

San Diego Unit

2026 Strategic Fire Plan



Unit Chief Tony Mecham

Integrity Competency Accountability Customer Service Safety Leadership

UNIT STRATEGIC FIRE PLAN AMENDMENTS

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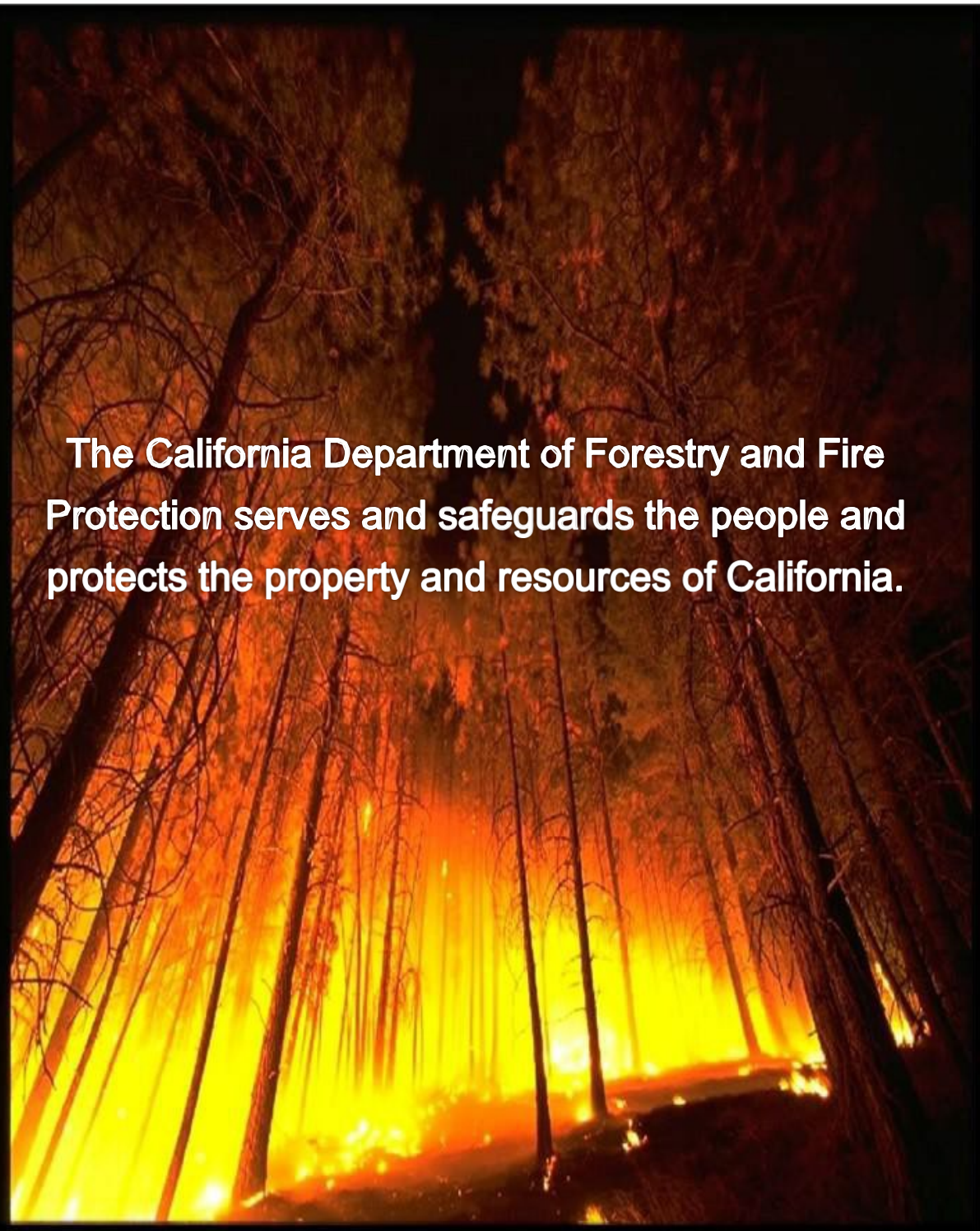
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The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection serves and safeguards the people and protects the property and resources of California.



SAN DIEGO UNIT STRATEGIC FIRE PLAN

- Was developed under the guidance of the San Diego Unit with support of the Units Battalions and Programs
- Consults with Federal, State, County and Local agencies and stakeholders identified throughout the plan
- Identifies and prioritizes pre and post fire management strategies and tactics in an effort to reduce the loss of values at risk to the San Diego Unit
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only. It is the responsibility of those implementing the projects to ensure that environmental compliance and permitting processes are complete

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The need for wildfire planning is no more evident than the devastating footprint from the 2003, 2007 and 2014 Fire Sieges in San Diego County. These fire sieges left major lingering impacts that could last for decades. Over half a million acres were burned, twenty-five lives were lost, many more people were injured, and thousands of homes and other structures were damaged or destroyed. The loss of personal property and keepsakes were un-measurable, business and traffic were significantly disrupted, historic and prehistoric cultural resources were damaged, carbon was added to the atmosphere, air and water quality were impacted for months, possibly years, wildlife habitat was altered, and forest succession was significantly setback at least 100 years. These fires not only affected San Diego, but California and the rest of the United States as well, as the cost to taxpayers reached into the billions of dollars for fire suppression. Pre and post wildfire planning is paramount to minimize, and possibly, avoid these devastating impacts in the future.

The San Diego Unit 2026 Strategic Fire Plan (Plan) represents a local wildfire planning document that tiers under the California Strategic Fire Plan (Strategic Fire Plan). Directed by the Public Resources Code 4114-4130, the Strategic Fire Plan was developed in partnership with the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). The statewide plan outlines seven broad goals and fifty-seven objectives with the vision to create “a natural environment that is more resilient and man-made assets which are more resistant to the occurrence and effects of wildland fire through local, state, federal and private partnerships.” CAL FIRE Administrative Units and Contract Counties are required to develop work plans to implement the Strategic Fire Plan. Essentially, the San Diego Unit Fire Plan is the work plan on how the San Diego Unit will implement and meet the goals and objectives identified in the Strategic Fire Plan through the implementation of Battalion-based Work Plans.

The development strategies of this Plan are to create a county that is more resistant and resilient to the damaging effects of catastrophic wildfire, while recognizing fire’s beneficial aspects. This Plan utilizes the following strategies to accomplish its goals:

- Collaborate with stakeholders and multiple fire jurisdiction
- Conduct and refine risk assessments for Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas
- Promote an increasing level of compliance with defensible space laws and regulations
- Monitor the effectiveness of programs, projects, and initial attack success
- Implement and maintain effective fuel reduction projects to improve public safety and reduce impacts

Efficient fire prevention and loss reduction education by providing training and information to the media, public, and stakeholders.

This Plan, with the cooperation of key stakeholders, has been developed with the purpose of meeting the goals set by community stakeholders and the California Fire Plan while integrating a community input focused approach. This Plan prioritizes protection of communities, natural resources, and the lives of the public and firefighters. This priority is shared among state and local governments, and other community stakeholders. Collaboration, priority setting, and accountability provide the framework for the guiding tactical principles of this Plan, which include:

- Utilize fire prevention efforts to reduce ignitions within the Unit
- Support the implementation and maintenance of defensible space around structures
- Continue to provide operational training that will support safe and successful suppression operations
- Promote efforts to restore the ecological role of prescribed fire
- Increase administrative and cooperative capacity to achieve fuels reduction work on the landscape

This Plan provides planning information at a county-wide scale and recognizes the variation in fuels, weather, topography, and community/agency priorities present in the county. It is intended to be a dynamic planning tool for promoting wildfire protection efforts in the county while recognizing that localized planning efforts being carried out at the City or Community level shall have priority and authority over the county-level recommendations included in this Plan. Additionally, this Plan is not intended to satisfy the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or regulatory permitting requirements. Any recommended projects or actions contained herein shall be subject to the appropriate permitting and environmental review for the jurisdiction in which they are proposed.

SECTION I - UNIT OVERVIEW

UNIT GOALS

Integrating local planning with statewide planning is fundamental to determining the Unit's goals and objectives. After the devastating fires, several fire planning actions and activities were identified and are now in progress to minimize impacts, shall another major wildfire occur. Coordinated interagency training has facilitated better trained paid and reserve firefighters. Coordination between local, county and federal fire agencies has improved. The goal of CAL FIRE/San Diego County Fire Protection District Community Risk Reduction Program is working to enhance community resilience by anticipating and preparing for catastrophic emergencies and maximizing opportunities to lessen the impacts through education, engineering and enforcement. Ignition resistance building standards have been adopted by the County and fire prevention education has increased public awareness of the dangers from wildland fire. Moreover, in partnership with San Diego County, defensible space inspections have increased. The county abatement program enforces the defensible space law when a property owner fails to comply. These are just a few examples of the key changes that were implemented.

At the statewide level, wildland fire planning is more than just a focus on treating hazardous fuels; it is about the whole system of wildland fire planning and thinking about where and how people live and co-exist within wildfire prone environments. The Strategic Fire Plan looks at wildland fire planning from an integrated approach by focusing on stakeholders, assets at risk, governmental services and jurisdiction, as well as both fire prevention and suppression efforts. The integrated concepts framing the goals of the Strategic Fire Plan are:

- Identify and evaluate wildland fire hazards and recognize life, property, and natural resource assets at risk.
- Articulate and promote the concept of land use planning as it relates to fire risk.
- Develop shared vision and planning at the local/community level.
- Improve fire resistance and survivability for the "assets at risk" – such as homes and neighborhoods.
- Develop methods to integrate fire and fuels management practices with landowner priorities.
- Determine the appropriate level of fire protection resources and related services required.
- Provide for post fire recovery.
- Each goal is intended to build upon the previous one yet can be implemented simultaneously or independently.

In terms of initiating projects and activities, the pre-work begins at the Battalion levels. Field Battalions are the key "work unit" for coordinating and working closely with property owners, community groups, fire safe councils, and other agencies. Through this coordination process, projects and activities are identified that best serve the needs of the public for wildland fire protection. Essentially, the public and stakeholders are involved at the grassroots level. Once a project has been vetted through this process, then Battalion Chiefs propose the project to the Unit. Pre-Fire/Resource Management staff assist in the planning and layout for the projects that are related to fuels treatment. Battalions typically focus on proposing fuels treatment projects in or near community areas that facilitate community protection. Environmental review is completed on all fuel treatment projects through the Department's existing Vegetation Management Program or through the departmental guidelines which comply with California Environmental Quality Act.

The methods for assessing vulnerable communities incorporate both wildfire risk and socioeconomic conditions of the communities that fuel reduction projects are designed to reduce. In general, proposed projects' ranking is based on the following framework:

- Assessment of wildfire risk to the public within the proposed project area
- Ingress and egress status
- Evaluation of the socioeconomic characteristics of communities that projects are intended to protect

Despite recent accelerated investment and resources, the vast amount of work and time required to achieve strategic goals necessitates an approach that best protects lives and property in the near-term, while simultaneously working over the long-term. This will create more resilient communities and landscapes and will allow the public to live sustainably in San Diego County's fire-prone landscapes. Near-term needs include increasing the pace of fuel reduction in and near communities at risk, improving compliance with defensible space requirements, and improving fire resistance of both existing and new structures in the WUI. In the longer term, a landscape-scale approach that marries fuels treatments with targeted community protection activities will be needed to fully address the scope of fire management issues in the county.

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Located in the Southern Region for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the San Diego Unit (Unit) encompasses both San Diego and Imperial Counties. Bordered by Mexico to the south, the Pacific Ocean to the west, Riverside and Orange Counties to the north and the state of Arizona to the east, the San Diego Unit covers over 5.5 million acres.



FIRE PROTECTION RESPONSIBILITIES

The San Diego Unit is responsible for 1.2 million acres of State Responsibility Area (SRA) for wildland fire protection, while federal agencies are responsible for 784,751 acres of Federal Responsibility Area (FRA), and local agencies are responsible for 754,622 acres of Local Responsibility Area (LRA). In terms of coordinated wildland fire protection services (exchanging acres) the Unit has fire suppression responsibility for 1.4 million acres of State Direct Protection Area (State-DPA), while the federal agencies have responsibilities to protect 552,903 acres of Federal Direct Protection Area (Federal-DPA).

Imperial County is included in the San Diego Unit boundary; however, the few private land holdings are surrounded by BLM lands and account for close to 15,000 acres. While relatively small, this area is also State-DPA.

POPULATION, WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE AND OWNERSHIP

San Diego, a world class tourist destination, is a mixture of cosmopolitan/urban/rural development within the proximity of a wildfire prone environment. While Imperial County, dominated with commercial agriculture operations and supported by the Colorado River and All-American Canal, renewable energy, solar, and geothermal energy, in a desert region that rarely experiences wildland fires. The boundary between San Diego County and Imperial County is a transitional area of sparse chaparral and desert vegetation that occasionally supports wildfires. Moreover, the San Diego County and Imperial County regions are the third most populated areas in California, and nearly every resident in San Diego County, and portions of Imperial County, has been directly or indirectly impacted by wildfires.

Although the population of San Diego County and Imperial County exceeds 3.3 million, most of the population lives in San Diego County and resides in metropolitan areas within 20 miles of the coastline. Whereas the population that lives in Imperial County resides primarily in small towns and agriculture communities. Nevertheless, nearly a half a million people reside in upwards of 170,000 housing units in the rural or “backcountry” communities, which are identified SRA. Nearly all of these households are in San Diego County and are considered a part of the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI).

Public agencies own over 1.6 million acres in San Diego County and Imperial County. Nearly one-third of the area in the Unit is held as public lands (city, county, state or federal governments). See the table below for public lands within the San Diego Unit.

SAN DIEGO UNIT: SAN DIEGO AND IMPERIAL COUNTIES - PUBLIC LANDS - ESTIMATED ACRES - 1,510,179 ACRES							
FEDERAL	ACRES	STATE	ACRES	COUNTY	ACRES	CITY	ACRES
Military: Pendleton, MCB, Miramar Airbase, MCB and other facilities	158,306	State Parks: Palomar, Anza-Borrego, Cuyamaca Rancho, and others	577,890	San Diego County Park & Recreation	44,000	San Diego City Parks Dept.	39,000
USFS, Cleveland NF: Descanso and Palomar Districts	291,662						
US Fish and Wildlife Service	12,708	Dept. of Fish & Wildlife: Hollenbeck Canyon, Rancho Jamul, San Felipe Valley	47,619	Imperial County Park & Recreation	10,000 (est.)	Cities Parks Imperial Co.	10,000 (est.)
Bureau of Land Management	186,279						
Tribal Lands	132,715						
Federal Totals	781,670	State Totals	625,509	County Totals	54,000	City Totals	49,000

INTERNATIONAL BORDER INTERFACE

The United States-Mexico border creates another type of wildland fire interface. This type of interface results from persons coming from Mexico entering the United States through dense, dry brush conditions. Occasionally, these people set cooking, warming, or warning fires that spread into wildlands. Several “Border Fires” have injured or claimed the lives of many people. An international council was formed, now known as the Border Agency Fire Council, to provide fire safety information to international travelers, guide firefighting operations, and ensure fire fighter safety along the border.

WEATHER

Like most of southern California, the San Diego Unit is located in a Mediterranean Climate; warm to hot dry summers and mild to cool winters. Summer temperatures hover around the mid to upper ninety degrees for the center region and to the low one-hundred-degree temperatures in the desert regions. During most of the summer period, fog moderates the coastal temperatures, and occasionally significant hot dry spells similar to desert conditions may occur near the coastline and mountainous areas. While snow is common at elevations above 3,500 feet during cold winter storms. Rainfall averages range from 12-15 inches at the lowest elevations near the coast, to over 35 inches at the highest elevations. The dry desert region commonly receives less than 4 inches of rainfall each year. Santa Ana Winds are one of the more notable weather conditions for southern California. These winds can blow at any time of the year. However, these strong dry winds typically coincide with the drier period as well, which is late summer and fall periods (September through November). These winds, which can easily exceed 60 mph, are warm and dry and can severely exacerbate brush or forest fires, especially under drought conditions.

TOPOGRAPHY

Topographically, San Diego County is boxed by the Pacific Ocean in the west, the Palomar and the Santa Rosa Mountains to the north, the Cuyamaca and Laguna Mountains to the east, and the Mexico border to the south. Imperial County lies directly east of San Diego County and is framed by the Cuyamaca and Laguna Mountains in the west, the Santa Rosa Mountains and the Salton Sea and Colorado Desert to the north, the Colorado River and the state of Arizona to the east, and the Mexico border to the south. Generally, the elevation rises from sea level to nearly 6,600 feet in elevation. In the eastern center region, the terrain can be described as coastal areas, inland canyons, mesa, valleys, and mountains. In the far eastern section, the terrain is described as desert. Several canyons in San Diego are aligned in an east-west orientation, and this orientation funnels Santa Ana winds from the desert region to the coast areas.

VEGETATION / FUELS

The native vegetation complexes approximately follow the topographic transitions: coastal sage scrub/soft chaparral on the coast transitions to hard chaparral species in the inland canyon, mesas, and upper desert regions, which transitions to oak woodlands and mix-conifer forest at the higher elevations and eventually descends into desert plants communities. Nearly all these vegetation types are fire adaptive plants. In general, the coastal sage scrub and mixed chaparral dominant most of San Diego County's natural landscape; at least 70% of the natural landscape can be described as a chaparral type of vegetation, with most types located below the 5,000-foot elevation level.

Although conifer forest occupies less than 5% the area in San Diego County, these limited resources are primarily found above 4,500 feet in elevation in the Palomar, Santa Rosa, Cuyamaca, and the Laguna Mountains. Conifer forests are under pressure from development, insects, diseases, and wildfires throughout most of California, including San Diego County as well. In early 2000s, the combination of drought, overstocked forest conditions, and a major bark beetles outbreak caused extensive tree mortality in San Diego, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Due to the significant tree mortality, Governor Schwarzenegger declared a State of Emergency to address the extreme risk to people, property, and the environment. The proclamation enabled landowners and public agencies to take steps towards removing dead trees and associated hazardous dead vegetation. However, in October 2003, the Cedar Fire burned a significant portion of forested land in the Cuyamaca Mountains. Cuyamaca Rancho State Park lost nearly 95% (20,000 acres) of the forest to the Cedar Fire. More notably, after the fire there was very little natural regeneration of the forest. In October 2007, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park launched a partnership project, with the CAL FIRE-San Diego Unit, called the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park Reforestation Project. Its purpose was to restore and reforest the intensely damaged conifer forest. This reforestation project is in the verification stage of being registered with the California Climate Action Registry. It is the first reforestation project to register public lands in California. To review the project, go to <http://www.climateregistry.org/> and search for the project name: Cuyamaca Rancho State Park (CRSP) Reforestation Project or project identification: CAR505.

Oak woodlands occupy about 10% of the natural landscape in San Diego County. Like coniferous forest, these resources are under pressure from development, insect and disease process, and wildfire as well. In the Pine Valley-Descanso area of San Diego, perhaps as early as the late 1990s, red oak species were dying for unknown reasons. In 2008, the Gold Spotted Oak Borer (GSOB) was identified as the likely pest causing oak mortality. Currently, this pest has spread beyond the Pine Valley-Descanso area and is now associated with causing significant oak tree mortality among mature oak trees throughout San Diego County. There are two types of concerns with this pest. The first concern is ecological impacts to the red oaks species, not only in San Diego, but for the rest of the California as well. The other matter of concern is that when wildland fire moves through areas with high oak tree mortality, especially in community areas, these dead trees increase the dead fuel load and increase the falling hazard risk to firefighters and the public. To address the concerns about GSOB, a steering committee, an educational-outreach-science committee, and lead scientists/researchers have organized to minimize the spread of the pest. For more information, go to the website: www.gsob.org.

Variations in vegetative cover type and species composition have a direct effect on fire behavior. Some vegetation types and their associated plant species have increased flammability based on plant physiology (resin content),

biological function (flowering, retention of dead plant material), physical structure (leaf size, branching patterns), and overall fuel loading. For example, the native shrub species that compose chaparral vegetation types present a high potential hazard based on such criteria.

As described, vegetation plays a significant role in fire behavior. A critical factor to consider is the dynamic nature of vegetation types. Fire presence and absence at varying cycles or regimes affects vegetation type succession. Succession of vegetation types, most notably the gradual conversion of shrublands to grasslands with high fire frequency and grasslands to shrub lands with fire exclusion, is highly dependent on fire regime. Biomass and associated fuel loading will increase over time if disturbance or fuel reduction efforts are not implemented. Wildfire disturbances can also have dramatic impacts on plants and plant composition. Heat shock, accumulation of post-fire charred wood, and change in photo periods due to removal of shrub canopies may all stimulate seed germination. The post-fire response for most species is vegetative reproduction and stimulation of flowering and fruiting. The combustion of above ground biomass alters seedbeds and temporarily eliminates competition for moisture, nutrients, heat, and light. Species that can rapidly take advantage of the available resources will flourish. It is possible to alter successional pathways for different vegetation types through manual alteration. This concept is a key component in the overall establishment and maintenance of fuel reduction projects.

FIRE ENVIRONMENT

The fire environment is defined as the surrounding conditions, influences, and modifying forces that determine wildfire behavior. Firefighters recognize three components of the fire environment: weather, topography, and fuel. These components affect the likelihood of a fire starting, the speed and direction at which the wildfire will travel, the intensity at which a wildfire burns, and the ability to control and extinguish a wildfire. Although weather and topography cannot be changed, the fuels (or vegetation) can be modified. Consequently, many of our opportunities to reduce the wildfire threat lie in proper management and manipulation of wildland vegetation.

Of the factors listed above, fuels (vegetation, buildings, etc.) are the component that is targeted most often since this factor is the most easily affected. For example, vegetation can be removed or manipulated in ways that will dramatically reduce the fire risk. Additionally, homes can be “hardened”, for instance, built with non-combustible or fire-resistant materials and maintained with adequate defensible space.

While the weather cannot be controlled, it is important to understand what types of weather increase the fire hazard and what options there are for reducing this hazard. An example of this is limiting certain activities including open burning, welding, or mowing when weather conditions are hot and dry.

As with the weather and topography, the terrain cannot be significantly altered to reduce the fire hazard. Terrain, however, has a strong influence within the fire environment and should be carefully assessed when designing fire hazard reduction treatments. Aspect has a strong bearing on the type of vegetation present, the temperature, and moisture regime of the soil and vegetation. Slope steepness (gradient) is important since fire behavior usually increases with steepness. Slope position (ridge, valley, saddle, draw, etc.) should be considered when planning fire prevention measures. For example, additional defensible space may be warranted where slopes are steep and if positioned on a warm southerly aspect and/or within a “chimney” (draw, saddle).

“Full alignment” is a term used to describe the fire environment when all the conditions are conducive for increased fire activity. This occurs when fires burn in heavy fuels, during hot/dry weather, with strong winds blowing up steep slopes and draws. The highest priority for fire prevention measures should be focused on areas where these types of conditions are known to occur or are considered likely.

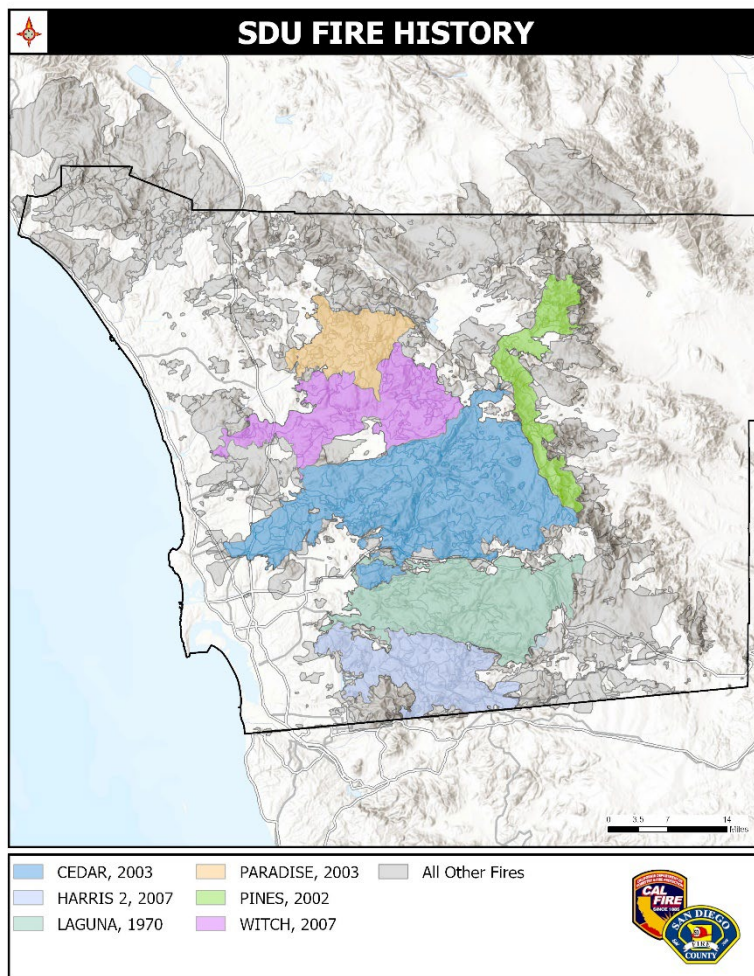
When people are living in high-hazard fire environments, the human-built environment becomes an important factor in predicting the loss of life and property. Untreated wood shake and shingle roofs, narrow roads, limited access, lack of fire-wise landscaping, inadequate water supplies, and poorly planned subdivisions and lack of ember vents and boxed eaves are examples of increased risk to people living with the threat of wildfire.

FIRE HISTORY

Fire history is an important component in understanding fire frequency, fire type, significant ignition sources, and vulnerable areas/communities. The topography, vegetation, and climatic conditions associated with San Diego County combine to create a unique situation capable of supporting wildfires. The 2003 and 2007 Fire Siege burned over half a million acres of coastal sage, chaparral, and forest lands. Moreover, the San Diego Unit has a long history of major wind driven fire occurrence distributed throughout the county with only the lower desert and immediate coastal areas excluded. The San Diego County Fire History map shows that the county has had a significant history of major fire incidents over the last 50+ years. Almost every community in San Diego County has been threatened by wildfires that have occurred during this period. Readily available fuels, influences of topography and Santa Ana winds, present year-round fire suppression challenges for the Unit.

Typically, the average number of fires per fire season is approximately 510 fires over the last ten years and the average number of acres burned is about 15,000 acres a year (excluding the 2003 and 2007 Fire Siege years). Generally, the leading causes of unwanted fires are debris burning, vehicles and underdetermined cause fires. Campfires are another cause of wildfires; however, these campfires are typically related to the border region and international travelers.

Combine these factors with the populace continuing to move to the WUI area, the San Diego Unit will continue the efforts to address this situation. Due to the potential for extreme fire weather in the Unit, strategic solutions have been developed. During times of extreme fire weather, the Unit will staff additional fire engines (reserve and camp), additional hand crews, mobilize strike teams throughout the state, pre-position additional air tankers from other bases, and inform the public, via media and other informational venues, to help prepare themselves in case of wildfires in the county. The San Diego County Office of Emergency Services (SDCOES) developed a Community Protection and Evacuation Plan (CPEP) template to help facilitate communities in establishing local "plans." These plans include evacuation routes, safe zones, emergency agency response, critical infrastructure protection, and mitigation strategies.

