

Tehama Glenn Unit Strategic Fire Plan



2025

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SIGNATURE PAGE	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
SECTION I: UNIT OVERVIEW.....	4
UNIT DESCRIPTION	4
UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES	6
SECTION II: COLLABORATION	7
COMMUNITY / AGENCIES / FIRE SAFE COUNCILS	7
SECTION III: VALUES	8
A: VALUES	8
B: COMMUNITIES	9
<u>SECTION IV: PRE-FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES.....</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>A: FIRE PREVENTION.....</u>	<u>11</u>
ENGINEERING & STRUCTURE IGNITABILITY.....	12
INFORMATION AND EDUCATION	13
Community Risk Reduction	14
<u>B: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM</u>	<u>16</u>
UNIT FORESTER – D2590.....	16
<u>SECTION V: PRE- FIRE MANAGEMENT TACTICS</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS</u>	<u>18</u>
BATTALION I – Administered by Battalion 2511	18
BATTALION II – Administered by Battalion 2512	20
BATTALION III – Administered by Battalion 2513	22
BATTALION IV – Administered by Battalion 2514.....	24
Ishi Conservation Camp – Administered by Division 2503.....	26
Salt Creek Conservation Camp – Administered by Division 2504	27
Valley View Fire Center – Administered by Division 2505	28
<u>APPENDIX A: PRE-FIRE PROJECTS</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>APPENDIX B: UNIT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES</u>	<u>31</u>
<u>APPENDICES C-Z</u>	<u>32</u>

APPENDIX C: COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS32

APPENDIX D: IGNITION ANALYSIS 33

EXHIBITS: MAPS.....34

FIGURE A: UNIT MAPS 34

FIGURE B: BATTALION MAPS..... 36

SUPPLEMENTS: ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING 40

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2024)..... 40

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2023)..... 42

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2022)..... 44

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2021)..... 46


ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2020)..... 48

SIGNATURE PAGE

Unit Strategic Fire Plan developed for Tehama Glenn:

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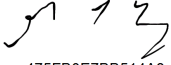
- Was collaboratively developed. Interested parties, Federal, State, City, and County agencies within the Unit have been consulted and are listed in the plan.
- Identifies and prioritizes pre-fire and post-fire management strategies and tactics meant to reduce the loss of Values at Risk within the Unit.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only. It is the responsibility of those implementing the projects to ensure that all environmental compliance and permitting processes are met as necessary.

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Unit Chief
Monty Smith

5/7/2025

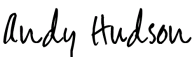
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE) Tehama Glenn Unit (TGU) encompasses approximately 2,675,827 acres. CAL FIRE provides direct protection for 1,461,456 of those acres, except for four incorporated cities: Red Bluff, Corning, Orland, Willows, and small areas within the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) lands of Tehama and Glenn Counties. CAL FIRE maintains statutory responsibility for all wildland fires within the State Responsibility Areas (SRA). Of the total county population of both Tehama and Glenn, approximately 22% live within SRA lands.

The TGU Headquarters is located at 604 Antelope Boulevard, just east of Red Bluff City, in Tehama County, California. The facility is home to the Unit Administrative offices, Resource Management, Logistics Service Center, Training Center, Automotive Fleet Maintenance Shop, Battalion II Headquarters, Red Bluff Fire Station, Tehama County Fire Department Fire Station 1, and a Radio Technician Maintenance shop. It also houses the Emergency Command Center, which provides all-risk incident dispatching for fire, rescue, and medical services on a contractual basis for most of Tehama County.

The Unit's Fire Prevention Bureau includes four Peace Officers, a Fire Prevention Specialist II who also serves as a Public Information Officer, one permanent Forestry Technician, one Limited Term Forestry Technician, and four seasonal Defensible Space Inspectors (DSI).

The Protection and Planning Bureau consists of the Tehama County Fire Marshal and two Fire Prevention / Life Safety Inspectors. The Life Safety Inspectors are partially funded by Title III grant funds.

In developing this TGU Strategic Fire Plan, it is assumed that executed pre-fire projects will reduce fire suppression costs and prevent catastrophic loss due to large, devastating wildfires during periods of severe fire weather.

Accomplishing a pre-fire management project results in substantially decreased impacts to the environment and to human infrastructure. By reducing fuels, catastrophic wildfires in specific high risk/high value areas, potentially catastrophic wildfires should be contained to a smaller size, burn with lower intensity and severity, and incur significantly reduced suppression costs.

The goal of the TGU Fire Plan is to reduce losses and fire suppression costs from wildland fires within the Unit by protecting at risk assets. Focused pre-fire management prescriptions will increase initial attack success. To execute the TGU Fire Plan, several key objectives must be met during implementation of the plan, this includes:

- Collection and analysis of data from a variety of resources to evaluate potential projects and determine benefit provided to the community and environment within the Unit.

- Development of strong local relationships with stakeholders to cultivate and maintain a more natural fire- resilient landscape. These collaborations will be instrumental in establishing community buy-in to the responsibilities of living within the Wildland Urban Interface.
- Education of the public on fire prevention measures for safer homes and communities.
- Implementation of a strong fiscal policy to focus and monitor the wildland fire protection system in fiscal terms. This will include all public and private expenditures and economic losses.

Before any pre-fire management activity, stakeholder input will be sought for the purposes of:

- Acquainting stakeholders with the process.
- Bringing their expertise and knowledge in identifying assets at risk.
- Reviewing the level of service in these locations.
- Identifying areas where stakeholders consider levels of risk unacceptable.
- Identifying other beneficial results of various fuel management activities.

Each area of TGU will need to adapt to the ever-increasing population inhabiting and utilizing the wildland areas of the counties. The increase in these activities will pose greater risks of fire and even greater expectations for all CAL FIRE response services. Through collaboration for development, implementation, and ongoing reassessment of this Plan's priorities, TGU will be ready and steadfast in its ability to provide leadership in pre-fire management planning. This plan will aide in protecting the citizens of Tehama and Glenn Counties from future destructive wildfires.

Monty Smith

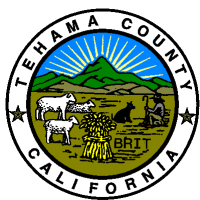
Unit Chief, Tehama Glenn Unit

SECTION I: UNIT OVERVIEW

UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Tehama Glenn Unit is located in the Northern Sacramento Valley. The counties are comprised of flat grasslands on the valley floor, steadily transitions into oak-woodland, brush, chaparral, and ultimately into large stands of conifer timber in the higher elevations of the surrounding mountains. The Unit is known as a sportsman's paradise, with fishing on the Sacramento River, and plenty of deer, pig, bear, turkey, and waterfowl hunting in the surrounding foothills.

Tehama County



Tehama County is approximately 1,892,917 acres in size and has an estimated population of 65,000 permanent residents. CAL FIRE is directly responsible for 1,164,929 of those acres. The valley floor is where most residents live, including the cities of Red Bluff, Corning, and Tehama, and communities of Los Molinos, Lake California, and Gerber. The fertile ground along the valley floor makes Tehama County a prime location for agriculture. Some of the more predominant crops grown in the counties are almonds, olives, prunes, and walnuts.

There are numerous communities located on the outskirts of the valley floor. Many of these locations have been identified as 'Communities at Risk', by the National Fire Plan as communities that are at a high risk of damage from wildfire. Rancho Tehama, Red Bank, Paskenta, Baker, Bowman, R Wild Horse Ranch, Dibble Creek, Flournoy, Bend, and Wilcox are some of those communities. For the most part, these communities lie in a belt of oak-woodland and chaparral. Many of these areas are utilized by cattle ranchers, as the climate and vegetation are conducive to sustaining livestock.

The mountainous regions of Tehama County are located both east and west of the "Central Valley." The far west side of the county is owned predominately by the U.S. Forest Service and is under the jurisdiction of the Mendocino National Forest. There are also numerous Bureau of Land Management properties scattered throughout the west side. The far east side of the county is a mix of Lassen National Forest, Lassen Volcanic National Park, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and private timber industry lands. There are several mountain communities located in eastern Tehama County, including the communities of Manton, Paynes Creek, Ponderosa Sky Ranch, Mill Creek, Mineral, and Dales Station. Sierra Pacific Industries owns multiple large tracts of timberland on the east side and is a major employer in the area.

The east side has an extremely important watershed value to the central valley, and to fish habitat. There are four major drainages which carry water from the mountains down to the Sacramento River: Antelope Creek, Mill Creek, Deer Creek, and Battle Creek. Battle Creek is on the forefront of Salmon restoration in the Western United States and is the site of the Coleman National Fish Hatchery.

The west side of the county has two major drainages which run east to the Sacramento River: Thomes Creek and Cottonwood Creek.

Glenn County



Glenn County is approximately 849,129 acres in size and has an estimated population of 28,000 permanent residents. CAL FIRE directly protects 293,968 acres of land in Glenn County. Many of the residents in Glenn County live on the valley floor along the Interstate 5 corridor. The two main communities in Glenn County are the Cities of Orland, and Willows, with Willows being the County Seat.

Glenn County is well known for its production of almonds, walnuts, rice, dairy cattle, and for its recreational value. The recreational attractions include Black Butte Lake, Stony Gorge Reservoir, and the Sacramento River. Glenn County is bordered on the east by the Sacramento River, and by the Mendocino National Forest to the west.

Much of the land along the Sacramento River is owned either by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Fish and Wildlife, or Nature Conservancies. The land directly adjacent to Black Butte Reservoir is owned by the Department of Defense (Army Corps of Engineers). On the west side of the county, much of the ownership is the United States Forest Service, Mendocino National Forest, with some scattered Bureau of Land Management properties.



UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES

Tehama Glenn Unit CAL FIRE Facilities and Equipment

Red Bluff Headquarters – 2 Engines – 1 Bulldozer with Transport and Dozer Tender
Bowman Station – 1 Engine
Baker Station – 2 Engines
Red Bank Station – 1 Engine
Paskenta Station – 2 Engines
Elk Creek Station – 2 Engines
Paynes Creek Station – 2 Engines
Manton Station – 1 Engine
Vina Helitack Base – 1 Sikorsky S70i Helicopter and 1 Helitender
Ishi Conservation Camp – 3 Incarcerated Fire Crews – 1 Bulldozer with Transport and Dozer Tender
Salt Creek Conservation Camp – 3 Incarcerated Fire Crews - 1 Bulldozer with Transport and Dozer Tender
Valley View Fire Center – 3 Firefighter I Fire Crews
Inskip Lookout – Staffed by U.S.F.S. LNF (seasonally)
Eagle Peak Lookout – Unstaffed
Pattymocus Lookout – Unstaffed

Dispatch Agreements

CAL FIRE currently maintains dispatch agreements with several local emergency response agencies. These agencies include the following:

Tehama County Fire Department
Red Bluff City Fire Department
Dignity Health Ambulance (Saint Elizabeth Community Hospital)

Mutual / Automatic Aid Agreements CAL FIRE currently maintains numerous Mutual and Automatic Aid agreements with local and federal entities. CAL FIRE TGU is very determined in maintaining these relationships with local and Federal agencies as this system of agreements has proven to better serve the citizens of Tehama and Glenn Counties.

CAL FIRE Maintains agreements with the following agencies:

Tehama County Fire Department (Auto/Mutual)
Red Bluff City Fire Department (Auto)
Corning City Fire Department (Mutual)
Capay Fire District (Mutual)
Cottonwood Fire Protection District (Auto/Mutual)
Glenn County Fire Departments (Mutual)
USFS Mendocino Forest, Shasta-Trinity Forest, and Lassen Forest (Auto)
Lassen Volcanic National Park (Auto)
Shasta County Fire Department (Auto/Mutual)
Butte County Fire Department (Auto/Mutual)

SECTION II: COLLABORATION

COMMUNITY / AGENCIES / FIRE SAFE COUNCILS

Representatives involved in the development of the Unit Strategic Fire Plan are included in the following table. Their organization and title are indicated below:

Plan Development Team:

Organization	Title
Resource Conservation District - Tehama County	Project Manager
Glenn County Resource Conservation District	Project Manager
Sierra Pacific Industries	District Manager
Sunflower CRMP	Chair
Cottonwood Creek Watershed Group	Chair
Western Shasta RCD	Project Manager
Battle Creek Watershed Conservancy	Watershed Coordinator
Tehama-Glenn Fire Safe Council	Chair
The Nature Conservancy	Preserve Manager
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	District Supervisor
USDA Forest Service - MNF	District Supervisor
Department of Interior - BLM	District Supervisor
USDA Forest Service - LNF	District Supervisor
CA Dept. Fish and Wildlife	Wildlife Habitat Supervisor II
Lassen Volcanic National Park	Park Supervisor
Collins Pine Company	District Manager
Caltrans	District Supervisor
Manton Fire Safe Council	Chair
Tehama Resource Advisory Committee	Chair
California Fire Safe Council	Sierra Region Board Chair
Mineral and Mill Creek Firewise USA Communities	Chair
Lake California Firewise USA Community	Chair

SECTION III: VALUES

A: VALUES

TGU has numerous assets which would be considered at risk in the event of a large wildfire or other natural disaster. The top priority Assets-at-Risk are life and property. There are numerous communities scattered throughout the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas of both counties. Many of these communities have been recognized as Communities-at-Risk by the National Fire Plan, which directs funding to projects designed to reduce the fire risks in targeted communities (see subsection B).

There are many Assets-at-Risk within TGU that are vitally important to millions of lives. Tehama and Glenn counties have large high tension, high-voltage power lines running along the valley floor and through the foothills. These lines carry electricity to the Bay Area and the Sacramento Valley. There are also several communication towers in Tehama County which are repeater sites for both Law Enforcement and Fire Departments and carry 911 service calls. Numerous underground high pressure gas distribution lines can also be found traversing the county.

The watershed value of TGU is among the most valuable in the Western United States. These watersheds not only supply drinking and agricultural water to more populated areas but are also vital to California's salmon restoration efforts. The Counties of Tehama and Glenn strive to maintain good water and air quality, minimize soil erosion, and improve wildlife habitats.

Other significant Assets-at-Risk in the Unit include timber in the mountainous areas, recreation areas (parks, camp sites, and intricate trail systems), rangeland for grazing, agriculture in the lower elevations, public infrastructure, and historic buildings throughout Tehama and Glenn Counties.



B: COMMUNITIES

Communities identified within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) of TGU are considered Communities-at-Risk, the area where homes and wildland intermix.

The “Communities-at-Risk” listed in the table below are found on the National Registry.

