



Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee Meeting

June 17, 2025

**CAL FIRE –
Office of the State Fire Marshal**



Roll Call

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 Established



Daniel Berlant



Anale Burlew



Brian Newman
Lindsay



Caroline Thomas
Jacobs



J Lopez



Nancy Ward



Deborah
Halberstadt



Michael Maguire



Jacy Hyde



Roy Wright



Dave Winnacker



Chris Ochoa



Lenya Quinn-Davidson



Yana Valachovic



Bill Villarino



Clay Kerchof



Staci Heaton



Sophia Lemmo



Sean McGlynn



Catherine Freeman



Don Hankins



Lisa Lien-Hagar

Approval of May 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes

- ▶ Scan the QR Code Below to Access the Complete Meeting Agenda Document!



WILDFIRE MITIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, May 20, 2025



Committee Members Present
Daniel Berlant, CAL FIRE, Office of the State Fire Marshal
Steve Robinson, CAL FIRE
Brian Newman Lindsay, Department of Conservation
Ben DaRosa, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
J. Lopez, State Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
Deborah Habberstadt, Insurance Commissioner's Office (virtual)
Michael McGuire, State Planning & Research
Jacy Hyde, California Fire Safe Council
Steve Hawks, Insurance Industry
Bill Villarino, Santa Barbara County Fire (virtual)
Christopher Ochoa, California Building Industry Association
Yana Valachovic, California Fire Science Consortium (virtual)
Clay Kerhof, Department of Housing and Community Development
Sophia Lemmo, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (virtual)
Sean McGlynn, League of California Cities
Catherine Freeman, California State Association of Counties
Lisa Lien-Mager, California Natural Resources Agency

Members Absent
Nancy Ward, Office of Emergency Services
Lerya Quinn-Davidson, University of California Cooperative
Staci Heaton, Rural County Representatives of California
Don Hankins, Tribal Government Representative

CAL FIRE Staff in Attendance
Frank Bigelow, Deputy Director
Jim McDougald, Assistant Deputy Director (virtual)
Crystal Sujeski, Division Chief (virtual)
Randy Norstrup, Division Chief
Matt Damon, Staff Chief
Emily Smith, Staff Chief
Len Nielson, Staff Chief
Scott Witt, Deputy Chief (virtual)
Heather McCulley, Deputy Chief
Kara Garrett, Deputy State Fire Marshal III (virtual)
Jamie Sammut, Senior Staff Counsel
Bryan Carter, Battalion Chief
Juliana Contreras, Staff Services Analyst
Madison Nicholas, Staff Services Analyst
Carmie Lewis, Associate Governmental Program Analyst
Jillian Fisher, Staff Services Manager I
Danh Dao, Staff Services Analyst

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Approval of May 20, 2025 Meeting Agenda

- ▶ Scan the QR Code Below to Access the Complete Meeting Agenda Document!



WILDFIRE MITIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Meeting Agenda – Tuesday, June 17, 2025, 1:00 – 3:00 PM



Location: NRHQ Building
715 P Street, Room 2-221
Sacramento, CA 95814

Zoom Meeting Information –

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85192423489?pwd=dnZYaUhXVFllUTFmT2lnMzJYYVlxQT09>

Webinar ID: 851 9242 3489

Passcode: 462073

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Welcome
- B. Roll Call/Quorum Established
- C. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2025
- D. Approval of Agenda – June 17, 2025

2. UPDATES

- A. OSFM Community Wildfire Preparedness & Mitigation Division Report
- B. California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP) Report

3. NEW BUSINESS

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Neighborhood Wildfire Mitigation Validation Program Workgroup Membership
- B. Land Use Planning Workgroup

5. PRESENTATIONS

- A. Outcomes From Phase I of the County Coordinator Program – Jacy Hyde, California Fire Safe Council
- B. Rebuild Paradise – Jen Goodlin, Rebuild Paradise
- C. Australia's Wildfire Mitigation Efforts – Joe Buffone, Australian National Emergency Management Agency *

* Note that this agenda item will require a vote and a determination that a need exists to take immediate action on this item.