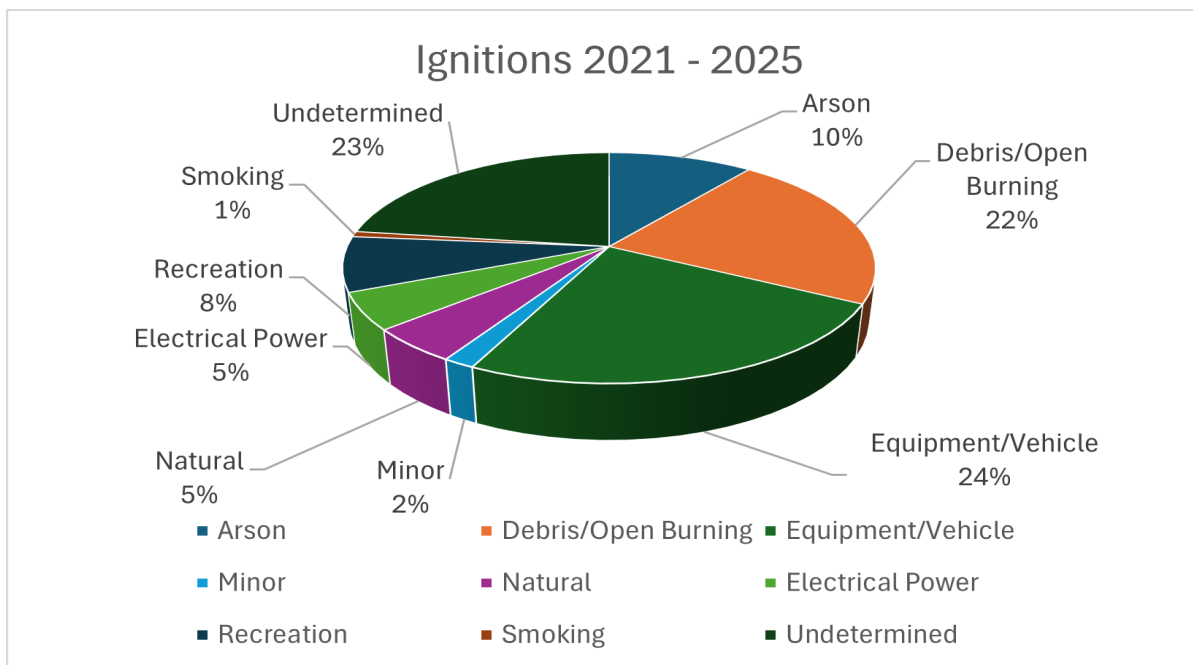
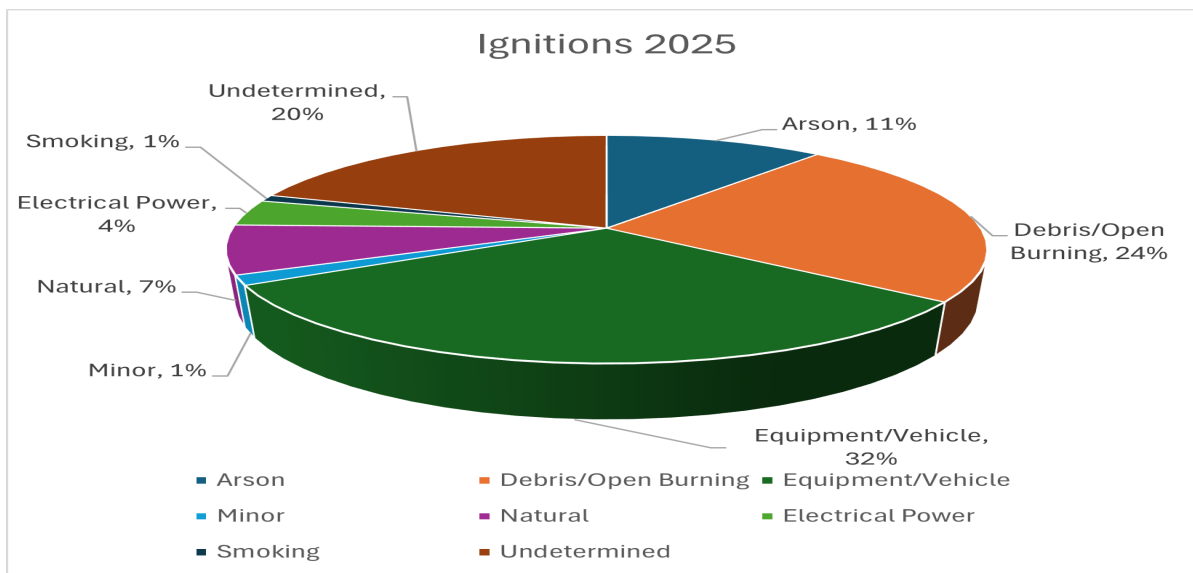


Based on historical fire perimeter data within the county, repeated burning is observed primarily in the Cuyamaca and Laguna Mountain ranges. Land ownership (federal) and fuel type (chaparral) appear to be significant factors affecting the geographic distribution of fires in San Diego County. Grass-dominated lands in the foothill portions of the County exhibit small, well dispersed burn perimeters, while the heavier chaparral fuels in the central portion of the County exhibit a repeated burn pattern, larger fire perimeters, and a more concentrated distribution of fire perimeters. The average interval between large wildfires more than 20,000 acres burning within San Diego County is 7.1 years, with intervals as short as 1 year and as long as 22 years.

IGNITION HISTORY

Wildfires are the result of an ignition source, fuel, and conditions that allow a fire to grow. Ignition sources are commonly divided into natural causes and human causes, including both accidentally and intentionally ignited fires. The ignition information provided in this section is categorized by the original call for service. The most common ignition sources for this region include structure fires, vegetation fires, unauthorized debris/open burning, pile burning, and equipment/vehicle fires. In general, debris burning caused fires tend to be associated in the northern portion of the county, although debris burning causes are noted in other areas within the county. While campfires are another cause of vegetation fires, these campfires are typically related to the border region and international travelers. The pie charts below reflect the distribution of ignitions throughout the County.

A significant number of unwanted fires are listed as undetermined, meaning they are currently under investigation, or a definitive cause could not be identified. There was a total of 216 wildland ignitions in 2025 and the five-year total (2021 to 2025) was 1167. The pie charts below illustrate the cause of ignitions by percent for 2025 and the cause of ignitions by percent from 2021 through 2025.



UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES

San Diego Unit Headquarters is located at 2249 Jamacha Road in the unincorporated area of San Diego County, near the city of El Cajon. The Unit Administration Offices, Mobile Equipment Repair Shop, Service Center, Inter-Agency Training Center, Inter Agency Communication Center, San Diego Fire Center, and the Monte Vista Fire Station #20 are located on the 14-acre headquarters facility. The following is a list of resources available for emergency response and support services:

The San Diego Unit Resources at a Glance

Unit Operational Facilities		
•	Schedule B Fire Stations	20
•	Schedule A Fire Stations	24
•	Air Attack Base	1
•	Helitack Bases	2
•	Conservation Camp	1
•	Fire Centers (Rainbow, Fox and San Diego)	3
Unit Operational Equipment		
•	CAL FIRE Type III Engine - Frontline	27
•	CAL FIRE Type III Engine - Reserve	5
•	CAL FIRE Type III Engine - Camp	4
•	CAL FIRE Bulldozer	4
•	CAL FIRE OV-10 Air Attack Aircraft	1
•	CAL FIRE C-130 Type 1 Air Tanker	1
•	CAL FIRE S-2T Air Tanker	2
•	CAL FIRE CDC/CCC Hand Crews	4**
•	CAL FIRE Fuels Reduction Hand Crew	1
•	CAL FIRE Firefighter Hand Crew	7
•	CAL FIRE/ SD County Type II Helicopter	1
•	CAL FIRE/ SD County Type I Helicopter	2
•	USFS Type II Helicopter	1
•	USFS Type I Helicopter	1
•	SD County Fire Type I Engine – Frontline	21
•	SD County Fire Type I Engine – Reserve	6
•	SD County Fire Type III Engine	2
•	SD County Fire Type VI – Patrol	11
•	SD County Fire Truck Company	2
•	SD County Fire Water Tenders	18
•	SD County Urban Search & Rescue (USAR)/L&A	5
•	SD County Squad/Water Rescue	2
•	SD County Medic and Rescue Ambulances	24
•	Deer Springs Cooperative Equipment -Type I Engine	3
•	Deer Springs Cooperative Equipment -Type III Engine	1



The protection of 1.4 million acres of SRA wildland and urban interface is provided by twenty “Blue Book” fire stations geographically located 15 to 20 miles apart. To manage the 20 fire stations, the Unit is divided into eight battalions with a Battalion Chief managing two to three fire stations. During Peak Fire Season, the Unit covers 27 frontline Type III Fire Engines at the eighteen fire stations, with a work force of 489 Permanent Firefighters and 479 Seasonal Firefighters.

The San Diego Unit currently has several Cooperative Fire Agreements: Deer Springs Fire Protection District and San Diego County Fire. In addition to these Cooperative Fire Agreements, the Unit has Dispatch Agreements with Campo, Santa Ysabel, and La Jolla Reservation Fire Departments, and San Diego County.

The San Diego Unit participates in the San Diego County Master Mutual Aid Agreement between all the local Fire Agencies along with several smaller Auto-Aid and Mutual-Aid Agreements with local fire agencies. All the Agreements are intended to provide a higher level of fire and medical services to the public through response of the closest resource.

In addition, four bulldozers are staffed at the following locations: San Diego Unit HQ, Campo Station 40, Rainbow Fire Center and Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp. By a Cooperative Agreement with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, 2 inmate hand crews are budgeted at one Conservation Camp. Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp is staffed with female inmates located in the northern portion of San Diego County. Additionally, one California Conservation Crew (CCC) is staffed at San Diego Fire Center.



The Ramona Air Attack Base is in the center of San Diego County in the unincorporated area of Ramona. One CAL FIRE C-130, two CAL FIRE S-2 turbo prop fixed wing air tankers, one OV10 Air Attack plane, and one CalFire/SD County Fire S-70 Fire Hawk are staffed at the Ramona Air Base year-round. During large fires the air base can staff three retardant loading bays to sufficiently supply the heavy demand for fire retardant.

In a unique Cooperative Agreement with the San Diego County Sheriff's Department, the San Diego Unit personnel staffs one San Diego County fire fighting helicopter daily. County Copter 10, 12 are Bell 205 A-1++ helicopters and C11 is a Bell 412EPX helicopter that are owned and piloted by the San Diego County Sheriff Department.

BUREAUS

TRAINING

The Unit Training Bureau administers a comprehensive, highly active, and dynamic training program in support of both CAL FIRE personnel and SAN Diego County Fire Fighters. In addition to delivering the Departments training curriculum at the Unit level, the Training Bureau is responsible for coordinating and implementing interagency training initiatives.

To Support the delivery and documentation of training and certifications, the Training Bureau utilizes a web-based platform, Vector Solutions, to provide online training courses and to track certifications, required training, and personnel credentials. The Bureau also coordinates and delivers key training events, including the annual Wildland Fire preparedness Exercises, Interagency Wildland Fire Training, and the Interagency Chief Officers Wildland Fire Workshop.

In support of this plan, the Training Bureau provides the following core functions:

- Delivering training to ensure all personnel meet established Operational Readiness
- Provides all mandated training for all employees
- Training that supports the Unit's Pre-Fire/Resource Management and Public Education and Prevention (PEP) programs
- The Training Bureau develops and publishes an annual training calendar that includes weekly training topics designed to maximize credit and recognition from professional standards organizations, including the NFPA, Insurance Services Office (ISO), Local Emergency Medical Services Agency (LEMSA), and CAL FIRE's internal administrative programs.



To meet the Unit's Operational Readiness standards, the Training Bureau delivers both basic and intermediate training to support personnel progression from entry-level firefighter through Chief Officer and Command Staff disciplines. Key courses include Battalion Chief Mentee Academy, Fire Captain Academy, Fire Fighter II Academy, Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) programs, Truck Academy, Urban Search and Rescue (US&R) technical training, IFSAC Pro Board (PB) testing, Company Performance Training, and Incident Command System (ICS) training to support Type III Incident Management Team (IMT) qualifications, as well as the full complement of CAL FIRE and NWCG Incident Command courses. Additionally, the Training Bureau coordinates with the Unit's Emergency Command Center to monitor and track the number and classification of qualified and trainee ICS positions within the Unit.

In support of the Unit's Pre-Fire/Resource Management and Public Education and Prevention (PEP) programs, the Training Bureau designs and delivers integrated training aligned with departmental goals and operational objectives. To advance the Fire Prevention Bureau's Defensible Space program, the Training Bureau conducts training for Defensible Space Inspectors.

Additionally, to support the Pre-Fire/Resource Management Division's objectives related to fuels treatment and acreage accomplishments under the Vegetation Management Program (VMP), the Training Bureau coordinates and delivers live fire training evolutions, including C-234 Intermediate Firing Operations, as administered by the State Fire Marshal.

Certain training activities, such as faller certification and firing operations courses, require vegetation treatment. In these instances, the Training Bureau coordinates with the Pre-Fire/Resource Management Division to identify suitable training locations and to ensure all activities comply with applicable environmental regulations, including those governed by the Vegetation Management Program (VMP) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).



EMERGENCY COMMAND CENTER

The San Diego Inter-Agency Emergency Command Center (ECC) is a Command Center (a dispatch office supervised by seasoned fire suppression professionals) staffed in partnership with the United States Forest Service (USFS) Cleveland National Forest. The San Diego ECC provides dispatch, communications, and support service for emergency operations within the CAL FIRE San Diego Unit and Cleveland National Forest. The ECC provides, by contractual agreement, command-communication center services to numerous fire departments, districts and ambulance providers. Additionally, the ECC staff provides Emergency Medical Dispatch “pre-arrival” care instructions to the caller when necessary. In order to coordinate and dispatch the closest resources to all incidents, the ECC continuously monitors the location and status of more than 200 fire and medical resources and several hundred personnel. The ECC is in continuous development of additional VHF radio repeater sites allowing greater VHF radio coverage for emergency response personnel and acquired additional 800 MHz radio channels to meet increasing operational communication needs.

The ECC supports “prescribed burning” operations for brush clearing and vegetation fire fuel reduction projects. They coordinate the processing of the Live Fire Use Approval/Notification Form (FC-400) between the Incident Commander, Unit Duty Chief, Region Duty Chief, and the Region Operations Center.

The ECC employs several evolving technologies to enhance the flow of information with emergency response personnel including; Automatic Vehicle Locators (AVL), Mobile Data Computers (MDT's), and connectivity between the CAL FIRE Computer Aided Dispatch computer system (CAD) and allied agency CAD systems using the Regional CAD Interoperability Project (RCIP). This interface includes the Dynamic (progressive) routing of multi-agency resources by the ECC which also allows us to track and coordinate emergency apparatus in order to dispatch the closest resource to an emergency, regardless of agency affiliation or jurisdiction.

The ECC, in coordination with field staff uses a variety of GIS tools including Intterra and Technosylva, both of which are situational awareness and collaboration tools. Intterra, Technosylva, Tactical Analyst and Tablet Command combined with AVL/ MDT, help with information gathering to and from field personnel. All of these processes help to streamline and create efficiencies in dispatching the closest resource.

The remaining technology system is the High-Performance Wireless Research and Educational Network (HPWREN) project which uses strategically placed high speed camera network throughout San Diego County which allows the ECC staff to visually confirm the existence and intensity of a fire from the detection of a “new fire” to the progression and monitoring of an existing fire.



AIR OPERATIONS

Ramona Air Attack Base serves as the regional fixed wing aircraft center. The runway at Ramona Air Attack Base is approximately 5,001 feet in length. In addition, San Diego has established a Brown Field Reload Base that may be activated by the Southern Area Geographic Coordinating Center (South Ops.) if determined that the reload base would be beneficial to the State's firefighting mission. Brown Field has a 7,972-foot runway which will allow quick reloading of various air tankers including a VLAT (Very Large Airtanker).

A Memorandum of Agreement with the United States Navy and an Operating Plan with the United States Marine Corps was signed that allows San Diego based military helicopters to assist firefighting efforts within San Diego County. To ensure military crews are prepared, annual training is conducted with the three San Diego military bases. In December 2017 two Navy helicopters and two USMC helicopters were deployed to assist firefighting efforts on the Lilac Fire, which consumed 4,100 acres and destroyed 157 structures. In 2020, multiple helicopters from the Navy and USMC were once again deployed to assist on the Valley Fire.

The San Diego Unit operates one of the most comprehensive firefighting aviation programs in the Nation. The Unit operates two aviation programs: a rotary wing and a fixed wing program.

ROTARY WING PROGRAM

In a cooperative agreement with CAL FIRE And San Diego County, a S-70 Firehawk is staffed year-around at the Ramona Air Attack Base. The County of San Diego owns the aircraft, while CAL FIRE is responsible for staffing, operation, and maintenance. The S-70 is available for regional incident response, and its all-risk capabilities include, but are not limited to: Water Dropping, Helitack Crew, BLS Air Rescue, Cargo/Passenger Transport.

In a cooperative agreement with the San Diego Sheriff's Department (SDSO) and CAL FIRE, personnel from both agencies are in a successful partnership providing helicopter firefighting support and air rescue operations across San Diego County. Presently, the fleet includes two Bell 205 A-1++ helicopters and one Bell 412EPX helicopter, all meeting Type II Standard specifications and equipped with a 375-gallon external fixed tank. These aircraft were purchased by the County and are piloted and maintained by SDSO, stationed at Gillespie Airfield in the City of El Cajon. One ALS hoist rescue helicopter is staffed daily with a CAL FIRE Air Rescue Paramedic, Cal Fire Air Rescue EMT, CAL FIRE Captain, and SDSO Pilot. This unique program between fire and law enforcement exemplifies an effective partnership, combining a shared mission and goal.



FIXED WING PROGRAM

The fixed wing program operates out of the Ramona Air Attack Base. It consists of one C-130 Type 1 Airtanker, one OV-10 Air Attack aircraft, and two S-2T Type III Air Tankers.



FIRE CENTERS

SAN DIEGO FIRE CENTER

The San Diego Fire Center is newly renovated facility located near the San Diego Unit Headquarters. This facility houses CALFIRE Firefighter I, California Conservation Corps (CCC), and California National Guard hand crew (CMD) in the San Diego Unit. These men and women will provide frontline fire response to the State of California, as well as fire prevention work on natural resource projects in San Diego County and the surrounding community.

RAINBOW FIRE CENTER

In 1946, the Rainbow Conservation Camp was opened as the first permanent male conservation camp. Rainbow made history again when it converted to a female camp in 1983. The camp is making history again with a new name and a new mission. The Rainbow Fire Center is the newly renovated facility that houses CALFIRE Firefighter I hand crews in the San Diego Unit. These young men and women will provide frontline fire response to the State of California, as well as fire prevention work on natural resource projects in San Diego County and the surrounding community.

FOX FIRE CENTER

The Fox Fire Center is in Northern San Diego County and sits at the Eastern base of Palomar Mountain. Converted from a county summer youth camp, the facility will house 3 firefighter hand crews each day. These men and women will provide frontline fire response to the State of California, as well as fire prevention work on natural resource projects in San Diego County and the surrounding community.

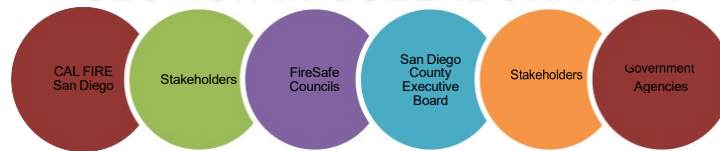


CAMPS PROGRAM

The Conservation Camp Program, in partnership with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation can support 9 hand crews but is currently staffed with one to two. These crews assist with fire operations, pre-fire/resource management activities and projects, and other public agencies and approved non-profit organizations for public service. A total of one conservation camp is located in the San Diego Unit. The camp is located in the Northeast Division; Puerta La Cruz and is staffed with female inmates.

When the hand crews are not assigned to emergency incidents, they serve as a key workforce for implementing pre-fire/resource management activities and projects. Typically, the camps provide at least 200 crew days per camp per year toward pre-fire/resource management activities and projects. Nearly all fuel reduction projects listed in Appendix A and B are implemented through the use of conservation camp crew in terms of funding support for camp crews. The SRA Fire Protection Funds (FPF) provides reimbursement funds to offset operational cost and support fuel treatment projects. Fire safe councils may utilize camp crews for community fuels treatment projects, especially for those projects identified in their Community Wildfire Protection Plans.

SECTION II: COLLABORATION



COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION

Nearly all pre-fire/fuels treatment, resource management activities, and projects described in the San Diego Unit 2022 Strategic Fire Plan involve meeting and coordinating with various stakeholders and collaborators. Notably, the Unit is actively engaged with the San Diego County Board of Supervisors and county services. This includes:

- San Diego County Fire
- San Diego County Sheriff's Department
- San Diego County Parks and Open Space
- San Diego County Planning and Development Services Department
- Various local fire protection districts
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- United State Forest Service (USFS)–Cleveland National Forest
- USFS-Forest Health Protection
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- California State Parks and Recreation – Anza-Borrego State Park, Palomar State Park and Cuyamaca Rancho State Park
- California Department of Fish and Wildlife
- California Department of Transportation (CAL TRANS)
- San Diego County Department of Public Works.



Besides the coordination and collaboration with agencies, the Unit serves as an active partner in the San Diego County Fire Chiefs Association. This organization brings together the firefighting leaders from city, county, state and federal organizations to discuss and coordinate firefighting issues of San Diego County.

The Border Agency Fire Council (BAFC) is a binational organization made up of twenty United States and Mexican government agencies and organizations representing fire protection, law enforcement, legislators, emergency responders, natural resource managers, and elected officials who address public safety issues pertaining to wildfire, rescues and medical emergencies along the U.S/Mexico international border. The Border Agency Fire Council was formed with the goal of saving lives, property and to protect the sensitive habitat of the border area.

Emergency Mutual assistance Program is an Operational plan prepared to assist in decision making and guide in proper tactical application when responding to incidents involving possible cross border activities covered under the "Mutual Assistance Plan". This document details the four possible scenarios that may involve cross border operations and lists the procedures to follow for each. Each of these scenarios requires adherence to specific procedures, both internal and external, developed in concert with US and Mexican border protection agencies and the US and Mexican Consulates in support of the Mutual Assistance Plan.

The [San Diego County Fire Safe Council](#), in partnership with Resource Conservation District, is a collaborative group of county, state and federal agencies working with volunteers and community members interested in creating fire safe communities. They provide assistance with community support, coordinate with the California Fire Safe Council and provide direction on developing Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Currently, 38 fire safe councils exist in San Diego County. More information regarding Firesafe Council location and contacts can be found at:

<http://firesafesdcounty.org/fsc-support/local-fscs/>

San Diego Gas and Electric Company (SDG&E), in concert with their parent company Sempra Energy, received approval from the California Public Utilities Commission to develop and implement the Sunrise Powerlink project. One condition of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for this project is to establish a Defensible Space Fund and a Firefighting Mitigation Fund.

To fulfill this condition, SDG&E established a working group, identified as the Sunrise Powerlink Fire Mitigation Group (SPFMG). Comprised of the affected firefighting departments/agencies, this group provides coordination and oversight of the Defensible Space Fund (\$2.8 million dollars each year for 58 years for homeowners) and the Firefighting Mitigation Fund (\$3.2 million dollars for the firefighting agencies). A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on January 2012. The first phase of the transmission lines were energized in June 2012. In July 2012, the Defensible Space Fund was initiated and made available online to the homeowners within the targeted area. In addition, San Diego Gas and Electric also cooperatively funds, with the County of San Diego, two water dropping helicopters available for initial attack vegetation fires anywhere in the county.



SECTION III: VALUES AT RISK

WILDFIRE RISK TO ASSETS

Fire is both a natural ecological force and common landscape agent of change throughout much of California. CAL FIRE's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) prepared the document entitled California's Forest and Rangelands: 2017 Assessment. This document satisfies the 2008 Federal Farm Bill provision that each state assesses forest resources, which is intended to identify key issues facing each state and requires the delineation of spatial areas called Priority Landscapes. Priority Landscapes are intended to focus investments and other programs on addressing issues identified in the assessment. Priority Landscape datasets related to fire include an evaluation of fire risk as related to community water, ecosystem health, human infrastructure, range, recreation/open space, and wildlife. While numerous assets have been identified, considerable effort has been focused on reducing the risk to life and property. Additionally, California's Forest Management Task Force, a multi-agency collaboration, is tasked with restoring health and reducing the wildfire threat to California's Forests. California's Forest Management Task Force was organized to protect the environmental quality, public health, and economic benefits that healthy forests provide to California. The Task Force aims to increase the rate of forest treatments and expand state wood product markets through innovation, assistance, and investment, a challenge that requires a multi-solution response. The Forest Management Task Force is committed to bringing everyone to the table and using science to guide us as we work to restore our lands.

FIRE RISK VERSUS FIRE HAZARD

The concept of fire risk vs. fire hazard can be confusing and these terms are often used interchangeably. The purpose of this Plan is to assist fire agencies with development of collaborative methods in reducing the fire 'risk' within their jurisdictions by using strategies and tactics that will reduce or eliminate one or more fire 'hazards'. Examples of fire hazards include dense stands of decadent brush, faulty wiring, broken vehicle exhaust systems, and homes that are not built in accordance with fire code requirements. The fire risk (vulnerability) of a given area constantly rises and falls depending on conditions within the fire environment. Successful implementation of this Plan will result in the meaningful reduction of the fire risk in strategic portions of the County through identification and the abatement of important fire hazards.

DEFINING THE WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE

A significant risk from fire is posed to the people and houses in San Diego County, as witnessed by an increasing trend in structure loss in wildland fires. These risks are not new. The Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) has been a term in use for three decades. Simply put, the WUI is an area where human development is located in close proximity to open space or lands with native vegetation and habitat that are prone to wildland fires. The WUI creates an environment in which fire can move readily between structural and vegetation fuels. Once homes are built within (or adjacent to) natural habitat settings, it increases the complexity of fighting wildland fires because the goal of extinguishing the wildland fire is often superseded by protecting human life and private property. Nowhere is this more apparent than in San Diego County. Most of the population lives in lower elevations dominated by chaparral shrublands susceptible to frequent high-intensity crown fires.

Hence, the WUI's location, extent, and dynamics will continue to be essential information for wildland fire management. With respect to defining the WUI, the following are the main components used in combination to arrive at a spatially definable area:

- Wildland fire hazards
- Human assets exposed to those hazards
- Proximity

WILDLAND FIRE HAZARD

Fire Threat is derived from the integrated assessment of wildland vegetation fuels, terrain, expected fire weather, and past fire occurrences. Threat is a measure of the combined influence of both the potential for burning and the expected fire behavior. For the specific purpose of characterizing the Fire Threat to houses and other human assets, Fire Threat Exposure was developed to reflect a specific area's capacity to ignite from both a spreading fire front and from firebrands produced from the fire front. Thus, Threat Exposure integrates Fire Threat across the landscape to represent the combined influence of all lands producing heat from both flames and firebrands, which could result in exposure to a house.

