	Colorado	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.9	Yes
13	2020	LNU Lightning Complex Fire	California	\$ 2.3	\$ 2.8	
14	2007	Multiple Fires (Inc. Witch)	California	\$ 1.6	\$ 2.5	Yes
15	2003	Cedar Fire	California	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.9	
16	2003	Old Fire	California	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.7	
17	2020	Beachie Creek Fire	Oregon	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.7	Yes
18	2018	Carr Fire	California	\$ 1.3	\$ 1.6	
19	2021	Dixie Fire	California	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.6	Yes
20	2015	Valley Fire	California	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.3	Yes

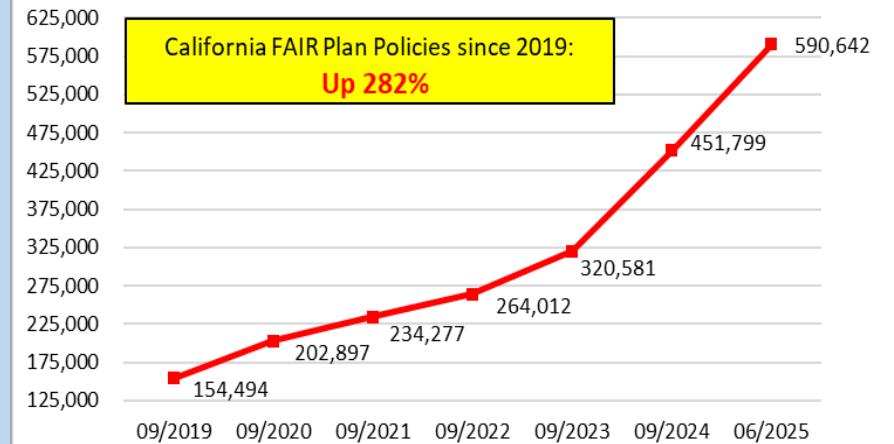
Source: APCIA, via Aon and fire investigation reports



Source: FAIR Plan
Note: each quarter circle represents a 7-mile radius where risk is concentrated.
(at the time of LA Fires)

<https://www.insurancejournal.com/news/west/2025/01/16/808564.htm>

California FAIR Plan Dwelling Policies in Force



Source: APCIA via California FAIR Plan; excludes commercial policies; "09" dates reflect fiscal year ending September 30; 2025 is through June.

As of June 2026, the California FAIR Plan's total exposure is \$768 billion





January 2025 LA Fires:

- **FINANCIAL DISTRESS**

- The largest private homeowners insurer in CA and the CA FAIR Plan (state residual market plan) following the 2025 LA fires

- **CA FAIR Plan**

- Covered structures within the CAL FIRE incident maps:
 - 22% Palisades Fire, 12% Eaton Fire (not including smoke claims)
- 5,400 claims received by the FAIR Plan
- \$3.5B paid (1-year later, press statement [link](#))
- \$1B assessment on the private market due to shortfall in claims-paying capacity.

Underscored the urgency to stabilize and end the insurance coverage crisis.





What Caused the Insurance Coverage Crisis ...in *California*

The insurance market crisis forced a **majority of the top insurance companies to restrict access to new policies or exit out** of the California market entirely.

■ ***California's outdated insurance framework*** is 35 years old, too slow to respond to rapidly evolving conditions, and not equipped to handle today's climate and economic realities.

■ ***Extreme weather***, including catastrophic wildfires and flooding, is causing tens of billions of dollars in losses to communities across the state – substantially increasing the risk and cost of providing insurance.

■ ***Inflation and supply chain pressures*** have driven up the costs of home and auto repairs and replacements.

California's homeowners insurers
**paid out more than \$1.14 in claims
and expenses for every \$1.00 in
premiums from 2015 – 2024**

...PRIOR TO the 2025 LA Fires.

Source: NAIC Report on Profitability by Line by State in 2024 (July 2026)



How to Fix the Insurance Coverage Crisis

Modernize **California's** outdated insurance framework to reflect today's realities

Solutions to improve insurance “availability”

- **Streamline the rate review process**
- **Implement proven, catastrophe risk modeling**
- **Include the use of reinsurance in ratemaking**
- **Reform the California FAIR Plan to prevent insolvency**

Solutions to improve insurance “affordability”

- **Expand community-wide wildfire mitigation**



How to Fix the Insurance Coverage Crisis

Modernize **California's** outdated insurance framework to reflect today's realities

✓ **Streamline the rate review process**

The rate review process is currently delayed up to a year or more – leaving insurers collecting premiums that do not adequately cover the costs of providing coverage.

We must expedite the review process by enforcing statutory timeframes to ensure there are sufficient resources to cover consumer claims.



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Improve rate filing timelines

IN PROCESS

- **May 2024:** CDI entered two new contracts aimed at helping assess and improve the performance of the Rate Regulation Branch.
- **May 28, 2024:** Gov. Newsom released budget trailer bill language requiring CDI to finish rate reviews within 60 days of rate filing.
- **Aug 8, 2024:** Gov. Newsom pulled his budget trailer bill language.
- **Aug 9, 2024:** Commissioner Lara issued a Bulletin requiring CDI to finish rate reviews within 120 days of rate filing.
- **Dec 2025:** Homeowners Rate Filings timeframes

State	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025 Q1	2025 Q2	2025 Q3	2025 Q4	12 mos ending 12/31/2025
CA	319	355	386	340	342	327	202	197	283

Since 2023, median days from filing submission to approval/disposition have **decreased by ~100 days**.
(Source: Perr & Knight)

Increase transparency in the intervenor process

COMPLETED

- **Oct 2023:** CDI made prior intervenor filings publicly available on CDI's website.
- **Sep 2025:** CDI released reforms to the intervenor process.
- **Nov 2025:** CDI held public hearing on proposed reforms.
- **Apr 20, 2026:** CDI submitted its intervenor reform package to the Office of Administrative Law for final review.
- **Aug 11, 2026:** The Office of Administrative Law filed final regulation with the Secretary of State.²³



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Increase rate application requirements

COMPLETED

- **Feb 9, 2024:** Draft “Complete Application” regulations released.
- **Sep 12, 2024:** CDI filed final “Complete Action” regulations to the Office of Administrative Law for approval.
- **Oct 8, 2024:** The Office of Administrative Law filed final regulation with the Secretary of State.

