

# CAL FIRE Office of the State Fire Marshal Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee Meeting

January 17, 2023

# Call to Order

### Welcome!



If you have technical difficulties during this meeting, please contact Kara Garrett at (916) 201-5539 or Kara.Garrett@fire.ca.gov

- The Acting State Fire Marshal
  - Daniel Berlant
- Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
  - Curtis Brown
- Department of Conservation
  - Keali'i Bright
- Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety
  - Caroline Thomas Jacobs or Sandy Cooney
- State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection
  - J. Lopez

- Governor's Office of Emergency Services
  - Ryan Buras or Robert Troy
- California Department of Insurance
  - Deborah Halberstadt or Mike Peterson
- Governor's Office of Planning and Research
  - Neil Matouka
- California Fire Safe Council
  - Jessica Martinez
- Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety
  - Roy Wright (Michael Newman sitting in)

- California Fire Chiefs Association
  - Dave Winnacker or Todd Lando
- California Building Industry Association
  - Christopher E. Ochoa or Nick Cammarota
- University of California Cooperative Extension
  - Lenya N. Quinn-Davidson
- California Fire Science Consortium
  - Yana Valachovic
- Department of Housing and Community Development
  - Maziar Movassaghi or Clay Kerchof

- Rural County Representatives of California
  - Staci Heaton
- California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
  - Sophia Lemmo
- League of California Cities
  - Sean McGlynn
- California State Association of Counties
  - Catherine Freeman
- A representative from tribal government
  - Don Hankins

## **Approval of Past Meeting Minutes – Motion Required**

#### WILDFIRE MITIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, November 15, 2022 Posted: 1/6/2023



#### Committee Members Present

Curtis Brown, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Mike Richwine. Office of the State Fire Marshal Caroline Thomas Jacobs, Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety J. Lopez, State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Robert Troy, California Office of Emergency Services Deborah Halberstadt, California Department of Insurance Michael Maguire, Office of Planning and Research (Virtual) Becca Jovner, California Fire Safe Council (Virtual) Roy Wright, Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety Dave Winnacker, California Fire Chiefs Association (Virtual) Christopher Ochoa, Representative from the Building Industry Yana Valachovic, California Fire Science Consortium Maziar Movassaghi, Department of Housing and Community Development (Virtual) Sophia Lemmo, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (Virtual) Sean McGlynn, League of California Cities Catherine Freeman, California State Association of Counties Don Hankins, Professor, CSU Chico (Virtual)

#### Members Absent

Keali'i Bright, Department of Conservation Lenya N. Quinn-Davidson, University of California Cooperative Extension Staci Heaton, Rural County Representatives of California

#### CAL FIRE Staff in Attendance

Daniel Berlant, Deputy Director
Wendy Collins, Assistant State Fire Marshal
Steve Hawks, Assistant Deputy Director
Andrew Henning, Assistant Deputy Director
Frank Bigelow, Staff Chief
Jim McDougald, Staff Chief
Jim McDougald, Staff Chief
Jennis O'Neil, Assistant Chief
Dennis O'Neil, Assistant Chief
Mark Rosenberg, Research Data Manager
Chris Keithley, Assistant Deputy Director - Fire & Resource Assessment
Jeff Fuentes, Division Chief (Virtual)
Jamie Sammut, Staff Counsel (Virtual)
Kara Garrett, Associate Governmental Program Analyst

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER 1:00 PM

Welcome
 The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Mike Richwine.

Mike Richwine

# Scan the QR Code Below to Access the Complete Meeting Minutes Document!



# Agenda Review – Motion Required

### WILDFIRE MITIGATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING Meeting Agenda – Tuesday, January 17, 2023, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Posted January 6, 2023



Location:

CNRA Building, 715 P Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room 2-310 Sacramento, CA 95814

Zoom Meeting Information -

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85192423489?pwd=dnZYaUhXVFliUTFmT21nMzJYYVIxQT09

Passcode: 462073

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Welcome
- B. Roll Call/Quorum Established
- C. Approval of Past Meeting Minutes (Motion Required)
- D. Agenda Review (Motion Required)

#### 2. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Risk Modeling
  - Work Group Update
- B. SB 190 Model Defensible Space Ordinance Update
  - Final Feedback Review
- C. Division Report

#### 3. NEW BUSINESS

- A. CalMAPPER Viewer Overview
- B. Subdivision Review Program Overview
- C. Online Burn Permits
- D. 2023 Committee Goals

#### 4. ROUNDTABLE

#### 5. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### 6. UPCOMING MEETING DATES FOR 2023

- A. Third Tuesday of each month starting at 1 PM and ending at 3 PM.
- B. February 21, 2023, will be back in our normal conference room.
  - CNRA Building, 715 P Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room 2-221 Sacramento, CA 95814

#### 7. MEETING ADJOURNMENT (Motion Required)

# Scan the QR Code Below to Access the Meeting Agenda!



# Risk Modeling Advisory Workgroup Update

- More information will be shared as the workgroup moves forward.
- Contacts for the workgroup are listed below:
  - Jim McDougald
    - Jim.McDougald@fire.ca.gov
  - Celeste Jovanovic
    - Celeste.Jovanovic@fire.ca.gov



# SB 190

# Model Defensible Space Ordinance Update

- Final feedback review.
- We will review the Final Draft at the February 21<sup>st</sup> meeting.





# **Division Report**

# Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation

- Wildfire Risk Reduction
- Wildfire Planning & Statistics
- Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance
- Upcoming Webinar Information

### Wildfire Risk Reduction

### **Wildfire Preparedness**

#### Burn Permits –

 We launched a brand-new online burn permit application on January 3rd with great success. Staff are making minor adjustments as needed.

### Defensible Space Program –

 Inspections ended the year with 197,411 properties inspected adding our contract county partners total of 137,931 equals 335,342 total inspections in the SRA.



## Wildfire Risk Reduction

### **Wildfire Preparedness**

### Utility Wildfire Mitigation –

- Continuing with outreach to Cooperative and Publicly Owned Utilities within CA that have infrastructure that intersects with SRA.
- Working with wildfire preparedness program on curriculum development for Powerline Fire Prevention training as it relates to PRC4292 and PRC4293 clearances and equipment ID to incorporate into the statewide Defensible Space Inspector (DSI) curriculum.
- Staff continue to work on updates to the Power Line Fire Prevention Field Guide for 2023.



# Wildfire Planning & Statistics

### **Pre-Fire Planning (Fire Plan)**

- Fire Hazard Severity Zone (SRA) public hearings are ongoing.
  - 36 hearings occurred in December; 51 thru early February.
  - Local Responsibility Area map roll out to follow.
    - https://www.osfm.fire.ca.gov/FHSZ
- CalMAPPER improvements continues, including build-out of mobile data entry tools & processes.