HUMAN ASSET EXPOSURE

Using a workflow developed by FRAP, census data and land cover information on commercial properties were utilized to develop a data layer that characterizes these assets/communities along a structure density gradient. In other words, greater structure density carries more value per unit area, and hence when exposed to hazards represents a greater risk of loss. Ranging from high density to low, areas with greater than one house per acre and commercial lands were defined as "Urban." Areas with housing ranging from one house per acre to one house per five acres were designated as "Rural Residential." Lands supporting houses one house per five acres to one house per twenty acres were defined as "Intermix." Lands containing a lower density than one house per twenty acres were not considered as having sufficient asset concentration to be considered WUI for purposes of this analysis.

PROXIMITY

The final concept used to define the WUI is proximity. In basic terms, proximity refers to the intersection between human assets and the wildland fire threat. Reflecting that many fires which impact areas of assets come from adjacent wildland areas, a zone of influence around community areas was developed that represents the proximal lands where fuel reduction treatments would likely influence risk to people, property, and other infrastructure. Taken in total, a combination of the three concepts (fire hazard, human assets, and proximity) allows a complete picture of the WUI to be derived which reflects specific hazard levels, asset concentrations and value, and the spatial relationship between the two. Higher hazard levels, more assets exposed to those hazards, and nearness all are important considerations in spatially defining the WUI.

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE ZONE OF INFLUENCE

While defining and mapping the WUI is necessary for prioritizing areas in need of risk assessment and mitigation measures, many strategies designed to protect these areas from wildfire typically focus on fuel reduction projects outside the immediate area of development.

The zone of influence model combines population density, proximity to the wildland, and the wildland fire threat to arrive at true representation of how the WUI is reflected spatially. The model assigns the labeling of these areas based on a priority of proximity and then density (higher density prioritized over lower density). By including measures of both proximity and asset density exposed to wildfire risk, the classification is designed to allow for prioritization of treatments based on characteristics that would likely result in higher levels of risk reduction to those features contained within the WUI.

ASSETS

For the purposes of this Plan, assets are those values that may be at risk from wildfire. Assets in San Diego County include power generation and transmission facilities, emergency communication facilities, transportation infrastructure, tourist and recreation areas, environmental areas, military installations, natural resource production facilities, and commercial fishing facilities. Table 8 presents the assets in San Diego County, by Planning Area.

Asset	Battalion
Trains / Rail System	1, 4, 6, 7
Transportation Corridors	All
Transmission Lines / Substations	All
Sunrise Powerlink Transmission Lines	3, 4, 8
Airports	5, 8
Pipelines	1, 3, 7
Emergency Communication Sites / Systems	All
Media Transmission Sites	3, 8
UCSD HPWREN Network	All
Water Reservoirs	All
Crestridge Ecological Reserve	3
Sycuan Peak Ecological Reserve	3
Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve	3
Otay Mountain Ecological Reserve	3
McGinty Mountain Ecological Reserve	3
Blue Sky Ecological Reserve	8
San Diego County Campgrounds	3, 4
Live Oak County Park	1
Wilderness Gardens Preserve	1
Julian Museum & Pioneer Park	5
MCCS - Camp Pendleton	1
Navy Remote Training Site - Warner Springs	5
Laguna Mountain Recreational Area	4
McCain Valley Recreational Area	4
Corral Canyon OHV Area	4
Palomar Observatory	7
SDSU Mount Laguna Observatory	4
Cuyamaca Lake Recreation Area	5
Non-Profit Conservancies	3, 4, 5, 8

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE AREAS (WUI)

Prefire planning efforts have identified the following WUI areas based on the combination of wildland fire hazards, human assets exposed to those hazards and proximity. These priority areas would benefit from fuel reduction efforts and other Prefire planning efforts intended to minimize ignitions and promote public and firefighter safety.

Projects implemented under the WUI designation would take place outside of the 100 feet defensible space requirements under PRC 4291, and within the outer edge of the defined WUI area as described earlier in this section. These projects would focus on directly protecting communities and assets at risk from potential damage from wildfire originating in the adjacent wildlands as well as protecting the wildlands from fires transitioning to the wildlands from human infrastructure by modifying the fuels. Projects conducted in the designated WUI would include all treatment types to achieve a reduced risk to the WUI. The priority WUI areas are identified by Planning Area.

Battalion 1 • Deluz WUI • Deluz Heights WUI • Rainbow WUI • Fallbrook WUI • Bonsall WUI • Hidden Meadows WUI • Vista WUI • San Marcos WUI • Del Dios WUI	Battalion 5 • Holcomb Village WUI • Warner Springs WUI • Ranchita WUI • Santa Ysabel WUI • Julian WUI • North Peak WUI • Harrison Park WUI
Battalion 2 • Harbison Canyon WUI • Alpine WUI • Crest WUI • Flinn Springs WUI	Battalion 7 • Valley Center WUI • Pala WUI • Pauma Valley WUI • Rincon WUI • Palomar Mountain WUI
Battalion 3 • Jamul WUI • Lyons Valley WUI • Dulzura WUI • Deerhorn Valley WUI • Barret WUI • Tecate WUI • Potrero WUI	Battalion 8 • Ramona WUI • Fernbrook WUI • San Diego Country Estates WUI • Four Corners WUI
Battalion 4 • Descanso WUI • Guatay WUI	• Pine Valley WUI • Lake Morena WUI • Campo WUI • Boulevard WUI

COMMUNITIES AT RISK (FIRE SAFE COUNCILS & CWPPS)

The listing of Communities at Risk (CAR) is derived from the National Fire Plan. The intent of listing is to help people protect their communities and property from catastrophic wildfire by providing funding, when available, to reduce the risk from wildfires. The California Fire Alliance assists the federal agencies charged with implementing the National Fire Plan, by providing a list of these communities on the website: http://www.cafirealliance.org/communities_at_risk.

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a plan developed at the community level in areas at-risk of wildfire. They are created in collaboration with community members, fire agencies operating in the area, local government, and other interested stakeholders.

A CWPP has two main functions. First, identify and prioritize fuel reduction treatments needed in the local area and outline methods for addressing these. Second, to make recommendations for measures that reduce structural ignitability. The process of developing a CWPP can help a community identify and clarify priorities for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface (WUI). It is intended to be a living document, and updates are expected as the needs in a community change and evolve.

CWPP background: The Healthy Forests Restoration Act, a landmark legislation which includes the first meaningful statutory incentive for the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to give consideration to prioritized fuel reduction projects identified by local communities, was enacted in 2003. This led to the development of the CWPP as a community-based forest planning and fuel reduction prioritization document. The Healthy Forests Restoration Act and the Community Wildfire Protection Plan emphasize the need for federal, state, and local agencies to work collaboratively with communities in developing hazardous fuel reduction projects and place priority on treatment areas identified by the communities themselves in a CWPP.

The role of CWPPs: The Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 provides communities with a great opportunity to influence where and how agencies implement fuel reduction projects on federal or private lands, as well as how additional federal funds may be distributed for projects on non-federal lands. A CWPP is the most effective way to take advantage of this opportunity.

The benefits of a CWPP: These documents and the measures they recommend can help enhance safety and reduce the risk of damage to structures and watersheds. Creating a CWPP can mobilize your community to take action to protect lives, property, structures, and community livelihoods. In addition, communities with a CWPP are given priority for certain funds for hazardous fuel reduction projects.

The list on the following page identifies Communities at Risk within the State Responsibility Areas by CAL FIRE Division and Battalion representatives. Additionally, if there is a Firesafe Council (FSC) and/or Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) associated with the community, there is an "X" for that category. The San Diego Unit is actively engaged with 51 Fire Safe councils and provide support for 51 Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP). These partnerships are crucial for promoting fire safety and preparedness in vulnerable areas.

<u>Battalion</u>	<u>CAR</u>	<u>FSC</u>	<u>CWPP</u>	<u>Battalion</u>	<u>CAR</u>	<u>FSC</u>	<u>CWPP</u>
1	De Luz Canyon	X	X	5	Mesa Grande	X	X
	Deer Springs	X	X		Harrison Park	X	X
	Hidden Meadows	X	X		Julian	X	X
	Pala Mesa Village	X	X		Stone Ridge (Holcomb Village)	X	X
	Rainbow	X	X		Sunshine Summit	X	X
	Vista / Twin Oaks	X	X		Warner Springs	X	X
	San Luis Rey	X	X		Whispering Pines	X	X
	Fallbrook	X	X		Wynola	X	X
	Harmony Grove	X	X				
	Rancho Santa Fe	X	X				
				7	Palomar Mountain Communities:	X	X
2	Alpines Heights	X	X		Bailey Meadow	X	X
	Carveacre	X	X		Crestline	X	X
	Crest	X	X		Birch Hill	X	X
	Flinn Springs	X	X		Conifer Road Residential areas	X	X
	Harbison Canyon	X	X		Mystery Mountain and Wilkes Area	X	X
	Sycuan Summit				Valley Center	X	X
					Lilac and Keys Creek	X	X
3	Barrett	X	X		Couser Canyon	X	X
	Dulzura	X	X		Woods Valley	X	X
	Jamul	X	X		Pauma Height	X	X
	Lawson Valley	X	X		Lake Wolford and Canal area	X	X
	Lyons Valley	X	X				
	Potrero	X	X				
	Tecate	X	X				
4	Boulevard	X	X	8	Barona		
	Campo	X	X		Ramona Communities	X	X
	Descanso	X	X		Mount Woodson	X	X
	Guatay	X	X		Mussey Grade / Fernbrook	X	X
	Jacumba	X	X		Rosemont	X	X
	La Posta	X	X		San Diego Country Estates	X	X
	Lake Morena	X	X				
	Pine Valley	X	X				

SECTION IV – COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

The Community Risk Reduction Program was created in 2019, combining state and county efforts, to identify and prioritize risks with a coordinated application of resources to minimize the probability, occurrence, and/or the impact of unfortunate events. The goal of the Community Risk Reduction Program is to provide and maintain a safe environment for the citizens and businesses in San Diego County through a professional balance of education, enforcement, engineering, fuel reduction, and transportation corridor safety. The Program incorporates Pre Fire, Law Enforcement, Public Education, and County Fire Marshall services into one collective program providing enhanced coordination between bureaus, as well as unity of command.

COHESIVE STRATEGY

Wildfires do not stop at property boundaries. More than 70,000 communities and 44 million homes are at risk from wildfire in the wildland urban interface (WUI) nationwide— where vegetative fuels and the built environment meet. Over the last ten years, more than 35,000 structures were destroyed by wildfires – an average of 3,500 a year. Risk reduction, on a variety of fronts, can help communities adapt to wildfire. Fire adaptation means communities take mitigation actions so they can live with wildfire without harm and without extensive wildfire suppression efforts.

A key component of community fire adaptation is that there isn't one silver bullet that reduces risk; there are many tools that, when used together and strategically, reduce risk. And it's not the responsibility of one agency or group to mitigate; it's the responsibility of everyone who lives and works in the community. Fire adaptation happens when local multi-jurisdictional stakeholders work together to identify risk, mitigate it, and maintain the work overtime.

The San Diego Unit Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy (Cohesive Strategy) effort was designed as a four-phased process to allow for inclusiveness and understanding of the complexities of managing wildfire risks across San Diego County and apply a consistent approach to addressing the wildland fire risk to vulnerable communities. The Cohesive Strategy consists of the following principles:

- Foster fire prevention and safety through community education and training.
- Promote structural hardening and defensible space techniques to improve structure survivability.
- Establish strategic fuel breaks and reduced fuel zones to improve community defense.
- Maintain dependable ingress and egress routes.

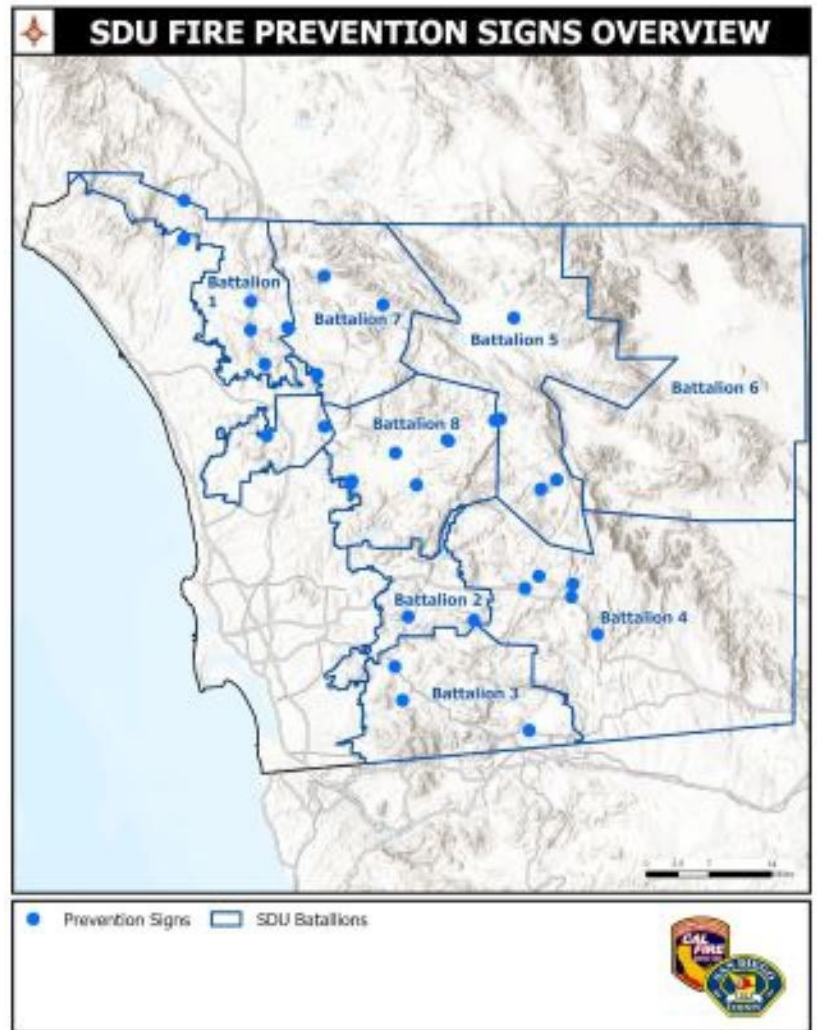
The Cohesive Strategy approach will ensure communities receive sufficient focus and the highest level of protection standards through careful consideration of discrete safety elements that collectively offer a greater degree of resilience than through any one element alone. These strategies were combined and developed into a single prefire program to keep communities safe as the fire service moves from the concept of fire prevention to that of community risk reduction.

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

The CAL FIRE San Diego Unit's Information and Education program utilizes social media (such as Twitter, Flickr, etc.) which allows us to quickly inform, educate and update the public on Fire Dangers and Incident Information, for CAL FIRE. CAL FIRE maintains and updates a website (www.fire.ca.gov) that posts fire information and statistics, Emergency Incidents, Public Service Announcements, News Releases, Statewide Fire Activity and links to other agencies for additional information.

In terms of fire prevention, staff conducts education programs for schools within SRA. School programs are designed to focus on each of the targeted age groups. The first is "Fire Safe Kids". This is a program designed by the Burn Institute for children in kindergarten through 3rd grade. The topics include the consequences of playing with fire, what to do in case of a fire, and burn prevention & treatment. An engine will show up after to teach the children firefighting gear and equipment as well. The second is "Firefighters Are Your Friends". This program is geared for Pre-K, TK, and ages under 6. The focus is on building trust with firefighters, fire prevention & what to do in case of a fire. We always have a firefighter get in full structure PPE. In addition, the Information and Education Program also engages in activities such as:

- Strategically placing roadside signs throughout the Unit to educate the public on fire dangers, the need for burn permits, and other relevant fire prevention education topics. These signs serve as a daily reminder to be Fire Safe while driving in and around high fire danger areas. Currently there are 36 signs placed in strategic locations throughout the County.
- A Cooperative Agreement with 2-1-1 San Diego during major incidents of wildfire or other newsworthy situations. During a disaster, 2-1-1 works with the County of San Diego's Office of Emergency Services to provide public information to the community, rumor control and trend analysis to County officials, report community needs that are not being met, and act as the central communications point for other community agencies and non-governmental organizations. 2-1-1 serves the entire population of the County and staffs the Joint Information Center for the Unit during emergency incidents, for CAL FIRE and USFS during major incidents of wildfire or other newsworthy situations. This Center provides accurate and timely information to the public through mass media outlets within San Diego, Riverside, Orange and Los Angeles Counties as well as national and worldwide coverage on incidents of a high-profile nature.
- Delivers Information and Educational presentations to service groups (i.e., Kiwanis, Lions, and Women's Clubs etc.), and other homeowner associated or organizations for CAL FIRE on topics such as Community Risk Reduction and Fire Prevention Education. Participates in local community events within SRA and support San Diego County residents, CERT members, and Fire Safe Councils with events, fairs, parades, etc.
- Update existing presentations to keep them current and relevant, as well as design and develop new presentations on a variety of education topics. Design and build displays, awards, and layouts. Design and construct fire prevention awareness displays for fairs and exhibits. Plan, prepare and develop new fire prevention education programs and handout materials.
- Coordinates the Unit's Volunteer in Prevention (VIP) program utilizing citizen volunteers to assist with all prevention education programs and activities.



- Participates with various public service agencies within the county, to network and cooperate in meetings and committees such as the Border Agency Fire Council and San Diego Burn Institute.
- Design and produce local prevention booklets, pamphlets and videos.
- Maintain multiple social media outlets, including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Flickr with a combined public following of over 203K.



ENGINEERING AND STRUCTURE IGNITABILITY

Fire Prevention Bureau works to protect lives, property and natural resources from unwanted fires by proactively investigating all Wildland fires in CAL FIRE's DPA and utilizing appropriate criminal, code enforcement, civil and administrative procedures to deter activities that lead to unwanted human caused fires. The Fire Prevention Bureau also coordinates law enforcement activities with public education and information activities with the Unit Public Information Officer to educate the public, as well as other public safety officials, of specific activities that increase fire risk and preventative measures that can be taken to eliminate or lessen the risk.

In terms of Engineering & Structure Ignitability, the Fire Prevention Bureau provides oversight and coordination with the following:

- Title 24 and Title 19/PRC 4290 are addressed by San Diego County Planning Development Services and San Diego County Fire through certification of the San Diego County Consolidated Fire Code by the Board of Forestry. San Diego County Fire requested and received certification in 1992 and requested and received re-certification in 2009. Requirements are met through application of State and Local ordinances that meet or exceed Title 24 & Title 19 requirements.
- Protection Planning is accomplished during the same processes outlined above by San Diego County personnel working with Fire Marshals from the various Fire Protection Districts that have overlapping boundaries on SRA.



A progressive process typically occurs as a structure is exposed to a wildland fire. First, embers are cast in front of a fire by wind or convection columns. In some instances, these fire brands retain enough heat and/or flame that secondary ignitions are possible. Following the lighter ash, heavier embers/firebrands with more surface area and mass, and consequently, more heat, are blown in front of advancing flames and often provide sources of additional ignition to structures and vegetation. Finally, intrusion of a flaming front and the associated radiant heat flux can expose combustible material outside of a building and the exterior of the structure itself to various levels of radiant heat. Studies reveal that the actual exposure of a building to a typical wildland flaming front by the perimeter of a fire is usually less than six minutes. However, exposure to other forms of ignition source materials can result in proliferation of secondary ignitions of structures or adjacent vegetation and a longer exposure, depending on wind, topography and fuel conditions.

To enhance structural survivability, the primary focus must first include sufficient measures to prevent the ignition of structural materials from objects (fire brands) that are cast in front of the fire and, second, reducing the likelihood that direct flame impingement and radiant heat will occur, preventing flames from penetrating into the building resulting in an interior fire. There are considerable problems in achieving these objectives without the benefit of new construction subject to the latest building codes.

All forms of fire protection are classified as either active or passive. Active fire protection includes implementing specific actions to control a fire in some manner. Passive fire protection uses resistance to ignition or provides some form of warning that allows other action to be taken. These two classifications of self-defense mechanisms create different problems regarding being accepted as alternatives for building construction. Furthermore, certain self-defense mechanisms must be incorporated during new construction, and others may only be capable of being added

as a retrofit to existing structures. In the absence of ignition resistant construction, the focus for reducing structural ignitability shifts to landscaping and fuel treatment areas.

Many of the residential structures within the County are not built to current building code standards, which have been implemented statewide and are based on intelligence gained from large wildfire events that included structure loss. Based on the type of development within the county and the existing fuels and terrain, structural ignition reduction will primarily be realized through implementation of fuel modification as described in this Plan. Standard fuel treatment prescriptions are presented in the following sections. As previously noted, environmental review and permitting may be required prior to project implementation. This should be completed during the project planning phase once the project scope has been identified.

Immediate Structure Zone (Zone 0)

The area within the first five feet of a structure, commonly referred to as “Zone 0,” is critical to reducing structure ignition from wind-driven embers. Research demonstrates that embers are the primary cause of home loss during wildfires, often igniting combustible materials adjacent to structures.

Zone 0 emphasizes the elimination of combustible materials immediately surrounding structures, including mulch, vegetation, and combustible attachments. Hardscape materials such as concrete, gravel, or pavers are recommended in this zone. Additional considerations include maintaining clean roofs and gutters, minimizing combustible items on decks, and relocating firewood and other fuels away from structures.

Implementation of Zone 0 principles complement existing defensible space requirements (PRC 4291) by addressing the most vulnerable area for ember ignition and enhancing overall structure survivability.



DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Defensible Space inspection around structures in the CAL FIRE's DPA is accomplished through application of San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances Section 68.401 – 68.407. CAL FIRE San Diego Unit completed 149,714 inspections during the last five years (2018-2022). This is an average of 29,943 inspections per year with 2022 having complete 55,002 inspections. San Diego Unit's inspection goal is at least 34,000 dwellings per year, and all properties within its responsibility area to be inspected at least every three years. Funding from the state, county, grants are the revenue sources for this service.

- The San Diego County Defensible Space Ordinance: In SRA that are not within a Fire Protection District and all houses within Fire Protection Districts that have adopted the San Diego County. Defensible Space Ordinance and entered cooperative agreements with SDCF, CAL FIRE utilizes the San Diego County. Ordinance to accomplish Defensible Space around structures. CAL FIRE provides the inspection workforce (personnel) to accomplish all inspections up to compliance or referral to San Diego County staff for code enforcement.

Building inspections and Pre-Planning activities are accomplished by Fire Suppression personnel at the Battalion level. Each Battalion modifies its activities to meet the unique requirements created by specific cooperative agreements and accomplishment of the State Mission to prevent and suppress wildland fires in the SRA.

GET READY, GET SET, GO!

Wildfire Is Coming. Are You Ready?

GET PREPARED FOR WILDFIRE BEFORE IT STRIKES BY FOLLOWING THE READY, SET, GO! GUIDE.

BEING READY

100 FT

CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE, 100 FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE IS REQUIRED AROUND YOUR HOME. LEARN HOW TO MANIPULATE THE ZONE OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE WISELY.

UP TO 1 MILE

KNOW YOUR HOME. DEFENDING HOMES CAN BECOME WILDFIRE UP TO 1 MILE FROM DEFENSIBLE AREAS. LEARN HOW TO PROTECT AND HARBOR YOUR HOME FROM A WILDFIRE ONSET.

GETTING SET

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND FAMILY FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TO EVACUATE.

**1. WHAT
2. HOW
3. WHO
4. WHEN**

CREATE A WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN.

ACCESSION ON EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT.

FILL OUT A TRAIL COMMUNICATION PLAN.

BEING READY TO GO

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND FAMILY FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TO EVACUATE.

PREPARE YOUR HOME AND FAMILY FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TO EVACUATE.

REVIEW YOUR EVACUATION PLAN CHECKLIST.

CONDUCTOR STEPS WHEN EVACUATING: WHEN EVACUATING, WHEN EVACUATING, WHEN EVACUATING.

GO!

CONDUCTOR STEPS WHEN EVACUATING: WHEN EVACUATING, WHEN EVACUATING, WHEN EVACUATING.

TAKE YOUR EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT IS IN YOUR VEHICLE.

COVER UP TO PROTECT AGAINST HOT AND FLEETING EMBERS. WEAR LEAN PANTS, LONG SLEEVE SHIRT, HEAVY FIRE RESISTANT, CAP OR EQUIVALENT TO COVER FACE. GOGGLES OR GLASSES, 100% COTTON IS PREFERABLE.

LOCKER YOUR PETS AND TAKE THEM WITH YOU.

ONE LESS SPARK
ONE LESS WILDFIRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT READYFORWILDFIRE.ORG
#READYFORWILDFIRE

EQUIPMENT SAFETY

Practice Using Equipment Safely

LEARN HOW TO USE OUTDOOR EQUIPMENT PROPERLY TO HELP KEEP FROM SPARKING A WILDFIRE.

NOVEMBER

YOUR EQUIPMENT IS HOT, BUT NEVER WHEN IT'S HOTTER. BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL.

SPARK ARRESTERS

IN WILDLAND AREAS, SPARK ARRESTERS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL PORTABLE GROUND POWERED EQUIPMENT THAT INCLUDES TRACTORS, HARVESTERS, CHAINSAWS, VIBRATORS AND MOWERS.

KEEP THE EXHAUST SYSTEM, SPARK ARRESTERS AND WHEELS IN PROPER WORKING ORDER AND FULL OF GASOLINE OIL.

EQUIPMENT USE

KEEP A SHovel AND A FIRE EXTINGUISHER READY TO USE.

IN WILDLAND AREAS, SPARK ARRESTERS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL PORTABLE GROUND POWERED EQUIPMENT THAT INCLUDES TRACTORS, HARVESTERS, CHAINSAWS, VIBRATORS AND MOWERS.

SPARK

TO PROTECT WATER QUALITY, DO NOT ALLOW OIL OR FUEL TO LEAK INTO WATERWAYS OR BODIES OF WATER.

VEGETATION REMOVAL CAN CAUSE SOIL EROSION, ESPECIALLY ON STEEP SLOPES.

KEEP 200' DISTANCE TO A MINIMUM.

ONE LESS SPARK
ONE LESS WILDFIRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT PREVENTWILDFIRECA.ORG
#PREVENTWILDFIRE #ONELESSPARK

LANDSCAPE DEBRIS BURNING

Proper Debris Burning Prevents Wildfire

LEARN THE HOW, WHAT AND WHEN OF PREVENTING WILDFIRES FROM IMPROPER BURNING.

HOW

DON'T BURN WILDFIRE-RESISTANT MATERIALS. PARTICULARLY WOODS ARE CONSIDERED SAFE.

KEEP A WATER SUPPLY AND SHovel CLOSE BY TO THE BURNING SITE.

A RESPONSIBLE ADULT IS REQUIRED BY LAW TO BE IN ATTENDANCE UNTIL THE FIRE IS OUT.

LANDSCAPE DEBRIS PILES MUST BE IN SMALL & FEET BY 4 FEET PILE.

4 FT

10 FT

CLEAR ALL FLAMMABLE MATERIALS AND VEGETATION WITHIN 10 FEET OF THE OUTER EDGE OF PILE.