Streamline rate application submissions

COMPLETED

- **Jan 2026:** CDI announced a new web-based Prior Approval Rate Application (PARA) and PARA Portal, in addition to updates to the Prior Approval Rate Template, which insurers utilize for submitting filings.



How to Fix the Insurance Coverage Crisis

Modernize **California's** outdated insurance framework to reflect today's realities

✓ **Implement proven, catastrophe risk modeling**

California prohibits the use of advanced computer modeling that more accurately calculates ongoing and future risks of catastrophic events like fires and floods when determining insurance rates. Catastrophic risk modeling is used in almost every other state and enables providers to project consumer claims more accurately and better account for home and community mitigation efforts.

✓ **Include the use of reinsurance in ratemaking**

Reinsurance is coverage insurance providers buy to ensure they can cover the costs of consumer claims. Allowing providers to account for reinsurance – a standard practice in all other 49 states – will help increase access to coverage for consumers.



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Allow use of catastrophe models

COMPLETED – Implementation in Progress

- **Dec 13, 2024:** The Office of Administrative law filed the final “Catastrophe Modeling” regulation with the Secretary of State.
- **Mar 2025:** CDI updated the definition, zip codes and counties designated as “wildfire distressed areas.”
- **Jul 2025:** CDI approved catastrophe models for use in filing rate plans.
- **Aug 2025:** First insurer filed rate plan using catastrophe model.

NEXT STEPS:

- ❑ Insurers must write 85% of their market share in “wildfire-distressed areas” or grow by 5% in those designated areas.
- ❑ CDI must approve rate plans filed by insurers using approved models.



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Incorporate reinsurance costs into ratemaking

COMPLETED – Implementation in Progress

- **May 15, 2024:** Commissioner Lara entered a contract with an actuarial firm.
- **Jan 14, 2025:** The Office of Administrative Law filed the final regulation with the Secretary of State.
- **Mar 2025:** CDI updated the definition, zip codes and counties designated as "wildfire distressed areas."
- **Jun 2025:** CDI developed and released the Net Cost of Reinsurance (NCOR).

NEXT STEPS:

- ❑ Insurers must write 85% of their market share in "wildfire-distressed areas" or grow by 5% in those designated areas.
- ❑ CDI must approve new rate plans that account for the NCOR.



How to Fix the Insurance Coverage Crisis

Modernize **California's** outdated insurance framework to reflect today's realities

✓ **Reform the California FAIR Plan to prevent insolvency**

California's FAIR Plan, the state's insurer of last resort, is just one catastrophe away from insolvency due to inadequate assets and financial safeguards. Reforms are needed to allow for emergency assessments of policyholders and the ability to issue bonds to help cover consumer claims in the event of catastrophic damages or if the state's plan becomes insolvent.



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Financially Stabilize and Depopulate the FAIR Plan

Require insurers to write 85% of their market share in wildfire-distressed areas and prioritize policyholders using "Safer from Wildfires" guidelines.

COMPLETED – Implementation in Progress

- **Dec 13, 2024:** CDI proposed this requirement as a condition of insurers utilizing the Catastrophe Modeling and Reinsurance regulations.
- **Mar 2025:** CDI updated the definition, zip codes and counties designated as "wildfire distressed areas".
- **2025:** AB 226 authorized post-event catastrophe bonds (\$750M)

NEXT STEPS:

- ❑ Insurers must write 85% of their market share in "wildfire-distressed areas" or grow by 5% in those designated areas.



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Financially Stabilize and Depopulate the FAIR Plan

Sep 2026:

- Commitments to stay, grow or begin writing in the state
- 12 homeowners companies (8 of top 10 insurer groups)
- 3 commercial companies

HOMEOWNERS FILINGS:

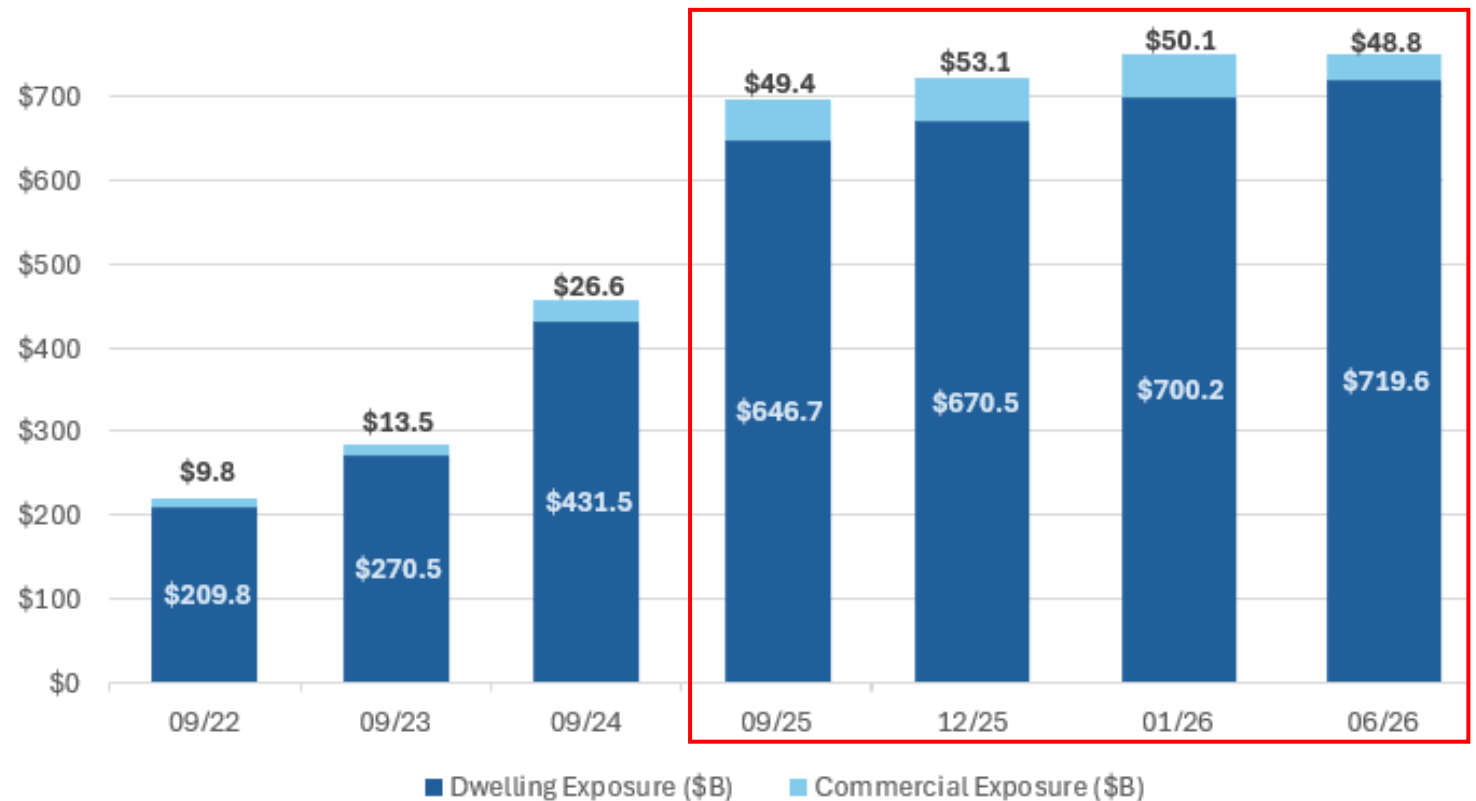
- Top 10 insurers: AAA SoCal, Allstate, CSAA, Farmers, Liberty Mutual, Mercury, Travelers and USAA
- Specialty insurers: California Casualty, Horace Mann and Pacific Specialty
- New entrant: MS Transverse Insurance Group