WILDFIRE THREATENED COMMUNITIES IN TEHAMA AND GLENN COUNTIES

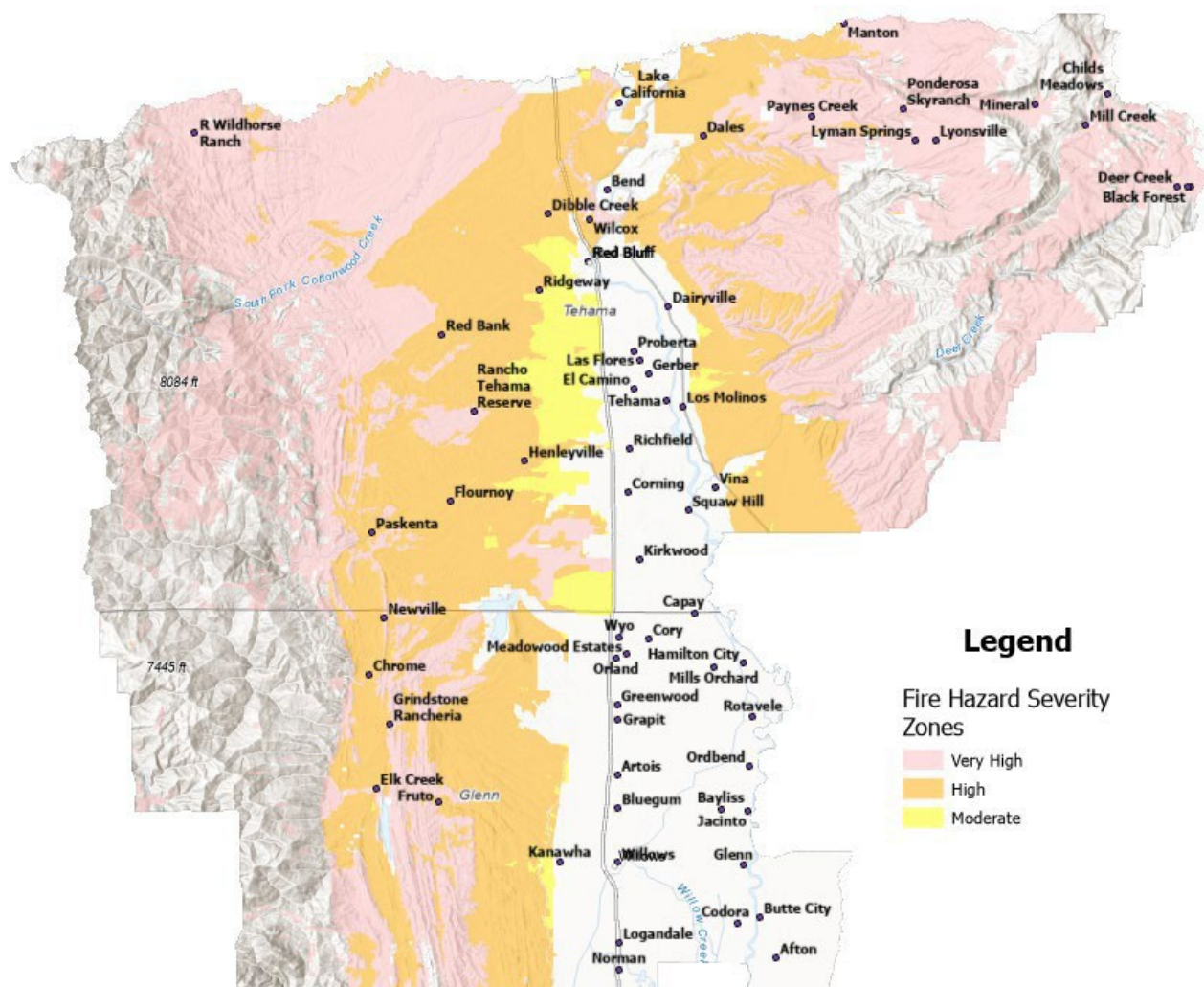
<u>Community Name</u>	<u>Federal Threat¹</u>	<u>Hazard Level²</u>
Bend	×	2
Corning		3
Dairyville		2
Elk Creek	×	3
Los Molinos		2
Manton	×	3
Mill Creek	×	3
Mineral	×	3
Orland		2
Paskenta	×	3
Paynes Creek	×	3
Red Bluff	×	2
Wilcox		2
Willows		2

1. Federal Threat code of X indicates some or all the wildland fire threat to that community comes from federal lands (e.g., US Forest Service, BLM, and Dept. of Defense).

2. Hazard Level code indicates the fire threat level, where 2 denotes moderate threat and 3 denotes high threat.

The following communities in Tehama and Glenn Counties are not listed on the National Registry but may be at risk and are recognized in the TGU Fire Plan, and in several Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) documents. These communities are also shown on the Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) map below.

Afton, Artois, Bayliss, Black Forest, Bluegum, Bowman, Butte City, Capay, Chrome, Childs Meadows, Codora, Cory, Dales Station, Deer Creek, Dibble Creek, El Camino, Fournoy, Fruto, Gerber, Glenn, Grapit, Greenwood, Grindstone Rancheria, Hamilton City, Henleyville, Jacinto, Kanawha, Kirkwood, Lake California, Logandale, Los Flores, Lyonsville, Lyman Springs, Meadowood Estates, Mills Orchard, Newville, Norman, Ordbend, Ponderosa Sky Ranch, Proberta, R-Wild Horse Ranch, Rancho Tehama, Red Bank, Richfield, Ridgeway, Rotavele, Saint Bernard, Squaw Hill, Vina, Wyo, and Tehama.



SECTION IV: PRE-FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

A: FIRE PREVENTION



The Fire Prevention Bureau is composed of one Battalion Chief, three Fire Captain Specialists, one Fire Prevention Specialist II, four seasonal Defensible Space Inspectors (DSI), and one permanent and one limited term Forestry Technician DSI. The Battalion Chief and Fire Captain Specialists are sworn State Peace Officers and Certified Fire Investigators. The County Fire/Unit Fire Marshal and the Pre-Fire Engineer assist with both fire prevention coverage and fire investigations.

The Fire Prevention Bureau considers education a top priority. To educate the public, the Bureau has given multiple presentations and Fire Prevention speeches to stakeholders, including Fire Safe Councils and local businesses. In addition, educational presentations are given to school-aged children at both school assemblies and public events. A strong Public Information Officer (PIO) program constantly provides education to the public through various local and nationwide media outlets.



Secondly, Tehama County has adopted and just updated an ordinance based on Public Resource Code (PRC) Section 4291, allowing the enforcement of the Fire Hazard Clearances within the Local Responsibility Areas (LRA). The inspections are conducted in target areas within the County, in addition to complaint driven. During these contacts, the focus is to educate the public on the importance of defensible space and fire safety awareness, as well as enforce the ordinance.

Highlights of Tehama County Ordinance 2122 - Chapter 9.05.050

- All improved parcels must be maintained in accordance with the Public Resources Code 4291 and Government Code 51182.
- Vacant parcels under 2 acres are required to have 100% clearance regardless of being improved or not.
- Parcels between 2 acres and 10 acres that are not improved, but next to improved parcels, require a 30-foot fire break around the perimeter.
- Parcels zoned 'Agricultural Land' and 'Irrigated' require no fire breaks.

Escaped debris burns, equipment use, and miscellaneous fires continue to be the leading causes of fires within Tehama and Glenn Counties. The Fire Prevention Bureau continues to make public education a top priority by completing approximately 7000 Fire Hazard Inspections annually.

ENGINEERING & STRUCTURE IGNITABILITY



Currently, the Tehama Glenn Unit utilizes different statutes to determine fire department requirements in the State Responsibility Areas (SRA) between Tehama and Glenn Counties. Within the SRA of Glenn County, PRC 4290 & 4291 are utilized along with CAL FIRE LE-100 forms to enforce defensible space around structures and implement fire safety standards. In Glenn County, the Building Department is the administering agency for the enforcement of building codes.

Tehama County Code Chapter 9.14, California Code of Regulations Title 14, and Title 24 are used to condition residential and commercial development within Tehama County. These codes enable us to enforce address signage, road signage, and standards on roads, driveways, fire-flow, building construction, and residential and commercial sprinkler systems (when required or utilized as a mitigation).

The Tehama County Fire Marshal enforces land development standards that are within Tehama County. The Fire Marshal is an active member of the Tehama County Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), where new subdivisions, parcel splits, new roads, and special developments within Tehama County are reviewed. During this review process, the committee addresses access and egress, water for fire use, road standards, lot size and total number of lots, as well as other issues relative to fire and life safety, and county development standards. All projects are subject to the Tehama County Land Development Standards and are required to meet all safety standards as conditioned by the TAC.

Tehama County employs two Tehama County Fire Prevention / Life Safety Inspectors, who are partially funded by Title 3. In 2024, these Inspectors completed 3,170 inspections, drove 18,723 miles, and logged 1,008 hours for inspections and public contacts per year. The Inspectors annually review approximately 400 plot plans for new construction projects within the unincorporated areas of Tehama County.

Focusing on preventing significant fire damage to residential structures, the Fire Prevention Bureau has developed strategies that coincide with established standards developed by organizations like the Fire Safe Council and "Firewise." The Bureau also works with the Building Department to ensure new construction meets Chapter 7A building requirements.

The Bureau annually inspects over 700 operational commercial businesses within the jurisdiction of Tehama County Fire Department (TCFD). These annual inspections are mandated by Title 24, Part 9, Section 104.3 of the California Fire Code, and Division 12, Part 2, Chapter 1, Article 2, Section 13146.2 (a) of the California Health and Safety Code. These inspections have also given our inspectors the opportunity to educate business owners on fire prevention within their facilities.

TGU/TCFD utilize Volunteers in Prevention, engine companies and Forestry Aides to conduct PRC 4291 Defensible Space Inspections on a LE-100 form. This program is further enhanced by utilizing Tehama County Code Chapter 9.05, FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT in the LRA of Tehama County. Inspectors also perform Weed Abatement Inspections in the LRA.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

The TGU Fire Prevention Specialist II (FPS II) is responsible for and dissemination of public and fire information via News Release, Facebook and Twitter resulting in over 400 media contacts per year. The FPS II is also responsible for the Volunteers in Prevention (V.I.P) program and all school/public events, as well as the Youth Juvenile Fire Setter Intervention Program. TGU has partnered with the CAL FIRE Shasta-Trinity Unit in sending juveniles within the program to a Youth Fire Setter Academy in Anderson. This program consists of two days of education, participation, and information for juveniles involved in setting fires and includes their families in the training. If juveniles complete the program, they receive a certificate. The program has successfully reduced the number of juvenile re-offenders.

The Information and Education section of the Fire Prevention Bureau normally participates in approximately 50 fire prevention programs annually in Tehama and Glenn Counties, including school presentations for thousands of children, parades, the Tehama District Fair and Glenn County Fair, Corning Olive Festival, Dairyville Orchard Festival, Manton Apple Festival, and the Special Olympics of Tehama County and of Glenn County. Additionally, the Information and Education Section organizes the annual Salvation Army Bell Ringing and Food Drive and the Marine Corps Reserve Toy's for Tot's Toy Drive. It is estimated that over 24,000 public contacts are made each year. The Information and Education Section actively recruits V.I.P's to assist the Fire Prevention Bureau in public education on fire safety. V.I.P's work an average of approximately 300 hours annually.

By educating the public about the dangers of fire, and by providing fire safety programs and messages via news releases and social media, the Information and Education section will continue to help reduce the number of ignitions within TGU. These efforts are highly successful in teaching the fundamentals of fire safety and fire prevention. This section will continue to actively promote fire prevention and fire safety in the community.

The Fire Protection/Planning and Fire Prevention Bureaus continue to actively promote fire prevention and fire safety education within Tehama and Glenn Counties.



COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

CENTRAL DIVISION – Administered by D2506

In 2024, the TGU Fuels Reduction Program operated with a core staff of one Assistant Chief and one Pre-Fire Engineer Captain. CAL FIRE resources were able to carry out a substantial amount of work on 29 separate fuels reduction projects. These projects collectively treated approximately 1,554 acres and involved a variety of essential fuel management activities:

- **Broadcast Burning (211 acres):** This technique is crucial for reducing surface fuels and promoting the natural fire cycle in fire-adapted ecosystems.
- **General Fuels Reduction (1,164 acres):** This encompasses a range of treatments, including thinning, brush removal, and other methods aimed at decreasing overall fuel loads.
- **Fuel Breaks (17.8 miles):** The creation of these linear clearings is vital for disrupting fire spread and providing firefighters with strategic control lines.
- **Right-of-Way Clearance (162 acres):** This work focuses on reducing fuels along roads and other access routes, improving evacuation and firefighting access.

The program's progress was significantly impacted in 2024 by the Park Fire, a major wildfire event that required the deployment of substantial CAL FIRE resources. This drawdown of personnel and equipment meant that the TGU Fuels Reduction Program was unable to complete many of the additional projects that had been planned for the year. This highlights the challenge of balancing proactive fuels management with the need to respond to active wildfires, particularly in a landscape prone to large-scale fire events.

When addressing fuels reduction in high fire danger areas, the following strategic considerations are prioritized:

- **Treatment Placement:** Use data such as Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps, fire behavior modeling, fire history, and local knowledge to prioritize treatments in locations that will provide the greatest benefit in altering fire behavior. This often means focusing on roadways, ridge tops, strategic defense points around critical infrastructure, communities, evacuation routes, and other landscape anchor points, utilizing natural and manmade features. Construct a network of fuel breaks to compartmentalize the landscape, and exploit topography, using natural and manmade features to enhance the effectiveness of treatments.
- **Treatment Type:** Select fuel reduction methods based on site-specific conditions, fuel types, and desired outcomes. In fire-adapted ecosystems, use prescribed fire to mimic natural fire regimes, reduce surface fuels, and promote forest health, including understory burning and varying fire intensity. Use manual and mechanical thinning to reduce ladder fuels and canopy density, focusing on removing smaller diameter trees and brush. Combine prescribed fire and manual/mechanical treatments for optimal results, as thinning can reduce heavy fuels, making prescribed fire safer and more effective. Implement aggressive fuel reduction measures around homes and communities, creating defensible space zones that increase structural survivability and maintain evacuation routes.

- **Treatment Maintenance:** Recognize that fuel reduction treatments are not permanent and require ongoing maintenance. Establish a schedule for retreatment based on vegetation growth. Monitor treatment effectiveness and adapt maintenance strategies as needed. Engage homeowners and communities in maintaining defensible space and fuel breaks on private land.
- **Fire Behavior:** Employ fire behavior modeling tools to simulate fire behavior under various conditions and evaluate the effectiveness of different treatment scenarios. Design fuel treatments to be effective under severe fire weather conditions (e.g., high winds, low humidity).

By implementing these strategies, fuel reduction efforts in high fire danger areas can be more effective in protecting lives, property, and natural resources.



B: RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

UNIT FORESTER – VMP Coordinator – D2590



The RM program provides many services to the public and internally to the Department. Public services include Forest Practice Service Forestry and Enforcement, California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP), Vegetation Management Program (VMP), environmental review of private projects for California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance as the Responsible Agency, engaging with cooperators through Fire Safe Councils and other Inter-agency relationships to provide oversight and to strategically identify and develop feasible projects that protect communities at risk within the wildland urban interface (WUI). Implementation of Fire Prevention and Forest Health Grants as well as supporting the emerging Wildfire Resilience and Wood Products Grant Programs and emergency wildfire response.