WHAT

NO HOUSEHOLD TRASH OR WASTE CAN BE BURNED. WASTE OF ALL KINDS, INCLUDING: PAINTS, OILS, FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS, SOLIDS, GASES, AND OTHERS.

ONLY NATURAL VEGETATION, GRASS OR THE PROPERTY CAN STILL BE BURNED OUTSIDE. IN OTHER PILES, UNLESS PROHIBITED BY LOCAL ORDINANCES.

WHEN

DON'T BURN IF IT IS WINDY AND THE SURROUNDING VEGETATION IS DRY.

PERMITS

BURNING CAN ONLY BE DONE AFTER OBTAINING NECESSARY PERMITS FOR PERMISSIBLE BURN DAYS. CHECK BURN DAYS BY CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL AGENCY.

ONE LESS SPARK
ONE LESS WILDFIRE

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT PREVENTWILDFIRECA.ORG
#PREVENTWILDFIRE #ONELESSPARK

WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION BUREAU

CAL FIRE San Diego Unit's Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Bureau focuses on delivering CAL FIRE's Pre-Fire/Resource Management programs to the interested parties and stakeholders in San Diego. The intent is to create a resilient natural environment, which can sustain impacts from natural disturbances: such as wildfire, insect and disease outbreaks, weather events, and other disturbances for the protection of people, property and the natural resources. By integrating technical forestry and resource management services with fire suppression objectives, the Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Bureau produces high quality products and services while delivering prompt, courteous customer services. Activities and services are:

- Support the Unit's fire suppression mission through preparedness, training, and communication.
- Support the Unit's natural resource mission to protect the people, property, and resources of the state.
- Coordinate and collaborate with other agencies, organizations and citizens' groups to promote fire safety and environmental/resource awareness.
- Elevate and enhance public awareness and information on fire safety and environmental/resource protection.
- Ensure the public that tree harvesting (logging) on private forested lands complies with the California Forest Practice Act
- Serve as the Unit's Environmental Coordinator and ensure compliance with the environmental regulations and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Bureau is actively engaged in implementing the CAL FIRE SRA FPF projects and providing the following:

- Leadership in the emerging Goldspotted Oak Borer issue (see below) and coordinating with federal, state, county and city agencies.
- Partnership with the Cuyamaca Rancho State Park on a reforestation project
- Planning and implementation of the Vegetation Management Program at the Unit level
- Environmental review for all Unit projects and infrastructure maintenance program
- Oversight for the Kuchamaa Experimental Forest (Wentz Demonstration State Area) for cultural protection.
- See Appendix A for the full list of projects.

Resource Management Activities	Unit Activities
○ Forest Practice Enforcement	○ Member of the Unit's Executive Team
○ Vegetation Management Program	○ Bi-national Resource Management Planning
○ CFIP and related programs	○ Border Agency Fire Council Nat Res Committee
○ Service Forestry	○ CAL FIRE/Mexico issues & training
○ Environmental Coordinator	○ SDGE- Sunrise Powerlink Fire Mitigation Group
○ Reforestation, Cone Collection and Planting	○ Outreach Services
○ Pest management	○ Fire Safe Councils Support
○ Forest Health/Fuels Reduction Grant	○ Firewise Community Coordination
○ Emergency Watershed Protection	○ Grant Application and Administration
○ State Forest Land Manager	○ Land Use Planning

○ Forest Practice Committee	○ Fire Danger Operating Plan (FDOP)
Pre-Fire Management Activities	○ So Cal Watershed Fire Council
○ Unit Pre-fire Plan	○ Cuyamaca State Park's Reforestation Project
○ PRC 4291 Guideline Interpretation	Fire Suppression Support
○ Ignition Mapping	○ Chief Officer Coverage
○ Fire Hazard, History, SRA GIS mapping	○ Incident assignments
○ Review outside agencies Fire Mgt Plans	Departmental Program Support
○ Fuel Moisture Monitoring Program	○ Coordinate with the Archaeology Program
○ Micro RAWs Weather Coordinator	○ Coordinate with the Urban Forestry Program
○ State Fire Assistance Grant	○ Coordinate services with area and region offices



VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

CAL FIRE and San Diego County, along with private landowners and cooperating agencies, administer numerous programs which support the California Strategic Fire Plan. In the effort to make vegetation management achievable this Plan has broken Vegetation Management into three strategic categories: defensible space fuel treatment, non-defensible space fuel treatment, and vegetative management prescriptions. Environmental review must be conducted for all pre-fire management activities that could cause either direct or indirect changes to the natural or human environment. All proposed vegetation management projects (including fuels treatment activities) are subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and environmental review. Listed below are components related to project review.

BIOLOGICAL RESOURCE AND MULTI-SPECIES CONSERVATION PROGRAM

San Diego County is a "hot spot" area for unique and unusual species. With 28 species listed or proposed listed as threatened or endangered and an additional 57 species that are considered sensitive underscores the uniqueness of San Diego natural environment. Given the richness of species, San Diego County's Multi-Species Conservation Program (MSCP) promotes the protection of these species, while balancing the need for use and development of

property. To ensure protection for these species, both the California Department of Fish and Game and the US Fish and Wildlife Service are consulted on all fuels treatment projects.

ARCHEOLOGY

All CAL FIRE projects, such as VMP or fuels management projects, are reviewed by a qualified Department Archeologist, as required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA 1970). As required, each project is evaluated to determine if the project will have any effect on a defined cultural resource. Unit policy is to avoid adverse effects to significant cultural resources (prehistoric or historic resource consistent with CEQA), which is most often by avoidance. This internal practice began with the passage of the Forest Practice Act (FPA 1973). Since the passage of the FPA, archeologists regularly review projects and conduct archeological surveys. Several other laws play a part in the protection, preservation, and management of cultural resources in California. Also, CAL FIRE State Archeologists participate in the department's response to wildland fires. They participate in assessment teams when called in after a major fire to scientifically evaluate "values at risk" in the affected burned area as allowed under the former Governor's Executive Order.

WATER QUALITY BOARDS

To meet the requirements of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, all projects, including vegetation management projects, are reviewed for water quality impacts. Depending on the location of the project, the Unit will consult with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board or the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board.

- Region 7- Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board: Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego counties
- Region 9- San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board: San Diego, Orange, Riverside counties

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND AIR QUALITY

All projects must consider greenhouse gas emission as part of the environmental review process. Nationally recognized protocols are used to estimate the total greenhouse gas emissions that will occur due to project activities. Unit projects are evaluated for air quality impacts and where appropriate, smoke management plans are completed, filed and approved with the San Diego County Air Pollution Control District.

INVASIVE SPECIES

Research has indicated some fuels treatment projects may also create opportunities for invasive species (weeds) to grow and spread. During fuels treatment planning, consideration is given to minimize invasive species from being introduced or spreading. For more information go to UC Cooperative Extension and review the Invasive Species support services at: <http://ucanr.org/sites/socalinvasives/>.

TREE MORTALITY AND FOREST PESTS

The goldspotted oak borer (GSOB) is a buprestid beetle which is native to oak forests of Southeastern Arizona. A closely related species (*Agrilus coxalis*), almost identical in appearance, is found in Central Mexico and Northern Guatemala. Since 2002, GSOB has contributed to the mortality of more than 80,000 trees over approximately 1,900 square miles, and this infested area continues to increase as the GSOB population grows and spreads. In its native range, GSOB is not a pest. This may be due to efficient population control by natural enemies and natural levels of resistance by oak species that have co-evolved with GSOB.

GSOB was first detected in San Diego County, California in 2004 by the California Department of Food and Agriculture during a survey for exotic woodborers. Four years later (2008), it was found attacking three species of

oak in the Cleveland National Forest in San Diego county: coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*), canyon live oak (*Q. chrysolepis*), and California black oak (*Q. kelloggii*).

Oak trees are classified into three categories which include white oaks, red oaks and intermediate oaks. These categories characterize three evolutionary lineages in *Quercus*, and are separated by their types of leaves, acorns, bark and wood. For example, white oaks have light grey or brown bark, while red oaks have dark grey, blackish or brown bark. White oaks also have light brown or yellowish wood while red oaks have reddish wood. Intermediate oaks are typically transitional, having intermediate qualities, or those more like either white or red oaks. GSOB seems to prefer red oaks, although it will occasionally feed on intermediate oaks, and almost never on white oaks.

Although elevated levels of oak mortality had been aerially mapped by the USDA Forest Service in the Cleveland National Forest since 2002, it was not known that GSOB was the cause of such mortality until 2008 when it was officially confirmed as the primary mortality agent. The general belief until this time was that drought was the main contributing factor to the loss of so many oaks.

In late winter 2012, attention was drawn to a new insect/pathogen complex in Southern California as a result of damage to several backyard avocado trees in residential neighborhoods and a commercial avocado grove in Los Angeles County. The insect/pathogen complex is now known to be found over a wide area including most of Los Angeles County and parts of Orange County. Smaller outbreaks are found in San Bernardino and Riverside counties. An outbreak discovered in late 2013 in San Diego County was later determined to be a second species of insect, the Kuroshio shot hole borer (California Forest Pest Council 2015). This outbreak is 60 miles from the nearest outbreak, and indications are that the presence in San Diego is the result of a separate introduction, not spread from Los Angeles.

The original disease is caused by a new, previously undescribed fungus – *Fusarium euwallacea* – that forms a symbiotic relationship with the beetle. The beetles transport the fungus; in turn, the beetle larvae live in galleries within the tree and feed on the fungus. The two beetles – the polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB) and Kuroshio shot hole borers (KSHB) – are morphologically very similar to other ambrosia beetles called the Tea Shot Hole Borer. In November 2018, scientists distinguished four species in the *Euwallacea fornicatus* species complex of ambrosia beetles from Asia. The two beetles introduced to California beetles are among these newly described species. The PSHB has been causing damage to commercial avocado orchards in Israel since 2009. The PSHB is native to Vietnam (California Forest Pest Council 2015). It has been in California since at least 2003, when it was found on some black locust.

Studies at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Huntington Library, Arts Collections, and Botanical Gardens have identified more than 200 species of tree, shrub, or vine that are attacked by the PSHB; these plants are in 58 plant families from every continent except Antarctica. More recent studies have found the beetle in more than 300 species. The *Fusarium* fungus was detected in 54% of these trees – 113 species. Among the trees attacked by the PSHB are 11 species native to southern California; 13 agriculturally important trees; and 53 species widely used in urban plantings. Analysis of a typical metropolitan area tree survey indicates that these latter constitute more than half of all trees planted in urban areas of southern California.



Vegetation management projects are intended to minimize wildland fire impacts, especially near community areas. The cost and losses from wildland fires far exceeds the cost of the vegetation management and fuels treatment projects. Nevertheless, the environmental review process provides agencies and the public with information regarding these projects to ensure the project complies with various environmental regulations.

FUELS MANAGEMENT IN THE WUI

Fires in the WUI spread through both vegetative and structural fuels. These fires can originate in either fuel type but usually begin in the wildland fuels of natural or manmade causes. At its core, the WUI fire problem is a structure ignition problem and the best approach to reducing the severity of the problem is to reduce the potential for structure ignition. The cause of the initial structure ignitions in a WUI community is predominately due to exposure to heat from flames or firebrands generated by wildfire. Once structures and residential vegetation are burning, they too have the potential to contribute significantly to continued fire spread through the WUI community.

Methods for reducing the risk of a WUI community to wildland fire can be categorized as being focused, to a first approximation, on either the wildland fuels or residential fuels. The former is typically the responsibility of land management agencies such as CAL FIRE or the U.S. Forest Service, and the latter is that of homeowners who are obligated under California Public Resource Code (PRC 4291) to reduce fuel loading within 100 feet of the habitable structure.

To address the fuel conditions throughout SRA, projects conducted under this approach are organized into the following general categories or project types:

- Wildland-Urban Interface
- Fuel Breaks
- Ecological Restoration

Projects implemented under the WUI designation take place outside of the 100 feet defensible space requirements under PRC 4291, and within the outer edge of the defined WUI area. These projects focus on directly protecting communities and assets at risk from potential damage from wildfire's originating in the adjacent wildlands as well as protecting the wildlands from fires transitioning to the wildlands from human infrastructure by modifying the fuels. Projects conducted in the designated WUI include all treatment types to achieve a reduced risk the WUI.

Projects implemented under the Fuel Break designation consist of converting the vegetation along strategically located areas for fire control. The wildland fuels in San Diego County occur largely in mountainous terrain, which adds greatly to the problem of controlling wildfires. Typical fuel break locations include ridgelines, along roads, or in other favorable topographic situations. Fuel breaks can provide safe access for quick staffing of fire control lines. Low-volume fuels, especially flammable grass, can be fired out quickly to widen a fireline under conditions where backfiring would be impossible in heavy fuels having high heat output. Aerial attack can also be used effectively in conjunction with fuel breaks to contain the lateral spread of an advancing wildfire.

Projects implemented under the Ecological Restoration designation attempt to restore the fire resiliency associated with many of the fire-adapted plant communities by renewing degraded, damaged, or destroyed ecosystems and habitats in the environment through active intervention. The conceptual basis is that for fire-adapted ecosystems, much of their ecological structure and processes are driven by fire, and the disruption of fire regimes leads to changes in plant composition and structure, uncharacteristic fire behavior and other disturbance agents (pests), altered hydrologic processes, and increased smoke production. Ecological Restoration projects occur outside of the WUI in areas that have departed from the natural fire regime.

EVACUATION CORRIDORS

SB99 and SB901 were both passed to assist in efforts to make WUI communities safer and more resilient. SB99, The Planning and Zoning Law requires the legislative body of a city or county to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan that includes various elements, including a housing element and a safety element for the protection of the community from unreasonable risks associated with the effects of various geologic and seismic hazards, flooding, and wildfires. Existing law requires the safety element to address, among other things, evacuation routes related to identified fire and geologic hazards. Existing law requires the housing element to be revised according to a specific schedule. Existing law requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years, to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element. SB 901 is a comprehensive plan of action for forest management and wildfire mitigation and suppression across the state in multiple sectors. With respect to utility infrastructure-related wildfire risks, SB 901 requires electrical corporations to submit WMPs each year.



METHODOLOGY

DESCRIPTION OF VPP PLATFORM

The Vibrant Planet Platform (the Platform) is a cloud-based decision software system used for wildfire risk mitigation planning. The platform contains a thorough assessment of San Diego County landscape and communities including vegetation structure, wildfire hazard, and risk to landscape features with societal value. This assessment tool was used to plan potential Hazardous Fuels Reduction actions to reduce wildfire risk within the landscape.

PLATFORM DATA AND SCIENCE

Synthetic CHM

The Platform utilizes a three-dimensional (3D) structure dataset to assess landscape vegetation. To create this 3D structure dataset, Vibrant Planet uses dozens of publicly available and widely used datasets including lidar and data from the USDA, National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP), LANDFIRE, USGS, and USFS.

While Lidar is one of the most powerful remote sensing datasets to gather 3D vegetation detail, it is often expensive (\$.50-\$1 per acre) and can be out of date as soon as vegetation changes – whether from disturbance events such as wildfire or from Hazardous Fuels Reductions like mechanical thinning. Because of these limitations, Vibrant Planet uses machine learning algorithms, trained on lidar, to build a Synthetic Canopy Height Model (Synthetic CHM) that supplements additional high-quality and real-time landscape assessment data. Vibrant Planet Synthetic CHM utilizes high spatial and temporal resolution imagery to identify individual trees and approximate their height, as well as other helpful metrics including wood product value, and aboveground biomass.

SARAs

In order to build a plan for landscape and community resilience or cross-boundary wildfire Hazardous Fuels Reduction, the Platform identifies and evaluates landscape features with societal value. Within the Platform these features with societal value are called Strategic Areas, Resources, and Assets (SARAs).

To be included within the Platform, all SARAs met the following criteria: They can be represented with geospatial data, they can be affected by wildfire, and they have societal value. For example: Electrical transmission lines have societal value by providing power to communities, they can be mapped on the landscape, and they can be affected by wildfire. This deployment of the Platform includes a comprehensive set of SARAs. They include:

Assets:	Safety:	Water
Above Ground Water Delivery	CAL FIRE Subdivision Review*	High Erosion Potential
Energy Facilities	CAL FIRE WUI**	Lakes
Structure Transmission Zone	Communication Infrastructure	Perennial Rivers and Streams
Structures	Critical Access Roads	Public Water Supply
Transmission Lines	Emergency Service Facilities	Sediment Catchments for Water Supplies
Water facilities		

***Subdivision review** identifies neighborhoods with 30 or more homes that have only one road in and out, used to assess and reduce evacuation risks during wildfires.

****Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI)** refers to areas where neighborhoods or subdivisions directly border wildland vegetation; while Intermix represents housing developments interspersed in an area dominated by wildland vegetation that is susceptible to wildfire.

SARA DATA SOURCES

To support analysis, planning, and the development of Strategic Project Areas, Vibrant Planet integrates data curated from local, state, and federal sources. These datasets include vegetation, topography, climate, infrastructure, wildfire history, and ecological/cultural assets—providing a comprehensive foundation for analysis. This curated data enables more accurate identification of hazards, strategic planning of fuel reduction projects, and alignment with statewide fire resiliency goals. For more information or a list of data sources, please contact CAL FIRE San Diego's Community Risk Reduction staff.

LAND OWNERSHIP

Within the Platform, land ownership is broken into classifications of federal, state or local government managed lands as well as private lands. Ownership data for public lands is sourced from the Protected Areas Database of the United States or PAD-US (U.S. Geological Survey Gap Analysis Project (GAP), 2022).

Recognizing ownership patterns is critical because wildfire risk does not respect jurisdictional boundaries. Federal lands, local government properties, and privately owned parcels often abut state responsibility areas (SRA), creating mutual threat zones where wildfire hazards can impact multiple ownerships simultaneously. By using the Platform to evaluate hazards across these boundaries, the Unit and its partners can prioritize projects that provide shared benefits—reducing fuels, improving landscape resilience, and enhancing community protection on both sides of ownership lines. Collaborative identification and treatment of these mutual threat areas is essential to creating a wildfire resilient region.

WILDFIRE HAZARD

To calculate wildfire hazard, Vibrant Planet models both burn probability and fire intensity. These models are conducted by Pyrologix, a Vibrant Planet company. Areas with the highest wildfire hazard generally contain the greatest combination of burn probability and fire intensity.

- Burn probability: The probability that a geographic location (30-m pixel) will experience a wildland fire within a given timeframe. Modeled using FSim, which simulates the growth and behavior of hundreds of thousands of large fire events, based on historical fire occurrences, weather, terrain, and fuel.
- Fire intensity: The flame length that a given pixel is likely to experience during a wildfire event. This calculation uses the wildEST model developed by Pyrologix which performs 200+ simulations and uses local fuel, weather, and topography to generate estimates of contemporary flame lengths within a given pixel

OPPORTUNITY TO REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK

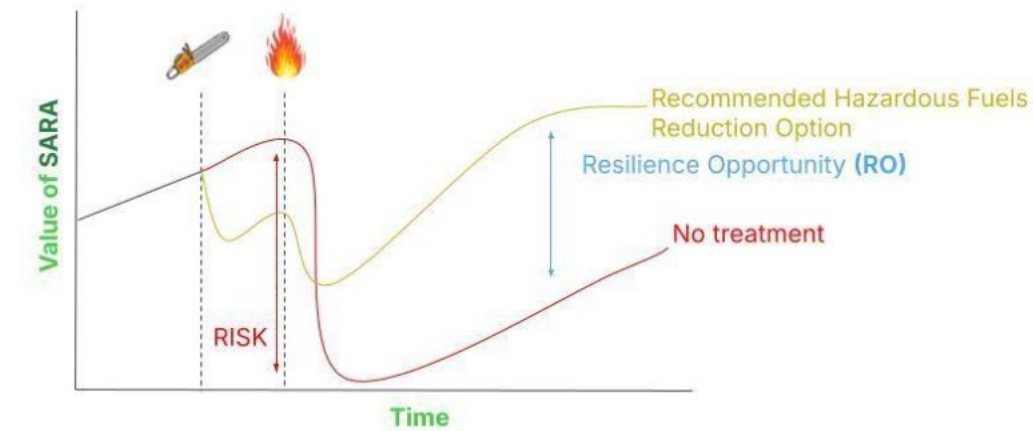
Within the Platform, Vibrant Planet calculates a unique Risk Reduction Opportunity (RO) score for specific geographic locations known as management units. Each management unit may contain multiple SARAs, and each landscape is made up of thousands of management units.

To calculate the RO score, each SARA in a management unit is exposed to the modeled wildfire hazard to determine potential loss in value due to wildfire, also known as risk. The Platform then analyzes all Hazardous Fuels Reduction options to reduce the risk and determines a single 'recommended' Hazardous Fuels Reduction option that reduces the most risk to the SARA. See the diagrams and further explanation below.

Risk



Risk Reduction Opportunity (RO)



The graph at the top shows the loss in value of a SARA following a wildfire (risk). The graph on the bottom shows the difference in SARA value following a wildfire with no Hazardous Fuels Reduction vs. the value following a Hazardous Fuels Reduction action by implementing the 'recommended' Hazardous Fuels Reduction option selected by the platform. The difference in SARA value between no action/post modeled wildfire and post-implementation action/post modeled wildfire is RO.

Vibrant Planet calculates RO for each SARA in a management unit and when multiple SARAs/Objectives are present in a management unit, their scores are combined.

UNIT FIRE PLAN METHODOLOGY

Using the Platform, CAL FIRE San Diego staff conducted a thorough analysis of wildfire hazard, risk to community and landscape values such as homes, critical access roads, and WUI areas, as well as the feasibility of potential Hazardous Fuels Reductions. This analysis was used to develop strategic project areas across San Diego County (the Unit).

The Strategic Planning Areas represent the areas within the Unit that have a combination of:

- The greatest risk to emphasized values
- The greatest risk reduction opportunity (RO) if/when adjacent hazardous fuels are reduced

PLANNING AT THE DIVISION LEVEL

To account for ecological and sociological variation across the unit, Strategic Planning Areas were identified within six Divisions - North, Northeast, Northwest, Central, Southeast, and Southwest. Planning at the Division level enabled Unit staff to plan within locations containing similar wildfire hazard and a similar distribution of values at risk.

VALUE-AT-RISK EMPHASIS

Within each Division, Strategic Planning Areas were designed to protect lives, property, and their associated values-at-risk, also known as Strategic Areas, Resources, and Assets (SARAS). Key SARAs that were emphasized for wildfire risk reduction included:

- Structures and wildfire transmission zones to structures
- Critical Access Routes
- Public Utilities
- Firefighter Operational Space within the Wildland Urban Interface & Intermix
- Subdivision Review Index areas
- Emergency Facilities and Communication Infrastructure

Specific risk-reduction emphasis also differed within certain geographic areas within each Division such as:

- WUI Interface
- WUI Intermix and Subdivision Review Index
- All remaining areas within each Division

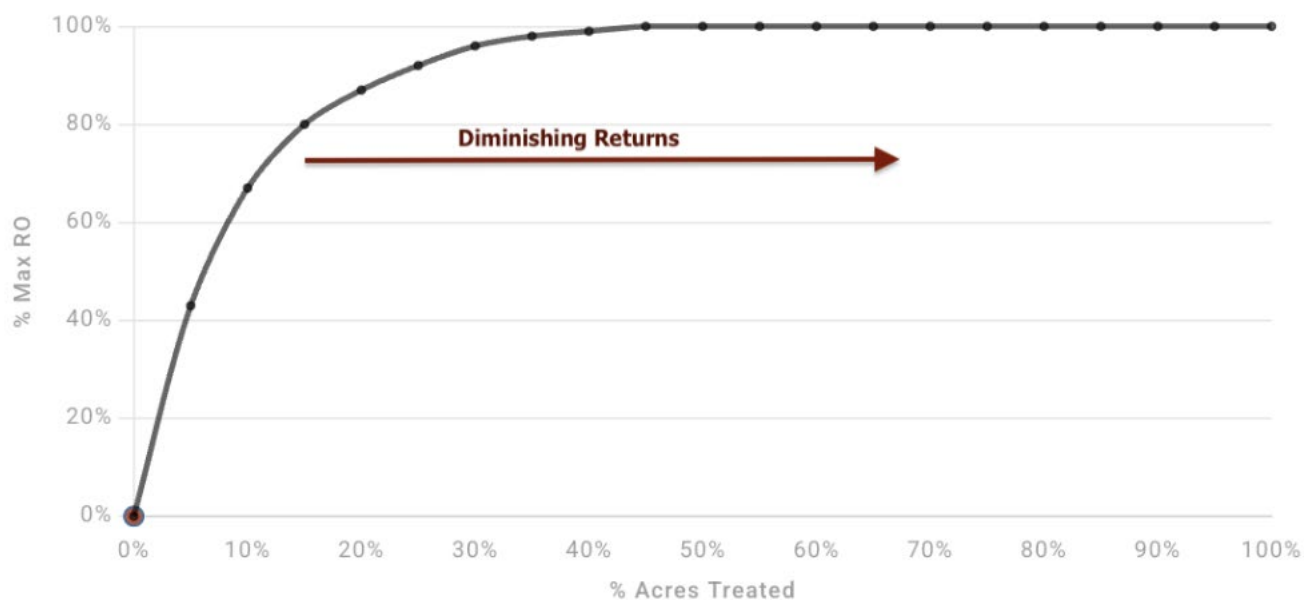
Hazardous Fuels Reduction goals vary by geographic area. In WUI Interface, potential Hazardous Fuels Reduction actions focus on preventing fire spread to structures and initiation of urban conflagration, while in WUI Intermix, potential Hazardous Fuels Reduction actions may focus more heavily on maintaining safe operational space for firefighters.

To address these unique emphasis opportunities, SARAs within the Vibrant Planet Platform are grouped into categories such as assets (e.g. structures and utilities) and safety (e.g. critical access roads or WUI defense zones). Each category was assigned an emphasis weighting 0–5, with 5 being highest. The following emphasis weights were used in all Divisions:

- WUI Interface - Assets: 5; Safety: 3
- WUI Intermix and Subdivision Review Index - Assets: 3; Safety: 5
- Remaining Areas - Assets: 1; Safety: 2

HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION TARGETS

Risk reduction opportunity (RO) is not evenly distributed across the landscape. SARAs tend to be clustered in certain areas (e.g. around communities), meaning some locations face disproportionately higher risk. Treating the top 10% of the most at-risk areas on the landscape will generally be more efficient in reducing landscape-wide risk than the next 10% of areas and so on (see graph below).



The Strategic Planning Areas identified within the Unit are designed to maximize risk reduction efficiency while also acknowledging limited resources for hazardous fuels reduction fuels. In total, Strategic Planning Areas cover about 6% of the County's SRA acreage but represent 25% risk reduction for assets and 53% for safety resources.

MAPPING DIVISION STRATEGIC PLANNING AREAS

Three sets of Strategic Planning Areas were created for each division based on the value-at-risk emphasis and Hazardous Fuels Reduction targets described above:

- WUI Interface
- WUI Intermix & Subdivision Review Index areas
- Remaining Areas

Using the RO efficiency graph above, the Strategic Planning Areas targeted:

- 50% RO in WUI Interface
- 50% RO in WUI Intermix and Subdivision Review Index areas
- 25% RO in Remaining Areas

Risk distribution varies within each division, so the resulting RO and acres treated per division also varies. See Division Assessment Tables for Division statistics.