6. ROUNDTABLE

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

8. UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR 2025

- A. Third Tuesday of the month
- B. July 15, 2025, 1:00-3:00pm

9. MEETING ADJOURNMENT





Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division Report



Wildfire Preparedness

Defensible Space

- ▶ Statewide SRA total for fiscal year-to-date 2024-25:
 - 268,487 inspections completed, 107% of the 250,000 goal
- ▶ Qualified Entity assessment year-to-date total:
 - 1,098 Assessments
 - Next class is in July in the San Mateo-Santa Cruz CAL FIRE Unit.
 - Additional classes are in coordination with Santa Clara and Los Angeles Counties.



Wildfire Preparedness

Burn Permits

- ▶ Statewide SRA 2024-25 Fiscal Year total: 88,375
 - Cultural Burn Permit year-to-date: 2,245
- ▶ 2025 year-to-date total: 56,937
 - Cultural Burn Permit: 1,445

Correction: last month's fiscal year numbers were over-reported, this months are corrected



Wildfire Preparedness

Home Hardening

- ▶ Continuing to develop the Wildland Urban Interface Fire Safety Building Standards Compliance training.
- ▶ Continued to support the California Wildfire Mitigation Program with technical assistance with home hardening recommended retrofits.



Wildfire Preparedness

Utility Wildfire Mitigation Program

- ▶ Currently reviewing PG&E, SDG&E, SCE, and BVES 2026-28 WMP submission. PG&E will be submitting a revision.
- ▶ Liberty will be submitting their WMP on June 27, 2025.
- ▶ Continue to have DSI trainings for powerline equipment identification and inspections, next one is June 25, 2025, in Natomas.



Wildfire Planning and Statistics

Fire Prevention Efforts FY 24/25

- ▶ Fuel Reduction Projects:
 - Projects **756**, **151.2%** of the goal
- ▶ Combined Fuel Reduction:
 - Acres treated **123,488.2**, **123.5%** of the goal
 - Unit Projects – **62,849.5** acres
 - Northern Region: **25,976.8** acres
 - Southern Region: **36,872.6** acres
 - Grant Projects: **56,096** acres
 - CFIP Projects: **4,542.7** acres
- ▶ Prescribed Fire (also counted in fuel reduction):
 - **51,286.1** acres treated, **107%** of the goal

View the Webmap at [Fuels Reduction | CAL FIRE](#)



Wildfire Planning and Statistics

Wildland Fuels

- ▶ CalMAPPER V4 testing and continued improvement in development occurring with subject matter experts (SMEs) and contractor with anticipated training later this month.
- ▶ Near final stage of the CalMAPPER V4 implementation.