Internal Department support includes providing subject matter expertise to Unit Staff in order to meet the Departments CEQA obligations for all ground disturbing projects, completion of environmental review for CEQA compliance on department funded projects as the Lead Agency, implementation of fuels reduction projects, VMP projects and administration of the Fire Prevention and Forest Health Grants, Pre-fire planning functions and other Geographic Information Systems (GIS) related and report preparation functions requiring data analysis.

Forest Practice Program (FPP) - The Forester II and Forester I are tasked by state statute (1973 Z'Berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act) to enforce the California Forest Practice Act and Forest Practice Rules for private timberland owners within Tehama and Glenn Counties. This enforcement starts with the review of the initial project and carries through the actual harvesting of timber to the completion of the project, with treatment of logging slash to reduce the overall fuel hazard if necessary. During the review of timber harvesting plans (THP's), CAL FIRE'S Registered Professional Foresters (RPF) have opportunities to provide written recommendations to project proponents, which are designed to facilitate a positive change in the methods timber operations are conducted. We continually look for ways to improve fire safety, hazard reduction, public safety, vehicular access, water sources, timing of operations, wildlife benefits, and other site-specific mitigating measures necessary to support the Department's Strategic Plan.

Vegetation Treatment Programs (VTP) - RM staff along with fire control staff's input assist private communities, timber and range landowners, stakeholder groups, and other resource organizations in the planning and implementation of various wildland fuels treatments for the purpose of reducing hazardous fuels and creating range improvement projects. The VTP involves three components: The Vegetation Management Program, Unit Fuels Reduction, and Grant Administration.

Vegetation Management Program (VMP) - Is utilized to assist private timber and range landowners in performing fuels reduction and range improvement projects, such as prescribed burning, and mechanical pre-treatments in chaparral. These plans can last up to ten years and the cost share requirement is negotiable between the landowner and the Department. The VMP Coordinator oversees and implements the VMP within the Tehama Glenn Unit. TGU historically has been one of the most active prescribed burning programs in the state.

Two years ago, a new programmatic Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was approved which has allowed the expansion of the VMP to include timberlands. The Unit has utilized this programmatic document to complete planning and approval of its first CalVTP project. This project partners with an industrial timberland owner to maintain 4,938 acres of constructed strategically placed fuel breaks on the landscape.

Units Fuels Reduction - The creation of strategically located fuel breaks and ingress and egress evacuation routes designed to increase public safety while reducing catastrophic loss during wildfires is the focus of the Units Fuels Reduction component.

CAL FIRE Grant Administration - Through the California Climate Investments (CCI), Forest Health Grant, and Fire Prevention Grant Program, annual funding is available to agencies and other stakeholder groups to assist in fuels management for local projects and planning/prevention activities that address the risk of wildfire and reduce wildfire potential to forested and forest adjacent communities. RM administration of this program includes assisting grantees in navigating the grant process, providing oversight for CEQA, ensuring contract compliance, and serving as subject matter experts. Since the inception of this state-wide program, RM staff have had the responsibility for administration of 11 Fire Prevention Fuels Reduction Grants and 4 Fire Prevention Planning Grants totaling \$9,672,672.00 for Tehama and Glenn counties combined. Additionally, one Direct Funded Grant and two Standard Contracts totaling \$767,324.25 have furthered the financial input into both counties that round out the statewide efforts to reduce wildland hazardous fuels loading and improve access to these rural communities. While not directly administered by unit personnel, since the inception of the Forest Health Grants, three grants have been awarded that total \$10,985,659.87. All are partnerships between private industry and the Mendocino National Forest benefiting landscape level fuels reduction and reforestation efforts intended to rehabilitate the National Forest and private timberlands devastated by recent catastrophic wildfires.

Fire Suppression Support – RM staff support fire suppression activities where our ICS qualifications match the needs of the incident. However, because of our resource background, training, and knowledge of both fire control issues and methods of addressing complex environmental issues, we generally accept the role of suppression repair duties in the Unit. Our knowledge of CEQA allows us to work effectively and lawfully to provide a level of protection for the Department from legal issues. We have many private and agency contacts such as other resource professionals from whom we may seek advice or assistance in repair efforts. This skill set greatly supports the Department's Strategic Plan.



SECTION V: PRE- FIRE MANAGEMENT TACTICS

DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS

BATTALION I – Administered by Battalion 2511



Battalion I (East) lies in the northeast corner of Tehama County. The Battalion spans from the base of the foothills on the east side of the Sacramento Valley to the Lassen National Forest boundary on the east, and from the Butte County line in the south to the Shasta County line in the north.

Topography within Battalion I ranges from rolling foothills in the west to mountainous terrain in the east, with a predominant volcanic influence shaping the geography. The area includes several major east-west drainages—Deer Creek, Antelope Creek, Mill Creek, and Battle Creek—that form steep, rugged canyons. These natural features often hinder access and promote rapid fire spread. Fuels within Battalion I consist of grass and oak woodlands in the lower elevations, transitioning to brush, pine, and mixed conifer forests at higher elevations. These fuels have historically supported fast-moving, wind-driven, high-intensity wildfires, which are often difficult to control due to access issues and extensive volcanic rock formations.

A major development in 2024 was the **Park Incident**, a large and destructive wildfire that burned through a significant portion of the Battalion. This fire caused widespread damage to natural resources, rangelands, structures, and communities, highlighting both the volatility of the landscape and the importance of continued fuel management and fire preparedness efforts.

Battalion I continues to work with cooperators to improve fire safety, provide community education, and prioritize fuels management projects. These include maintaining defensible space, ensuring equipment readiness, improving fire containment areas, increasing access to remote areas, and reducing roadside ignition sources. Lessons learned from the Park Incident are now being used to shape future mitigation strategies.

Several ongoing and new Fuel Reduction and Fuel Break Projects are critical to recovery and resilience, including:

- SPI Line Fuel Break
- Piney Fuel Break
- Ponderosa Way/Sky Ranch/Canyon View Loop Fuels Reduction
- Manton Road Fuel Break
- Lanes Valley Road Fuel Break
- Inskip Lookout Fuel Reduction
- Hazen C-Line Fuel Reduction
- Forward Road Fuel Reduction
- Caltrans Mineral Fuel Reduction

- **Fornage VMP**
- **Paynes Creek Sportsman's Club VMP**
- **SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CalVTP**

Communities involved in or impacted by these projects include Ponderosa Sky Ranch, Boondocks, Mineral, Paynes Creek, Manton, and the Hwy 36 East corridor. Recovery efforts post-Park Incident have placed additional focus on these areas, including reassessing fuel loads and access routes.

Assets at risk in Battalion I include timberlands, watersheds, fisheries, and rural communities with hundreds of isolated structures. Communities such as Paynes Creek, Manton, Ponderosa Sky Ranch, and Mineral have experienced repeated wildfire damage, most recently and severely from the Park Incident.

The Park Incident has reaffirmed the critical need for continued investment in education, defensible space enforcement, maintenance of fuel breaks, and the expansion of new projects. Battalion I remains committed to collaborating with communities, government agencies, and private cooperators to protect lives, property, and resources through proactive fire management and long-term resilience planning.



BATTALION II – Administered by Battalion 2512

Battalion II lies within Tehama County, primarily in the Sacramento Valley floor, and covers a large portion of Tehama County's Local Response Area (LRA). The Battalion consists of the communities of Bend, Antelope, Dairyville, Los Molinos, Tehama, Proberta, El Camino and Vina. The SRA within the battalion transitions from the valley floor along the Interstate 5 corridor into the rolling hills and steep drainages in the southeastern portions of Tehama County. Some of the more notable landmarks are the Deer Creek drainage and western portions of the Mill Creek drainage.

Grass and oak woodland are the predominant fuel type within the battalion. However, as the topography transitions into steeper drainages to the east, chaparral and other native brushes become extensive. In the farthest eastern portion of the battalion, smaller stands of timber become evident. The battalion has a wide variety of fuel types that can challenge fire suppression efforts during the hot summer days.

Weather and access are important factors relating to fire spread within the battalion. It is not uncommon to have temperatures over 100° Fahrenheit, relative humidity in the low teens and strong north winds during summer. On top of these challenges, access to most areas east of Highway 99E is extremely limited due to the rocky, rugged conditions.

The most common fire causes within the battalion are equipment use/mechanical and debris pile escapes, however accidental human caused, arson, and lightning fires are not uncommon. Much of the fires within the battalion occur along the heavily traveled roadways such as Interstate 5, State Highway 36, and State Highway 99.

Battalion II oversees or manages four major fuel reduction projects. First, the Interstate 5 Fuel Break Project. The Interstate 5 Fuel Break Project is instrumental in minimizing fire spread and limiting the threat to nearby residences during fires. Second, the Highway 36E Fuels Reduction Project focuses on treating 108 acres by reducing hazardous fuels profiles and broadcast burning the grass lands within the Caltrans right of way for 9 miles on either side of the highway. The third project, in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), is the Dye Creek Preserve and Vina Plains VMP Burn. Totaling 13,086 acres, this project utilizes broadcast burning of multiple units, to remove invasive fuels not native to the area while simultaneously reducing fuel loads and providing valuable training opportunities to fire control employees. In coordination with TNC, Battalion II has 1106 acres of broadcast burning scheduled for 2025.

There are multiple cooperators within Battalion II, including The Nature Conservancy (TNC), U.S. Fish and wildlife, BLM, Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI), USFS, California Fish and Wildlife, as well as large land and cattle companies, ranchers, and private landowners. The Battalion works closely with the cooperators on strategic planning, fire prevention and incident mitigation through multiple agreements and MOU's.

The responsibility of the fire service is to protect life and property. Using available State, Federal, and Local Government resources, combination of aggressive initial attack firefighting with prevention and education activities, will best accomplish this responsibility. Battalion II will continue to focus on training firefighting crews to the highest level, while educating and informing the public on fire prevention measures.



BATTALION III – Administered by Battalion 2513



Battalion III lies in the northwest portion of Tehama County and includes the communities of Lake California, Bowman, Dibble Creek, R-Wild Horse Ranch, Ridgeway, and Red Bank. The Battalion runs from the I-5 corridor, through west Red Bluff, to the western border of Trinity and Mendocino National Forests and the Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area. The Battalion runs from the Shasta County line in the north to Elder Creek in the south.

Many residential and associated structures on large lot or ranchette settings are considered values at risk. Livestock grazing, recreation, and timber harvesting are economically important activities in the Battalion. In addition, high voltage electrical lines and underground natural gas lines run through the Battalion. This infrastructure is significant, not only affecting the Tehama Glenn Unit, but the entire state of California.

Topography within Battalion III consists of flat valley terrain in the east that transitions to rolling foothills and steep mountain topography of the Coastal Range on the western edge of Tehama County. This area includes several major drainages running west to east, including Cottonwood Creek (Middle and South Fork), Elder Creek, and Salt Creek. These drainages have little access, forming steep canyons that promote rapid fire spread.

Grass and oak-woodland fuels are consistent throughout the valley and lower foothills. The mid slopes transition into heavy brush of chamise and manzanita, then grey pines, until reaching the mixed conifer forests of Beegum Peak and Tomhead Mountain at approximately 4500' to 6000' elevation. Large ranches and multiple structures are found throughout the mountainous areas.

The fire history in the area includes many catastrophic fires and lightning complexes that resulted in large acreages burned and structures destroyed, such as the McFarland, Elkhorn, and Skinner Mill Fires. Battalion III lies within the same mountain chain and just north of the 1953 Rattlesnake Fire which claimed the lives of 15 firefighters. Fires occurring in the Battalion travel quickly in the grass fuels and transition to the steep mixed brush. This presents significant control challenges and the potential for large fire growth. Lightning strikes often cause multiple fires that are difficult to access. Deep marine layers, valley heating, and diurnal winds often lead to a local weather influence of significant downslope and sundowner winds from the west. These wind shifts can happen very quickly.

Priorities for Battalion III include utilizing vegetation management practices to reduce and modify fuel loading and working with Caltrans and the Tehama County Road Department on roadside fuel modification projects to identify, construct, and maintain fuel break locations. In addition, the Battalion is focusing on developing and improving water sources used for fire protection. Battalion III conducts annual residential defensible space inspections and promotes fire prevention education.

Battalion III collaborates with stakeholders and the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County to continue improvements and maintenance of the fuel reduction and roadside fuel modification projects. There are multiple projects already underway in the Battalion, including the Highway 36 West fuel reduction project, the Bowman Road right-of-way clearance, the Lake California fuel reduction project, the Pattymocus Lookout fuel reduction project, Matlock Loop fuel reduction project, and the West Tehama Roadside Fuels project in the Bowman Area.

Additional fuel reduction projects are in the initial stages including the Highway 36 West fuels reduction project extension. Battalion III has several active Vegetation Management Plans (VMP), including the Sunflower VMP, the Bengard Ranch VMP, the Corning Land and Cattle Company VMP and the R Wild Horse Ranch VMP. The goal of all the VMP's in the Battalion is to reduce fuels that promote fire spread and growth and conduct prescribed fire burns. In 2021, Lake California became a Firewise community. This program provides a collaborative framework to help neighbors in a geographic area get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community and to reduce wildfire risks at the local level. Any community that meets a set of voluntary criteria on an annual basis and retains an "In Good Standing Status" may identify itself as being a Firewise community.

Protection of life, property and resources in Battalion III is the highest priority. Aggressive initial fire attack, sound vegetation management practices, effective public education, code enforcement, and cooperation among stakeholders is the key to accomplishing those goals.



BATTALION IV – Administered by Battalion 2514



Battalion IV encompasses the southern portion of Tehama County including the LRA along the Interstate 5 corridor and all the SRA of Glenn County. The SRA boundary lies on the west side of Interstate 5 through to the Mendocino National Forest, south to the Glenn-Colusa County line, and north to Elder Creek in Tehama County. Communities within the battalion include Richfield, Corning, Rancho Tehama, Flourney, Henleyville, Paskenta, Chrome, Grindstone Rancheria, Stonyford, and Elk Creek. Outside of the larger communities, the population is dispersed through rural residences and ranchlands. The Battalion consists of 1 County station/Schedule A (Corning Station 12) and 2 State stations (Elk Creek and Paskenta). There are also 2 volunteer stations: Station 12 Corning and Station 13 Rancho Tehama.

Predominant vegetation in the Battalion consists of grass and oak-woodland mixture, and chaparral. Blue Oak and Live Oak are the dominant tree species with a mix of Foothill Pine in higher elevations. Manzanita and Chamise are the primary chaparral in the area with dense patches present on steep slopes and ridges below the Mendocino National Forest. Large annual grass crops intermixed with the chaparral cause the greatest fire suppression hazard. The light fuels carry fire rapidly and are conducive to spotting. Grass is an exceptional carrier of fire into the brush and brush canopy, depending on fuel height and thickness. Access to fires in the Battalion is challenging due to the inconsistent terrain features.