# Wildfire Planning & Statistics

# California Incident Data & Statistics Program (CalStats)

- Made modifications to the CALFIRS Wildland Fire Cause Categories to match the NWCG cause categories. This will be in line with the NWCG terminology for the field and the training that personnel are receiving at the Training Center, Unit, and Region levels.
- Along with this, we are also adding changes requested by the Utility Wildfire Mitigation program for utility-related electrical power ignitions. This includes modifications to the CALFIRS Wildland Fire Cause Subcategories for the Electrical Power category and adds a new field to indicate which Utility Company was involved.



# Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

#### Land Use Planning

 Numerous General Plan Safety Elements in informal review process statewide.

#### Subdivision Review (SDR)

- 1300+ subdivision surveys completed statewide.
- Fresno, Mendocino and several in the bay area, in progress now.

#### Firewise

640 communities in good standing, 300+ in process.

#### • Fire Safe Regulations

 On 1/4/23 conducted a training webinar for CAL FIRE Units and Contract Counties on department interpretation and enforcement.



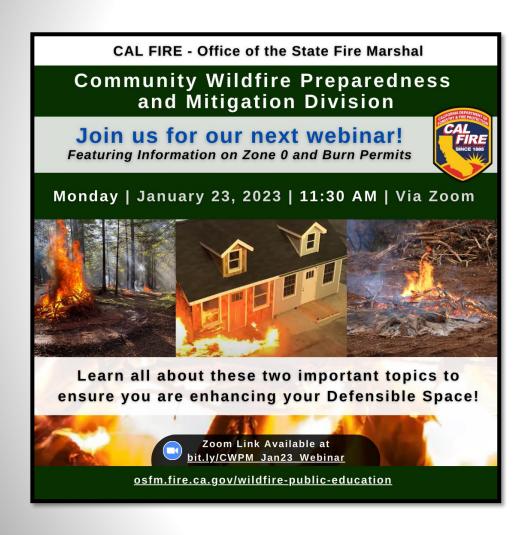
## Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance

### Wildfire Prevention (WP) Grants

- WP Grants Launched the FY 2022-23
   Solicitation on December 14th and will close on March 15th, 2023.
- WP Grants hosted an online workshop on January 11, 2023.
- WP Grants will also be announcing "Office Hours" during the workshop to assist perspective grantees.
  - Office Hours are the extra online technical assistance we will be providing due to the switch to Grants Portal to assist the applicants with application questions.
  - Office Hours are every Wednesday from January 25th to February 15th, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.
  - The hours will be themed to various subjects including Application, Scope of work, Budget Sheet and Goals, and Project Mapping Component.
  - The listserv will be sent in the upcoming week along with updating the website.



# **Division Report**



# Join us for our next webinar on January 23rd at 11:30 AM!

### **Featuring – Zone 0 and Burn Permits**

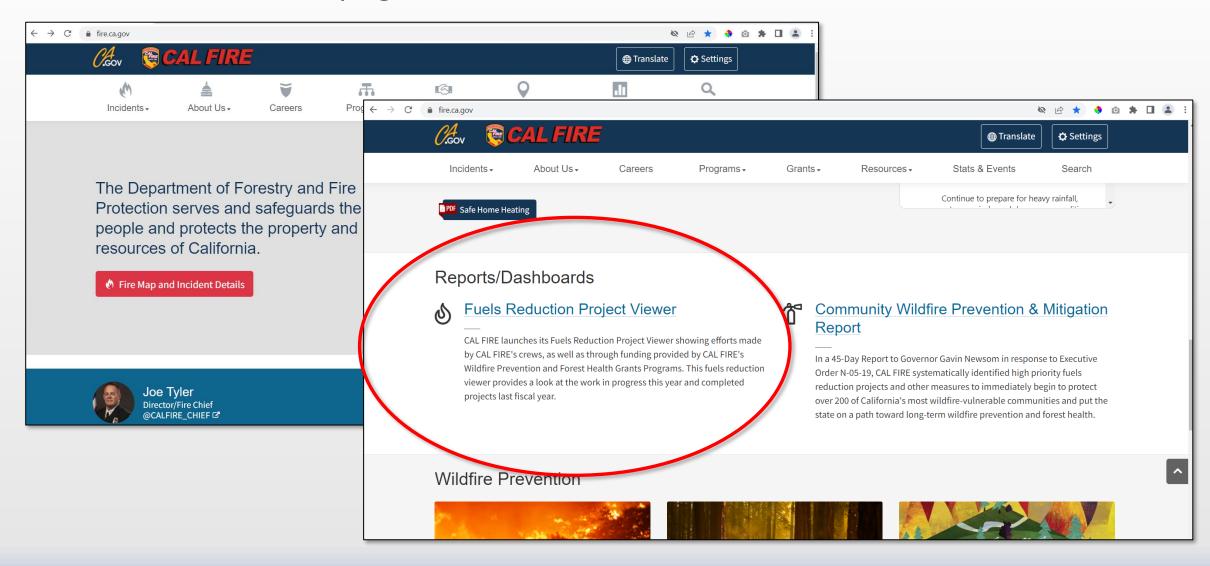
This webinar is open anyone who would like to learn more about the Programs within the Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division.

- All webinars are recorded and posted to our California Office of the State Fire Marshal YouTube Channel at <u>youtube.com/channel/UCelazGRRGPnrJ-1KbaMzqEA</u>.
- The Zoom meeting link for January 23<sup>rd</sup> is available at bit.ly/CWPM Jan23 Webinar.
- Visit <u>osfm.fire.ca.gov/wildfire-public-education/</u> to learn more.

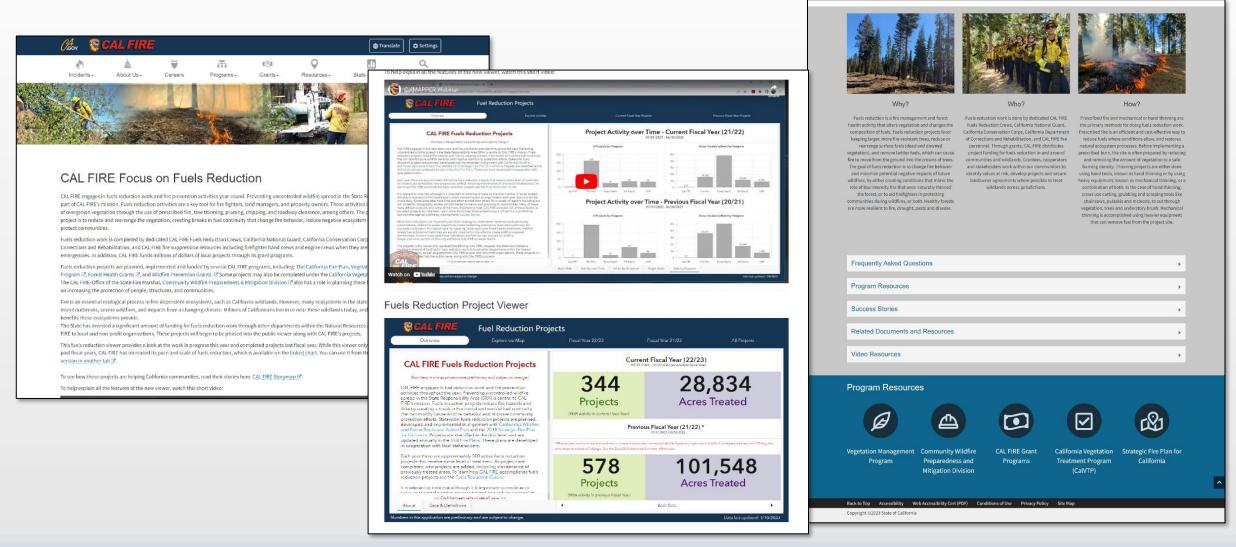
# CAL FIRE Fuel Reduction Projects Viewer