Wildfire Planning and Statistics

Pre-Fire Planning

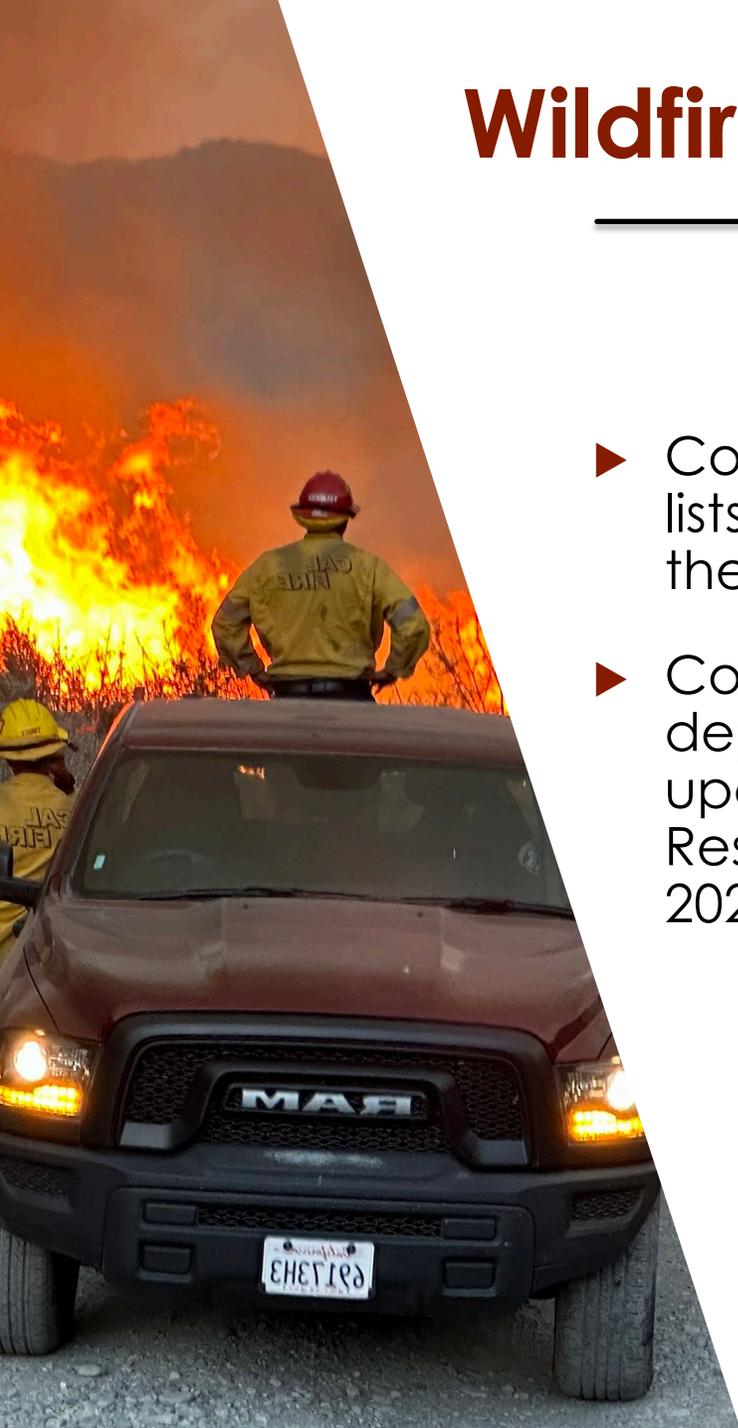
- ▶ Unit Fire Plans were due to Fire Plan Program (Sacramento) on June 13, 2025.
- ▶ SRA25_2-layers GIS layer to take effect on July 7, 2025. This layer reflects the 5-year SRA review changes.



Wildfire Planning and Statistics

CalStats

- ▶ Completing the final review of the 2024 Large Fire lists and are now internally reviewing the draft of the 2024 Redbook.
- ▶ Continue to host monthly webinars for fire departments across California about the upcoming transition to the National Emergency Response Information System (NERIS) in January 2026. Next webinar is on Monday, June 23, 2025.



Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

Land Use Planning

- ▶ Safety Element Assessments for the cities of Goleta and Vista are on the agenda at this month's Board of Forestry & Fire Protection, Resource Protection Committee meeting.
- ▶ Subdivision Review Fire Safety Surveys were recently completed for Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties as well as the cities of Woodside and Redwood City. All are on today's RPC agenda.



Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

National Fire Protection Association Firewise USA

- ▶ Currently 1253 communities in good standing!
 - Numerous applications in the que.
 - Staff is working with NFPA to streamline procedures and improve efficiency.



Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

CWMA Statewide Clearinghouse Data Center

- ▶ Adding new information all the time!
- ▶ Currently, working on new procedures for notification to Constant Contact subscriber list.
- ▶ <http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/Community-Wildfire-Preparedness-and-Mitigation/Clearinghouse-Data-Center>



Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

Wildfire Prevention Grants Program

- ▶ Working on details for Open Solicitation in coming weeks!
- ▶ FY 2023-24 Wildfire Prevention Grants Award Notification on August 20, 2024:
 - 94 Awards totaling just over \$90 million
 - Grant agreements have been signed with a small handful finishing up some technical items
 - Info is posted on the Wildfire Prevention Grants Website, and the CA State Library Grants Portal.