State Farm also announced re-opening new business in limited circumstance (not SIS filing)

COMMERCIAL FILINGS:

- CNA, Mercury and Zurich

CA FAIR Plan Exposures, 2022-2026 (\$ in billions)
Dwelling exposure growing slowing; commercial exposure declining



Source: APCIA, via CA FAIR Plan 'Key Statistics'



How to Fix the Insurance Coverage Crisis

Modernize **California's** outdated insurance framework to reflect today's realities

✓ **Expand community-wide wildfire mitigation**

Proactive wildfire mitigation like home hardening and establishing defensible space that prevents ember ignition around dwellings must be undertaken at the community level to effectively reduce the risks of wildfires spiraling out of control. Policymakers must expand comprehensive community-wide wildfire mitigation in addition to a home-by-home approach.



Commissioner Lara's Sustainable Insurance Strategy – *status update*

Objective

Expand Home and Community Wildfire Mitigation

ON-GOING

- **Jun 2020:** Ongoing state budget allocation for home hardening, mitigation inspectors, forest health and fire prevention grants.
- **Oct 2022:** “Safer from Wildfire” discount regulations adopted.
- **Feb 6, 2025:** Governor Newsom issued Executive Order directing the State Board of Forestry to adopt “Zone 0” regulations—requiring 5 ft. of defensible space for structures located in the highest fire severity zones.
- **Dec 2026:** State Board of Forestry proposed draft “Zone 0” regulations
- **Apr 2026:** State Board of Forestry proposed revised draft “Zone 0” regulations
- **Aug 19, 2026:** State Board of Forestry adopted the “Zone 0” regulations
- **Sep 8, 2026:** No action taken on OAL File #2026-0828-03E, emergency regulation officially withdrawn from Office of Administrative Law consideration



Key Resilience Strategies



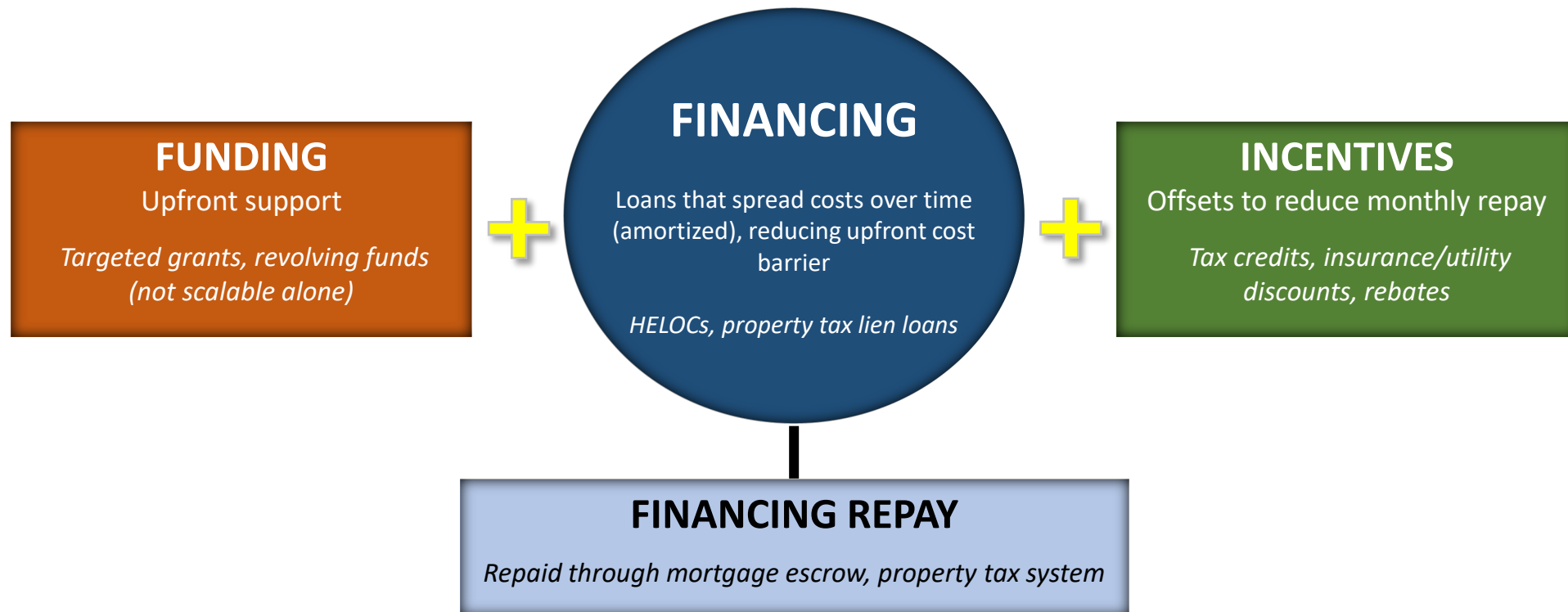
- Enforcement
 - ✓ Adoption and enforcement of modern building codes and defensible space standards (e.g., Zone 0 / Safety Zone)
- Financial Incentives for Resilience
 - ✓ Grants
 - ✓ Low interest loans
 - ✓ Waive/reduce fees
 - ✓ Tax credits
 - ✓ Insurance incentives
 - ✓ Return on investment
- Consumer Tools for Resilience
 - ✓ Mitigation
 - ✓ Catastrophe deductibles
 - ✓ Catastrophe savings accounts