INTENDED USE OF STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

LEVERAGING VIBRANT PLANET FOR STRATEGIC PROJECT PLANNING AND EVALUATION

The Vibrant Planet platform is utilized by CAL FIRE SDU to assess and optimize Strategic Project Areas through the simulation of treatment options, cost estimation, and evaluation of diverse fuel reduction approaches. This tool facilitates sophisticated planning across large landscapes, enabling the analysis of project outcomes based on risk mitigation, community safety, ecological advantages, and practical implementation. Professional employees conduct ground truthing to validate project plans, ensuring accuracy and alignment with on-site conditions. Additionally, Vibrant Planet serves as a structured evaluation tool for external partners and grant applicants, ensuring their proposed initiatives align with CAL FIRE SDU's strategic objectives and planning frameworks, thereby directing resources to the most effective projects that advance the unit's wildfire resilience priorities.

NORTH DIVISION

Fire behavior can be extreme and fast-moving, particularly during Santa Ana conditions, with rapid spread, spotting, crowning in timber, and potential for plume-dominated fire activity even without wind. Initial attack fires may quickly impact structures; and returning onshore winds after Santa Ana events have historically led to significant structural loss and firefighter fatalities. These conditions demand rapid response, strategic planning, and strong interagency coordination.

North Division Strategic Project Areas

This map displays the North Division of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, highlighting strategic project areas in red. The division's boundary is shown as a black outline. Strategic project areas are marked with red shading, including locations such as Rainbow, Agua Tibia Mountain (4342 ft), Pala, Palomar Mountain, Santa Ysabel, and the San Marcos area. The map also shows major roads like Highway 12, Highway 56, and Highway 94, as well as various geographical features like the Chihuahuan Valley, Palmar Valley, and the Santa Ysabel Mountains. A scale bar indicates distances up to 10 miles, and a north arrow is present in the bottom left corner. Logos for CAL FIRE and San Diego County are in the bottom right corner.

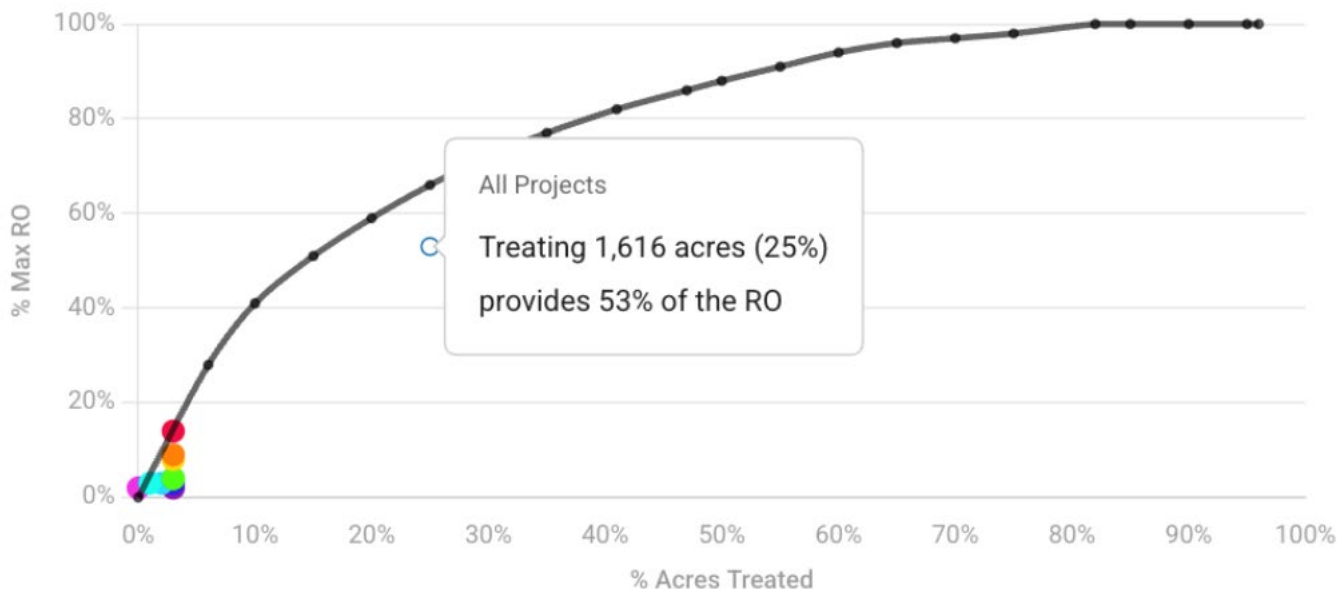
The North Division Assessment goals are to reduce the greatest amount of risk to Safety and Asset values-at-risk (see ‘Values-at-Risk’ discussion above) with the most efficient hazardous fuel reduction actions (see ‘Hazardous Fuels Reduction Targets’ and ‘Mapping Division Strategic Project Areas’ discussion above). The table below summarizes the North Division Assessment.

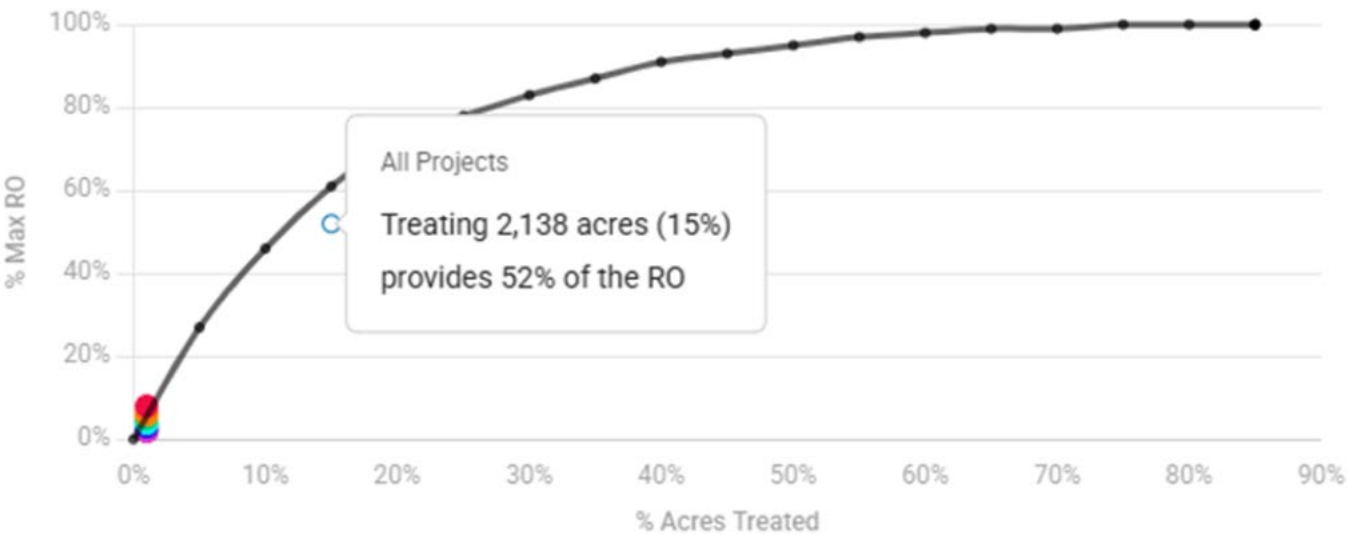
Area of Assessment	Total Acres	Assessment Acres	Strategic Project Areas	% of Assessment Area	Predicted Risk Reduction
WUI Interface	6,625	6,474	1,616	25%	53%
WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	14,645	14,542	2,138	15%	52%
Remaining Areas	85,160	85,044	7,089	8%	25%
			Total Proposed Project Areas		10,843 acres

RISK REDUCTION EFFICIENCY GRAPHS

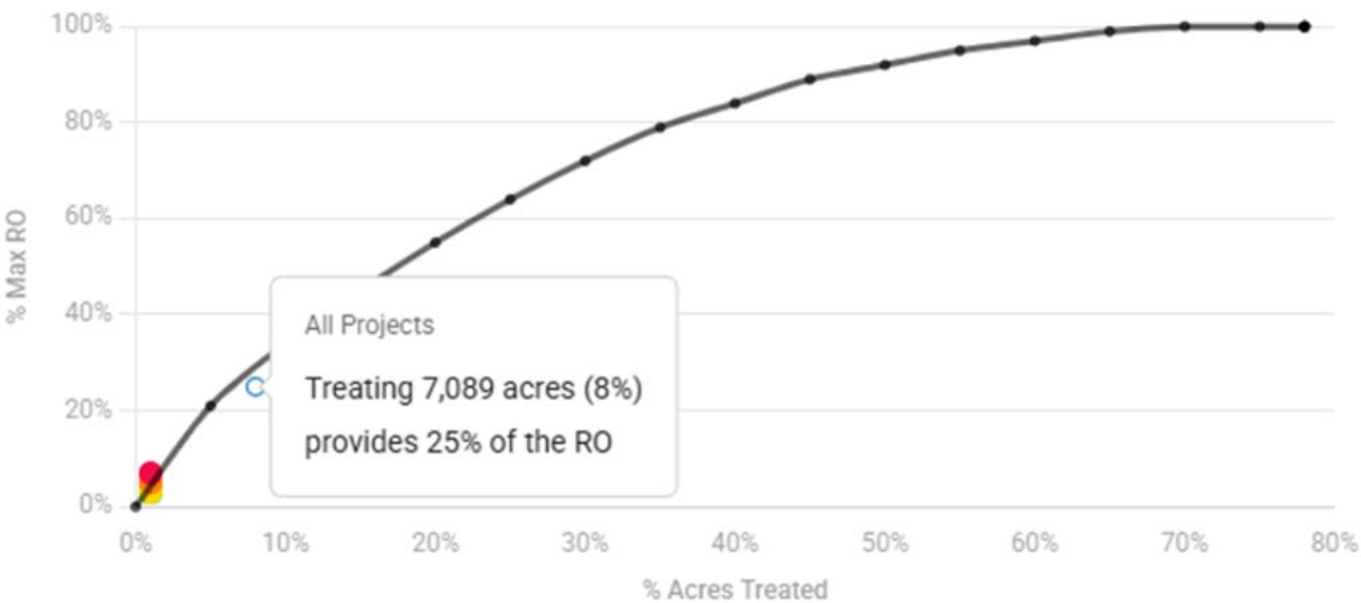
As discussed in Hazardous Fuels Reduction Targets (above), Risk Reduction Opportunity (RO) is not evenly distributed across the landscape. SARAs tend to be clustered in certain areas (e.g. around communities), meaning some locations face disproportionately higher risk. The strategic project areas identified within the North Division are designed to maximize risk reduction efficiency while also acknowledging limited resources for hazardous fuels reduction. The graphics below demonstrate the efficiency of hazardous fuel reductions within each assessment.

WUI Interface





Remaining Areas



LAND OWNERSHIP TABLE

The table below summarizes land ownership across the North Division’s Strategic Project Areas.

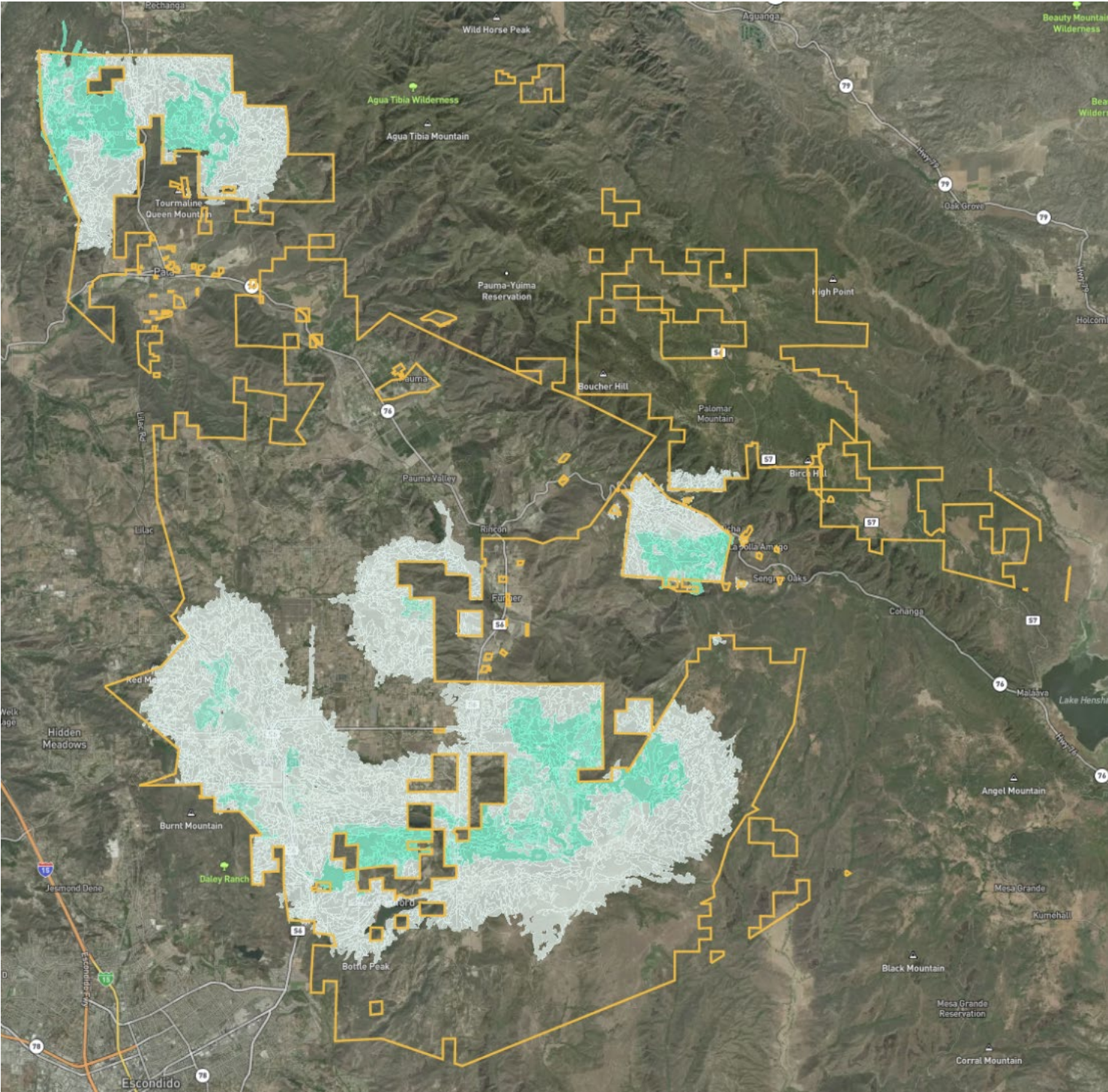
Ownership Type	Total Acres in WUI Interface	Total Acres in WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	Total Acres in Remaining Areas
Private Landowners	1,594 acres	1,852 acres	5,485 acres
Bureau of Land Management	-	-	4 acres
Native American Lands	-	-	62 acres
Local Government	22 acres	286 acres	1,538 acres

PREDICTED HAZARD REDUCTION FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

If implemented, the Strategic Project Areas outlined in the WUI Interface, WUI Intermix, and Remaining Areas Assessments would reduce wildfire hazard across the landscape, especially within the Strategic Project Areas. The Table below summarizes this reduction.

Metric	Outcome Scale	% Change
Total Wildfire Hazard Wildfire hazard is a combination of how likely an area is to burn and the intensity at which it burns. High hazard may reflect frequent fire, high flame lengths, or a combination of the two.	Change to Strategic Project Area	-74%
	Change to Division SRA	-13%

The map below visually represents the geographic change in wildfire hazard to both the Strategic Project Areas (turquoise color) and the influence outside of Strategic Project Areas (grey color).



ADDITIONAL PREDICTED OUTCOMES FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

The following table summarizes the estimated change in hazard, and risk to value, across the North Division if/when the recommended hazardous fuel reduction actions are implemented. These predicted outcomes include the combination WUI Interface, WUI Intermix, and Remaining Areas Strategic Project Areas.

Metric	Area of Assessment	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment	% Change
Acres of WUI with Extreme Fire Behavior <i>Flame lengths >11' are considered extreme fire behavior and basically prevent most fire suppression efforts during a fire event.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	245 acres	8 acres	-97%
	Change to Division SRA	2,289 acres	2,053 acres	-10%
The reduction in flame lengths –of the most extreme class– creates more opportunities for fire suppression activities during a wildfire incident.				
Number of Highly Exposed Structures <i>Hazardous fuel reduction efforts can shift structures from high exposure to lower exposure. Significantly reducing wildfire exposure to those structures could avoid as much as \$134 million in losses, based on an average rebuild cost of \$300/sq ft and an average structure size of 1,500 sq ft.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	1,505	612	-59%
	Change to Division SRA	6,312	5,419	-14%
Reducing wildfire exposure to structures, with adjacent hazardous fuel reduction, is a crucial step in reducing the wildfire risk to structures.				
Rate of Spread <i>Spread rate indicates how quickly a wildfire will grow.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	0.967 mph	0.180 mph	-81%
	Change to Division SRA	0.597 mph	0.517 mph	-13%
A reduction in spread rate often increases fire suppression opportunities and corresponds to lower intensities and less wildfire risk.				
Source Acres of Ember Load to Buildings <i>Structures can be exposed to fires by embers from nearby wildland vegetation.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	5,711 acres	3,861 acres	-32%
	Change to Division SRA	45,578 acres	43,728 acres	-4%
A reduction in the source of embers to nearby structures corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk to structures.				
Expected Acres Burned within 10 Years <i>This metric indicates how many acres are expected to burn within 10 years.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	2,690 acres	2,642 acres	-2%*
	Change to Division SRA	19,249 acres	19,153 acres	0%*
Reducing the probability of a wildfire directly corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk.				

*The change in future burn probability is modeled conservatively in areas with the potential for high concentrations of fine fuels (such as grass and shrubs). Limited change in future modeled burn probability is due to variability of treatment effectiveness, vegetation regrowth rates, and other factors. Hazardous fuels reduction actions will likely have a substantial impact on future modeled wildfire intensity and thus can still substantially lower overall wildfire hazard.

NORTHEAST DIVISION

The Northeast Division spans the northeastern corner of San Diego County and includes Battalion 5, Battalion 6, and the Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp, covering over 828,000 acres. The division features a wide range of elevations from desert floor to mountain peaks creating diverse fuel types, complex fire behavior, and access challenges.

Battalion 5 lies along the transition from desert to mountain terrain and includes three State-funded and three County-funded fire stations. Vegetation ranges from grasslands at lower elevations to pine, oak, and heavy chaparral in the mountains, much of it drought stressed. The area includes part of the San Diego River wildfire corridor, and under Santa Ana wind conditions, fires can exhibit explosive growth, spotting, and plume-dominated behavior, posing immediate threats to structures.

Battalion 6 encompasses a vast and rugged landscape from Warner Springs to Imperial County, supported by three County-funded stations. Fuels include desert scrub, cactus, dry grasses, and patches of chaparral and palm, making the area highly flammable under hot, dry, and windy conditions. Steep slopes and limited road access complicate firefighting efforts and increase response time in remote areas.

The Puerta La Cruz Conservation Camp, staffed by female inmate hand crews, supports both emergency response and fuel reduction projects across the division. These crews are a critical workforce, contributing over 200 crew days annually to pre-fire work, often in coordination with Fire Safe Councils and funded through the SRA Fire Protection Fund. Their efforts help implement high-priority projects identified in Community Wildfire Protection Plans and reduce risk in vulnerable communities

NORTHEAST DIVISION STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS



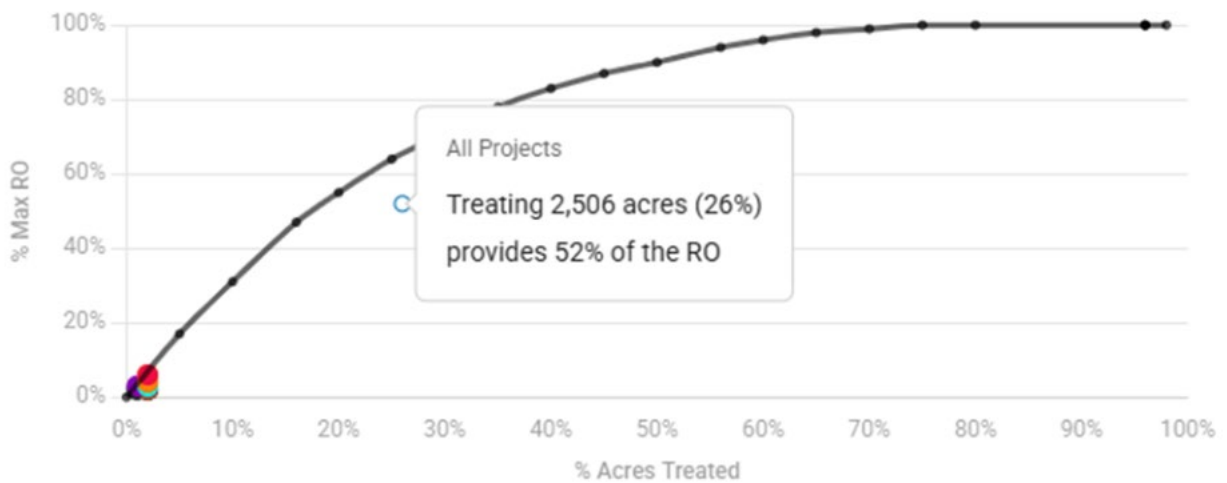
ASSESSMENT TABLE

Area of Assessment	Total Acres	Assessment Acres	Strategic Project Areas	% of Assessment Area	Predicted Risk Reduction
WUI Interface*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	8,172	9,669	2,506	26%	52%
Remaining Areas	420,489	419,080	13,462	3%	22%
			Total Proposed Project Areas		15,968

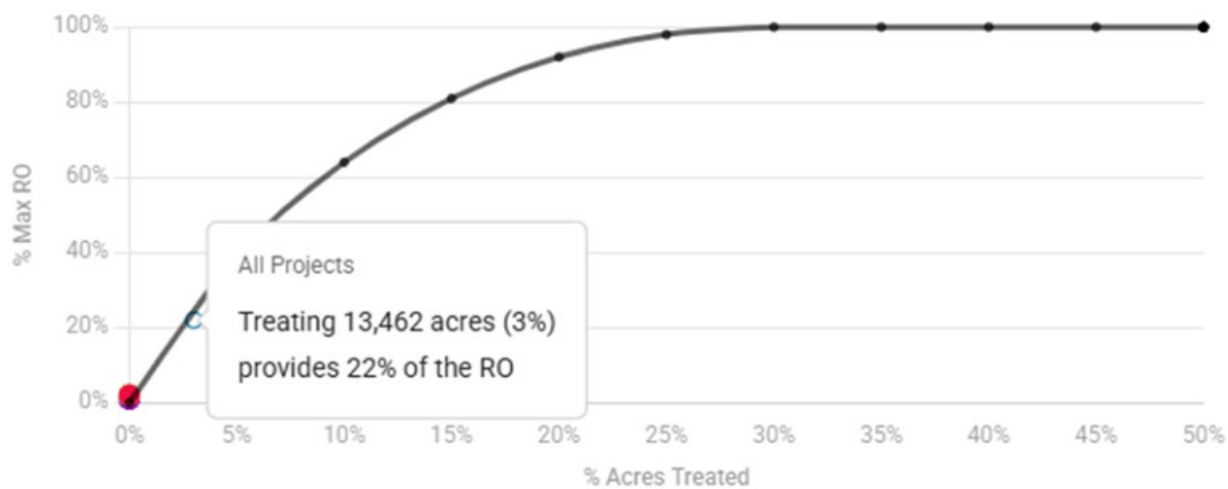
*Assessment area was too small to conduct analysis

RISK REDUCTION EFFICIENCY GRAPHS

WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review



Remaining Areas



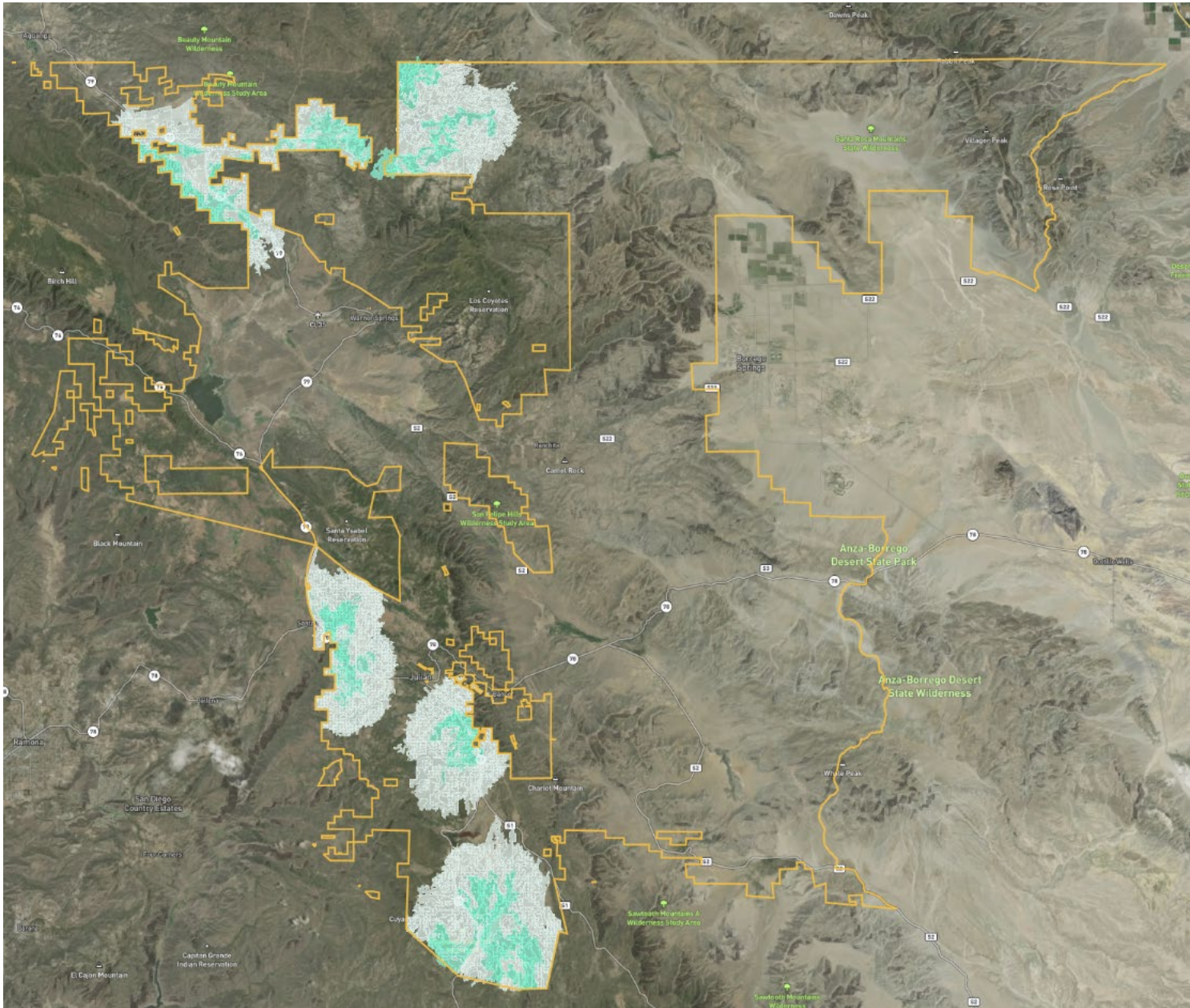
LAND OWNERSHIP TABLE

Ownership Type	Total Acres in WUI Interface	Total Acres in WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	Total Acres in Remaining Areas
Private Landowners	-	2,444 acres	4,319 acres
Bureau of Land Management	-	-	613 acres
US Forest Service			3 acres
State Parks and Recreation	-	-	7,305 acres
Local Government	-	62 acres	1,220 acres
Non-Governmental Organization	-	-	2 acres

PREDICTED HAZARD REDUCTION FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Outcome Scale	% Change
Total Wildfire Hazard <i>Wildfire hazard is a combination of how likely an area is to burn and the intensity at which it burns. High hazard may reflect frequent fire, high flame lengths, or a combination of the two.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	-77%
	Change to Division SRA	-9%

The map below visually represents the geographic change in wildfire hazard to both the Strategic Project Areas (turquoise color) and the influence outside of Strategic Project Areas (grey color).