Use the QR code below to visit the Grants Website!

www.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/grants/wildfire-prevention-grants





California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP) Report

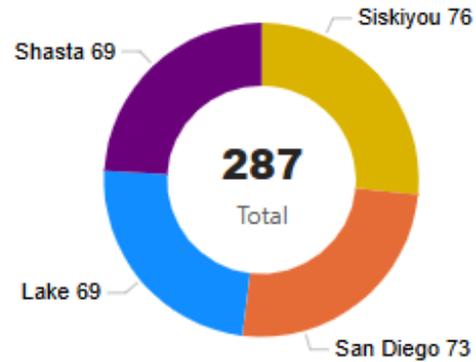
Matt Damon



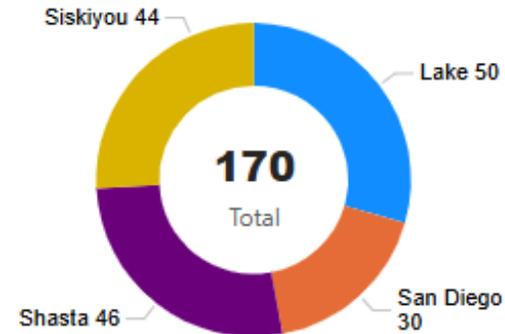
California Wildfire Mitigation Program Report