How to Fund, Finance and Incentivize Resilience

Lessons from the Solar industry:

Scaling up requires **financing**, supported by **targeted funding** and payment-offsetting **incentives** to reduce net cost



$$\text{PAYMENT} - \text{INCENTIVES} = \text{NET COST}$$

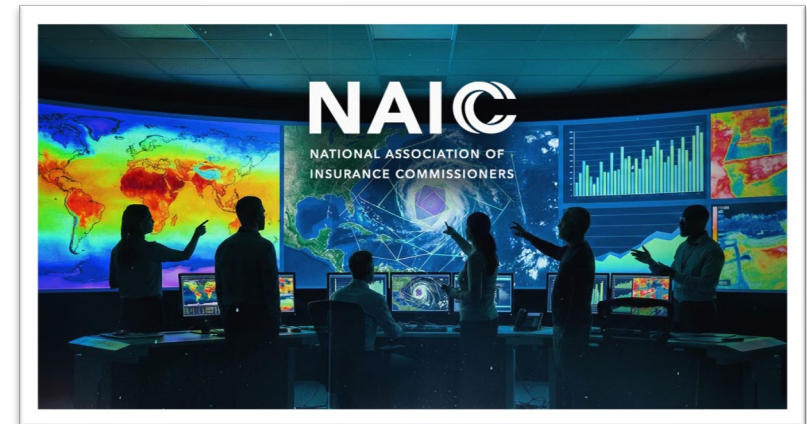


Rebuilding With Wildfire Safety and Insurability

CA Dept. of Insurance and NAIC Study

Overview:

- **Study scope and partners**
 - Joint analysis by CDI and the NAIC, conducted by NAIC's Catastrophe Risk Management Center of Excellence, using Moody's wildfire cat model
- **Real-world test case**
 - Focused on post-fire rebuilding scenarios following January 2025 Palisades and Eaton Fires in LA, which destroyed more than 16,000 structures
- **What was evaluated**
 - Modeled how rebuilding to IBHS Wildfire Prepared Home (WPH) and WPH+ affect Average Annual Loss (AAL)





Benefits of Community-Scale Mitigation

CA Dept. of Insurance and NAIC Study

Key Findings:

- **Substantial loss reduction from resilient rebuilding**
 - Rebuilding homes to IBHS WPH and WPH+ **reduces AAL by 31% and 35%**, respectively
- **Mitigation materially improves survival outcomes**
 - Highlights UC Berkeley research showing homes with key hardening, defensible space features **survive at nearly 50% compared to 20%** for unmitigated homes
- **Community-wide adoption amplifies benefits**
 - Wildfire losses escalate through structure-to-structure spread
 - Neighborhood-scale rebuilding produces greater benefits than isolated upgrades





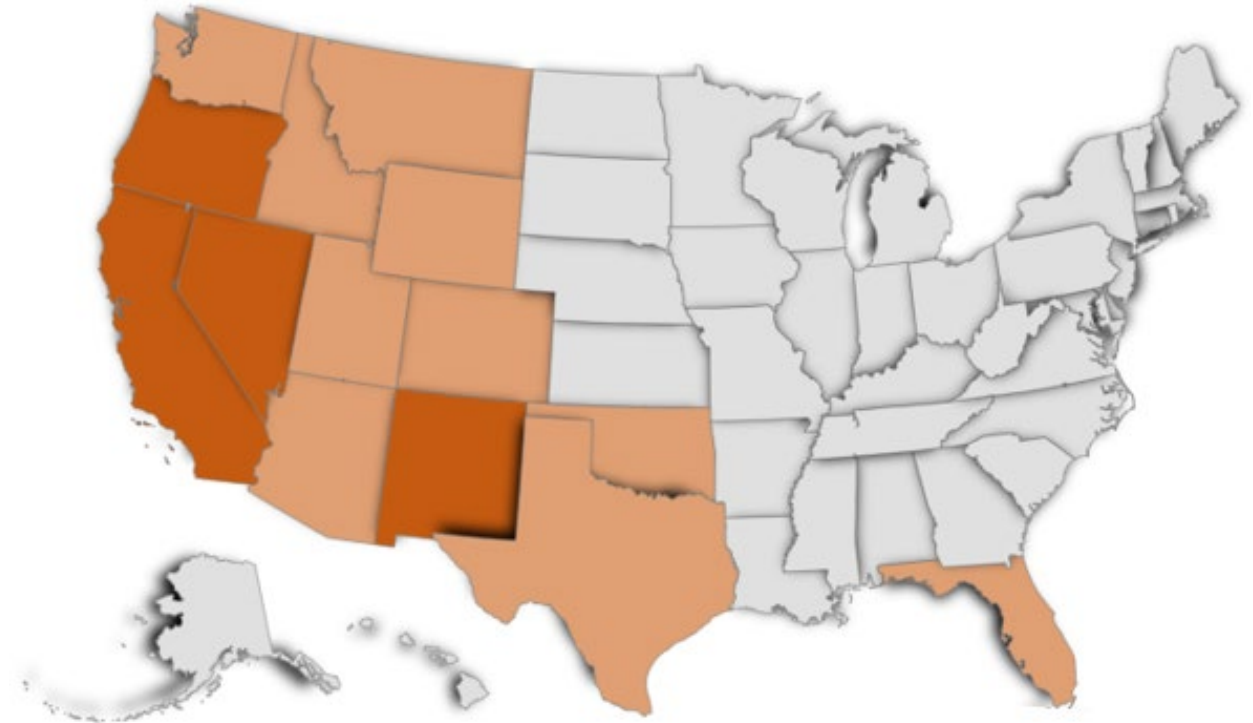
Insurance Incentives Based on Science: **WILDFIRE**

In California, and a few other states, laws have similarly been passed to require insurers provide discounts for actions that make homes more resilient to wildfire.