ADDITIONAL PREDICTED OUTCOMES FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

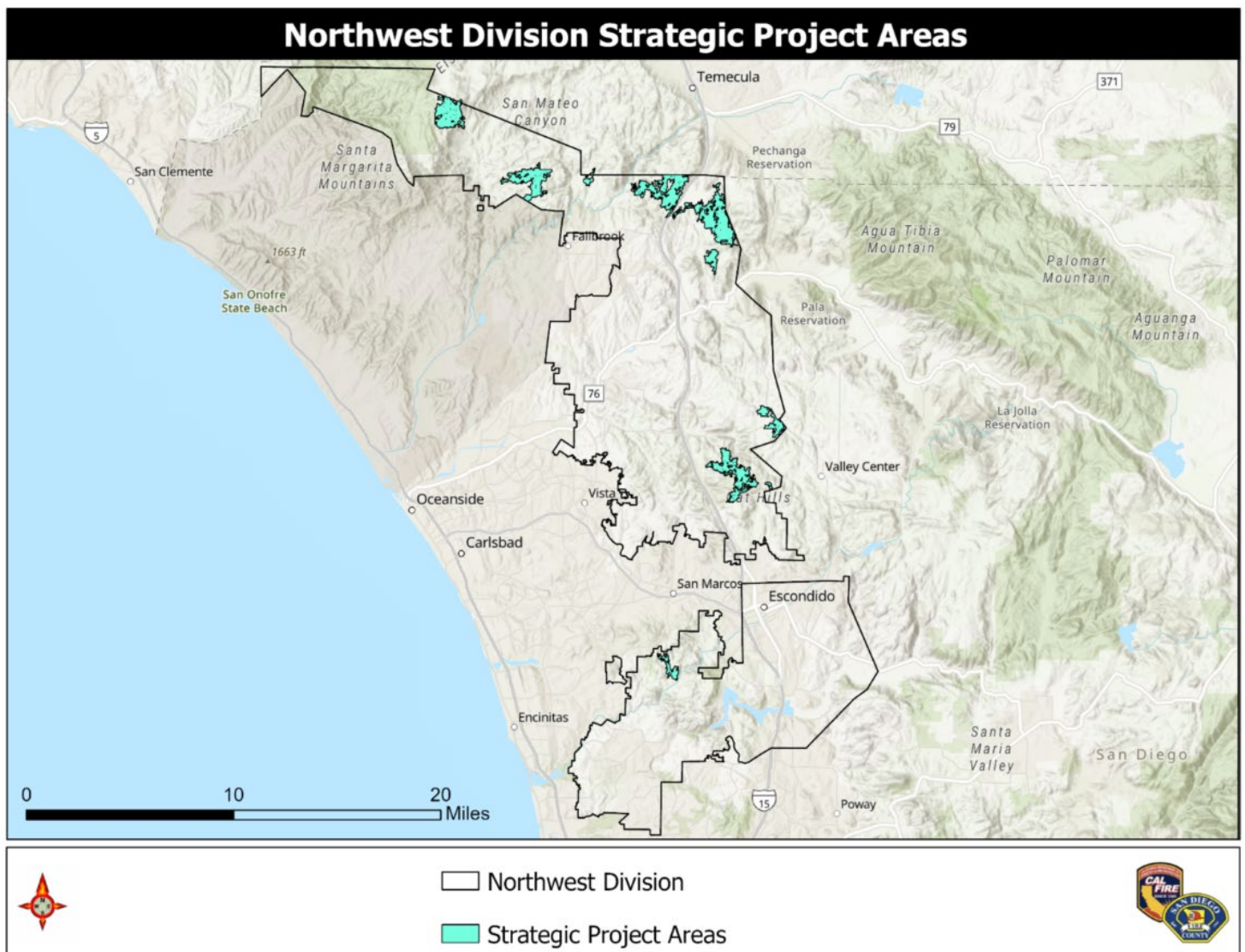
Metric	Area of Assessment	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment	% Change
Acres of WUI with Extreme Fire Behavior <i>Flame lengths >11' are considered extreme fire behavior and basically prevent most fire suppression efforts during a fire event.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	198 acres	2 acres	-99%
	Change to Division SRA	1,041 acres	845 acres	-19%
The reduction in flame lengths –of the most extreme class– creates more opportunities for fire suppression activities during a wildfire incident.				
Number of Highly Exposed Structures <i>Hazardous fuel reduction efforts can shift structures from high exposure to lower exposure. Significantly reducing wildfire exposure to those structures could avoid as much as \$91 million in losses, based on an average rebuild cost of \$300/sq ft and an average structure size of 1,500 sq ft.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	719	229	-68%
	Change to Division SRA	5,727	5,233	-9%
Reducing wildfire exposure to structures, with adjacent hazardous fuel reduction, is a crucial step in reducing the wildfire risk to structures.				
Rate of Spread <i>Spread rate indicates how quickly a wildfire will grow.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	0.882 mph	0.136 mph	-85%
	Change to Division SRA	0.484 mph	0.456 mph	-6%
A reduction in spread rate often increases fire suppression opportunities and corresponds to lower intensities and less wildfire risk.				
Source Acres of Ember Load to Buildings <i>Structures can be exposed to fires by embers from nearby wildland vegetation.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	5,555 acres	2,992 acres	-46%
	Change to Division SRA	48,855 acres	46,292 acres	-5%
A reduction in the source of embers to nearby structures corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk to structures.				
Expected Acres Burned within 10 Years <i>This metric indicates how many acres are expected to burn within 10 years.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	6,222 acres	6,130 acres	-1%
	Change to Division SRA	64,159 acres	63,950 acres	> -1%
Reducing the probability of a wildfire directly corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk.				

NORTHWEST DIVISION

The Northwest Division covers the northwestern portion of San Diego County and includes Battalion 1, encompassing approximately 186,832 acres (292 square miles). Fire protection in this area is provided by four State-funded fire stations, three Cooperative Agreement stations supported by the Deer Springs Fire Protection District, and the Rainbow Fire Center. The Rainbow Fire Center is a newly renovated facility that houses CAL FIRE Firefighter I hand crews who are assigned to provide both frontline fire response and fire prevention work throughout San Diego County and surrounding areas. The division is bordered by Fallbrook, Vista, San Marcos, and Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base to the west; Riverside County to the north; the Pala Indian Reservation, Valley Center, and the Cleveland National Forest (Palomar District) to the east; and the City of Poway to the south. This region includes a diverse mix of wildland-urban interface communities, tribal lands, and natural open spaces, requiring coordinated planning and multi-agency emergency response.

Vegetation across the division varies widely and includes heavy mixed chaparral intermixed with grass-oak woodlands, annual grasslands, and areas of dense riparian growth along drainages and creek bottoms.

Fire behavior in this region can be extreme. Fires may spread rapidly, produce long-range spotting, and generate high energy outputs, especially under wind-driven conditions. Structural loss is a serious risk, with homes interspersed throughout complex topography that influences extreme wildfire behavior. Approximately 10% of homes in the area still have wood-shingled roofs or siding, increasing their vulnerability during wildfire events. These conditions demand a high level of preparedness, mitigation, and interagency coordination to effectively protect life, property, and natural resources.

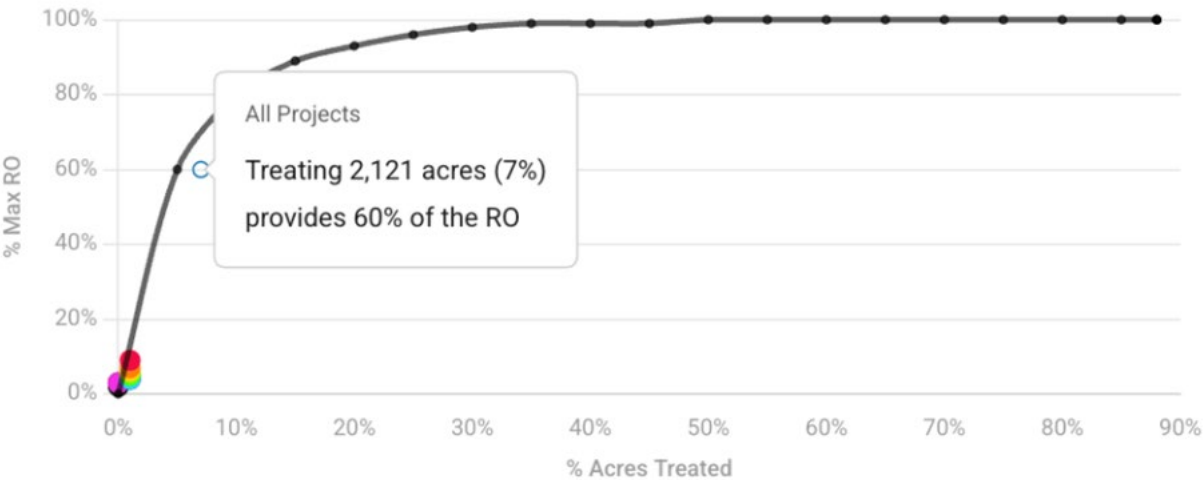


NORTHWEST DIVISION STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS
ASSESSMENT TABLE

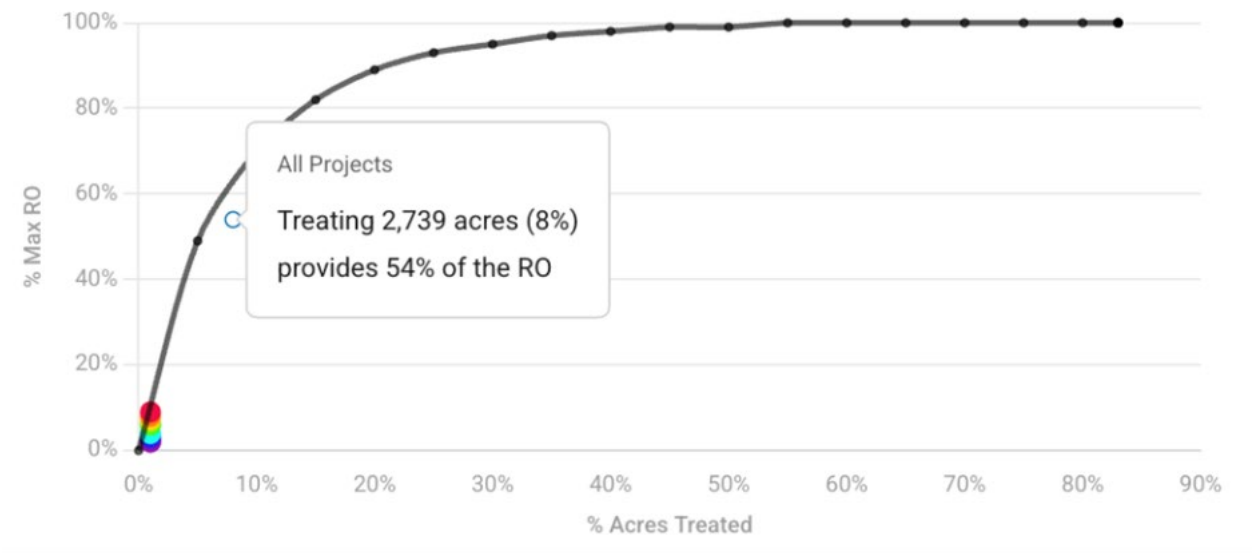
Area of Assessment	Total Acres	Assessment Acres	Strategic Project Areas	% of Assessment Area	Predicted Risk Reduction
WUI Interface	29,500	28,857	2,121	7%	60%
WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	34,353	35,247	2,739	8%	54%
Remaining Areas	83,558	81,539	2,386	3%	20%
			Total Proposed Project Areas		7,246

RISK REDUCTION EFFICIENCY GRAPHS

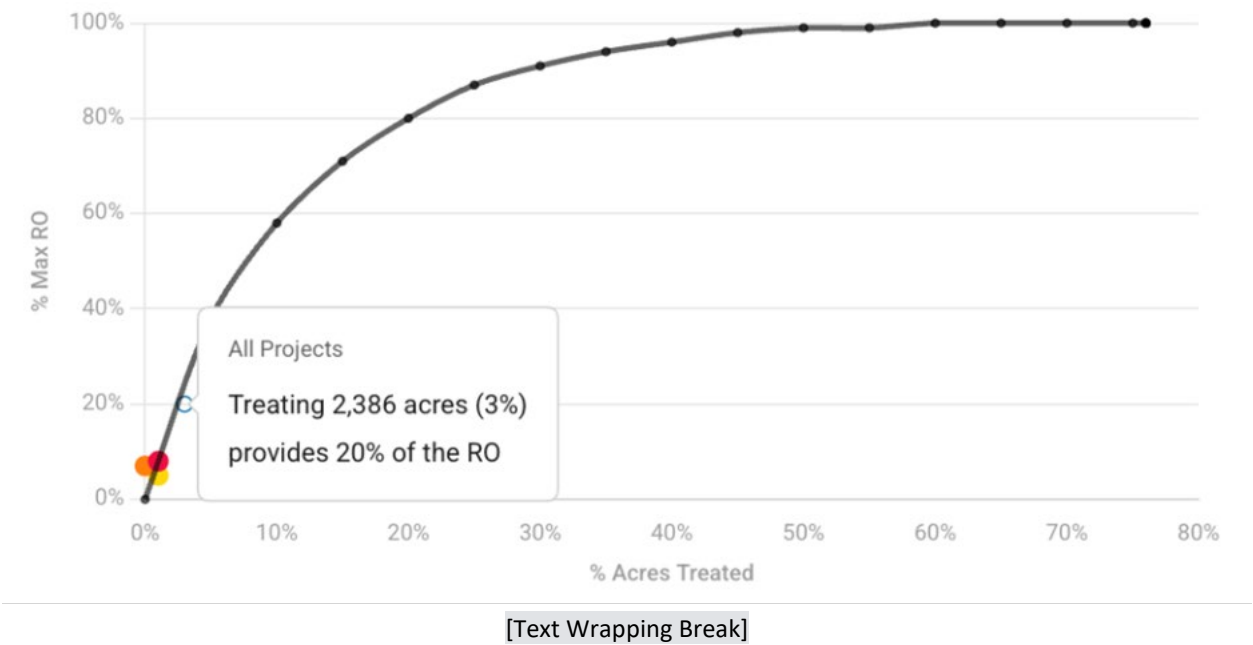
WUI Interface



WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review



Remaining Areas



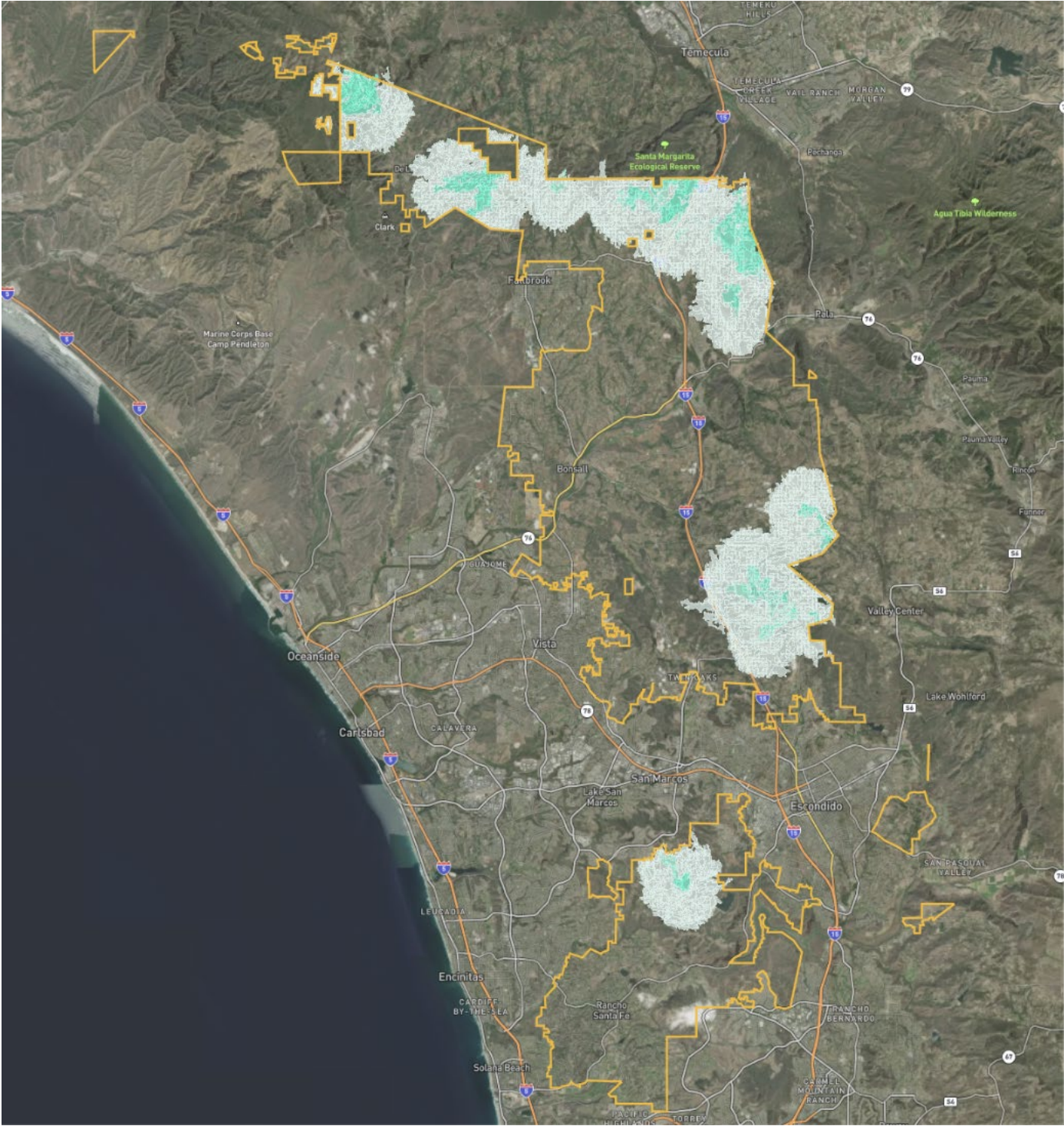
LAND OWNERSHIP TABLE

Ownership Type	Total Acres in WUI Interface	Total Acres in WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	Total Acres in Remaining Areas
Private Landowners	1,936 acres	2,692 acres	2,386 acres
Federal Land	-	-	-
State Land	-	-	-
Local Government	69 acres	47 acres	-
Non-Governmental Organization	4 acres	-	-

PREDICTED HAZARD REDUCTION FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Outcome Scale	% Change
Total Wildfire Hazard <i>Wildfire hazard is a combination of how likely an area is to burn and the intensity at which it burns. High hazard may reflect frequent fire, high flame lengths, or a combination of the two.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	-72%
	Change to Division SRA	-13%

The map below visually represents the geographic change in wildfire hazard to both the Strategic Project Areas (turquoise color) and the influence outside of Strategic Project Areas (grey color).



ADDITIONAL PREDICTED OUTCOMES FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Area of Assessment	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment	% Change
Acres of WUI with Extreme Fire Behavior <i>Flame lengths >11' are considered extreme fire behavior and basically prevent most fire suppression efforts during a fire event.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	202 acres	4 acres	-98%
	Change to Division SRA	1,285 acres	1,087 acres	-15%
The reduction in flame lengths –of the most extreme class– creates more opportunities for fire suppression activities during a wildfire incident.				
Number of Highly Exposed Structures <i>Hazardous fuel reduction efforts can shift structures from high exposure to lower exposure. Significantly reducing wildfire exposure to those structures could avoid as much as \$120 million in losses, based on an average rebuild cost of \$300/sq ft and an average structure size of 1,500 sq ft.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	1,095	17	-98%
	Change to Division SRA	3,770	2,681	-29%
Reducing wildfire exposure to structures, with adjacent hazardous fuel reduction, is a crucial step in reducing the wildfire risk to structures.				
Rate of Spread <i>Spread rate indicates how quickly a wildfire will grow.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	0.554 mph	0.066 mph	-81%
	Change to Division SRA	0.269 mph	0.247 mph	-8%
A reduction in spread rate often increases fire suppression opportunities and corresponds to lower intensities and less wildfire risk.				
Source Acres of Ember Load to Buildings <i>Structures can be exposed to fires by embers from nearby wildland vegetation.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	4,828 acres	3,350 acres	-31%
	Change to Division SRA	81,059 acres	79,582 acres	-2%
A reduction in the source of embers to nearby structures corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk to structures.				
Expected Acres Burned within 10 Years <i>This metric indicates how many acres are expected to burn within 10 years.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	1,166 acres	1,139 acres	-2%
	Change to Division SRA	9,708 acres	9,629 acres	-1%
Reducing the probability of a wildfire directly corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk.				

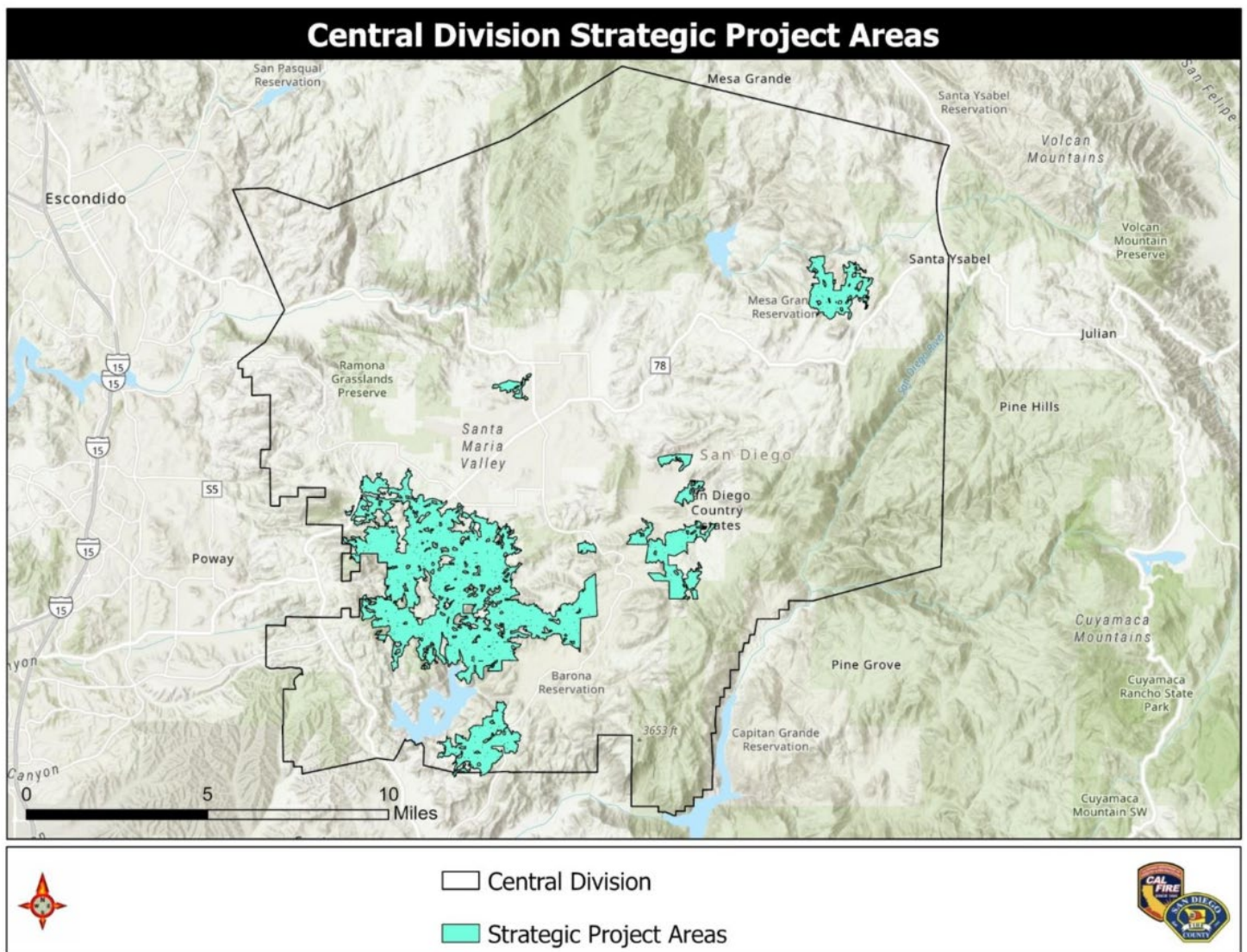
CENTRAL DIVISION

The Central Division, located in the heart of San Diego County, includes Battalion 8, covering approximately 187,920 acres (294 square miles). It is bordered by Julian and the Cuyamaca Mountains to the east, the Barona Reservation and Lakeside to the south, Escondido, San Diego, and Poway to the west, and the Cleveland National Forest to the north. Fire protection is provided by two State-funded and four County-funded fire stations.

Fuels in the division include moderate chaparral, coastal sage scrub, annual grasses, and patches of oak woodlands. A significant portion of these oaks are dead or dying from insect infestations, predominately the Gold Spotted Oak Borer. Drought conditions have slowed vegetation recovery in areas previously burned by the 2003 Cedar Fire and 2007 wildfires, leaving fuels dry and volatile.

The San Diego River Canyon is a well-known fire corridor, especially during Santa Ana wind events, which align with canyon topography and drive rapid fire spread. Fires here often exhibit long flame lengths, high energy output, and long-range spotting. Communities like Ramona remain at high risk, as seen during the 2003 Cedar Fire, which caused widespread structure loss.