# How to Find the Viewer

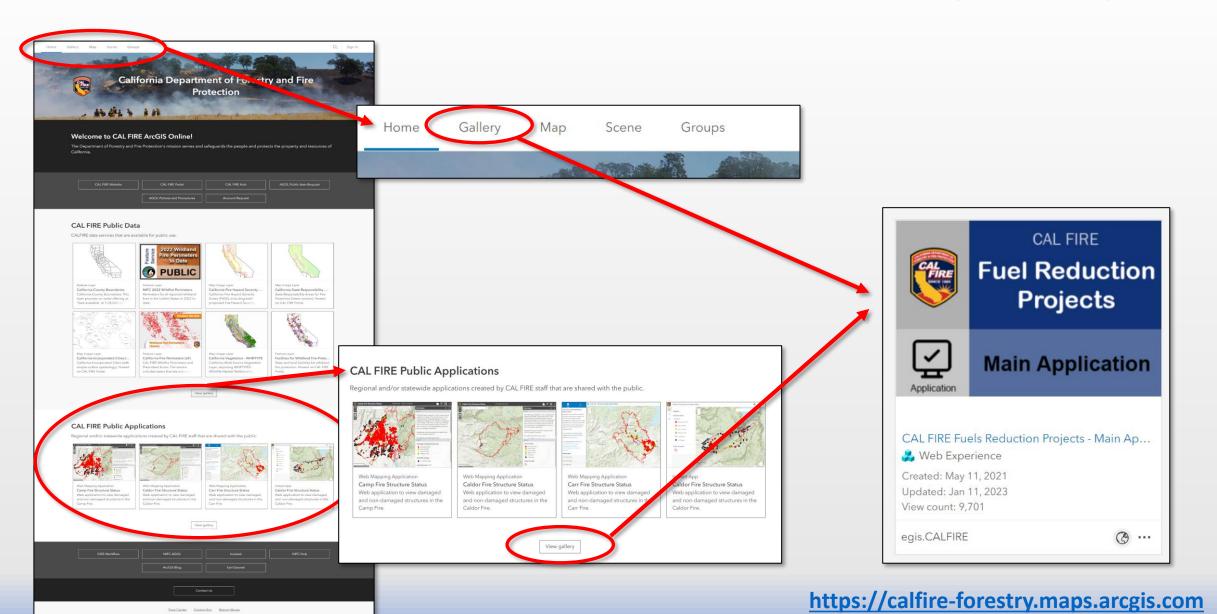
### The CAL FIRE home page contains a link to the viewer



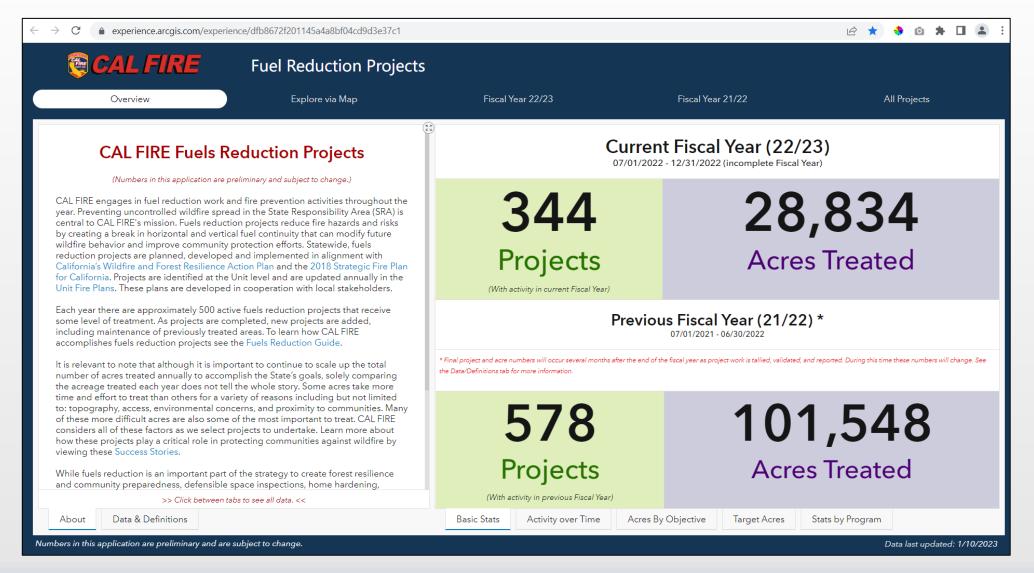
CAL FIRE's Fuel Reduction page includes an embedded viewer (and additional info), as well as a link to open it in its own window/tab



### The Viewer can also be found on CAL FIRE's ArcGIS Online page, in the gallery



### ...or just bookmark the direct link once you find it



# Viewer Contents

### Overview -> About

#### **CAL FIRE Fuels Reduction Projects**

(Numbers in this application are preliminary and subject to change.)

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.

Each year there are approximately 500 active fuels reduction projects that receive some level of treatment. As projects are completed, new projects are added, including maintenance of previously treated areas. To learn how CAL FIRE accomplishes fuels reduction projects see the Fuels Reduction Guide.