The **IBHS Wildfire Prepared Home** standard requires a set of actions to be taken together to meaningfully reduce risk of ignition from embers, direct flames, and radiant heat. Thus, homes that meet (and maintain) this standard are ***scientifically shown*** to be the most resilient.

Though, similar action must be taken (and maintained) at a community-scale to fully reduce risk of conflagration events.

<https://wildfireprepared.org/>



IBHS Wildfire Prepared 'Home' program:



Now available



Expansion

IBHS Wildfire Prepared 'Neighborhood' program:

Pilot program launched in Southern CA in 2025 and Northern CA in 2026



Focus on the 'Low-Hanging Fruit'

New Construction & Reconstruction

- **Mitigation Costs:** can be financed into mortgage and spread over time
- **Enforcement:** Building codes and ordinances
- **Emotional Barriers:** No existing attachments to vegetation



Change of Ownership

- **Mitigation Costs:** can be financed into mortgage and spread over time
- **Enforcement:** Defensible space inspection requirement as part of the closing
- **Emotional Barriers:** Breaks emotional attachment to vegetation adjacent to home*

(*some fire officials suggest this is the most difficult barrier to overcome)



NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND RESOURCES

**Wildfire Prepared
Neighborhood,
Toolkits, Websites
and More**



Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS)

Wildfire Prepared: Home



WILDFIRE PREPARED
— A PROGRAM OF IBHS —

ADDITIONAL MITIGATIONS AGAINST FLAMES

- ✓ Cover gutters.
- ✓ Enclose eaves.
- ✓ Install noncombustible siding.
- ✓ Upgrade windows & doors.
- ✓ Upgrade to a noncombustible deck.
- ✓ Move accessory structures at least 30 feet away.
- ✓ Remove back-to-back fencing.

MITIGATIONS AGAINST EMBERS

ROOF

- ✓ Ensure the roof covering is Class A fire-rated & maintained clear of debris.
- ✓ Choose noncombustible gutters & downspouts.

BUILDING FEATURES

- ✓ Install ember-resistant vents or 1/8-inch metal mesh over vents.
- ✓ Ensure 6-inch vertical noncombustible clearance at base of exterior walls.
- ✓ Clear & maintain the underdeck area; enclose low-elevation decks.

0-5 FOOT NONCOMBUSTIBLE ZONE

- ✓ Establish a **0-5 foot noncombustible zone** around the home and decks; remove overhanging branches; replace combustible fences within 5 feet.

5-30 FOOT DEFENSIBLE SPACE ZONE

- ✓ Maintain yard with spaced vegetation, structures, & other connective fuels; clear debris; remove firewood.
- ✓ Move structures at least 10 feet away & maintain a 0-5 foot noncombustible zone around them.

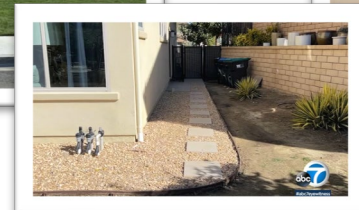
Gardner, Jennifer (External)



1st Home Designated Wildfire Prepared
Paradise, CA (Jun 2022)



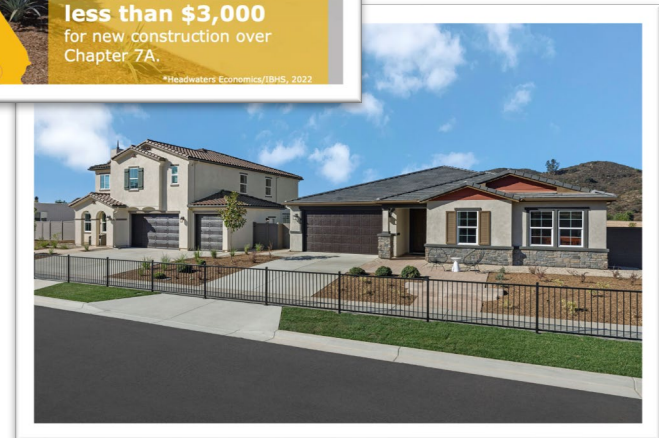
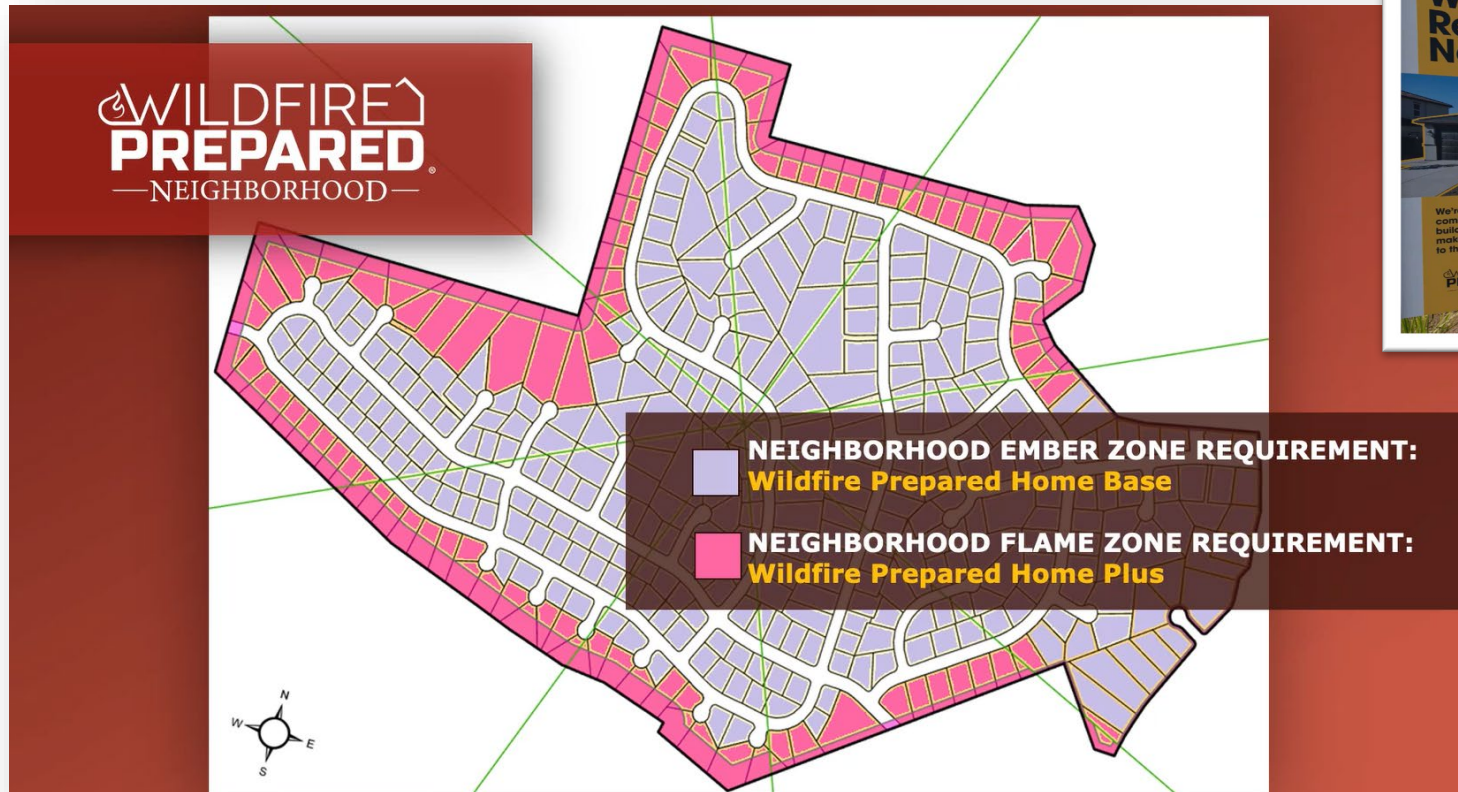
2nd Home Designated Wildfire Prepared
Chino Hills, CA (Jan 2023)





Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS)

Wildfire Prepared: Neighborhood



1st Wildfire Resilient Neighborhood
“Dixon Trails” by KB Homes - Escondido, CA (Mar 2025)
<https://wildfireprepared.org/dixon-trail/>



Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS)

Wildfire Prepared: Multifamily



Effective June 1, 2026 (Version December 2025)

Rental Apartments (Multifamily)

- Applicant: Building owner or managing entity
- Designation Recipient: Building owner

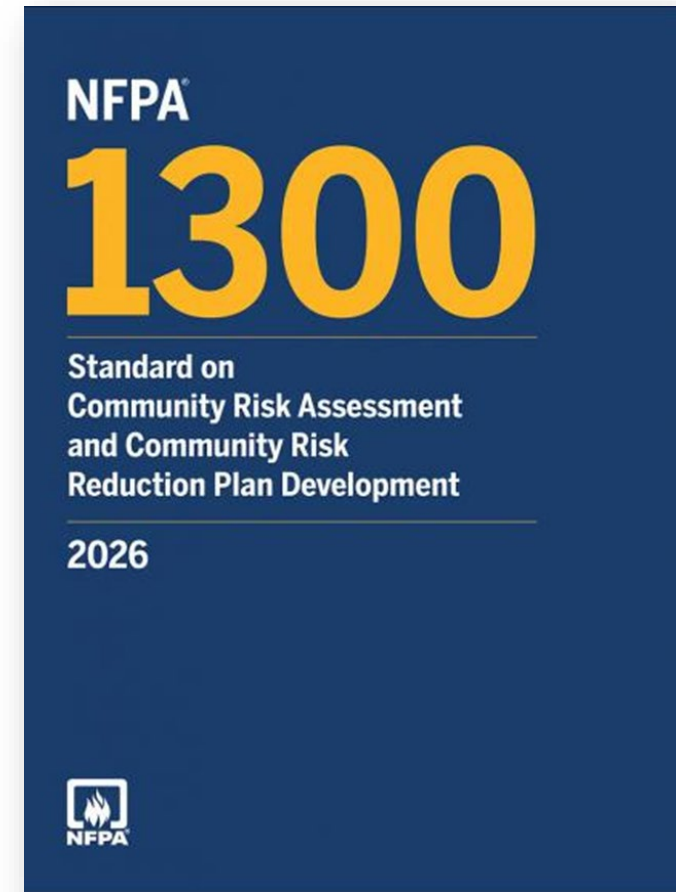
Owner-Occupied Attached Units with a Managing Entity (e.g., condominiums, HOA-governed properties)

- Properties must be governed by a managing entity (e.g., HOA, condo board, or similar authority) that has authority over exterior building features, including the roof, structure, and landscape.
- Eligible property types include:
 - Condominiums
 - Townhomes
 - Duplexes
 - Multiplexes (3 or more units)
 - Note: Additional shared-use or accessory structures serving the residential community may be included (e.g., clubhouse, detached garage, fitness center, laundry facility, pet spas).



Community Risk Reduction Program

- A proactive strategy used by fire departments, emergency management agencies, public safety organizations, and local governments to identify and reduce the risks that lead to emergencies, injuries, deaths, and property loss in a community.



Residential fires
Flooding and Severe

Wildfires
Weather

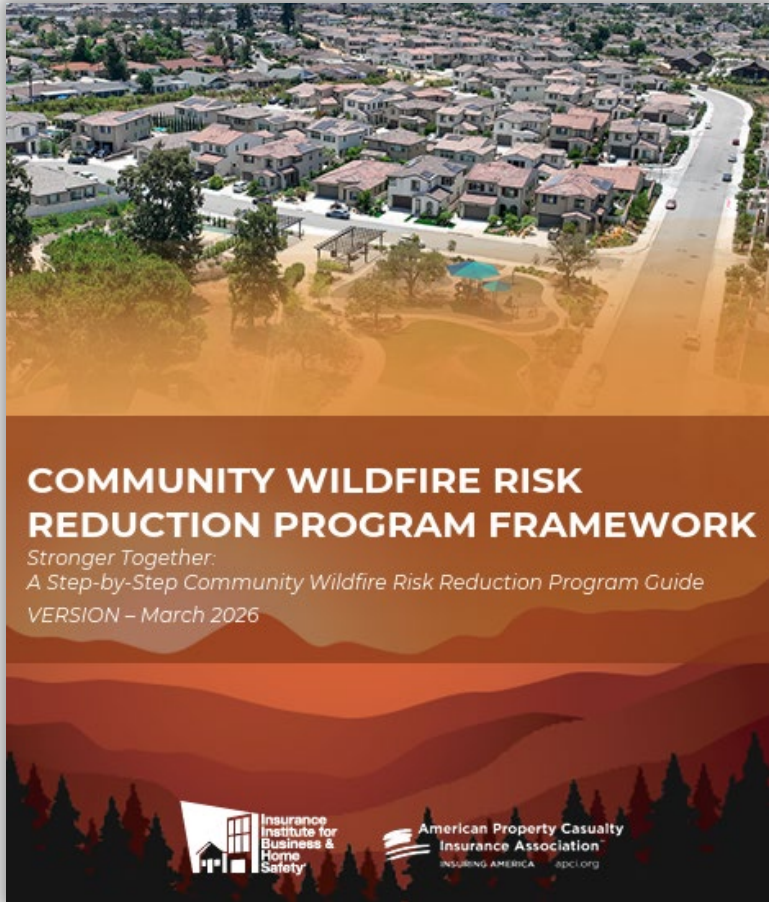
Falls among older adults
Opioid Overdoses