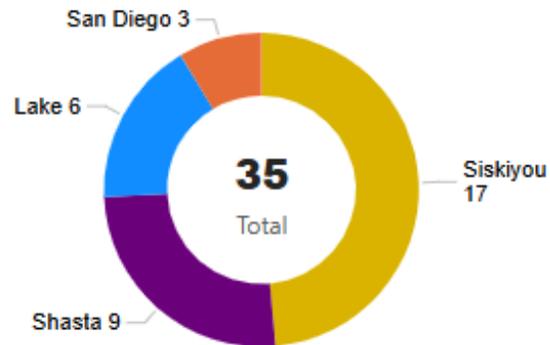
Active Applications



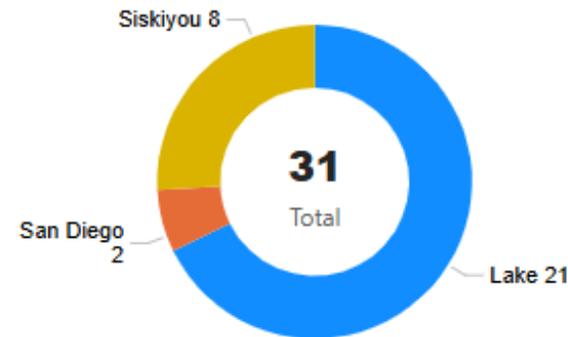
Assessments Completed



Homes in Progress

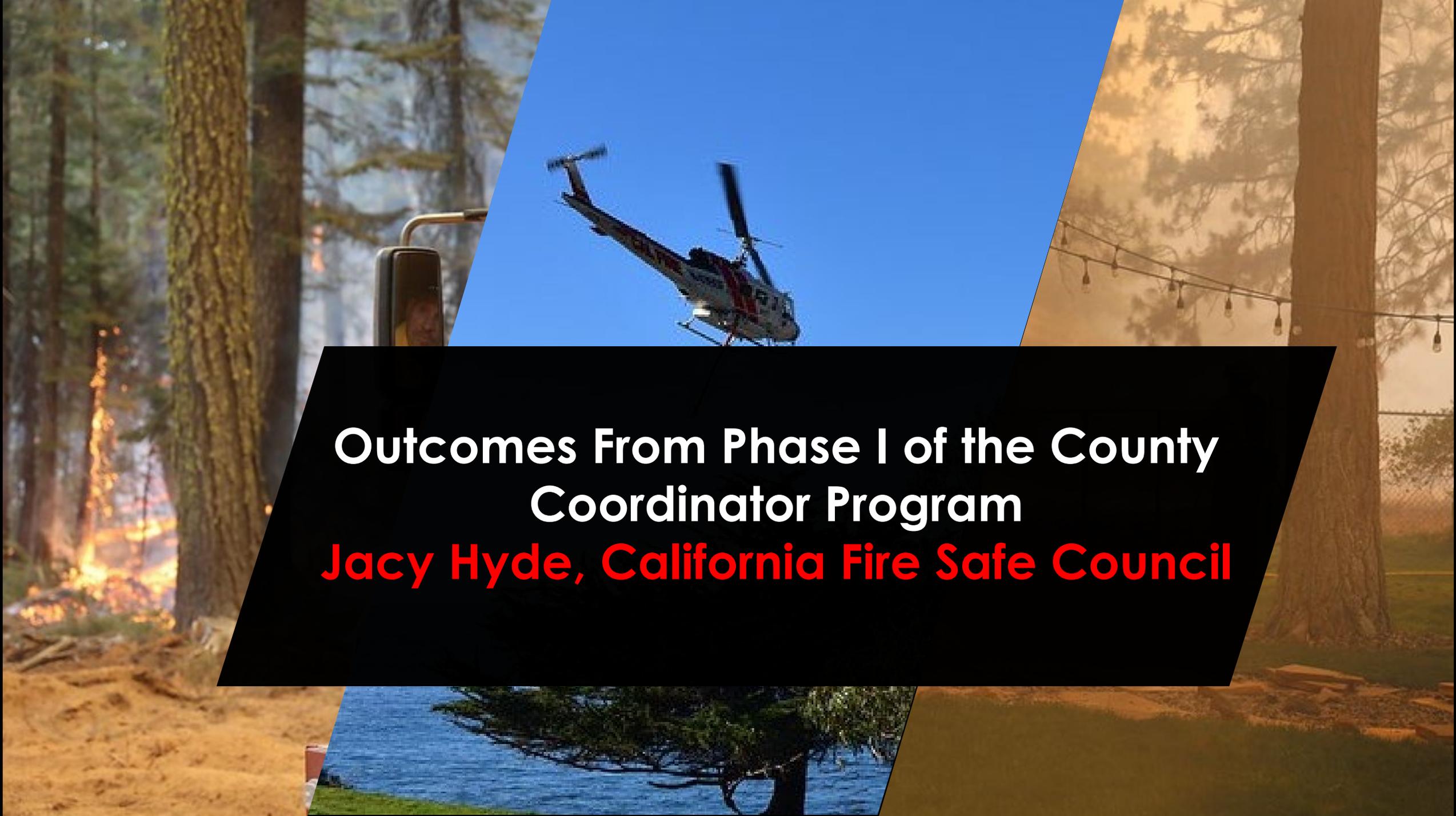


Homes Completed



Old Business:
**Neighborhood Wildfire Mitigation Validation
Program Workgroup Membership
Land Use Planning Workgroup**





**Outcomes From Phase I of the County
Coordinator Program**
Jacy Hyde, California Fire Safe Council



Wildfire County Coordinator Program



Presented by Jacy Hyde, Jessica Martinez, and Julia Marsili

Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee

July 17, 2025

Educate. Empower. Mobilize.



Intro & Acknowledgements

Jacy Hyde

Executive Director

Jessica Martinez

Deputy Director

Julia Marsili

Senior Manager of Wildfire Programs & Grants



This grant program and publication are funded in full by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) as part of the California Climate Investments Program, under the terms of Grant numbers [5GG23125](#). The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of CAL FIRE.



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Presentation Agenda

1. California Fire Safe Council Background
2. CFSC's Major Programs: Fire Safe Communities and County Coordinators
3. Outcomes from County Coordinators 2021-2024
4. 2025 County Coordinator Program
5. County Coordinator Next Steps
6. Questions



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About CFSC

CFSC supports communities across the state in wildfire preparedness and resiliency through grant funding, programmatic support, and technical assistance.

We envision a future where all communities in California live safely with wildfire.