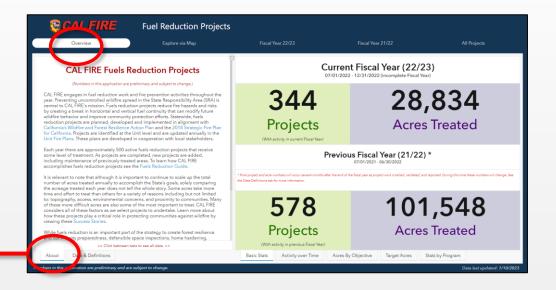
It is relevant to note that although it is important to continue to scale up the total number of acres treated annually to accomplish the State's goals, solely comparing the acreage treated each year does not tell the whole story. Some acres take more time and effort to treat than others for a variety of reasons including but not limited to: topography, access, environmental concerns, and proximity to communities. Many of these more difficult acres are also some of the most important to treat. CAL FIRE considers all of these factors as we select projects to undertake. Learn more about how these projects play a critical role in protecting communities against wildfire by viewing these Success Stories.

While fuels reduction is an important part of the strategy to create forest resilience and community preparedness, defensible space inspections, home hardening,

>> Click between tabs to see all data. <<

About

Data & Definitions



### Overview -> Data & Definitions (and the data update date)

#### About the Data

#### **Projects, Treatments and Activities**

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) collects, manages, and distributes information systematically across its Wildland Fuels Reduction programs. Projects are funded through state and federal funding mechanisms and administered by several departmental programs and collaborating partner agencies statewide. The CAL FIRE Management Activity Project Planning & Event Reporter (CalMAPPER) is the Department's mechanism to capture map based data about project activities. This information can then be distributed to internal or external stakeholders for purposes of planning, accountability, management, and emergency response.

#### What's Included in this Application?

The data in this application represents a static view of the CalMAPPER data as of the date indicated in the lower right corner of the application. The application data is **updated monthly.** Numbers in this application are preliminary and subject to change.

This application only includes data for fiscal year 19/20 forward (ie startig from July 1, 2019), with summary information provided for the the current and previous fiscal year. Fiscal Year refers to the State fiscal calendar and runs from July 1 - June 30. As such, the current fiscal year represents an incomplete reporting period, and caution should be exercised when comparing to the previous fiscal year. The first reports of the new fiscal year begin in August, which is when there is a full month of data (July) available for the new fiscal year.

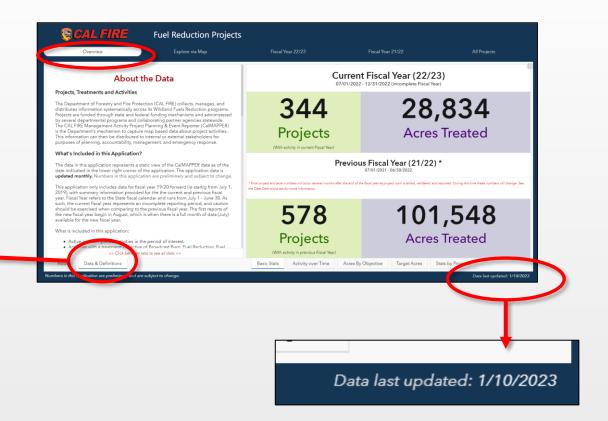
What is included in this application:

- · Active and completed activities in the period of interest.
- Activities with a treatment objective of Broadcast Burn, Fuel Reduction, Fuel

>> Click between tabs to see all data. <<

About

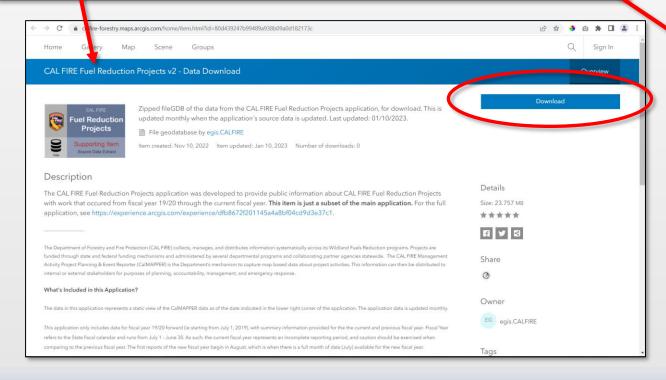
Data & Definitions



### Overview -> Data & Definitions -> Data Download

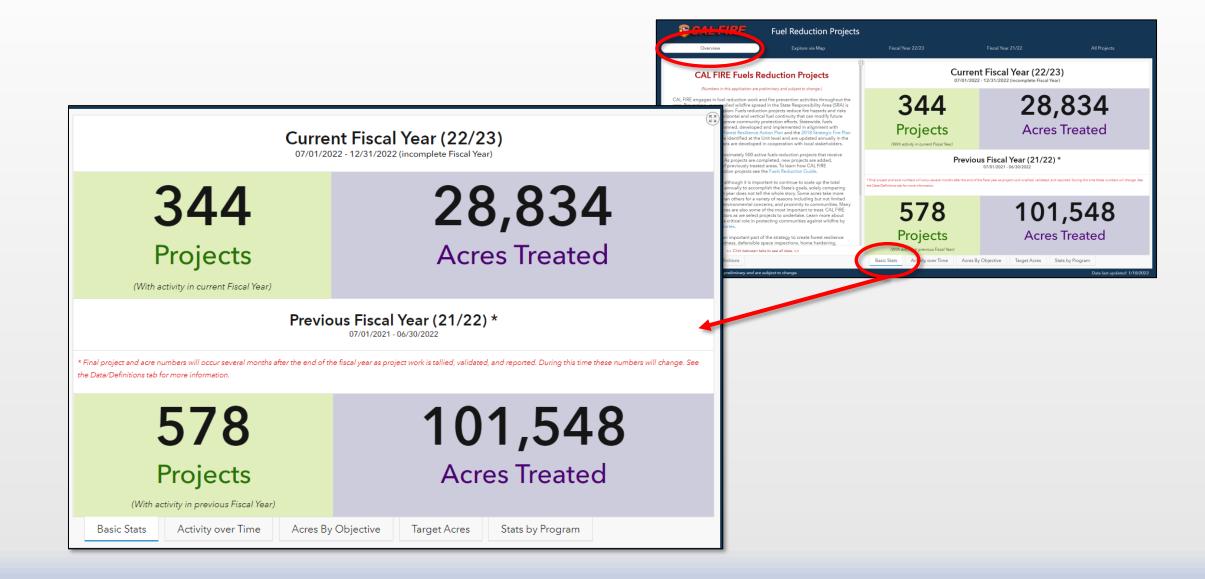
#### **Data Download**

A downloadable File Geodatabase of the data that feeds this application can be found here. It is updated monthly along with the application.