Traffic Collisions
School Safety

Carbon Monoxide Incidents
Industrial Hazards



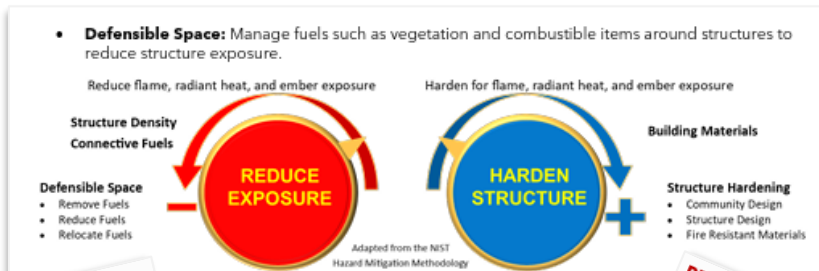
Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Framework



- A joint IBHS-APCIA **toolkit** to **help communities implement** wildfire mitigation programs
- What the toolkit provides:
 - Step-by-step guidance to plan, launch, sustain a wildfire risk-reduction program
 - Science-based home hardening and defensible space standards
 - Assessment and training resources
 - Implementation tools and templates
 - Outreach and coordination strategies



Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program Framework



- Who the toolkit is for:
 - Fire Service
 - Fire Safe Councils
 - Firewise Communities
 - Resource Conservation Districts
 - Homeowner's Associations

Sample Program Checklist with Timelines

Program Component	Timeline
Program Planning	2-3 months
Program Design	4-6 months
Program Development	5-6 months, then ongoing
Public Awareness	3-4 months, then ongoing
Supply Chain Outreach	2-3 months, then ongoing

Program Planning

- Learn from existing programs
- Learn about science-based available solutions
- Develop a program checklist

Program Design

- Develop a wildfire plan
- Identify wildfire risk reduction areas
- Identify wildfire risk reduction measures
 - Structure hardening
 - Defensible space
- Develop program implementation training

Program Development

- Identify key partners
- Coordinate organizational input
- Develop program rules and requirements
- Determine funding source for homeowner assistance
- Determine procurement rules before hiring
- Understand data, data collection, and analysis
- Decide on data, data collection, and analysis
- Identify information technology support needs
- Develop program documents

Public Awareness

- Develop public outreach strategy
- Create public education and engagement resources
- Determine additional education and outreach resources needs

Supply Chain Outreach

- Determine supply chain partner needs
- Determine defensible space outreach needs
- Determine structure hardening outreach timeline
- Determine supply chain outreach timeline
- Develop a list of local supply chain providers

PROGRAM DESIGN

1. Develop a Wildfire Plan

A successful Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program includes a **comprehensive wildfire plan** that defines the risks, sets priorities, and directs resources effectively. The most common plan is a **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)**, which addresses risks and priorities at the **landscape, community, and property levels**.

CWPPs are a comprehensive plan created collaboratively with **federal, state, local, tribal, and other partners** to develop the list of shared priorities to help direct limited funding and focus risk-reduction where it is needed most. Key elements must include, but not limited to:

- Implementation Area:** Ideally, programs should be implemented jurisdiction wide. If not feasible, define a narrower **Wildfire Mitigation Area** through a hazard and risk assessment.
- Structure hardening:** Increase resilience by encouraging fire-resistant construction, especially noncombustible building material.
- Defensible Space:** Reduce structure exposure by removing, reducing, or relocating combustible items on the property. This involves thinning vegetation, relocating combustibles, and creating a 0-5 Foot Noncombustible Zone around homes and attachments.

CWPPs should align with other plans that address wildfire threats, such as:

- State, Local, or Multi-jurisdictional **Hazard Mitigation Plans**
- Federal and **State Fire Management Strategy**
- The National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy
- CAL FIRE: The Report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission**
- General plans or other master plans with wildfire components

For guides, templates, and best practices, see the **California CWPP Toolkit**, the U.S. Fire Administration's **Creating a Community Wildfire Protection Plan**, and the **Developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan**.

2. Identify Wildfire Mitigation Areas (if jurisdiction-wide is not feasible)

If your community can't implement a full-jurisdiction program, define a **Wildfire Mitigation Area** to target the highest-risk locations. Boundaries should consider:

- Structure threat from embers, flames, and radiant heat.
- Conflagration potential (structure density and fuel connectivity).
- Wildfire risk drivers: fuel, weather, topography, fire history, etc.

An example of resources and information useful in the development of a Wildfire Mitigation Area can be found at the **CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zones** website.



My Resilient Home Website

Translating Wildfire Science into Practical Risk Reduction

- A homeowner-facing, educational resilience tool that supports safer communities, lower losses, and more stable insurance markets
- Provides clear, science-based guidance to help homeowners reduce wildfire risk through home hardening and defensible space
- Translates IBHS wildfire research into actionable steps, including assessment aligned with Wildfire Prepared Home standards





We Need a Societal Shift in Thinking

4 Million Homes in WUI and 90 Percent Built before the Modern WUI Code

– Daniel Berlant, California Fire Marshal

Wildfire Science Tells Us How to Protect Homes and Communities





"Random Acts of Mitigation are Not Enough"

- Daniel Berlant, California Fire Marshal

"We Need a Marketing Campaign"

Steve Bennett, Chair Assembly Budget Sub 4

"Community wildfire mitigation is not optional"

We can help provide:

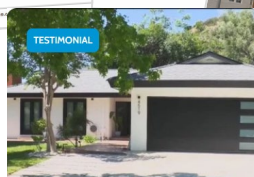
- ✓ Fact Sheets
- ✓ News Releases
- ✓ One-Pagers
- ✓ Online resources



NEWS
New Northern California neighborhood is built to survive a wildfire



NEWS
Two homes set ablaze in defensible space demo — only one survives



TESTIMONIAL
LA wildfire survivors look to rebuild fire-resilient homes



NEWS
Here's how to protect your home from wildfires

"Efforts that form **partnerships** between government, homeowners, insurance, and other industries are critical. This is a shared problem requiring shared solutions..."