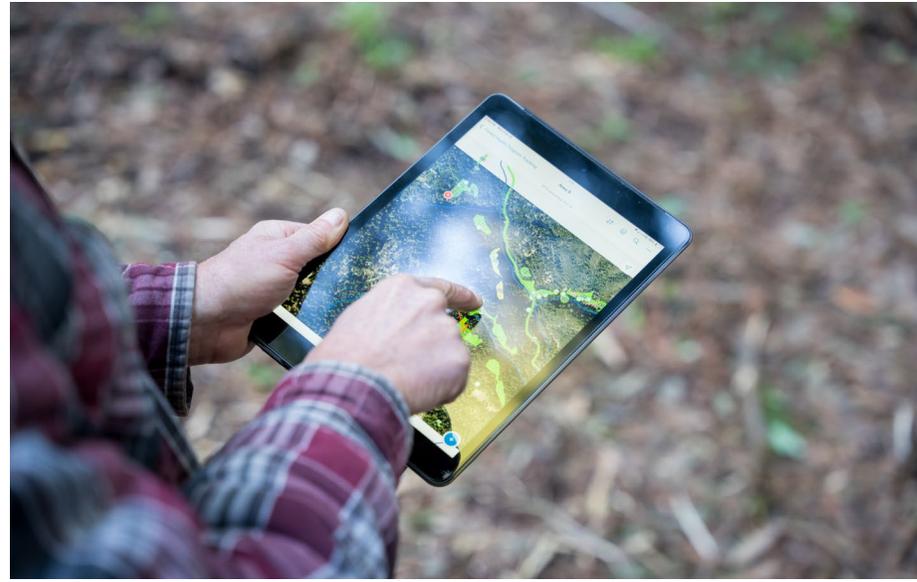


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Impact and Outcomes

Since 2004, CFSC has granted \$140M to over 1,200 projects



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Impact and Outcomes



Projects completed
in 400 communities

Nearly 4,000
Community Wildfire
Protection Plans
created

Over 36,000
education programs,
products, and
workshops delivered

Over 1,600 properties
received defensible
space work since
2021

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Wildfire County Coordinator Program

Program Objective: Educate, encourage, and develop county-wide community collaboration and coordination among wildfire mitigation groups

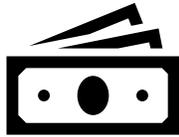
Established critical local capacity in 52 California counties to implement wildfire resilience strategies on the ground.

Have served as vital local resources to secure funding, implement mitigation projects, engage vulnerable populations, and build resilience in high-risk communities.

Became a crucial link between state strategy and local execution—ensuring California communities are better prepared, better connected, and more resilient to wildfire.



Wildfire County Coordinator Outcomes



>\$85 million of vital funding secured for local mitigation and preparedness projects



800k residents educated and empowered to take action for wildfire resilience



10,000 organizations engaged in partnership and planning



>100 new FireWise Communities and Fire Safe Councils



3,800 events hosted for community fire safety

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Wildfire County Coordinator Program

Key Successes

The \$85 million in additional grant funds leveraged since the start of the program showed that a relatively small investment can significantly improve infrastructure and resource mobilization

Improved the governance and administrative capacity of county-level organizations

Built a strong knowledge base for County Coordinators through direct programmatic support

Laid the foundation for a sustainable approach to deploy state strategy down to the local level

Lessons Learned

Develop systems to engage tribal communities and others who have historically been left out of critical conversations.

Address geographic and jurisdictional challenges to enhance coordination and access, specifically in rural and/or disadvantaged communities.

Continue to refine how agencies, organizations, and community members build trust, coordinate, and engage with each other.

Assist County Coordinators in connecting with CAL FIRE and state level strategies.