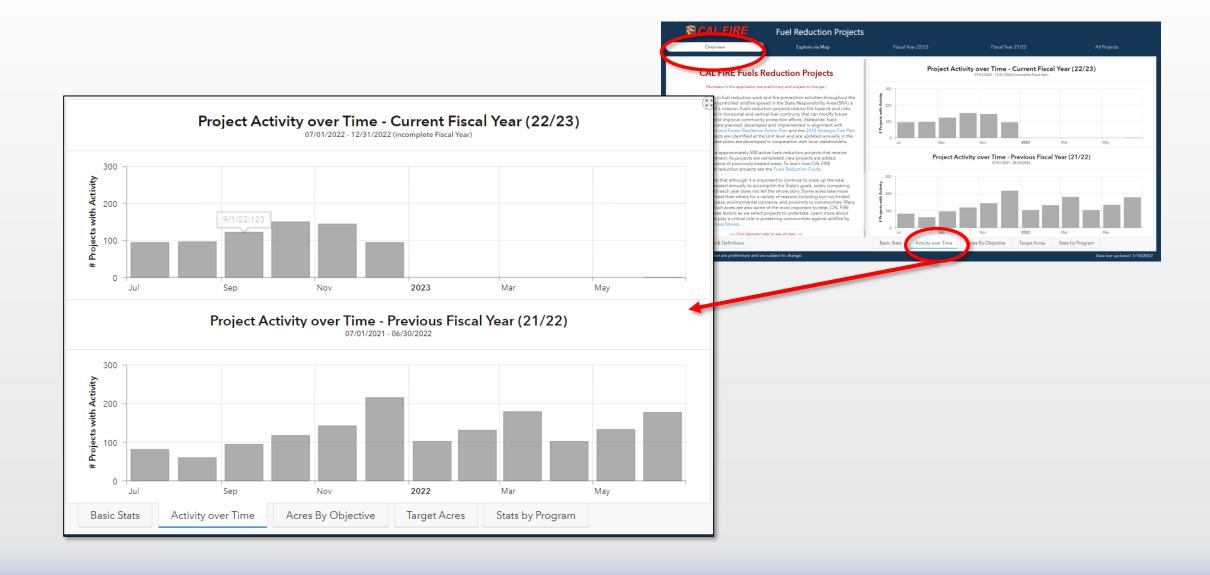




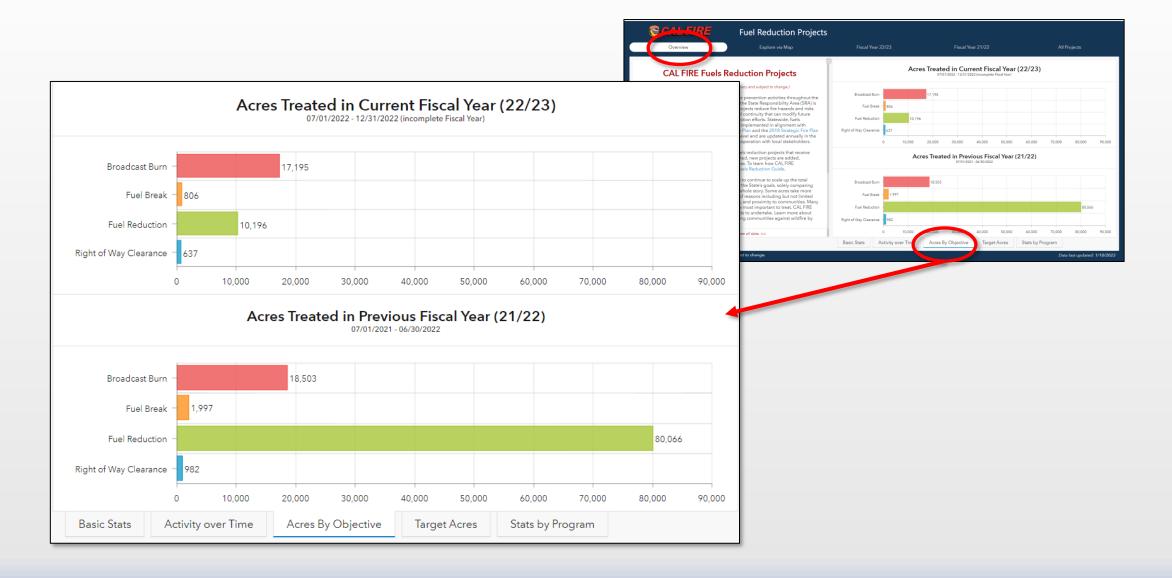
### Overview -> Basic Stats



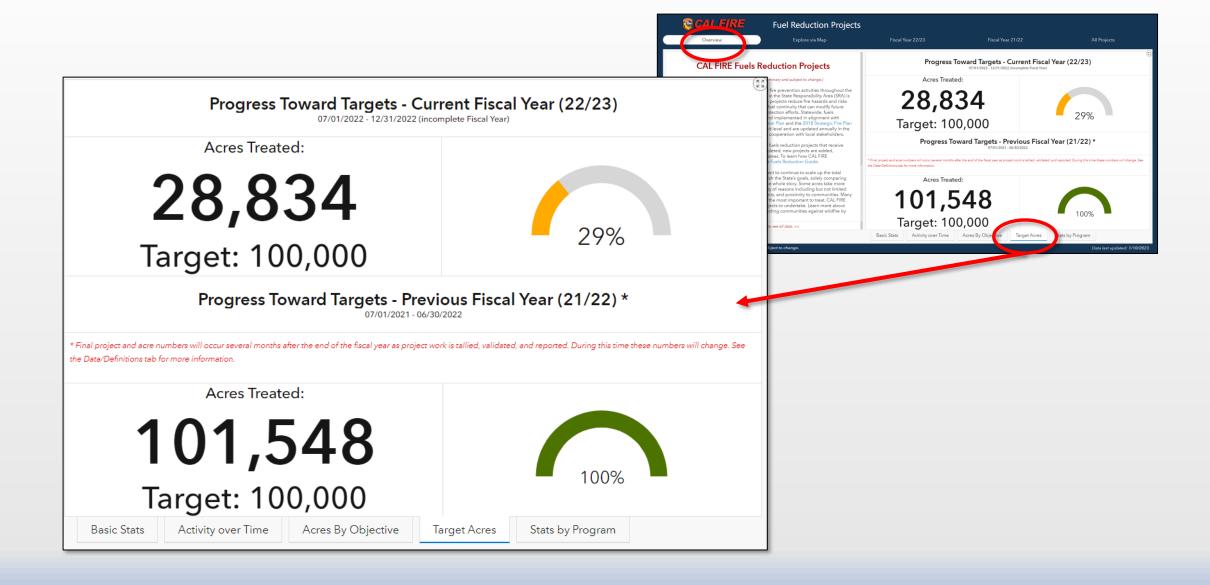
### Overview -> Activity over Time



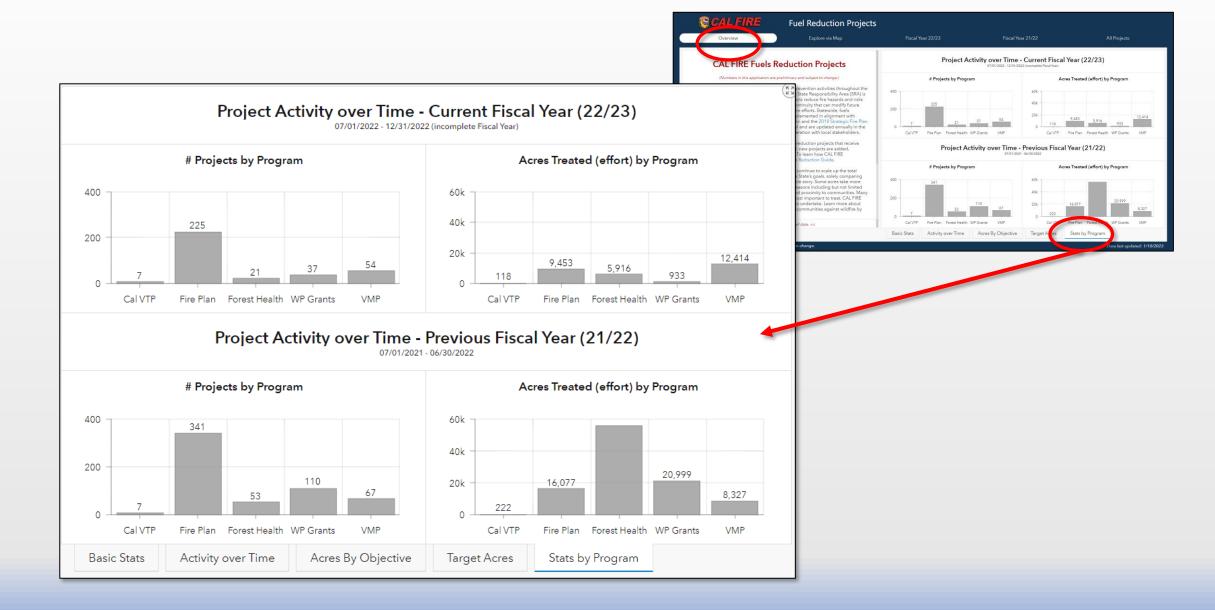