Common weather in Battalion IV consists of summer temperatures over 100 degrees Fahrenheit, relative humidity in the low teens to single digits, and strong northern winds. Weather conditions are the number one factor of fire spread and critical fire behavior in the Battalion. Topography plays a significant role in fire spread consisting of flat valley grasslands with an inconsistent transition to rolling moderate to steep hills. There are steep, narrow drainages on the west side that feed seasonal streams, ponds, and waterways. Two or four-wheel drive fire vehicles can achieve access to most of the Battalion. Ranch dirt roads are spread throughout the Battalion which allows access to most remote areas. With the mix of weather, topography, and fuels, fires in Battalion IV can be fast moving and unpredictable.

The most common fire causes within Battalion IV are equipment use/mechanical and debris escapes. Historically, fires in the SRA occur along traveled county roads, at rural ranchlands, and within the larger populated community of Rancho Tehama. Arson and accidental human caused fires are not uncommon. Lightning to the west side of Battalion IV is a seasonal contributor to the Battalion's fire activity. Annual grasses are of high value for grazing, and fertile soil provides for agricultural fields and farmland crops. These are all considered Assets at Risk within the Battalion. Likewise, the infrastructure on the ranchlands such as barns, fences, feeders, and equipment are vital to ranching. Water reservoirs such as Black Butte Lake and Stony Gorge Reservoir provide summertime water and camping recreational activities to the public. High-tension, high-voltage power lines and high-pressure gas distribution lines transverse above and below ground throughout the Battalion.

Several cooperating agencies within Battalion IV share a common interest regarding Fire Plans. The stakeholders and agencies include Glenn County Resource Conservation District (GCRCD), Resource Conservation District of Tehama County, Rancho Tehama Owners Association, US Army Corps of Engineers, BIA, US Fish and Wildlife, USFS, BLM, California State Parks, US Bureau of Reclamation, and the Glenn County Fire Chiefs Association, in addition to, ranch owners, large landowners, timber, and cattle companies.

There are multiple agreements and operating plans within the Battalion that allow for fire prevention, multi-agency training, strategic planning, and incident mitigation. The Battalion is also assisting with Glenn County's Safety Element update of their General Plan as well as GCRCD's Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update.

Annual projects in the Battalion include road grading, fuel breaks, and fire safety training with the US Army Corps of Engineers at Black Butte Lake. One critical component that affects both Battalion III and IV is the Pellows fire road. Pellows Road is graded and maintained annually by CAL FIRE in cooperation with local landowners to ensure fire equipment access through the miles of private land during fire season.

A significant fuel reduction project, and one of the Governor's Emergency Proclamation projects, is the Elk Creek Project. It is a 200-foot-wide, 33-mile-long fuel break installed along the western edge of SRA in southern Glenn County, just west of Elk Creek. The fuel break extends north from the Glenn-Colusa Line to County Road 309. During the 2020 August Complex this fuel break was instrumental. The fuel break slowed, and in some sections stopped the fire's progression toward the community of Elk Creek and surrounding ranches. It also enabled fire suppression resources better access to fight the fire. TGU will continue to maintain the integrity of the fuel break for future incidents.

Another project in the Battalion is the Toomes Camp Road fuel reduction project. The Toomes Camp Road fuel reduction project aims to reduce fuels along Toomes Camp Road from west of Paskenta to the Mendocino National Forest boundary.

Just north of the community of Elk Creek lies the Grindstone Rancheria. Historically, fires are common in this area, creating the potential for large fires in a Wildland Urban Interface setting. Ensuring buffers are placed around communities to prevent extension of a wildfire is a priority in Battalion IV. Pre-Attack maps for all Battalions in TGU are in place for use in fire attack, should a significant wildfire occur. The Eagle Peak Fire Lookout, west of the community of Paskenta, is used for early fire detection during periods of critical fire weather. Eagle Peak overlooks SRA areas of Tehama and Glenn counties, including the eastern slope of Grindstone District of the Mendocino National Forest. The lookout requires annual maintenance consisting of access road grading and facility repairs.

Battalion IV strives to educate the public and assist with improving defensible space collaboration in and around the communities of Elk Creek and Rancho Tehama, and continues to improve and establish new fuel breaks, water supplies, and fire and evacuation road access.

Ishi Conservation Camp – Administered by Division 2503



Ishi Conservation Camp is located on the eastern edge of the Tehama Glenn Unit, 25 miles east of Red Bluff, near the community of Paynes Creek, Ca. Construction of the Camp began in 1959 and was opened in April of 1961, at which time it was named Plum Creek Conservation Camp.

At the end of 1968, Plum Creek (Ishi) had the capacity for 4 crews and was one of the thirty- three camps statewide that comprised the conservation camp program. However, during the Vietnam War, the camp was closed and the newly formed Ecology Corps (the predecessor to the California Conservation Corps) controlled the grounds. In 1976, the California Conservation Corps (CCC) was established, and Plum Creek became a CCC center. In 1981, the California Department of Corrections entered a cooperative agreement with the California Department of Forestry. In 1982, Ishi Conservation Camp was established and remains a Conservation Camp today. Since 1985, Ishi Camp has hosted the Ishi Preparedness Exercise. The Ishi Exercise evaluates the fire readiness of over 40 Northern California Fire Crews, making it one of the largest exercises in the state. The Crews participating in the exercise include National Guard crews, CAL FIRE Firefighter 1 crews, California Conservation Corps crews, and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation inmate crews.

Today, Ishi Conservation Camp is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with both CDCR and CAL FIRE staff and is funded as a year-round 100-person camp located on 80-acres of state-owned land in eastern Tehama County. The camp provides Fire Crews for direct protection of roughly 1.5 million acres within the Tehama-Glenn Unit and provides support through Mutual Aid to the incorporated cities of Red Bluff, Corning, Orland and Willows. The camp is staffed with 1 Assistant Chief (Camp Chief), 10 Fire Captains, 3 Heavy Fire Equipment Operators (HFEOS), 1 Water & Sewer Plant Operator (WASPO) & 1 Office Technician (OT) for CAL FIRE and 1 Lieutenant (Camp Commander), 1 Sergeant & 7 Officers for CDCR.

The primary mission is wildland fire suppression; however, the crews are available to respond to all types of emergencies including floods, snow removal, earthquakes, and storm clean-up. Ishi Crews frequently respond to emergency incidents in eastern Tehama County, southern Shasta County, western Plumas County, and northern Butte County as well as numerous incidents statewide. In 2024, Ishi Camp crews provided 80,435 hours of emergency response continuing the effort to serve and safeguard the people and protect the property and resources of California.

Although fire is an essential ecological process, many parts of the state are more vulnerable to severe wildfires, droughts and impacts from a changing climate. CAL FIRE, our local grantees and Ishi Conservation Camp are dedicated to removing overgrown vegetation through prescribed fire, tree thinning, pruning, chipping and roadside clearance. Through these efforts we create breaks in the vegetation that can change fire behavior, reduce negative ecosystem impacts, and enable firefighters to better protect our communities.

A few of the major fuel reduction projects on the east side of the unit are the Meadow Brook Ranch, the Paynes Creek Sportsman's Club, the Fornage and SPI Fuel Breaks. These projects alone comprise over 10,000 acres of continuing fuels treatment, all with the goal of reducing fire hazards and preventing uncontrolled wildfire spread in the State Responsibility Area. Ishi Camp works with various stakeholders on these projects including Local, State, and Federal jurisdictions as well as private landowners, local Fire Safe Councils, and Watershed Districts.

Ishi crews are an important and valuable resource to our local community, participating in the Adopt-a-Highway Program and providing nearly 152 hours of campus cleanup and improvement for multiple school districts throughout the county of Tehama, and more than 2 weeks of additional community service work.

Salt Creek Conservation Camp – Administered by Division 2504



Salt Creek Camp has been providing “all-risk” emergency services to the citizens of Tehama County and California since 1987. Salt Creek Camp is located southwest of the community of Paskenta in the western portion of Tehama County located on property leased from the United States Forest Service in the Mendocino National Forest. The inmates are considered low risk under the cooperative direction of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and CAL FIRE.

Our fire crews have the capacity to respond to a variety of emergencies including wildland fires, floods, rescues, and other natural disasters. In addition to emergency response, our crews provide community service project work with local agencies in Tehama, Butte, and Glenn Counties. When not responding to emergencies and working on community service projects, Salt Creek Camp crews complete several work projects for federal, state, local, and other public agency organizations. The work project's priority for our fire crews generally revolves around wildland fuels and hazard reduction. Cleanup, construction, and other services are provided to public agencies needing a larger labor pool than they can produce internally. Last year Salt Creek Camp logged over 46,642 hours in community service projects and provided over 86,160 hours fighting fires throughout Tehama and Glenn Counties and the State of California. In addition to our fire crews, Salt Creek Camp houses a Bulldozer unit that responds to emergencies throughout the region and state.

During unusually slow fire seasons, the reduction in fire response provides an added benefit to the residents of Tehama and Glenn counties by increasing the hours spent performing Conservation work and fuels reduction by the Salt Creek Fire Crews, Bulldozer Unit, Grader, Heavy Fire Equipment Operators, and Fire Captains assigned to Salt Creek Camp. Noteworthy projects include Fire Hazard Reduction in the Highway 36 West FRP, Bengard FRP, Corning Land and Cattle VMP, Toomes Camp FRP, Matlock Loop FRP, Pellows Fire Road, and Black Butte Lake Fire Roads. The City of Corning, Salt Creek/Newville Cemetery, Stoney Gorge Reservoir, Glenn County Sheriff's Posse, Glenn County Public Works, Red Bluff & Corning Little League, State Parks, and Gerber School are also beneficiaries of conservation work performed by Salt Creek Crews.

Since the opening in 1987, Salt Creek Conservation Camp has continued to be a valuable resource for the State of California and the citizens of Tehama and Glenn counties through conservation and the protection of life, property, and natural resources.

Valley View Fire Center – Administered by Division 2505



Located at Alder Springs in western Glenn County, Valley View Fire Center is in the Mendocino National Forest at 4,500 ft. elevation. In October 2020, CAL FIRE and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation announced the depopulation of inmates at eight of the state's 43 conservation camps, Valley View Conservation Camp being one of them. The consolidation was part of the 2020-21 state budget, which called for the camps to be consolidated by the end of December 2020. CAL FIRE re-opened the Valley View Fire Center and staffed the fire center with seasonal Firefighter 1 employees. Currently 3 Fire Crews staffed by Firefighter 1s, a Fire Apparatus Engineer and a Fire Captain respond to incidents and participate in fuel reduction work when not assigned to emergency incidents. Valley View's project

locations are primarily located within Tehama, Glenn and Colusa Counties. The fuel reduction projects within Glenn County SRA include the Elk Creek Fuel Break, Little Stoney Creek VMP, Stony Gorge Reservoir Project, Bengard VMP and Glenn County Public Works. The Elk Creek Fuel Break is a shaded fuel break that separates the private SRA lands from the Mendocino National Forest boundary line, and the fuel break is located west of County Road 306 and extends from the Colusa County Line to the town of Elk Creek. The Stony Gorge Reservoir Project is sponsored by the US Bureau of Reclamation, and the project activities include weed eating, brushing, limbing, felling, bucking, pile burning, and chipping. The Glenn County Public Works project focuses on road brushing and chipping to maintain clearances of rural county roads and reduce fire hazards. Valley View also works with CALTRANS in Tehama County, accomplishing line construction along I-5 from South Red Bluff to Southern Cottonwood. This limits fire spread, from roadside fires along the I-5 Corridor.

Valley View Fire Center also assists the US Forest Service (Mendocino National Forest). One specific project with the Forest Service is the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Shaded Fuel Break project around Valley View Fire Center and the adjacent USFS Alder Springs Guard Station. This project is being completed in several phases due to the large scope of the project. First phase, crews have removed, brushed, and limbed up trees in the 200-ft. proximity of the Fire Center. Second phase, assisting with understory burns to reduce and maintain vegetation growth thus creating a more fire-defensible area around the Forest Service Station and the Valley View Fire Center.

There are several community projects which Valley View Fire Center participates in. One example of these projects is the Valley View Fire Center Adopt-A-Highway section along Highway 162. The Valley View crews also assist with fire public education programs in the local communities, at fairs, public gatherings, and educational institutions like high schools, middle schools and elementary schools

APPENDIX A: PRE-FIRE PROJECTS

2025 Status Guide: A = Active, P= Planning, C = Completed, M = Maintenance							
Battalion Planning Area	Project Number	Community	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Treatment Acres
VMP/CAL VTP							
1	2500-2020-VMP-003	Paynes Creek	Fornage VMP 2020	A	2030	Fuels Reduction	2,128
1	2500-2021-VMP-004	Paynes Creek	Meadow Brook Ranch VMP 2022	A	2032	Fuels Reduction	2,475
1	2500-2021-VMP-003	Paynes Creek	Paynes Creek Sportsman's Club VMP 202	A	2032	Fuels Reduction	2,905
1	2500-2021-VTP-001	Mineral	SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CAL VTP 202	A	2031	Fuel Break	5,018
2	2500-2021-VMP-001	Dairylea	TNC VMP 2021	A	2031	Fuels Reduction	13,086
3	2500-2021-VMP-002	Red Bank/Lake California	Bengard Ranch VMP 2021-2031	A	2031	Fuels Reduction	13,944
3	2500-2020-VMP-001	Red Bank	Sunflower VMP 2023	A	2033	Fuels Reduction	2,749
3	2500-2020-VMP-004	Platina	R Wild Horse Ranch VMP 2019	A	2029	Fuels Reduction	1,734
3, 4	2500-2020-VMP-002	Red Bank	orning Land and Cattle Company VMP 202	A	2030	Fuels Reduction	3,706
4	2500-2023-VMP-004	Stonyford	Little Stony Creek Ranch VMP	A	2033	Fuels Reduction	755
Unit Fuels Reduction Projects (FRP)							
1	2500-2016-FPL-006	Mineral	Caltrans Mineral Roadside FRP	C	2024	Right-of-Way	921
1	2500-2016-FRP-002	Paynes Creek	Inskip FRP	M	2024	Fuels Reduction	31
1	2500-2017-FPL-006	Paynes Creek	Zane FRP	C	2024	Fuels Reduction	167
1	2500-2018-FPL-006	Paynes Creek	Ishi Security FRP	A	2025	Fuels Reduction	52
1	2500-2011-FPL-008	Manton	Hazen C Line Fuel Break	C	2015	Fuel Break	472
1	2500-2017-FPL-003	Ponderosa Sky Ranch	Piney Fuel Break	M	2020	Fuels Reduction	71
1	TBD	Paynes Creek	Lanes Valley Fuel Break	P	2026	Fuel Break	TBD
2	2500-2019-FPL-014	Bowman	Bowman Roadside FRP	C	2020	Fuels Reduction	97
2	2500-2019-FPL-001	Red Bluff	Dog Island Park	M	2023	Fuels Reduction	46
2	2500-2019-FPL-002	Gerber	Gerber CSD FRP	A	2021	Fuels Reduction	28
2	2500-2019-FPL-003	Paynes Creek	HWY 36E FRP	A	2025	Fuels Reduction	106
2	2500-2017-FPL-005	Red Bluff	Interstate 5 - South Fuel Break	M	2025	Fuel Break	5
2	2500-2010-FPL-001	Red Bluff	Interstate 5 - North Fuel Break	M	2025	Fuel Break	44
3	2500-2019-FPL-022	Baker	Diamond Star FRP	M	2020	Fuels Reduction	20
3	2500-2020-FPL-004	North Red Bluff	Matlock Loop FRP	M	2023	Fuels Reduction	31
3	2500-2020-FPL-002	West Red Bluff	Highway 36 W FRP	A	2025	Fuels Reduction	169
3	2500-2018-FPL-009	Platina	Pattymocus Lookout FRP	M	2024	Fuels Reduction	4
3	2500-2023-FPL-005	Baker	HWY 36 W FRP Phase II	P	2026	Fuels Reduction	TBD
3, 4	2500-2009-FPL-003	Red Bank	Pellows Road Fuel Break	P	2025	Fuels Reduction	155
4	2500-2019-FPL-015	Elk Creek	Elk Creek Fuel Break	C	2023	Fuels Reduction	841
4	2500-2020-FPL-001	Paskenta	Toomes Camp Road FRP	C	2024	Fuels Reduction	52
4	2500-2016-FPL-004	Paskenta	Eagle Peak FRP	M	2024	Fuels Reduction	4
4	2500-2018-FPL-005	Black Butte Lake	Black Butte Lake Fuel Break	M	2024	Fuel Break	28
4	2500-2018-FPL-008	Elk Creek	Stony Gorge Reservoir FRP	A	2025	Fuels Reduction	52
Grants							
1	2500-2019-FPL-018	Childs Meadows	ehama County RCD Onion Ridge Fuel Bre	C	2019	Fuel Break	59
1	2500-2024-FPL-002	Mineral	Tindersmart Mineral Hazard Tree Removal Phase II	A	2029	Fuels Reduction	180
1	2500-2022-FPL-002	Mineral	Tindersmart Tehama Phase II	C	2025	Fuels Reduction	108
1	2500-2019-FPL-006	Manton	Manton Roadside Fuel Treatment	C	2022	Fuel Reduction	843
1, 2, 3	TBD	Tehama County	Tindersmart Tehama III	A	2030	Fuels Reduction	720
1, 2, 3	2500-2023-FPL-002	Tehama County	Mill Creek/Surry Village & Wilcox Comm. Project	A	2026	Fuels Reduction	500