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2025 County Coordinator Program

- \$10.9 million to support the next iteration of the County Coordinator Program and begin to develop a solidified direction for the program
- 47 subgrants awarded
- **Strategy:** Align County Coordinators with State-Level Efforts and Direction
- **Deliverables to execute this strategy:**
 1. Develop a plan to integrate County Coordinators with their local CAL FIRE units and share locally appropriate resources
 2. Continue to collect shared data through the GIS Networking Portal, preparing the data to be shared with state partners
 3. Require County Coordinators to attend one CAL FIRE Qualified Entities Defensible Space Assessment (DSA) Training
 4. Host a county-level training on the new CWPP toolkit to encourage its use and adoption
 5. Develop a preliminary plan to evaluate steps needed to initiate a county-level CWPP, if one does not already exist



Long Term Vision & Policy Framework Overview

- Build upon the existing program infrastructure to create a mechanism for the local execution of state strategy, tailored to meet local needs
- Operationalize the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan at the county level
 - in sync with county priorities
- Move toward county planning and project prioritization
- Accelerate home hardening, defensible space implementation, and public education
- Standardize data collection to track local and statewide wildfire resilience progress
- Ultimately, improve public safety, community insurability, and wildfire preparedness in California's highest-risk regions



Fire Safe Vendor List

NOW LIVE!
2025 FIRE SAFE VENDOR LIST



 Brought to you by the CALIFORNIA FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

- 
Emergency Response Services & Equipment
- 
Environmental Consultants
- 
Fire Detection Software, Equipment, & Services
- 
Fire Resistant Building & Materials
- 
Wildfire Mitigation Platforms & Services

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Questions?

Jacy Hyde

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Julia Marsili

Senior Manager of Wildfire Programs and Grants

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Rebuild Paradise
Jen Goodlin, Rebuild Paradise



Australia's Wildfire Mitigation Efforts
**Joe Buffone, Australian National
Emergency Management Agency**