### Overview -> Activity By Objective



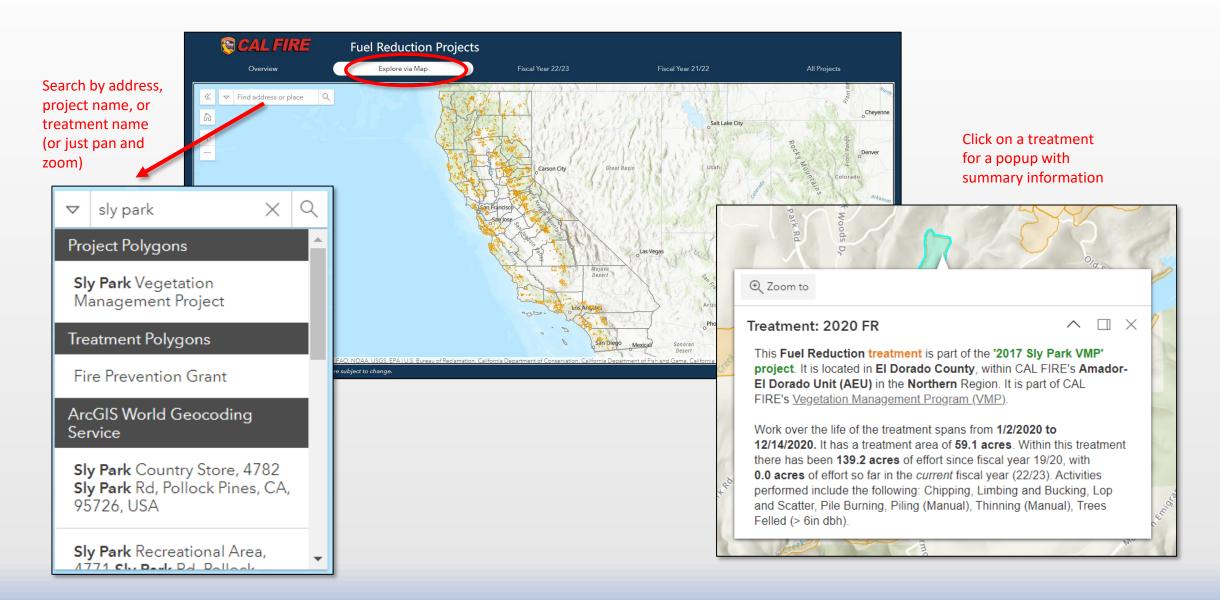
### Overview -> Target Acres



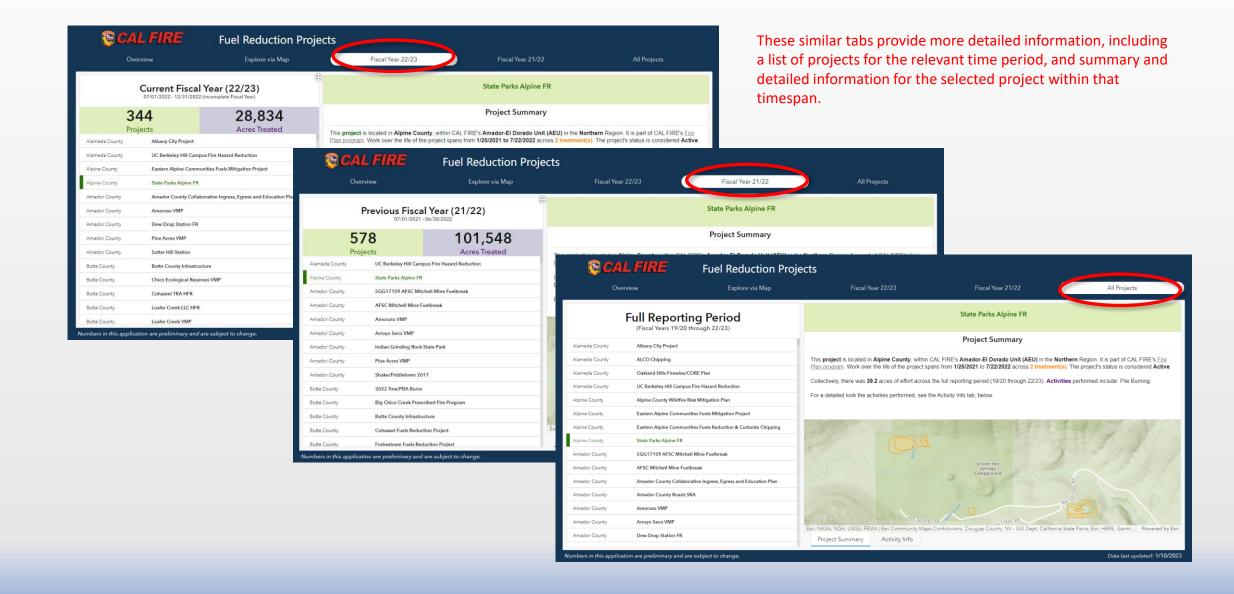
### Overview -> Stats by Program



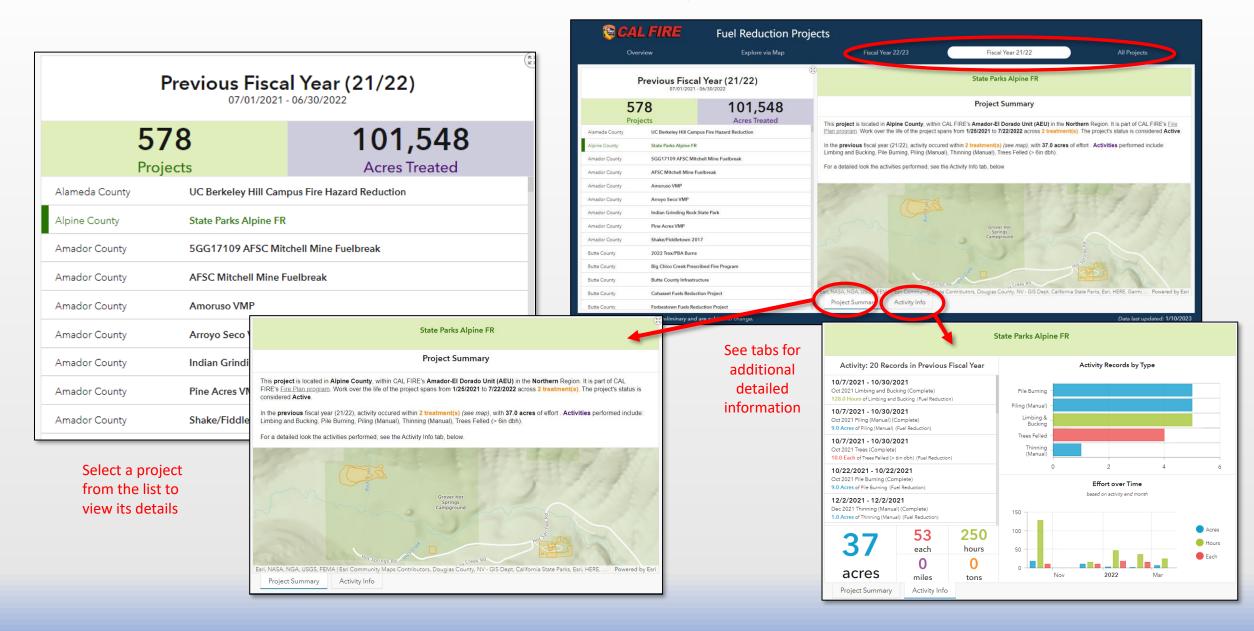