Battalion Planning Area	Project Number	Community	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Treatment Acres
3	2500-2012-FPL-003	Lake California	Tehama County RCD Lake California	C	2024	Fuels Reduction	485
3	2500-2019-FPL-011	West Tehama County	West Tehama Fuels Roadside	C	2024	Fuels Reduction	225
3, 4	2500-2022-FHA-001	Western TGU	Mendocino National Forest Fuel Reduction Partnership Smokey Project	C	2025	Fuels Reduction	5095
3, 4	Grant TBD	Mendocino National Forest	August Complex Post Fire Recovery Phase	P	TBD	Fuels Reduction	6654
3, 4	Grant TBD	Mendocino National Forest	Tehama Mendocino FRP Phase III	P	TBD	Fuels Reduction	TBD
4	2500-2023-FPL-006	Willows	Willows Hazardous Fuels Reduction	A	2026	Fuels Reduction	39
4	2500-2022-FPL-003	Elk Creek	Stony Gorge Hazardous Fuels Reduction	C	2025	Fuels Reduction	150
4	2500-2022-FPL-005	Elk Creek	Highway 162 & County Road 306 FB Maintenance	A	2026	Fuels Reduction	71
4	2500-2023-FPL-001	East Glenn County	Sacramento River Corridor Hazardous Fuels	A	2026	Fuels Reduction	633
4	2500-2024-FPL-001	Elk Creek	Needham Hazardous Fuels	A	2029	Fuels Reduction	877
4	Grant Awarded	Elk Creek	Tehama Mendocino FRP Phase II	P	2029	Fuels Reduction	TBD
4	Grant TBD	Elk Creek	Alder Springs Forest Resilience Project	P	TBD	Fuels Reduction	TBD
4	Grant Awarded	Elk Creek	Needham Hazardous Fuels Reduction Phase II	A	2030	Fuels Reduction	1022
4	2500-2019-FPL-010	Elk Creek	Glenn County RCD Hwy 162-306 Fuel Breaks	C	2025	Fuels Reduction	2394
All	2500-2019-FPL-009	Tehama Glenn Unit	Tehama Glenn Fire Safe Council Fire Prevention Education Program	C	2025	Public Education	0
All	Grant TBD	Tehama County	Tindersmart Tehama Phase II	A	2030	Fuels Reduction	720



APPENDIX B: UNIT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

One of the primary objectives for TGU is to reduce the number of ignitions in the SRA. The five-year historical trend shows vehicle and equipment use as the predominant cause of vegetation fires on state lands. The Unit actively pursues reducing these ignitions through public education, timber harvest site inspections, and PRC Section 4291 Inspections (LE-100). Most residents within the county are within compliance of PRC 4291. Those who are not compliant are inspected a second and third time. If the third inspection does not show compliance, the home/landowners can be cited (Misdemeanor). The overall goal and objective of the PRC 4291 Inspection Program is to educate home/landowners to aid in the safety of fire suppression personnel during fire suppression activities, reduce ignitions, and limit fire size.

Tehama County adopted an ordinance which mirrors PRC 4291 but is more effective in its ability to inspect/enforce on unimproved properties (TCO 9.05.08). These inspections are carried out by Defensible Space Inspectors and Life Safety and Education Officers in specific targeted areas of the county. The inspections take place in areas chosen based on fire activity and population base in the WUI. These are noted as areas of concern by the assigned Battalion Chief and have been addressed in the Battalion Ignition Plan. Set goals can be measured annually through compiled statistical data which includes numbers of ignitions, ignition cause, and ignition location. The target areas are updated annually based on statistical analysis and Battalion Ignition Plans.

Not all ignitions can be deterred. For example, lightning strikes cannot be prevented. The goal of TGU is to keep unpreventable fires small and confined, substantially lowering the cost of suppression. Keeping suppression costs low is of great concern and importance because a major wildland fire can cost millions of taxpayer dollars at both State and Federal levels.

The Unit also aims to continue collaborative growth with local stakeholders and Fire Safe Councils within Tehama and Glenn Counties. TGU is fortunate to have strong working relationships with several different groups, which creates a need for collaborative efforts to prioritize projects for the future. CAL FIRE has pledged to play a greater role in assisting local stakeholders and Fire Safe Councils. TGU continues to assist in creating a plan to implement “Firewise Communities” within the counties. Once a community is nationally recognized as a “Firewise Community”, it increases that community’s opportunities for grant funding to continue project work. For those communities, which attain “Firewise” status, TGU will continue to support fire safety projects, and track the ability of these groups to obtain grants.

The County of Tehama employs two Life Safety and Education Officers, more commonly known as Fire and Building Code Inspectors. These positions are partially funded by the Secure Rural Schools grant (Title III Grant). The grant is a diminishing funded grant, meaning the funding for these two positions will only be available for a few years. Based on the work performance of the inspectors, and the importance of the role they play, TGU/TCFD has secured funding through an updated fee schedule to fund these positions permanently.

APPENDICES C-Z

APPENDIX C: COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLANS

The Tehama- Glenn Unit (CAL FIRE) supports the goals and objectives of the following Community Wildfire Protection Plans:

Tehama East and West CWPP – Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

Glenn County CWPP – Glenn County Resource Conservation District

Other Fire Plans (non CWPP):

Tehama West Fire Management Plan – Tehama County Resource Conservation District, Chris Wagoner Project Manager.

Tehama Wildlife Area Vegetation and Fuels Management Plan – California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Resource Conservation District of Tehama County

Cottonwood Creek Watershed Strategic Fuels and Management Plan Update 2016 – Western Shasta Resource Conservation District

Pacific Gas and Electric Company Fire Prevention/Protection Plan – Pacific Gas and Electric Company Vegetation Management

Collins Pine Company 2024 Fire Plan – Collins Pine Co., Eric O’Kelley, Forest Manager

Crane Mills 2024 Fire Plan – Crane Mills, Frank Barron

Sierra Pacific Industries 2024 Lassen District Fire Policy Fire Plan Fire Suppression Resource Inventory – Sierra Pacific Industries, Ted James

Sierra Pacific Industries Stirling City District 2024 Fire Plan – Sierra Pacific Industries, Ted James

Black Butte Lake Fire Protection Plan 2021 – US Army Corps of Engineers, William Miller, Operations Project Manager

CAL FIRE Tehama Glenn Unit specific action and suppression plans:

TGU Lightning Plan (updated as needed)

TGU Battalion Ignition Plan (updated annually)

TGU Staffing Plan (updated annually)

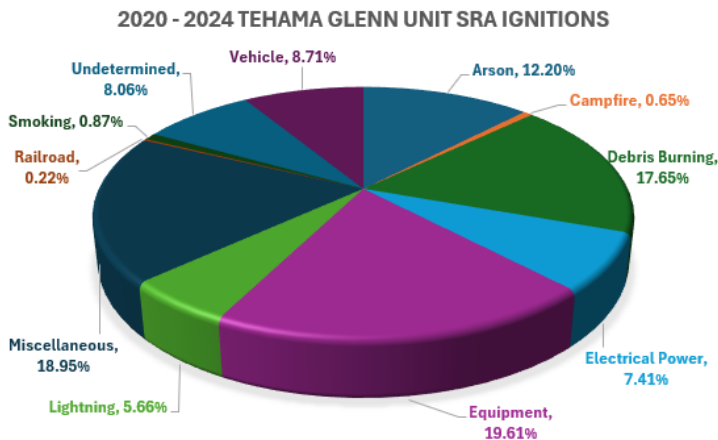
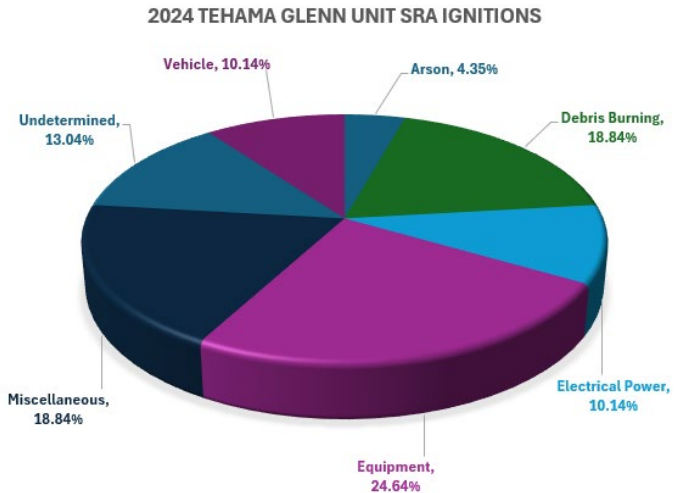
TGU Fire Danger Operating Plan (updated every three years)