Australian Government

National Emergency Management Agency

Australian Fire Specialist Delegation



Californian Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee

June 2025

Australia over the USA

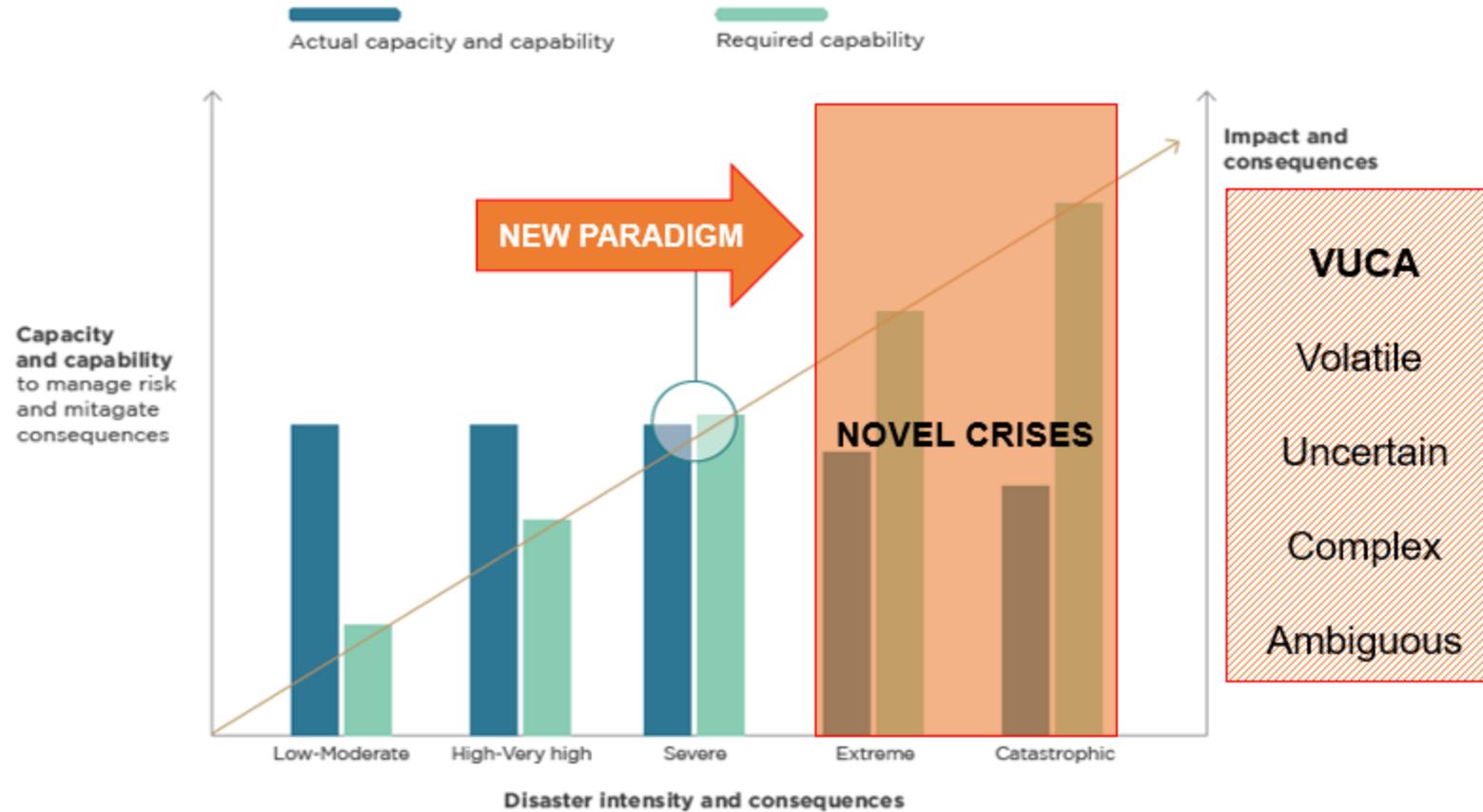


Australian Delegation

- Joe Buffone - Deputy Coordinator-General, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)
- Brett Loughlin - Chief Officer, Country Fire Service, South Australia
- Peter McKechnie - Deputy Commissioner, Rural Fire Service, New South Wales
- Melissa Pexton - Deputy Commissioner, Fire and Emergency Services, Western Australia
- Matt Lowe - Deputy Chief Officer, Tasmania Fire Service
- Rohan Scott- Chief Officer, Rural Fire Service, Australian Capital Territory
- Sam Quigley - Deputy Chief Officer, Forest Fire Management Victoria
- Garry Cook - Deputy Chief Officer, Country Fire Authority, Victoria
- Rebecca Hosking – Assistant Secretary, National Crisis Coordination, NEMA



Disaster Intensity and Consequence



Crosweller M, Tschakert P. Climate change and disasters: The ethics of leadership



Australian Wildfire Mitigation System

❑ Emergency Management Governance

- Jurisdictional - Legislation
- National – Policy

❑ Building Codes – AS 3959

❑ Bushfire Attack Levels

❑ Risk Governance

- Wildfire Risk overlays and plans
- National policy and jurisdictional legislation

❑ Hazard/Fuel Management

- Prescribed Burning
- Mechanical clearing
- Strategic fire breaks
- Remote water heli tanks



Australian Wildfire Mitigation System

- ❑ Australian Fire Danger Rating System
- ❑ Australian Warning System
- ❑ National and Jurisdictional Preparedness Program - annual
 - Community Education and Engagement
 - Stakeholder engagement
- ❑ Seasonal Weather and Climate Outlook
 - AFAC Bushfire Seasonal Outlook
- ❑ Wildfire predictive services
- ❑ Aerial Firefighting
 - Fleet based on seasonal risk
- ❑ Pre-established Incident Control Centres
 - Activation Triggers and Staffing
- ❑ National Resource Sharing Arrangements
- ❑ Specialist Capabilities – winch, rappel and arduous fire fighters
- ❑ International MOU's and reciprocal fire fighting arrangements
- ❑ Evidence and research based lessons and development





Australian Government

National Emergency Management Agency

Conclusion and Questions

Roundtable / Public Comment

- ▶ Roundtable
- ▶ Public Comment



Next Meeting Information

July 15, 2025
1:00 – 3:00pm
CNRA Building
Room 2-221

Presentation:

- Conflagrations – Experimental Research and Field Observations, IBHS



Meeting Adjournment

- ▶ Copies of the written materials have been posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal web site at <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/>
- ▶ For information concerning the Advisory Committee Meeting, 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.