### Explore via Map



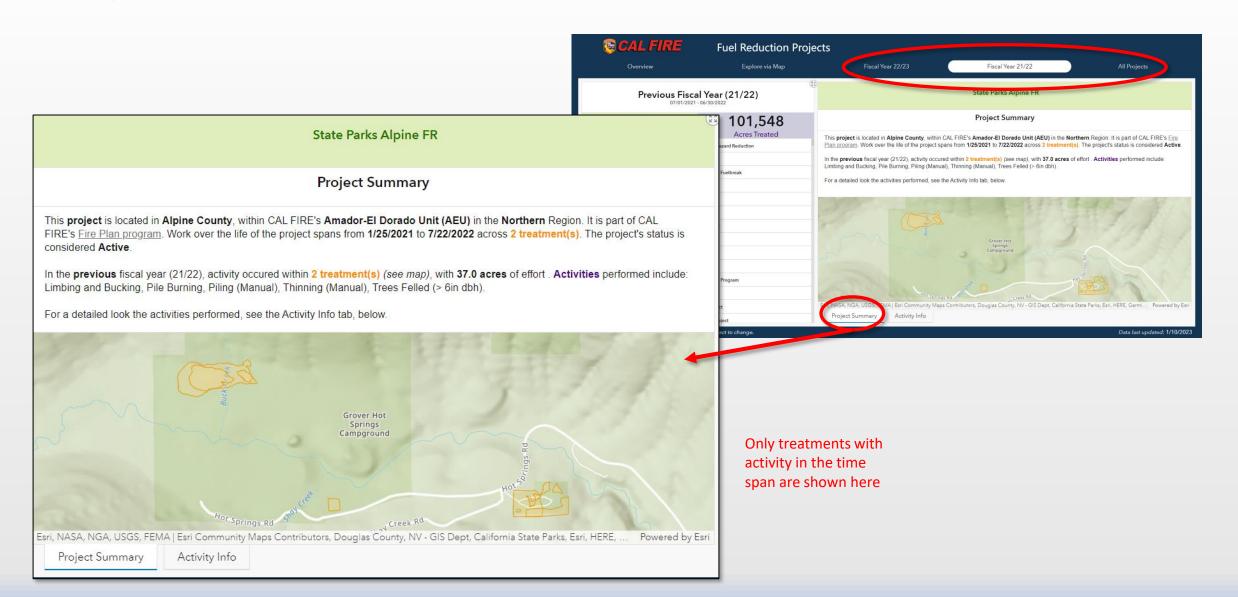
### Fiscal Year 22/23, Fiscal Year 21/22, All Projects



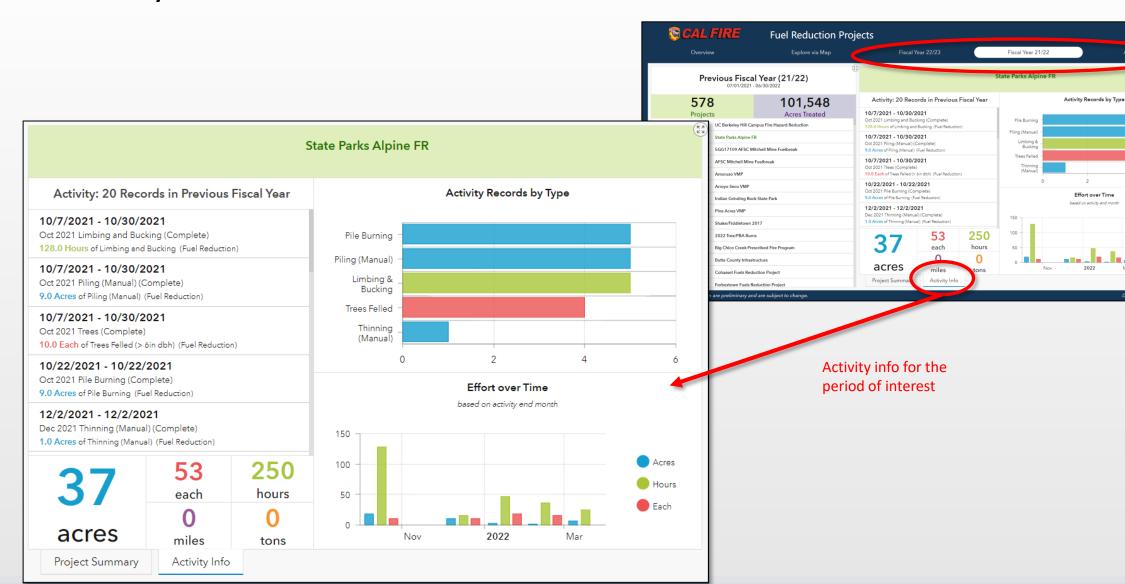
### Fiscal Year 22/23, Fiscal Year 21/22, All Projects (cont)