CENTRAL DIVISION STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

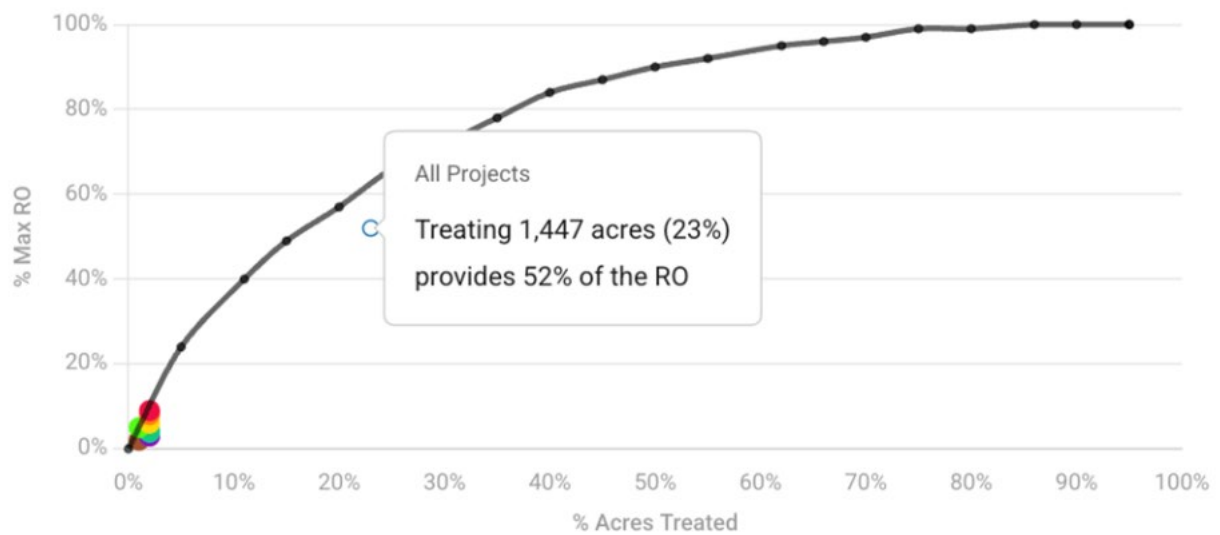


ASSESSMENT TABLE

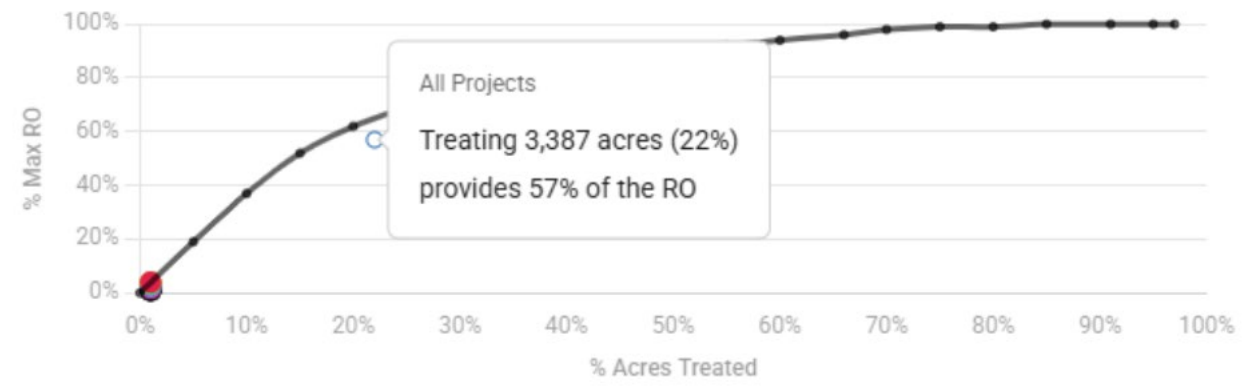
Area of Assessment	Total Acres	Assessment Acres	Strategic Project Areas	% of Assessment Area	Predicted Risk Reduction
WUI Interface	6,820	6,213	1,447	23%	52%
WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	14,307	15,128	3,387	22%	57%
Remaining Areas	102,193	99,433	9,420	9%	25%
			Total Proposed Project Areas		14,254

RISK REDUCTION EFFICIENCY GRAPHS

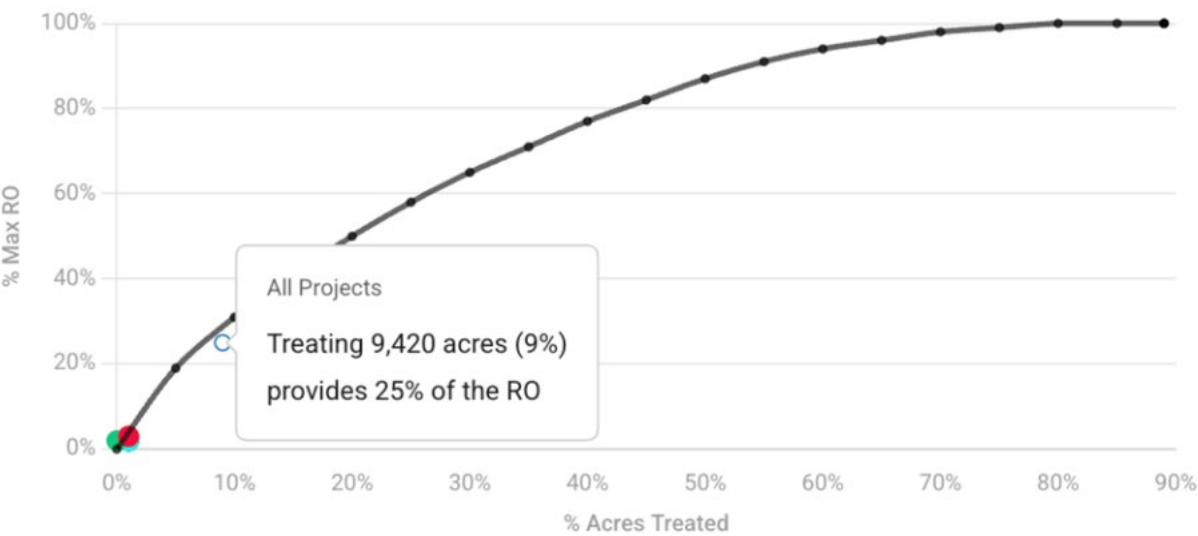
WUI Interface



WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review



Remaining Areas



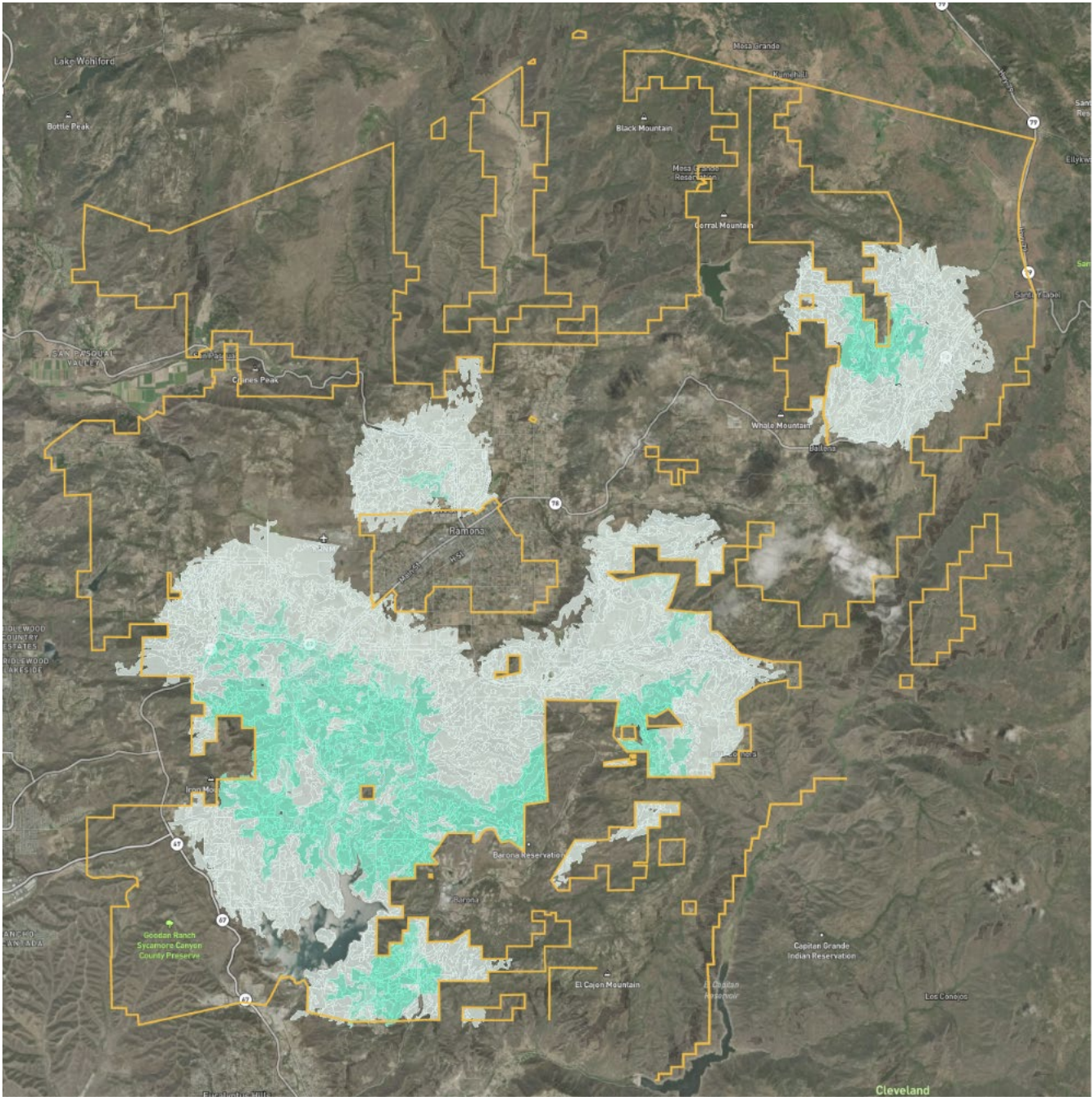
LAND OWNERSHIP TABLE

Ownership Type	Total Acres in WUI Interface	Total Acres in WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	Total Acres in Remaining Areas
Private Landowners	1,539 acres	2,871 acres	4,464 acres
Native American Lands	-	-	6 acres
State Fish and Wildlife	-	40 acres	2,866 acres
Local Government	3 acres	476 Acres	2,037 acres
Non-Governmental Organization	-	-	47 acres

PREDICTED HAZARD REDUCTION FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Outcome Scale	% Change
Total Wildfire Hazard <i>Wildfire hazard is a combination of how likely an area is to burn and the intensity at which it burns. High hazard may reflect frequent fire, high flame lengths, or a combination of the two.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	-74%
	Change to Division SRA	-11%

The map below visually represents the geographic change in wildfire hazard to both the Strategic Project Areas (turquoise color) and the influence outside of Strategic Project Areas (grey color).



ADDITIONAL PREDICTED OUTCOMES FROM STRATEGIC AREAS

Metric	Area of Assessment	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment	% Change
Acres of WUI with Extreme Fire Behavior <i>Flame lengths >11' are considered extreme fire behavior and basically prevent most fire suppression efforts during a fire event.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	406 acres	8 acres	-98%
	Change to Division SRA	2,833 acres	2,435 acres	-14%
The reduction in flame lengths –of the most extreme class– creates more opportunities for fire suppression activities during a wildfire incident.				
Number of Highly Exposed Structures <i>Hazardous fuel reduction efforts can shift structures from high exposure to lower exposure. Significantly reducing wildfire exposure to those structures could avoid as much as \$205 million in losses, based on an average rebuild cost of \$300/sq ft and an average structure size of 1,500 sq ft.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	2,264	707	-69%
	Change to Division SRA	11,216	9,649	-14%
Reducing wildfire exposure to structures, with adjacent hazardous fuel reduction, is a crucial step in reducing the wildfire risk to structures.				
Rate of Spread <i>Spread rate indicates how quickly a wildfire will grow.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	0.812 mph	0.146 mph	-82%
	Change to Division SRA	0.838 mph	0.759 mph	-9%
A reduction in spread rate often increases fire suppression opportunities and corresponds to lower intensities and less wildfire risk.				
Source Acres of Ember Load to Buildings <i>Structures can be exposed to fires by embers from nearby wildland vegetation.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	7,414 acres	4,940 acres	-33%
	Change to Division SRA	52,772 acres	50,298 acres	-5%
A reduction in the source of embers to nearby structures corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk to structures.				
Expected Acres Burned within 10 Years <i>This metric indicates how many acres are expected to burn within 10 years.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	3,418 acres	3,361 acres	-2%
	Change to Division SRA	25,834 acres	25,721 acres	-0%
Reducing the probability of a wildfire directly corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk.				

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

The Southeast Division covers the far southeastern portion of San Diego County, including Battalion 4 and the La Cima Conservation Camp, spanning roughly 774 square miles. It borders Mexico to the south, Imperial County to the east, and U.S. Forest Service land to the north. The division includes remote, mountainous areas and small communities such as Boulevard, Campo, Descanso, Jacumba, Lake Morena, and Pine Valley. The landscape—marked by steep canyons, forested ridges, and isolated rural zones—creates significant challenges for firefighting operations.

Battalion 4 covers about 495,000 acres and is served by two CAL FIRE stations and five county-funded fire stations. Fire response and prevention efforts are supported by the La Cima Conservation Camp, which supplies trained inmate hand crews for both emergencies and planned fire prevention work. These crews are essential to managing vegetation and reducing wildfire risks year-round.

The Southeast Division contains some of the most hazardous wildland fuels in the county. Dense, old chaparral mixed with oak and pine—much of it dead or weakened by insects—adds to the fire danger. Lower elevations feature chaparral, coastal sage scrub, grasslands, and oak woodlands. Combined with dry, windy conditions like Santa Ana events, these fuels can lead to extreme fire behavior, including rapid fire spread, spotting up to two miles, and flames exceeding 40 feet in height.

La Cima Conservation Camp plays a key role in fuel reduction, contributing about 200 crew days each year toward vegetation clearing, firebreak construction, and other mitigation projects. These efforts are often coordinated with local Fire Safe Councils and funded through State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Funds (FPF). Camp crews also support projects identified in Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), helping strengthen long-term fire preparedness across the region.

Due to its heavy fuel loads, complex terrain, and fire-prone weather, the Southeast Division remains a high priority for wildfire prevention and response. Ongoing collaboration among fire agencies, La Cima crews, and community partners is vital to reducing wildfire risk and improving resilience in this vulnerable area.

SOUTHEAST DIVISION STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

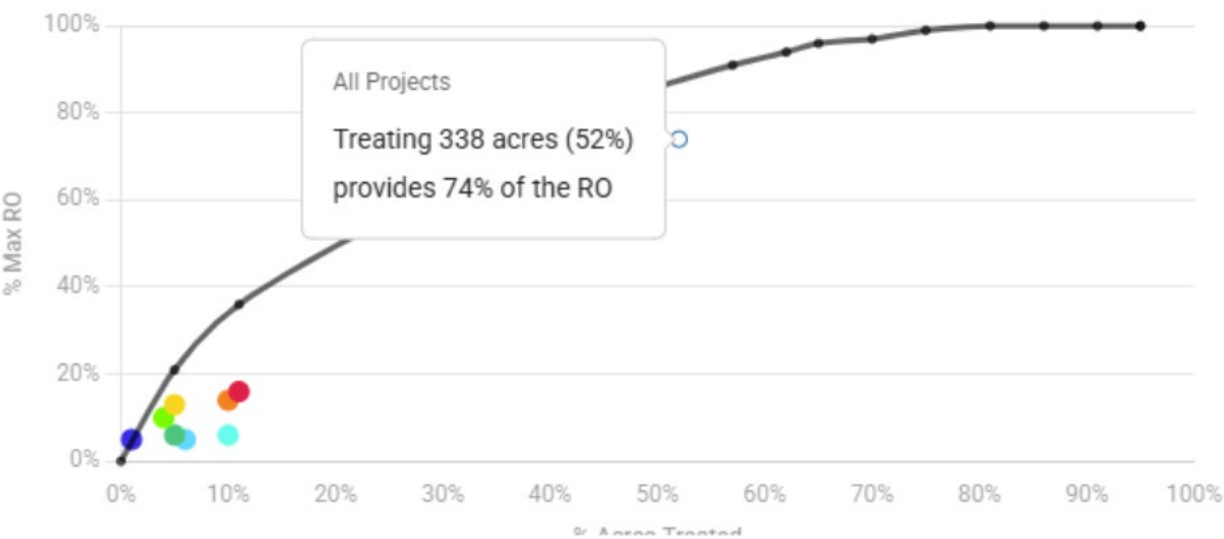


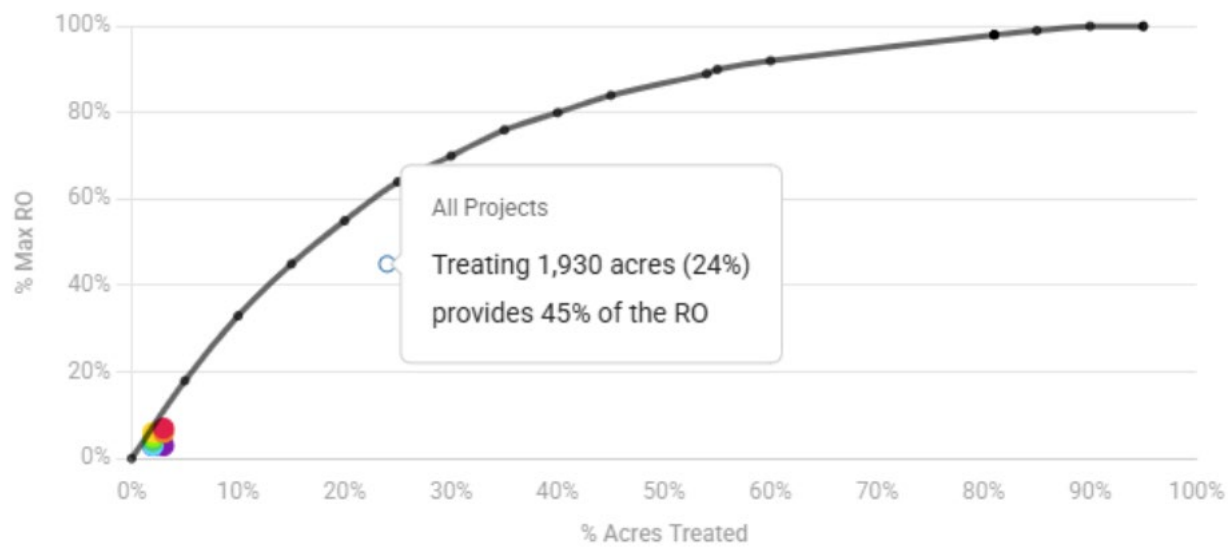
ASSESSMENT TABLE

Area of Assessment	Total Acres	Assessment Acres	Strategic Project Areas	% of Assessment Area	Predicted Risk Reduction
WUI Interface	958	651	338	52%	74%
WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	8,578	7,978	1,930	24%	45%
Remaining Areas	177,536	178,122	7,122	4%	27%
			Total Proposed Project Areas		9,390

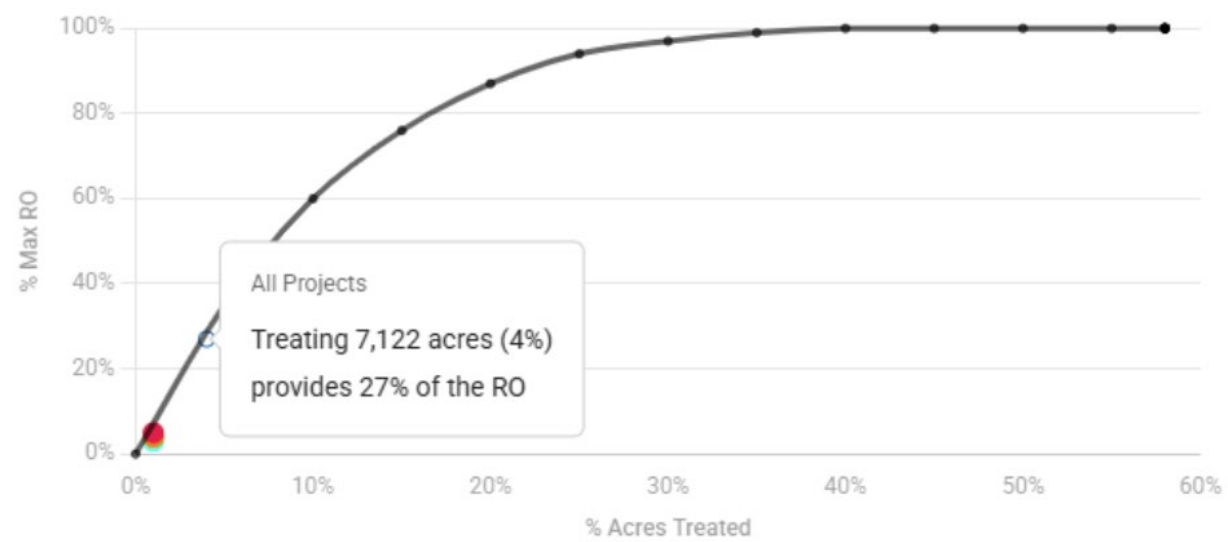
RISK REDUCTION EFFICIENCY GRAPHS

WUI Interface





Remaining Areas



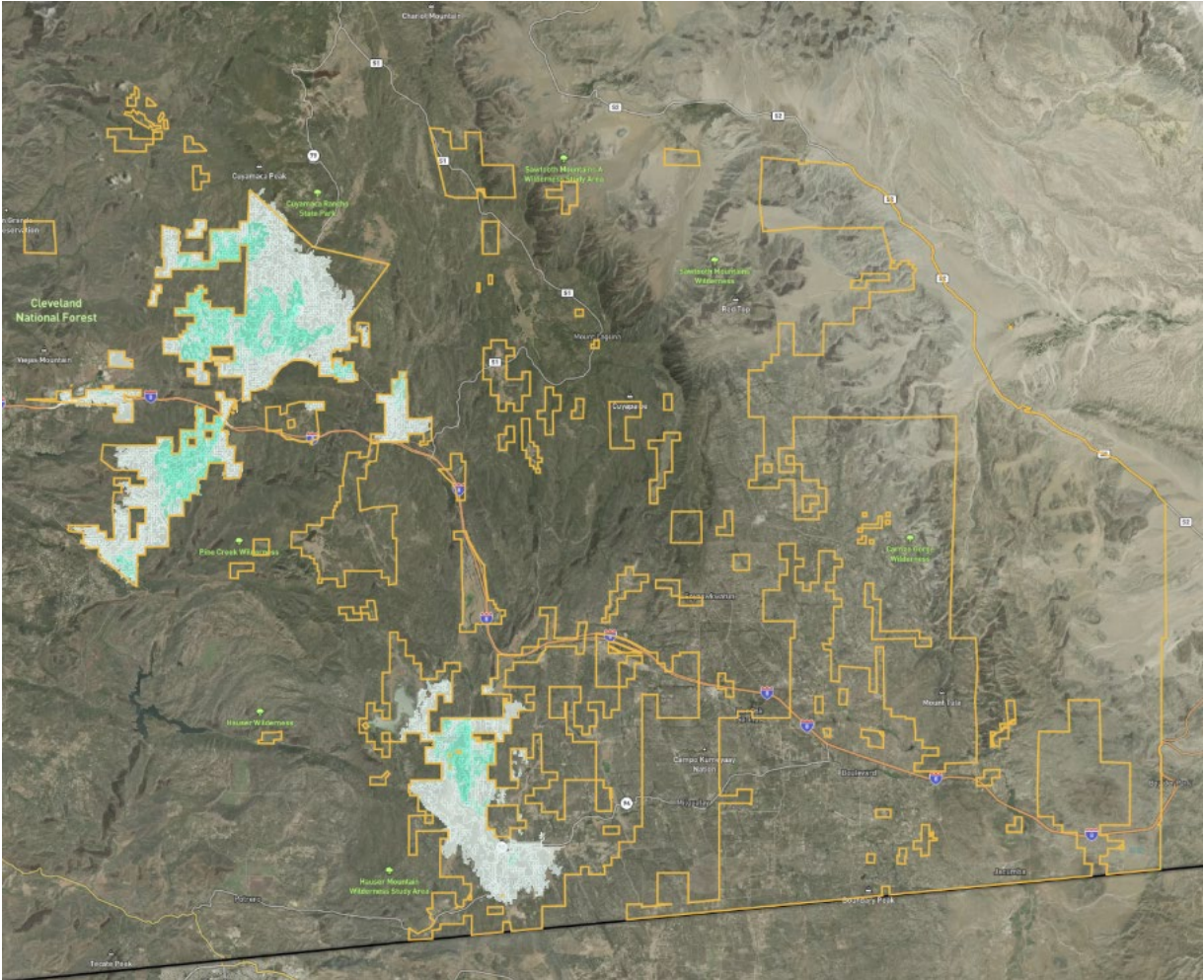
LAND OWNERSHIP TABLE

Ownership Type	Total Acres in WUI Interface	Total Acres in WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	Total Acres in Remaining Areas
Private Landowners	280 acres	1,843 acres	5,415 acres
US Forest Service	-	-	23 acres
State Parks and Recreation			1,641 acres
Other State Land	-	-	32 acres
Local Government	21 acres	82 acres	11 acres
Non-Governmental Organization	-	5 acres	-

PREDICTED HAZARD REDUCTION FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Outcome Scale	% Change
Total Wildfire Hazard <i>Wildfire hazard is a combination of how likely an area is to burn and the intensity at which it burns. High hazard may reflect frequent fire, high flame lengths, or a combination of the two.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	-72%
	Change to Division SRA	-10%

The map below visually represents the geographic change in wildfire hazard to both the Strategic Project Areas (turquoise color) and the influence outside of Strategic Project Areas (grey color).



ADDITIONAL PREDICTED OUTCOMES FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Area of Assessment	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment	% Change
Acres of WUI with Extreme Fire Behavior <i>Flame lengths >11' are considered extreme fire behavior and basically prevent most fire suppression efforts during a fire event.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	920 acres	9 acres	-99%
	Change to Division SRA	2,779 acres	1,776 acres	-36%
The reduction in flame lengths –of the most extreme class– creates more opportunities for fire suppression activities during a wildfire incident.				
Number of Highly Exposed Structures <i>Hazardous fuel reduction efforts can shift structures from high exposure to lower exposure. Significantly reducing wildfire exposure to those structures could avoid as much as \$210 million in losses, based on an average rebuild cost of \$300/sq ft and an average structure size of 1,500 sq ft.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	1,960	1,133	-42%
	Change to Division SRA	7,735	6,908	-11%
Reducing wildfire exposure to structures, with adjacent hazardous fuel reduction, is a crucial step in reducing the wildfire risk to structures.				
Rate of Spread <i>Spread rate indicates how quickly a wildfire will grow.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	1.037 mph	0.167 mph	-84%
	Change to Division SRA	0.603 mph	0.559 mph	-7%
A reduction in spread rate often increases fire suppression opportunities and corresponds to lower intensities and less wildfire risk.				
Source Acres of Ember Load to Buildings <i>Structures can be exposed to fires by embers from nearby wildland vegetation.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	6,585 acres	4,807 acres	-27%
	Change to Division SRA	49,813 acres	48,035 acres	-4%
A reduction in the source of embers to nearby structures corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk to structures.				
Expected Acres Burned within 10 Years <i>This metric indicates how many acres are expected to burn within 10 years.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	3,431 acres	3,371 acres	-2%
	Change to Division SRA	29,589 acres	29,477 acres	< -1%
Reducing the probability of a wildfire directly corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk.				