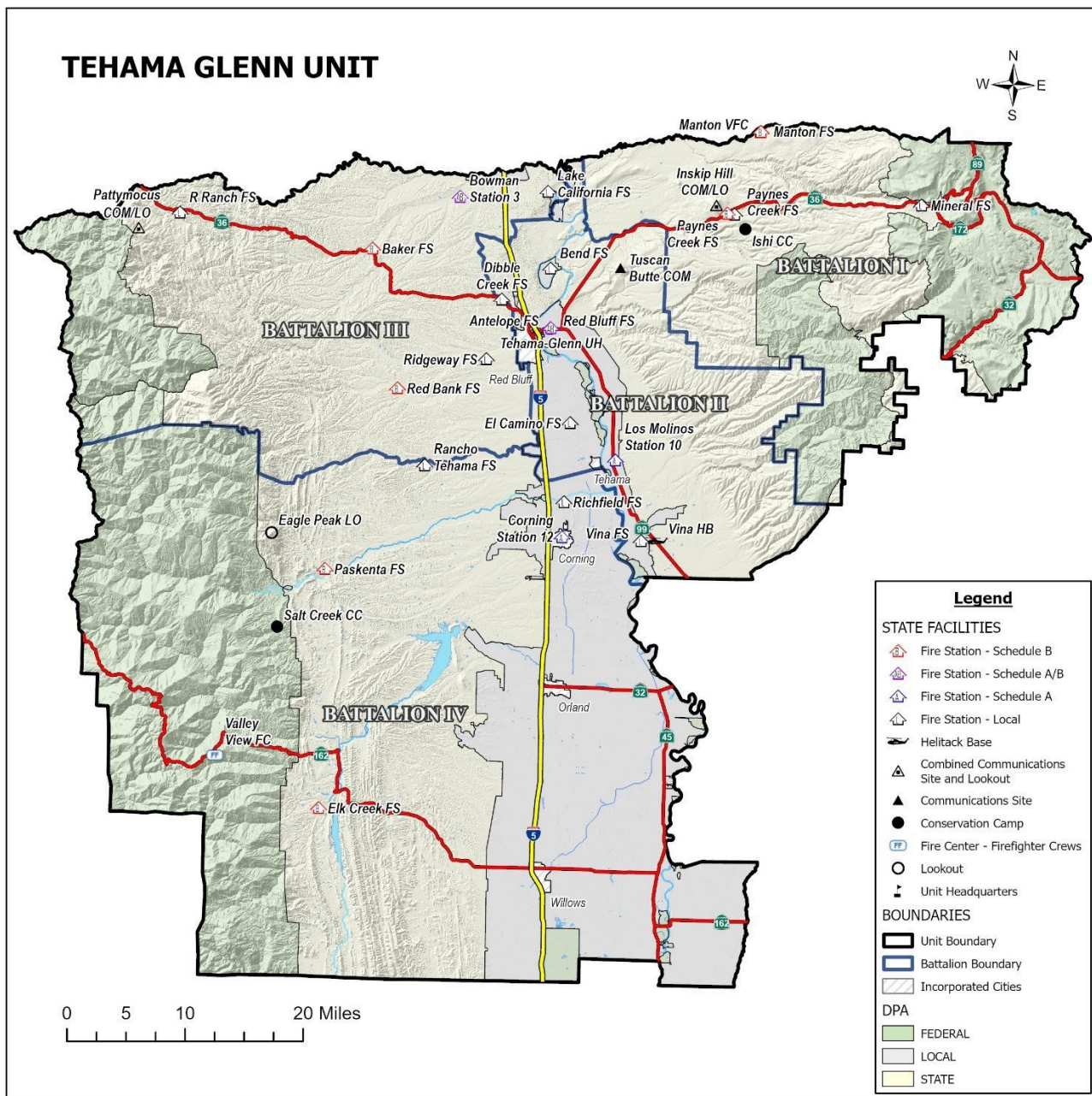
APPENDIX D: IGNITION ANALYSIS

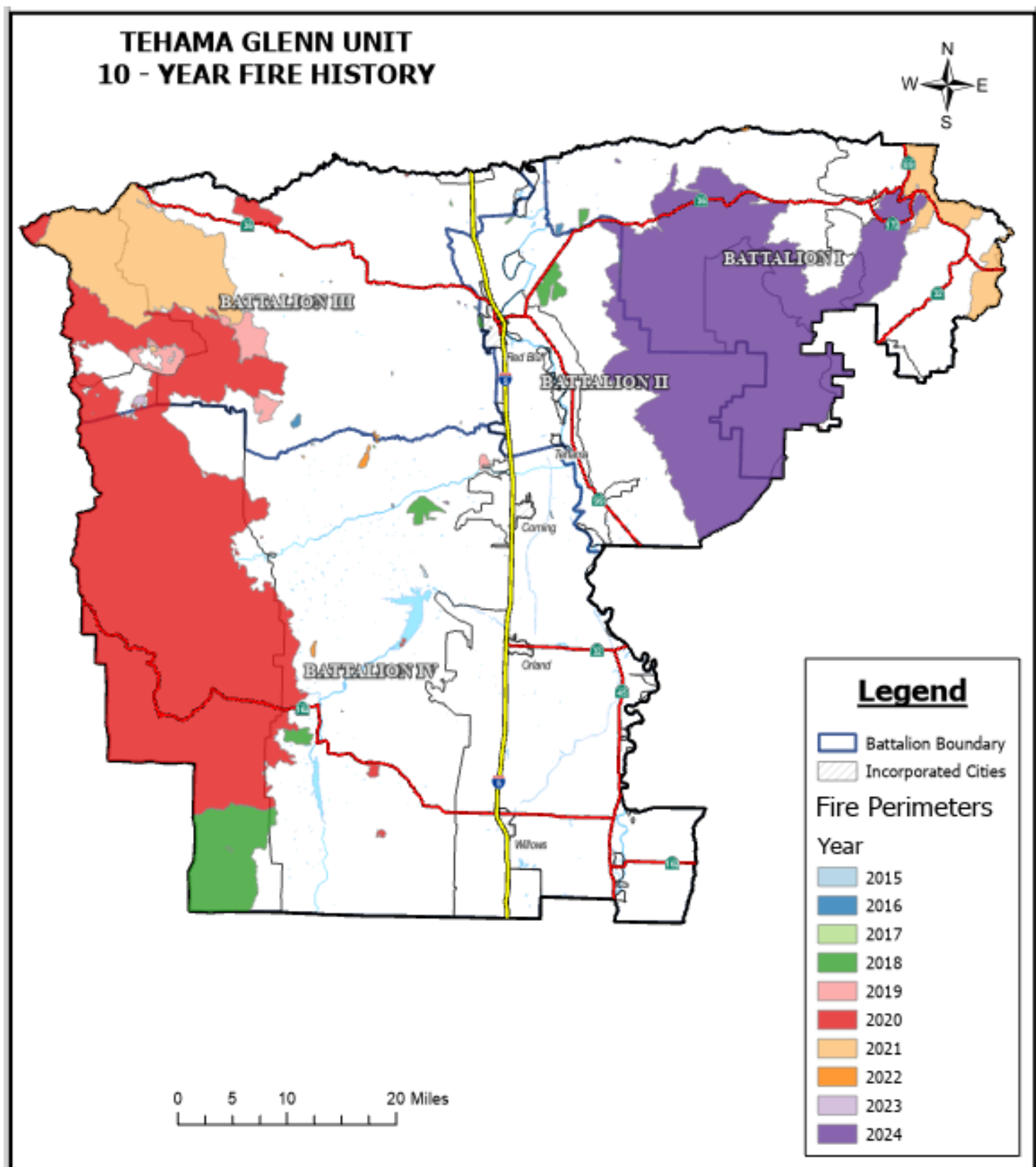
Data from CAIRS and CALFIRS, reflecting vegetation fires in the SRA of Tehama and Glenn counties, was used for this analysis. The following charts illustrate the occurrence and causes of fires in the Unit, both currently and over the previous 5 years.

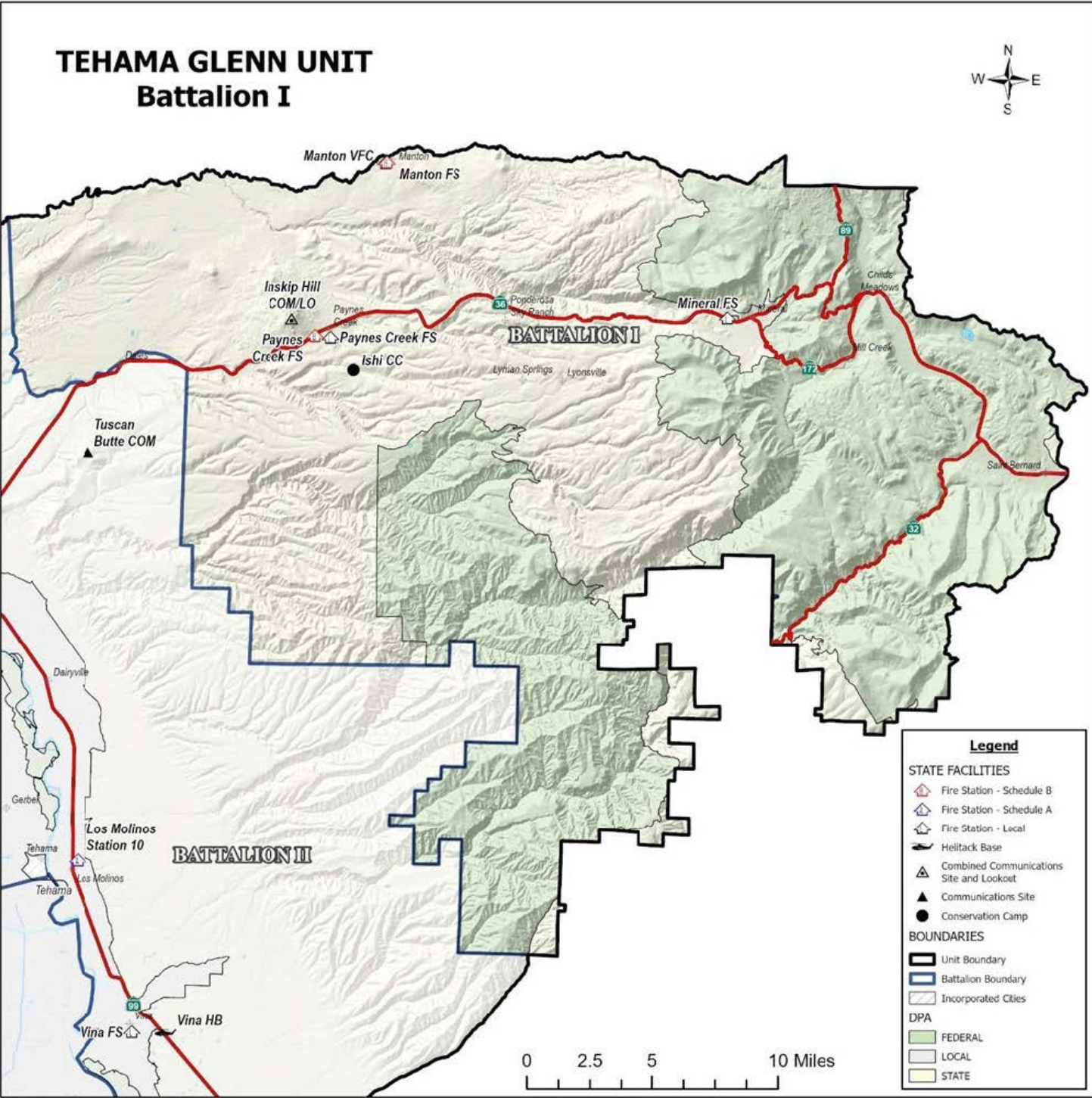
The data shows that the most common ignition causes over the past 5 years are equipment use, escaped debris burning, and miscellaneous, accounting for 56.21% of all ignitions. While roadway traffic has increased, TGU believes that Fire Prevention messaging and Fuel Reduction Projects have contributed to a reduction in the quantity and size of roadside fires. TGU's objective is to maintain roadway fuels projects to limit roadside fires to 10 acres or less.

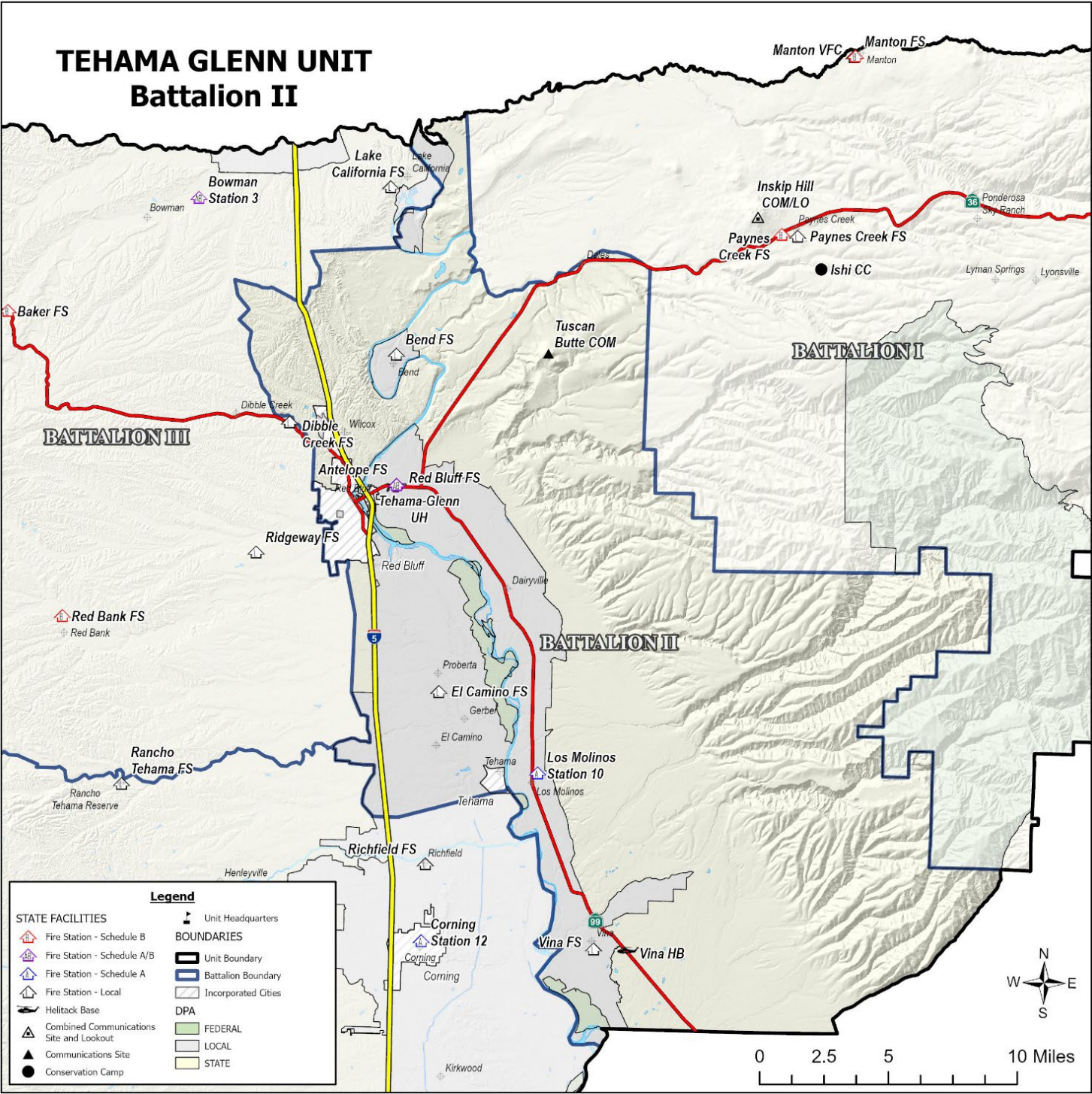
Fires with causes that can only be narrowed to a few possibilities are classified as "undetermined." To improve the accuracy of fire cause determination, TGU is prioritizing Company Officer training in Origin and Cause Determination and encouraging attendance at Investigation training.