### -> Project Summary



### -> Activity Info





AB 2911 improves the fire safety of communities in high fire risk severity zones

Subdivision Review Program

## Assembly Bill 2911 (Friedman 2018)

#### Where did this all come from?

Assembly Woman Laura Friedman,

Assembly Bill 2911, 2018





## Assembly Bill 2911 (Friedman 2018)

### Section 4290.5 is added to the Public Resource Code:

4290.5. (a) On or before July 1, 2021, and every five years thereafter, the board, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal, shall survey local governments, including counties, cities, and fire districts to identify existing subdivisions located in a **state responsibility area or a very high fire hazard severity zone**, identified pursuant to Section 51178 of the Government Code, **without a secondary egress route** that are at significant fire risk.

- (b) (1) The board, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal and the local government that <u>identified</u> the subdivision, shall develop recommendations to improve the subdivision's fire safety. The recommendations may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (A) Creating secondary access to the subdivision.
  - (B) Improvements to the existing access road.
  - (C) Other additional fire safety measures.
- (2) The board shall provide the final recommendations developed pursuant to this subdivision to the local government that identified the subdivision and to the residents of the subdivision.
- (c) The board may enter into contracts with an independent group to conduct the survey required in subdivision (a).
- (d) For purposes of this section, "subdivision" means an existing residential development of <u>more than 30</u> <u>dwelling units.</u>
- (e) The board shall maintain a list of the subdivisions identified in subdivision (a) and the status of the implementation of the recommendations provided pursuant to subdivision (b).



## Fire Safety Survey

### 14 CCR § 1267.01 Fire Safety Survey

- (a) On or before July 1, 2021, and every five years thereafter, the board, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal, shall survey local governments, including counties, cities, and fire districts, to identify existing subdivisions without an adequate secondary egress route in all SRA or LRA mapped as a very high fire hazard severity zone.
  - (i) An adequate secondary egress route is a road, navigable by a passenger vehicle weighing 6,000 pounds or less, of equal construction standard to the primary road. The secondary road does not have to be rated to carry the same quantity of traffic (e.g., a two-lane paved road and a one-lane paved road is acceptable).
  - (ii) An adequate secondary egress route is not:
  - (A) a road with locked gates or limited access; or
  - (B) a road that directs traffic to the same outlet road as the primary road or results in a circular traffic flow, to the extent practicable.
- (b) Local government officials, including elected officials, fire officials, or representatives of agencies that govern land use planning and subdivision design, may request the board and the State Fire Marshal survey specific subdivisions in their jurisdiction.



### CAL FIRE

### **Subdivision Review Program Mission**

To identify existing subdivisions located in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) or a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone identified pursuant to CGC 51178, without a secondary means of egress route that are at significant fire risk and provide recommendations in creating a secondary access to the subdivision, improvements to existing access roads, and other fire safety measures.



## Conducting Subdivision Review Surveys

#### **Survey Priority List**

- Significant fire incidents
- Fire history (1970-2019)
- Firewise USA sites
- Communities at Risk
- Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (approval and adoption date)
- Safety Element (review and submittal to the Board date)

#### Research resources

- Local jurisdiction GIS Coordinator
- Local Fire Marshal and/or Fire Protection Agency
- Planning Department
- Building Department

#### **Data collection tools**

- ArcGIS Field Maps
- ArcGIS Survey 123
- ArcGIS Quick Capture
- Record and maintain Subdivision list



### Conclusion

# Thank you... questions?

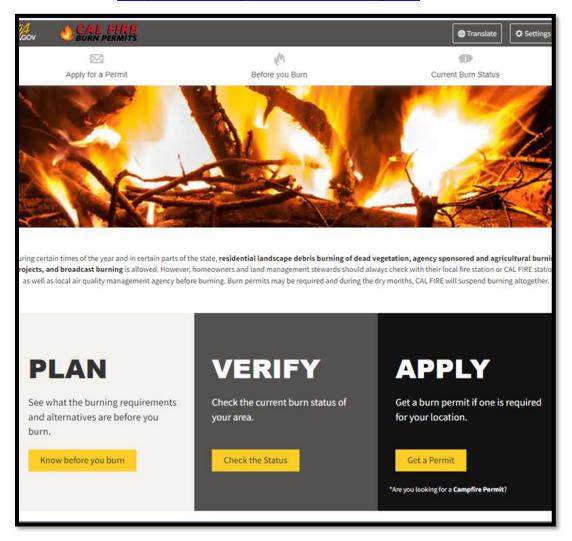
**Please contact our Subdivision Review Program:** 

https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/community-wildfirepreparedness-and-mitigation/



### **Online Burn Permits**

#### https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/



## 2023 Committee Goals

Discussion



## Roundtable / Public Comment

- Roundtable
  - Topic Suggestions for Next Meetings https://forms.gle/Wefg6YnrnUGYS8ua9
- Public Comment

## **Upcoming Meeting Date for 2023**

The Committee shall meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

- February 21, 2023
  - CNRA Building, 2-221 Conference Room 715 P St, Sacramento, CA
  - Featuring presentations from:
    - CAL FIRE Office of the State Fire Marshal:
      - Fire Hazard Severity Zones Update Update on our progress on the SRA map and where we are at with the LRA maps.
        - Jim McDougald, Scott Witt, and Dave Sapsis
      - SB 190 Final Draft Presentation
        - John Morgan
    - The Watershed Center:
      - Update
        - Michelle Medley-Daniel
- To view the entire list of upcoming presenters, visit:

Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee (ca.gov)

## Meeting Adjournment (Motion Required)

- Copies of the written materials have been posted on the Office of the State Fire Marshal web site at <a href="https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/">https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/</a>.
- For information concerning the Advisory Committee Meeting, please contact Kara Garrett at (916) 201-5539 or Kara.Garrett@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.