Dr. Michael J. Gollner
Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering
University of California, Berkeley



Homeowners Need to Know What Steps Create Resilience

- Partnerships to Amplify the **SUCCESS STORIES** and Build Momentum
- Insurers are Committed to California
- We Need to Bend the Risk Curve Down





Help safeguard your home against wildfire

Safety tips and resources to protect your home from wildfire.

Assess if your home is
wildfire prepared

[Take our quiz](#)

Home hardening, meet curb appeal

Effectively and actively safeguard your home from wildfires.

Get inspired by winning designs for
fire resistant landscaping

The winning designs from the Wildfire Resistant Landscaping Contest with U.C. Berkeley and IBHS highlight the beauty of wildfire resilience at a variety of price points.

[See the designs](#)

Homeowner resources

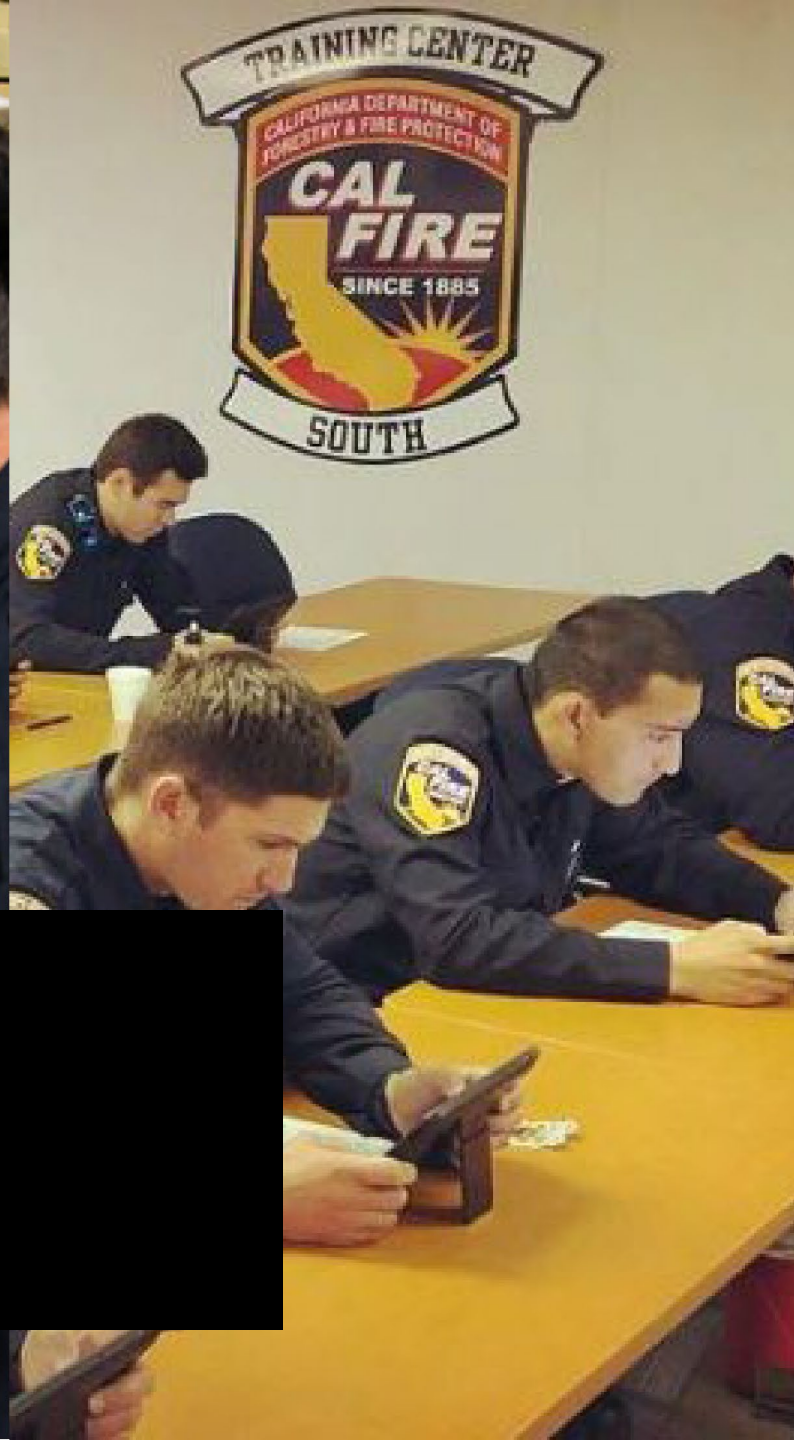
Wildfire safety tips, tools and certifications to protect your home.

Learn more about grants and
funding options

[See resources](#)

Grassroots Campaign: *Partnerships to Make Resilience Trendy*

- Amplify Resources
- Local Government Toolkit & Framework
- My-Resilient-Home.com
- Readyforwildfire.org
- IBHS websites, videos & pictures
- California Fire Safe Councils
- Firewise Communities



New Business

SBFS Logo Redesign



Options:



Previous Redesign Options





- ▶ Old Business
- ▶ Public Comment
- ▶ Upcoming Meeting Dates
 - November to be Rescheduled
- ▶ Meeting Adjournment





Meeting Adjournment

- ▶ Copies of the materials have been posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal web site at [State Board of Fire Services | OSFM](#)
- ▶ For information concerning the State Board of Fire Services, please contact Carrie Lewis at (916) 980-9352 or carrie.lewis@fire.ca.gov.
- ▶ NOTE: Items designated for information are appropriate for committee action if the committee chooses to act. The agenda order is tentative and subject to change. Agenda items may be taken out of order to facilitate the effective transaction of business. The Committee may not discuss or act on any matter raised during the public forum period, except to decide whether to place the matter on the notice and agenda of a future committee meeting.