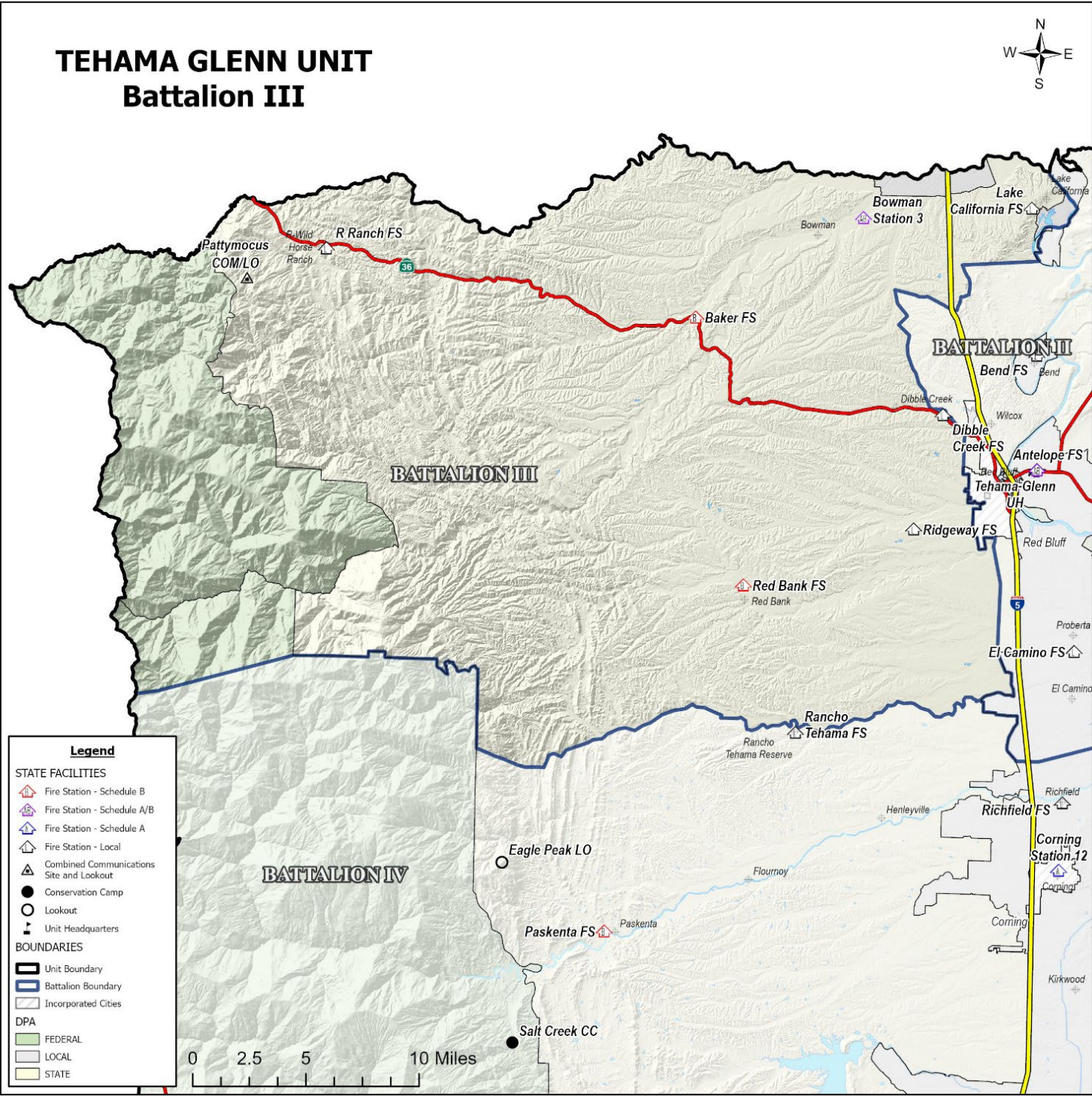


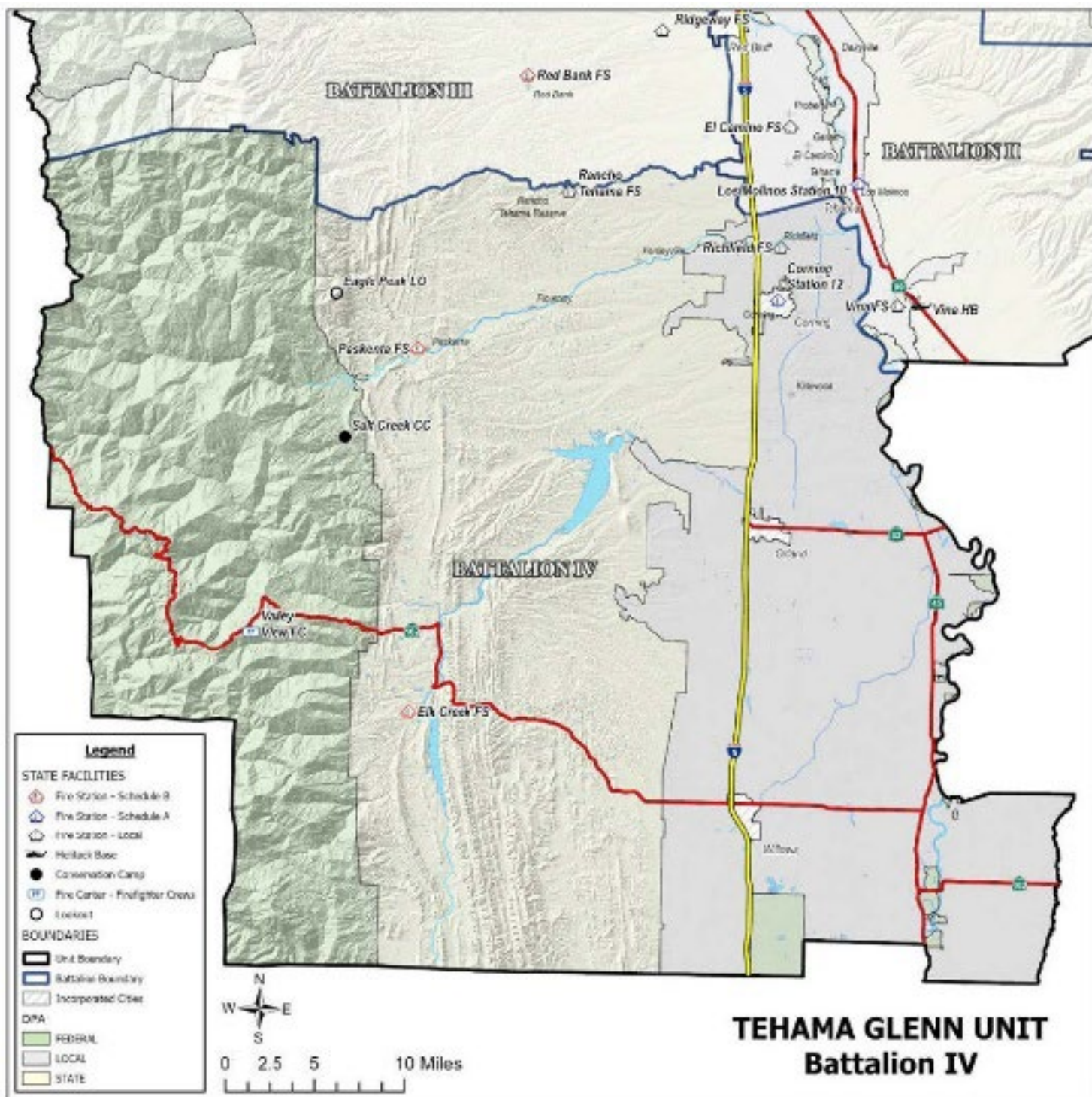












SUPPLEMENTS: ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2024)

Investigations and Enforcement:

Fire Prevention/Law Enforcement – In 2024, there were 71 unwanted fires in the Tehama Glenn Unit State Responsibility Area as well as 174 in the Tehama County Local Response Area. The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 3 arrests related to forest/fire law and issued 11 citations.

Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering – The TGU Prevention Bureau had a total of five Defensible Space Inspector's (DSI's) during 2024 to perform PRC 4291 Defensible Space Inspections in the SRA of TGU. The DSI's completed approximately 7000 property inspections in 2024. Of those, property compliance with PRC 4291 was approximately 85%.

Education and Information: The Tehama-Glenn Unit uses Facebook and Twitter for increased public outreach. In addition to social media, an estimated 400 media contacts were made providing information on current emergencies, as well as general fire and life safety information. The Information and Education staff were able to participate in numerous events in 2024 such as the Red Bluff Round Up, Tehama District Fair, Glenn County Fair, the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Toy Drive, Salvation Army Food Drive and Bell Ringing. Approximately 24,000 public contacts were made during these events. Tehama County Fire, CAL FIRE, and Volunteers in Prevention (VIP's) completed 1300 hours supporting fire prevention events.

Resource Management Program:

Forest Practice Enforcement Program – Two new THPS were reviewed and recommended for approval. Twenty-one inspections accomplished, Twenty-four Emergency Exemption inspections conducted, and four notices of violations issued.

Vegetation Treatment Program

VMP – RM provided planning and personnel in support of Unit personnel who successfully burned 2,834 acres on The Nature Conservancy, Corning Land and Cattle and R Wild Horse Ranch VMP's. One new VMP was approved and that is the Meadow Brook Ranch.

CalVTP – RM staff assisted Unit Personnel with preparation work in Unit 1 of the SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CalVTP.

FRP – RM staff completed environmental documentation for changes to two-unit fuels reduction projects. Zane Ranch FRP. Added the ability to masticate hazardous levels of brush on Unit 3. This unit includes a 5-acre fuel break and 42 acres of brush removal. Hwy 36 E Prescribed Burn. Added 1.5 acres on the southwest end of the project within the CALTRANS ROW.

RM Staff provided support and expertise to seven ongoing fuels reduction projects:

Toomes Camp FRP. RM Staff flagged no treatment buffer zones within the 60 acres roadside safety ingress and egress project and completed pre-treatment migratory bird surveys. Treatments consist of removing concentrations of brush within 50' either side of this access road leading to the M2 road in the Mendocino National Forest.

Matlock Loop FRP. RM Staff flagged no treatment buffer zones within the 55-acre project designed to remove hazardous fuels concentrations within the county right of way and to provide for a safer evacuation route.

Hwy 36 West Prescribed Burn - Staff completed pre-treatment migratory bird surveys in support of maintenance burn within the ROW.

Hwy 36 East Prescribed Burn – Staff completed pre-treatment migratory bird surveys in support of maintenance burn within the ROW.

The Interstate 5 North/South FRP – An annual project that has been maintained by Unit personnel for several years. The project is a fence line scrape along the east and west sides of Interstate 5 between Red Bluff and Shasta Co. Line, encompassing 177 acres. In 2019 the I-5 South FRP was added to further improve suppression response to roadside fires along the highway from Red Bluff City limits south to Red Bank Creek.


Pellows Road FFP – This project encompasses 155 acres and utilizes the Unit's grader to annually grade and maintain this import connector road between Toomes Camp Road and Colyer Springs Road in Battalions III and IV.

Elk Creek FB - work continued on this multi-year project. A contract was approved to partner with the Glenn Co. RCD to spray the FB. Spraying was completed and a follow up planning effort initiated to close out the contract by year end.

CAL FIRE Grants – One direct funded grant was awarded to the Orland Fire Department to construct a 20-acre fuel break within the Stoney Creek influence zone north of the town of Orland and to lease a bulldozer for a duration of the grant period. Work was completed on the contract entered into with the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County to reduce hazardous fuels loading within the Sand Slough area adjacent to Red Bluff City. Unit Staff has responsibility for administration of each grant which includes approval of environmental review documents, approval of invoices for payment and serve as Subject Matter Experts to each agency.

Personnel – During 2023 interviews were held and both The Forestry Assistant II and Environmental Scientist positions were filled after being vacated in late 2021. Both employees have begun department required training and assigned a variety of projects in support of the program.

Fire Suppression Response – RM staff supported suppression efforts for three in unit wildfires.

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 7/7/2025
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Unit Chief **Date**

Monty Smith

SUPPLEMENTS: ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2023)

Fire Planning:

In 2023, the Tehama Glenn Unit participated in and collected data for 28 Fuel Reduction, Fuel Break, Right-of-Way roadside, Vegetation Management Program, and California Vegetation Treatment Program projects. In total, 6,144 acres were treated in Tehama and Glenn Counties. Of the total acres treated, 3,326 acres were treated using broadcast burning. The remainder of the 2,818 treated acres were accomplished by using a combination of hand crews, engine crews, and mechanized equipment. The personnel of Tehama Glenn Unit dedicated a total of 17,347 hours towards fuel reduction. The Tehama Glenn Unit continued to work with the local Resource Conservation Districts, and near the end of 2022 began assisting the community of Manton in becoming a Firewise USA Community.

Investigations and Enforcement:

Fire Prevention/Law Enforcement – In 2023, there were 154 unwanted fires in the Tehama Glenn Unit State Responsibility Area as well as 205 in the Tehama County Local Response Area. The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 11 total arrests with 9 of these being forest/fire law related arrests. Two of these arrests were the result of serial arson investigations connected with 15 total fires. The Prevention Bureau issued 16 citations.

Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering – The TGU Prevention Bureau had a total of four Defensible Space Inspector's (DSI's) during 2023 to perform PRC 4291 Defensible Space Inspections in the SRA of TGU. The DSI's completed 6,785 inspections in 2023. Of those, property compliance with PRC 4291 was 91%.

Education and Information:

The Tehama-Glenn Unit uses Facebook and Twitter for increased public outreach. In addition to social media, an estimated 400 media contacts were made providing information on current emergencies, as well as general fire and life safety information. The Information and Education staff were able to participate in numerous events in 2022 such as the Red Bluff Round Up, Tehama District Fair, Glenn County Fair, the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Toy Drive, Salvation Army Food Drive and Bell Ringing. Approximately 24,000 public contacts were made during these events. Tehama County Fire, CAL FIRE, and Volunteers in Prevention (VIP's) completed 1300 hours supporting fire prevention events.

Resource Management Program:

Forest Practice Enforcement Program – Two new THPS were reviewed and recommended for approval. Twenty-one inspections accomplished, Twenty-four Emergency Exemption inspections conducted and four notices of violations issued.

Vegetation Treatment Program

VMP – RM provided planning and personnel in support of Unit personnel who successfully burned 2,834 acres on The Nature Conservancy, Corning Land and Cattle and R Wild Horse Ranch VMP's. One new VMP was approved and that is the Meadow Brook Ranch.

CalVTP – RM staff assisted Unit Personnel with preparation work in Unit 1 of the SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CalVTP.

FRP – RM staff completed environmental documentation for changes to two unit fuels reduction projects. Zane Ranch FRP. Added the ability to masticate hazardous levels of brush on Unit 3. This unit includes a 5 acre fuel break and 42 acres of brush removal.

Hwy 36 E Prescribed Burn. Added 1.5 acres on the southwest end of the project within the CALTRANS ROW.

RM Staff provided support and expertise to seven ongoing fuels reduction projects:

Toombs Camp FRP. RM Staff flagged no treatment buffer zones within the 60 acres roadside safety ingress and egress project and completed pre-treatment migratory bird surveys. Treatments consist of removing concentrations of brush within 50' either side of this access road leading to the M2 road in the Mendocino National Forest.

Matlock Loop FRP. RM Staff flagged no treatment buffer zones within the 55 acre project designed to remove hazardous fuels concentrations within the county right of way and to provide for a safer evacuation route.

Hwy 36 West Prescribed Burn - Staff completed pre-treatment migratory bird surveys in support of maintenance burn within the ROW.

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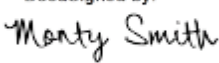
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Elk Creek FB - work continued on this multi year project. A contract was approved to partner with the Glenn Co. RCD to spray the FB. Spraying was completed and a follow up planning effort initiated to close out the contract by year end.

CAL FIRE Grants – One direct funded grant was awarded to the Orland Fire Department to construct a 200 acre fuel break within the Stoney Creek influence zone north of the town of Orland and to lease a bulldozer for a duration of the grant period. Work was completed on the contract entered into with the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County to reduce hazardous fuels loading within the Sand Slough area adjacent to Red Bluff City. Unit Staff has responsibility for administration of each grant which includes approval of environmental review documents, approval of invoices for payment and serve as Subject Matter Experts to each agency.

Personnel – During 2023 interviews were held and both The Forestry Assistant II and Environmental Scientist positions were filled after being vacated in late 2021. Both employees have begun department required training and assigned a variety of projects in support of the program.

Fire Suppression Response – RM staff supported suppression efforts for three in unit wildfires.

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5/9/2024

Unit Chief

Date

Monty Smith

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2022)

Fire Planning:

In 2022, the Tehama Glenn Unit participated in and collected data for 28 Fuel Reduction, Fuel Break, Right-of-Way roadside, Vegetation Management Program, and California Vegetation Treatment Program projects. In total, 6,144 acres were treated in Tehama and Glenn Counties. Of the total acres treated, 3,326 acres were treated using broadcast burning. The remainder of the 2,818 treated acres were accomplished by using a combination of hand crews, engine crews, and mechanized equipment. The personnel of Tehama Glenn Unit dedicated a total of 17,347 hours towards fuel reduction. The Tehama Glenn Unit continued to work with the local Resource Conservation Districts, and near the end of 2022 began assisting the community of Manton in becoming a Firewise USA Community.

Investigations and Enforcement:

Fire Prevention/Law Enforcement – In 2022, there were 154 unwanted fires in the Tehama Glenn Unit State Responsibility Area as well as 205 in the Tehama County Local Response Area. The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 11 total arrests with 9 of these being forest/fire law related arrests. Two of these arrests were the result of serial arson investigations connected with 15 total fires. The Prevention Bureau issued 16 citations.

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Education and Information:

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Resource Management Program:

Forest Practice Enforcement Program – Two new THPS were reviewed and recommended for approval. Twenty-one inspections accomplished, Twenty-four Emergency Exemption inspections conducted and four notices of violations issued.

Vegetation Treatment Program

VMP – RM provided planning and personnel in support of Unit personnel who successfully burned 2,834 acres on The Nature Conservancy, Corning Land and Cattle and R Wild Horse Ranch VMP's. One new VMP was approved and that is the Meadow Brook Ranch.

CalVTP – RM staff assisted Unit Personnel with preparation work in Unit 1 of the SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CalVTP.

FRP – RM staff completed environmental documentation for changes to two unit fuels reduction projects.

Zane Ranch FRP. Added the ability to masticate hazardous levels of brush on Unit 3. This unit includes a 5 acre fuel break and 42 acres of brush removal.

Hwy 36 E Prescribed Burn. Added 1.5 acres on the southwest end of the project within the CALTRANS ROW.

RM Staff provided support and expertise to seven ongoing fuels reduction projects:

Toombs Camp FRP. RM Staff flagged no treatment buffer zones within the 60 acres roadside safety ingress and egress project and completed pre-treatment migratory bird surveys. Treatments consist of removing concentrations of brush within 50' either side of this access road leading to the M2 road in the Mendocino National Forest.

Matlock Loop FRP. RM Staff flagged no treatment buffer zones within the 55 acre project designed to remove hazardous fuels concentrations within the county right of way and to provide for a safer evacuation route.

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Pellows Road FFP – This project encompasses 155 acres and utilizes the Unit's grader to annually grade and maintain this import connector road between Toomes Camp Road and Colyer Springs Road in Battalions III and IV.

Elk Creek FB - work continued on this multi year project. A contract was approved to partner with the Glenn Co. RCD to spray the FB. Spraying was completed and a follow up planning effort initiated to close out the contract by year end.

CAL FIRE Grants – One direct funded grant was awarded to the Orland Fire Department to construct a 200 acre fuel break within the Stoney Creek influence zone north of the town of Orland and to lease a bulldozer for a duration of the grant period. Work was completed on the contract entered into with the Resource Conservation District of Tehama County to reduce hazardous fuels loading within the Sand Slough area adjacent to Red Bluff City. Unit Staff has responsibility for administration of each grant which includes approval of environmental review documents, approval of invoices for payment and serve as Subject Matter Experts to each agency.

Personnel – During 2022 interviews were held and both The Forestry Assistant II and Environmental Scientist positions were filled after being vacated in late 2021. Both employees have begun department required training and assigned a variety of projects in support of the program.

Fire Suppression Response – RM staff supported suppression efforts for three in unit wildfires.

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4/17/2023

Unit Chief

Date

Bob Farias

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2021)

Fire Planning:

In 2021, the Tehama Glenn Unit participated in and collected data for 23 Fuel Reduction, Fuel Break, Right-of-Way roadside, Vegetation Management Program, and California Vegetation Treatment Program projects. In total, 3,731 acres were treated in Tehama and Glenn Counties. Of the total acres treated, 1,728 acres were treated using broadcast burning. The remainder of the 1,003 treated acres were accomplished by using a combination of hand crews, engine crews, and mechanized equipment. The personnel dedicated a total of 12,477 hours towards fuel reduction. Broadcast burning was done for the first time in 2021 on the Highway 36W Project, within the Caltrans right-of-way, with the goal to reduce the number of roadside ignitions. This project will be maintained and ongoing for the foreseeable future. The Tehama Glenn Unit continued to work with the local Resource Conservation Districts, and near the end of 2021 helped the Manton Fire Safe Council so they can better serve the Community of Manton.

Investigations and Enforcement:

Fire Prevention/Law Enforcement – In 2021, there were 133 unwanted fires in the Tehama Glenn Unit State Responsibility Area as well as 167 in the Tehama County Local Response Area. The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 21 total arrests with 9 of these being forest/fire law related arrests. The Prevention Bureau issued 16 citations as well as 37 PRC 4291 (defensible space) infraction citations.

Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering – The TGU Prevention Bureau had a total of four Defensible Space Inspector's (DSI's) during 2021 to perform PRC 4291 Defensible Space Inspections in the SRA of TGU. The DSI's completed 6,239 inspections in 2021. Of those, property compliance with PRC 4291 was 82% on the initial inspection.

Education and Information:

The Tehama Glenn Unit uses Facebook and Twitter for increased public outreach. In addition to social media, an estimated 300 media contacts were made providing information on current emergencies, as well as general fire and life safety information. The Information and Education staff were able to participate in numerous events in 2021 such as the Red Bluff Round Up, Tehama District Fair, Glenn County Fair, the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Toy Drive, Salvation Army Food Drive and Bell Ringing. Approximately 24,000 public contacts were made during these events. Tehama County Fire, CAL FIRE, and Volunteers in Prevention (VIP's) completed 1200 hours supporting fire prevention events.

Resource Management Program:

Forest Practice Enforcement Program – Three new Timber Harvest Plans were reviewed and recommended for approval. Twenty-six inspections accomplished, Eleven Emergency Exemption inspections conducted, and two notices of violations issued.

Vegetation Treatment Program:

Vegetation Management Program – Resource Management (RM) staff provided planning and personnel in support of Unit personnel who successfully burned 1051 acres on The Nature Conservancy, Corning Land and Cattle and Fornage VMP's. One new VMP was approved, named The Paynes Creek Sportsman's Club.

California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) – RM staff assisted Unit personnel with preparation work in Unit 1 of the SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CalVTP, and 5.25 acres were prepped for an understory burn.

Unit Fuel Reduction Projects – RM staff completed environmental documentation for one new unit fuels reduction project, the Matlock Loop Fuel Reduction Project. This project includes roadside hazardous fuels reduction and will provide for a safer evacuation route. The project totals 31 acres.

- *RM staff provided support and expertise to seven ongoing fuels reduction projects:*
- Hwy 36 West Prescribed Burn - Final prep work completed and approximately 169 acres was burned within the Caltrans ROW in 2021.
- Hwy 36 East Prescribed Burn – The project was completed in 2019 and a maintenance burn completed in 2021.
- The Interstate 5 North/South FRP – An annual project that has been maintained by Unit personnel for several years. The project is a fence line scrape along the east and west sides of Interstate 5 between Red Bluff and Shasta Co. Line, encompassing 49 acres. In 2019 the I-5 South FRP was added to further improve suppression response to roadside fires along the highway from Red Bluff City limits south to Red Bank Creek.
- Pellows Road FFP – This project encompasses 155 acres and utilizes the Unit's grader to annually grade and maintain this import connector road between Toomes Camp Road and Colyer Springs Road in Battalions III and IV.
- Toomes Camp Road FRP - Unit personnel continue to work on this fuel reduction project.
- Zane Ranch FRP - Phase II environmental documentation was completed, and the archaeology surveys were completed in Phase III.
- Elk Creek FB - Work continued on this multiyear project. A contract was approved to partner with the Glenn Co. RCD to spray the FB.

CAL FIRE Grants – Three multiyear fire prevention grants were awarded in 2021; One grant to expand the landowner assistance program for defensible space was awarded to the Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Tehama County, one grant to Glenn County. RCD to perform hazardous fuels reduction within the Stony Gorge Reservoir planning unit, and one grant to Tehama Transportation Commission to develop a county wide Public Mobility Incident Response Plan.

RM staff have responsibility for administration of each grant which includes approval of environmental review documents, approval of invoices for payment and serve as Subject Matter Experts to each RCD.

Fire Suppression Response – RM staff participated in a historic fire season; personnel were deployed to fires throughout the state for most of the season. One of the largest in the north state, the Dixie provided several weeks of suppression repair work for staff in the unit.



4/30/2022

Unit Chief

Date

Dave Russell

ANNUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS REPORTING (2020)

Fire Planning:

In August of 2020, a significant lightning storm passed over the Tehama Glenn Unit sparking numerous wildland fires in all four Battalions. In Battalion IV several fires, originating on the Mendocino National Forest, impacted the Elk Creek Fuel Break. The fuel break was one of the 35 emergency fuel reduction projects, prioritized in the Governor's 2019 Community Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation Report, that was completed by TGU in 2019. The fuel break performed as it was designed and slowed the fires down sufficiently to allow suppression resources to take advantage of the fuel break and secure an anchor point from which to stop the fire from destroying the communities of Elk Creek and Stonyford. The Elk Creek Fuel Break helped contain approximately eight miles of fire line and allowed for improved access to the road system. In addition, the Stony Gorge Hydroelectric Power Dam and Power Substation, as well as hundreds of acres of valuable grazing lands, were spared because of the Elk Creek Fuel Break.

Another major fire sparked by the 2020 lightning storm was the Elkhorn fire which eventually merged into the August Complex. The Elkhorn fire impacted portions of the Sunflower VMP, the fuel reduction work on the VMP aided suppression efforts by reducing flammable vegetation. Both the Battalion III and Battalion IV Pre-Attack Maps were again instrumental in gaining access to all the fires, for both in-unit and out-of-unit resources.

In 2020, the Tehama Glenn Unit participated in and collected data for 27 Fuel Reduction, Fuel Break, Right-of-Way roadside, and Vegetation Management Program projects in 2020. In total, 3,353 acres were treated, and crews worked 9,821 hours on the various projects. TGU completed the Diamond Star Fuel Reduction Project, twenty-two acres were successfully treated in 2020. TGU also contracted with the Resource Conservation districts of Glenn and Tehama County to apply herbicide on the Piney and Elk Creek Fuel Breaks, to maintain their effectiveness in stopping fires. The Unit began the planning phases of a new fuel reduction project call the Matlock Loop Fuel Break in the Bowman area. This fuel break is intended to protect numerous rural homes in the area. TGU also provided training on a tracked woodchipper to 28 Unit personnel, this track chipper can be used in more remote locations for fuel reduction work.

Two communities in Battalion 3 were nationally recognized as a Firewise USA Communities in 2020. The communities are Saddle Back Ridge and Lake California. This recognition will help the communities secure grant funding for hazard fuels reduction work focused on making the communities safer.

Investigations and Enforcement:

Fire Prevention/Law Enforcement – There were 126 unwanted vegetation fires in the Tehama Glenn Unit State Responsibility Areas in 2020. The Fire Prevention Bureau completed 5 forest/fire law related arrests, issued 19 forest/fire law related citations, and issued 6 PRC 4291 (defensible space) citations.

Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering – In the spring of 2020 until December 1st, TGU had one Forestry Aid (Defensible Space Inspector – (DSI)) to perform PRC 4291 Defensible Space Inspections in the SRA of TGU. The DSI's, along with Engine Companies in the Unit, completed 4,010 inspections in 2020. Of those, property compliance with PRC 4291 was 84% on the initial inspection.

Education and Information:

The Tehama Glenn Unit uses Facebook and Twitter for increased public outreach. In addition to social media, an estimated 300 media contacts were made for the dissemination of public and fire information. In 2020, due to COVID-19 the Information and Education section of the Fire Prevention Bureau only provided fire prevention education on July 4th at the Lake California Park and Ride and assisted with the Toys for Tots Toy Drive. It is estimated, with these events, approximately 300 contacts were made. The Volunteers in Prevention (V.I.P.s) were only able to work approximately 50 hours in 2020 assisting with events and fire prevention efforts due to COVID-19.

Resource Management Program:

Forest Practice Program – One new THP was reviewed and recommended for approval. Nine completion inspections accomplished, nine active inspections conducted, one pre-harvest inspection and two notices of violations issued. The August Complex burned approximately 90% of the Crane Mills industrial timberlands. Thus, five harvest plans totaling thousands of acres were declared substantially damaged and emergency salvage logging initiated. In addition, seven additional emergency exemptions were accepted by the department.

Vegetation Management Program – RM provided planning and personnel in support of Unit personnel who successfully burned 1688 acres on The Nature Conservancy VMP. One new VMP, Fornage VMP, was approved and planning work completed for four new VMP's. They are the Sunflower VMP, Bengard Ranch VMP, Paynes Creek Sportsman Club VMP, and the Corning Land and Cattle Co. VMP.

California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) – RM staff completed the planning work needed to submit for approval a new CalVTP project, named The SPI Fuel Break Maintenance CalVTP.

Fuels Reduction Projects (FRP) – RM staff completed environmental documentation for two new unit fuels reduction projects.

1. Hwy 36 West Prescribed Burn. The project will include burning 169 acres in Caltrans Right of Way. During 2020 the treatment area was prepped for burning that included liming, brush removal, and pile burning.
2. Toomes Camp FRP. This project includes roadside hazardous fuels reduction and will provide for a safer evacuation route. The project totals 51.5 acres. Work in fall of 2020 was initiated and consisted of brush removal, limbing of trees and disposal of vegetation.

RM Staff provided support and expertise to six ongoing fuels reduction projects:

1. Diamond Star FRP – This project includes roadside hazardous fuels reduction to improve ingress and egress into a rural subdivision in west Tehama. Co.
2. Hwy 36 East Prescribed Burn – This project includes burning 259 acres within the Caltrans Right of Way. The project was completed in 2019 and a maintenance burn completed in 2020.
3. Piney FRP – The north side of this project was completed through execution of a service contract and the remainder of the project received general maintenance during 2020.
4. The LiNe FRP – Unit personnel continue to improve and maintain this fuel break.
5. The Interstate 5 North/South FRP – An annual project that has been maintained by Unit personnel for several years. The project is a fence line scrape along the east and west sides of Interstate 5 between Red Bluff and Shasta Co. Line, encompassing 177 acres. In 2019 the I-5 South FRP was added to further improve suppression response to roadside fires along the highway from Red Bluff City limits south to Red Bank Creek.
6. Pellows Road FFP – This project encompasses 155 acres and utilizes the Unit's grader to annually grade and maintain this import connector road between Toomes Camp Road and Colyer Springs Road in Battalions III and IV.

CAL FIRE Grants – Two multiyear fire prevention grants were awarded in 2020. One grant to expand the landowner assistance program for defensible space was awarded to the Resource Conservation District (RCD) of Tehama Co. and one grant to update Glenn Counties Safety Element to Glenn Co. RCD. Unit Staff has responsibility for administration of each grant which includes approval of environmental review documents, approval of invoices for payment and serve as Subject Matter Experts to each RCD.

Personnel – The Forestry Assistant II and Environmental Scientist successfully passed their probation periods and are becoming valued employees within the RM program and the Department.

Fire Suppression Response – RM staff participated in a historic fire season, personnel were deployed to fires throughout the state for most of the season. One of the largest in the north state, the August Complex provided months of suppression repair work for staff in the unit.



5/1/2021

Unit Chief

Date

Dave Russell