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

The Southwest Division covers the southwestern regions of San Diego County, including Battalion 2, Battalion 3, and the San Diego Fire Center, spanning over 400 square miles. This diverse area ranges from the Cleveland National Forest to the U.S.-Mexico border, with communities such as Jamul, El Cajon, Alpine, La Mesa, Lakeside, Santee, Potrero, and Dulzura. The division includes a mix of rugged mountain terrain, suburban neighborhoods, and remote areas, all presenting significant challenges for fire response.

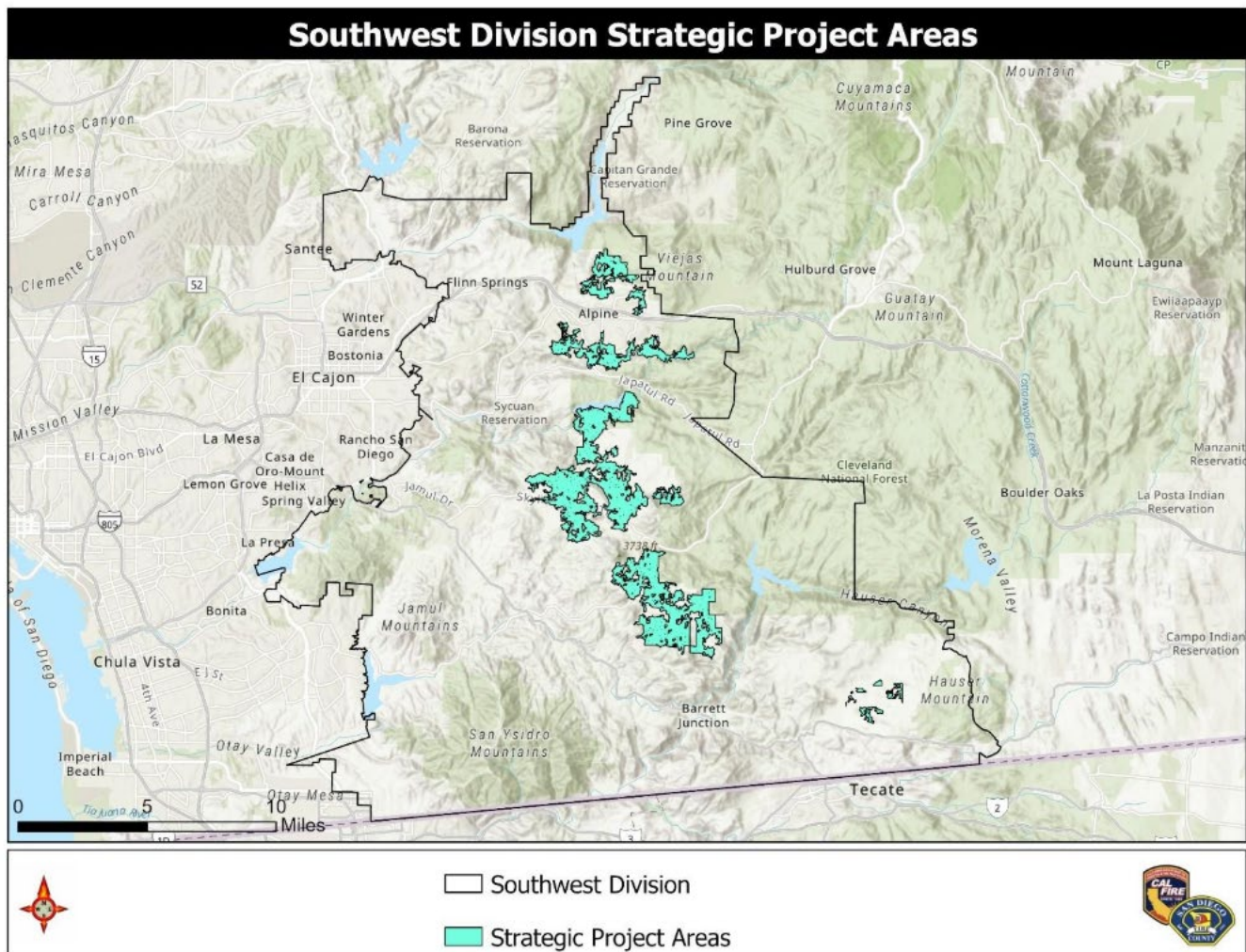
Battalion 2 covers 130 square miles, while Battalion 3 spans 277 square miles. The division is served by a combination of state-funded CAL FIRE stations, county-funded stations, and personnel from the San Diego Fire Center, which includes CAL FIRE, California Conservation Corps (CCC) hand crews, and California National Guard (CMD) teams. These crews provide emergency response and engage in year-round fire prevention efforts.

The Southwest Division is home to fire-prone fuels like chaparral, coastal sage scrub, grasslands, and oak woodlands, many of which are drought-stressed. This creates a high risk for extreme fire behavior, including long flame lengths, rapid spread, and long-range spotting, especially under Santa Ana wind conditions. Notable past incidents include the West Fire (2018) and Sloane Fire (2019), both of which caused significant destruction. Historic fires such as the Harris Fire (2007) have resulted in civilian and firefighter fatalities, highlighting the area's dangerous fire conditions.

The San Diego Fire Center plays a critical role in fuels reduction and fire prevention, focusing on thinning vegetation, creating firebreaks, and improving access to remote areas. These efforts help mitigate fire risks and enhance firefighter safety.

The Southwest Division remains a priority for fire protection, with ongoing collaboration among fire agencies, Fire Safe Councils, and local communities to reduce wildfire risk and improve preparedness.

SOUTHWEST DIVISION STRATEGIC PROJECT AREA

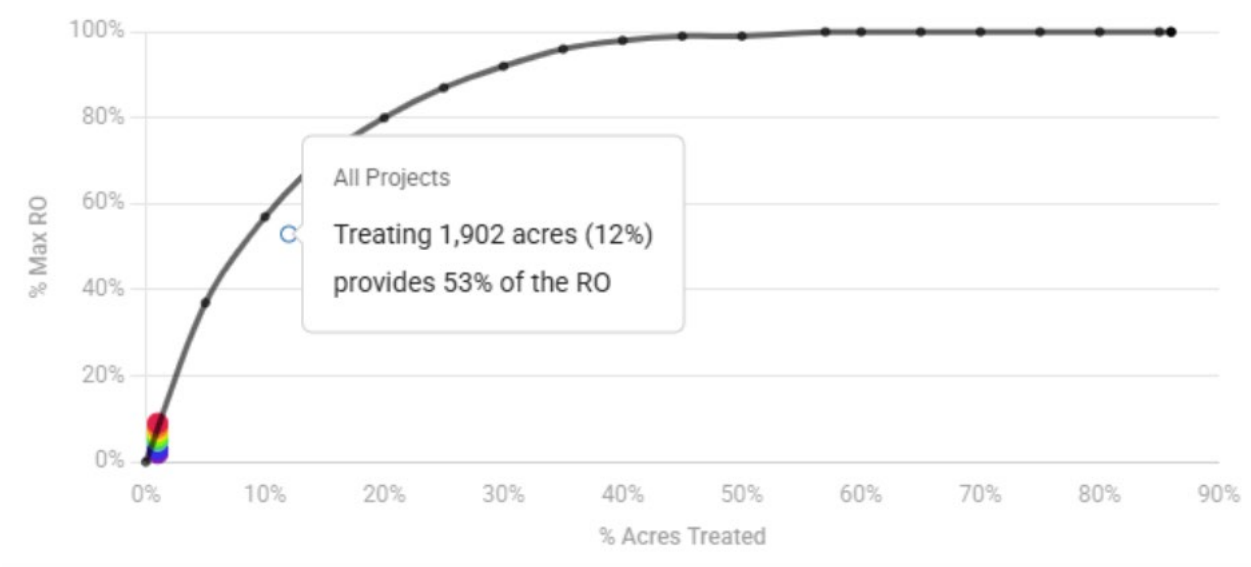


ASSESSMENT TABLE

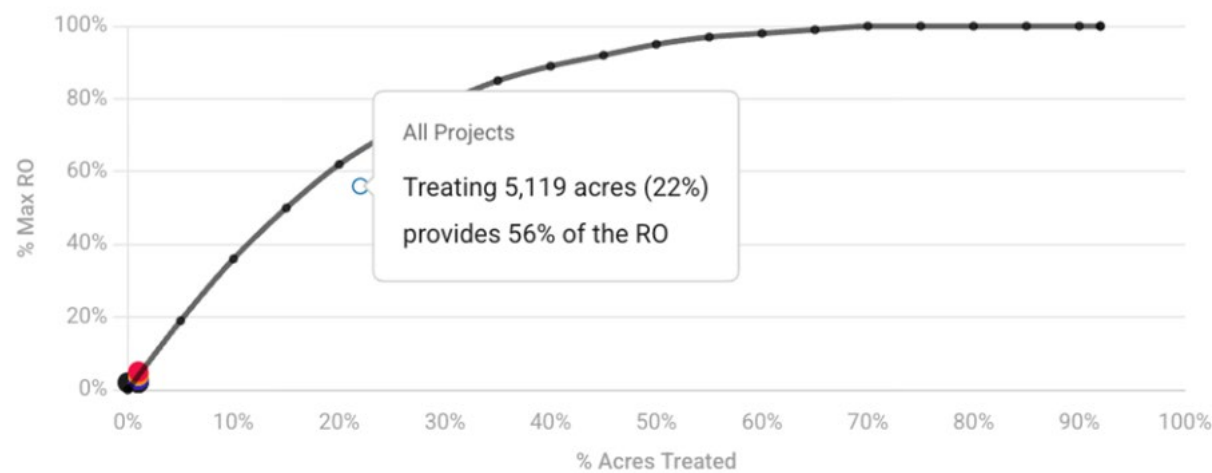
Area of Assessment	Total Acres	Assessment Acres	Strategic Project Areas	% of Assessment Area	Predicted Risk Reduction
WUI Interface	15,066	15,644	1,902	12%	53%
WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	23,643	23,759	5,119	22%	56%
Remaining Areas	133,613	129,610	6,831	5%	25%
			Total Proposed Project Areas		13,852

RISK REDUCTION EFFICIENCY GRAPHS

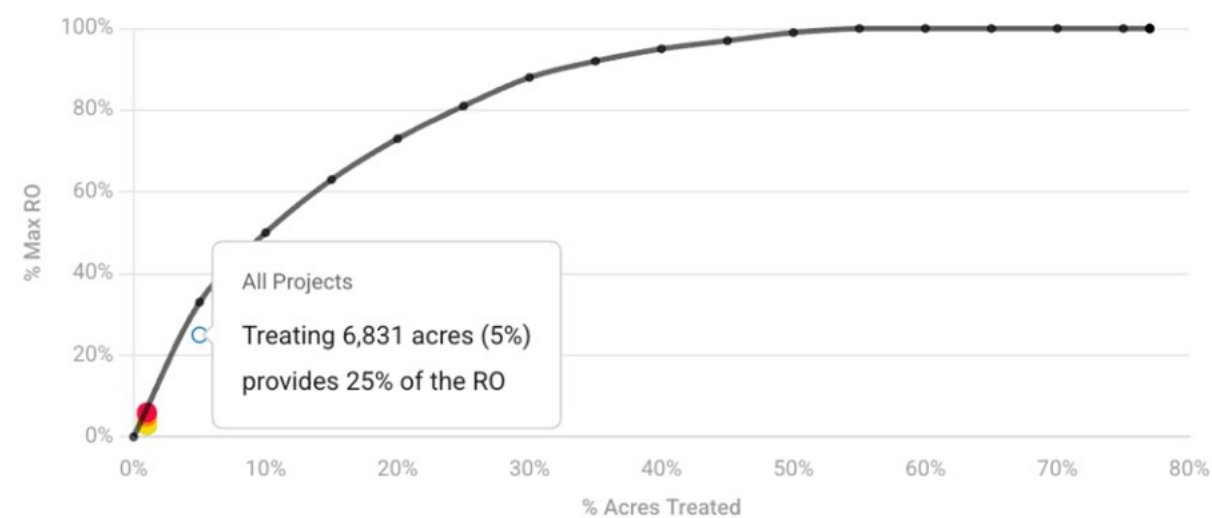
WUI Interface



WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review



Remaining Areas



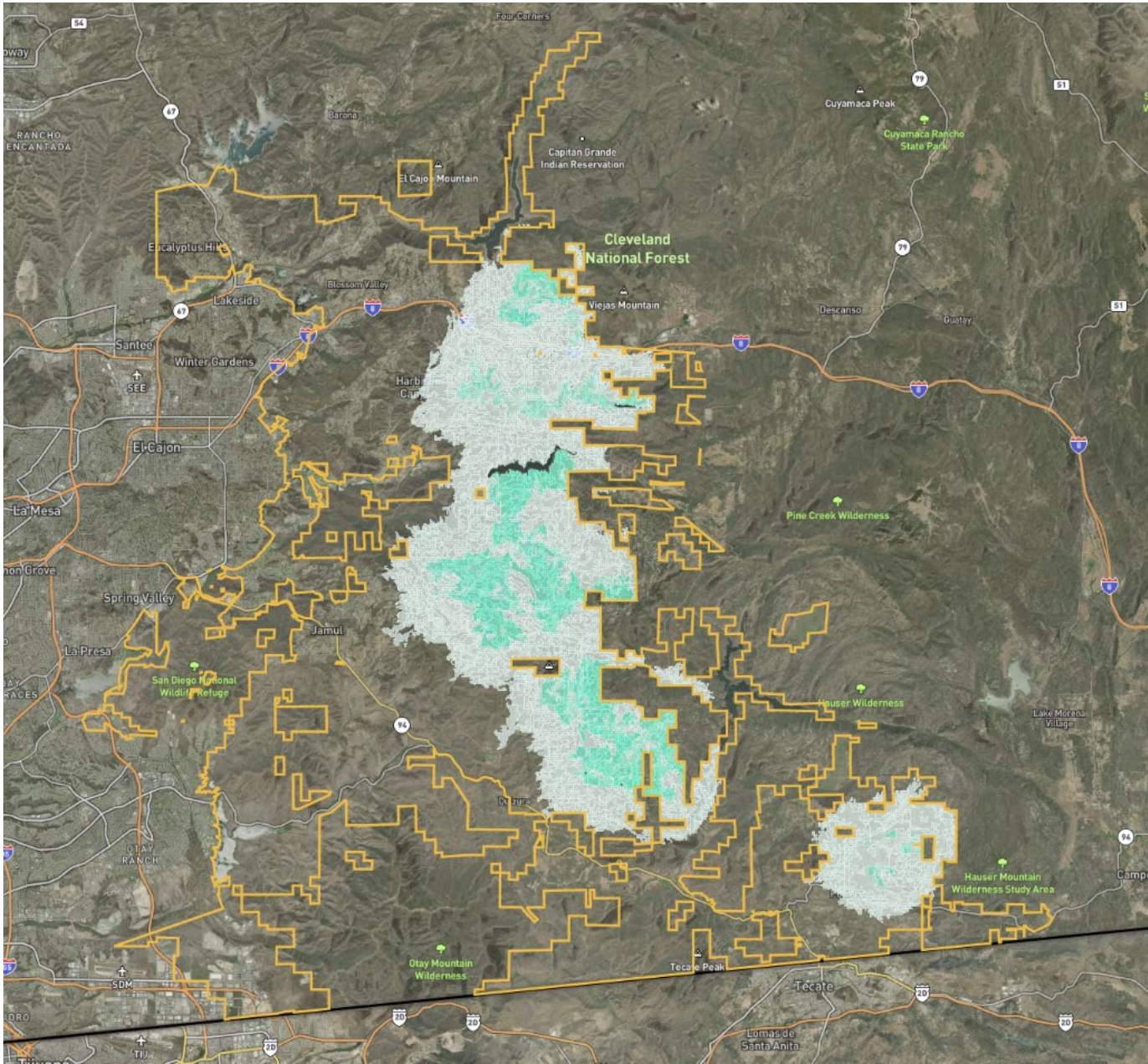
LAND OWNERSHIP TABLE

Ownership Type	Total Acres in WUI Interface	Total Acres in WUI Intermix + Subdivision Review	Total Acres in Remaining Areas
Private Landowners	1,894 acres	4,553 acres	5,672 acres
State Fish and Wildlife	-	139 acres	15 acres
US Forest Service	-	2 acres	-
Local Government	8 acres	395 acres	1,144 acres
Non-Governmental Organization	-	30 acres	-

PREDICTED HAZARD REDUCTION FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Outcome Scale	% Change
Total Wildfire Hazard <i>Wildfire hazard is a combination of how likely an area is to burn and the intensity at which it burns. High hazard may reflect frequent fire, high flame lengths, or a combination of the two.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	-73%
	Change to Division SRA	-14%

The map below visually represents the geographic change in wildfire hazard to both the Strategic Project Areas (turquoise color) and the influence outside of Strategic Project Areas (grey color).



ADDITIONAL PREDICTED OUTCOMES FROM STRATEGIC PROJECT AREAS

Metric	Area of Assessment	Pre-Treatment	Post-Treatment	% Change
Acres of WUI with Extreme Fire Behavior <i>Flame lengths >11' are considered extreme fire behavior and basically prevent most fire suppression efforts during a fire event.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	563 acres	2 acres	-100%
	Change to Division SRA	2,657 acres	2,096 acres	-21%
The reduction in flame lengths –of the most extreme class– creates more opportunities for fire suppression activities during a wildfire incident.				
Number of Highly Exposed Structures <i>Hazardous fuel reduction efforts can shift structures from high exposure to lower exposure. Significantly reducing wildfire exposure to those structures could avoid as much as \$265 million in losses, based on an average rebuild cost of \$300/sq ft and an average structure size of 1,500 sq ft.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	2,491	653	-74%
	Change to Division SRA	12,224	10,385	-15%
Reducing wildfire exposure to structures, with adjacent hazardous fuel reduction, is a crucial step in reducing the wildfire risk to structures.				
Rate of Spread <i>Spread rate indicates how quickly a wildfire will grow.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	0.806 mph	0.125 mph	-84%
	Change to Division SRA	0.614 mph	0.558 mph	-9%
A reduction in spread rate often increases fire suppression opportunities and corresponds to lower intensities and less wildfire risk.				
Source Acres of Ember Load to Buildings <i>Structures can be exposed to fires by embers from nearby wildland vegetation.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	9,901 acres	6,623 acres	-33%
	Change to Division SRA	72,230 acres	68,952 acres	-5%
A reduction in the source of embers to nearby structures corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk to structures.				
Expected Acres Burned within 10 Years <i>This metric indicates how many acres are expected to burn within 10 years.</i>	Change to Strategic Project Area	3,464 acres	3,394 acres	-2%
	Change to Division SRA	23,185 acres	23,007 acres	-1%
Reducing the probability of a wildfire directly corresponds to a reduction in wildfire risk.				

SECTION V - PREFIRE MANAGEMENT TACTICS

BATTALION PREFIRE PLANS

CAL FIRE's fire protection objective states that a system of basic fire protection will be provided so that damages to life, property and natural resources will be held at or below a level acceptable within social, political and economic constraints. The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection designates in the Fire Plan (2018) that CAL FIRE will strive to contain 95% of all unwanted fires at 10 acres or less (Fire Operations Manual, the Fire Protection Objective, Section October 2015).

The San Diego Unit management intends to support the Fire Plan and make it successful. With the limited availability of funds and shortages of crews, creative ways to accomplish fuel reduction projects remain a top priority. For example, working with grant writers and stakeholders can secure funds to implement projects. The Unit will also focus on the maintenance of completed projects; this step will allow us to have the strategic benefits of the projects for years to come. Fire Control Road maintenance will be prioritized, and a rotation schedule developed. We will continue to collect, analyze, and prepare data to assess communities at risk for those in need of fuel reduction or other projects. Continue our participation with the local fire safe councils. The San Diego Unit strives to educate the public on fire prevention and incorporating fire resistant landscaping and construction to their property, as well as hazardous fuel reduction to keep their lives, homes, property and natural resources safe from catastrophic wildfires. We intend to build on our commitment to preplan for emergency situations and to enhance our critical infrastructure protection plan in high-risk areas.



The following information is provided by the field Battalion Chief regarding pre-fire/resource management activities associated with the Unit Fire Plan. Field Battalion Chiefs provide the direction and leadership to propose and implement projects for life, community, and natural resources protection. Field Battalion Chiefs are an integral component at community level. The following Battalion objectives have been developed based on the cohesive fire strategies. We will measure success through monitoring: treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections and the number of public education contacts.

- Foster fire prevention and safety through community education and training.
- Promote structural hardening and defensible space techniques to improve structure survivability.
- Establish and maintain strategic fuel breaks and reduced fuel zones to improve community defense.
- Maintain dependable ingress and egress routes.

OVERVIEW

Battalion 1 is located in the northwest corner of San Diego County and consists of four State funded fire stations, and three Cooperative Agreement Deer Springs Fire District funded stations and the Rainbow Fire Center. The Battalion is bordered by Fallbrook, Vista, San Marcos and Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base to the West, Riverside County to the North, Pala Indian Reservation, Valley Center and the Cleveland National Forest (Palomar District) to the East, and the City of Escondido to the South. The Battalion size is approximately 186,832 acres or 292 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Heavy mixed chaparral intermixed with Grass-Oak woodlands
- Annual Grass
- Homes are interspersed within fuels
- Heavy chaparral on slopes with heavy riparian along drainages and creek bottoms
- Heavy, contiguous, old age class chaparral and coastal sage scrub

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

Fires may burn with extreme fire behavior including dangerous to extreme rates of spread, long range spotting, and high energy outputs. Structural loss is likely for exposed perimeter homes, especially those above chimneys and canyons. 10% of homes have wood shingled roofs or siding. There are steep, rugged hills and canyons, with homes perched on a high plateau and on ridgelines.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on the cohesive fire strategies and stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County: We will measure success through monitoring, treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections and the number of public education contacts.

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 8,000 inspections
- Evaluate high risk areas based on environmental and infrastructure conditions, and use inspection compliance history to identify areas of focused inspections in the Battalion
- Ensure accurate collection of LE-100 data, utilizing the departments issued electronic platform

- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect the Tenaja, Roblar, Rainbow, and Santa Margarita Truck Trails to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access
- Maintain Welkview Fuel Break, Moosa Fuel Break, Camp Pendleton Fuel Break
- Continually evaluate opportunities of additional Fuel treatment projects
- Continue to support community chipping events with Fire Crews and Equipment

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot roadway clearance: N. Center City Parkway, Old Castle Road, Deer Springs Road, Cougar Pass Road, Camino Del Rey, Old Highway 395
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs

STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

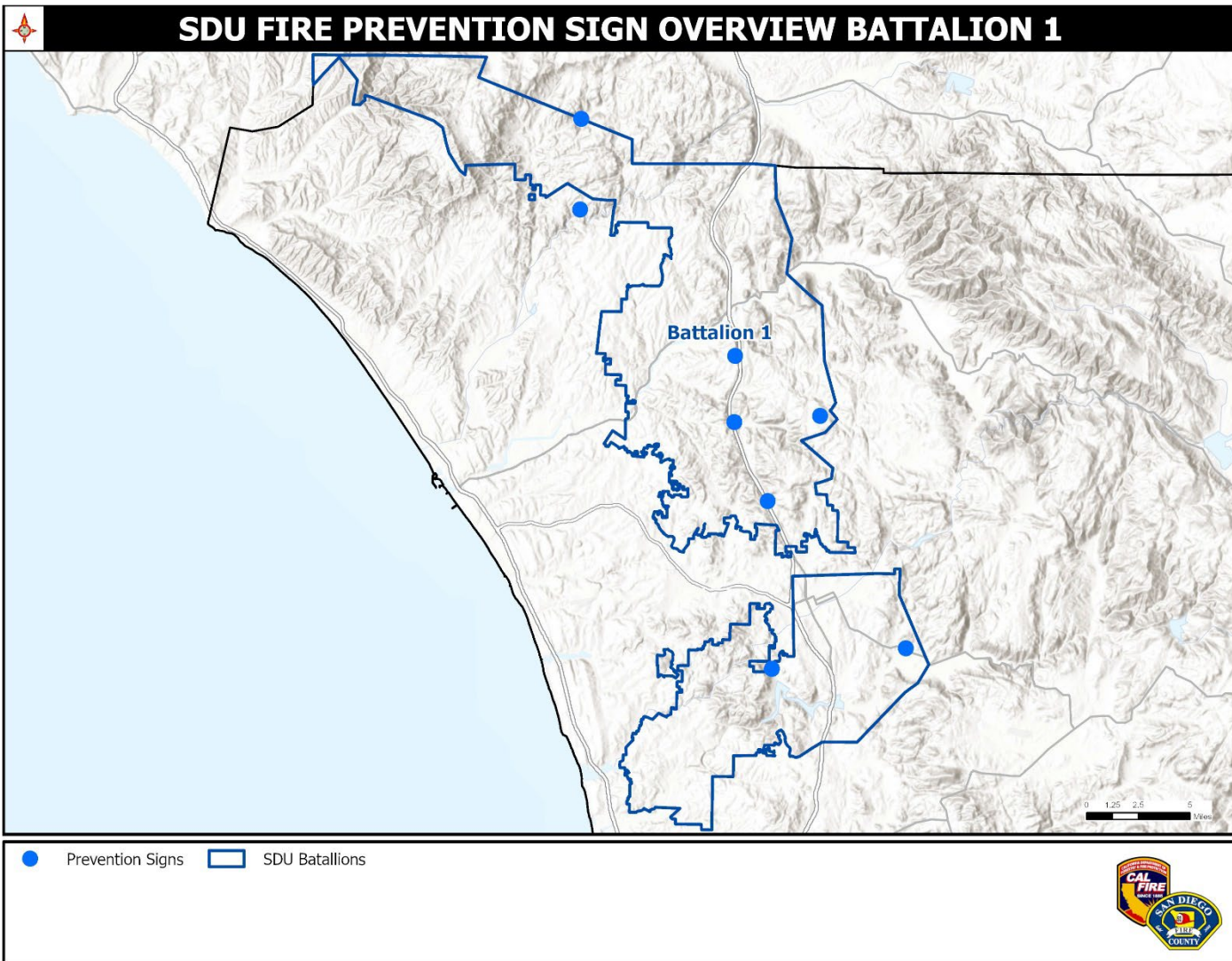
Battalion	Project Name	Acres Treated	Acres
1	Welkview Fuel Break	Fuel Reduction	64
1	Roblar Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	9
1	Tenaja Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	13
1	Rainbow Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	9
1	Moosa Fuel Break	Fuel Break	86

Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
1	2	Rainbow	2.77
1	4	Piett	2.30
1	5	Santa Margarita	5.20
1	6	Harris Spur	5.14
1	7	Red Mountain Lookout	2.05
1	12	Red Mountain	4.21
1	13	Magee	5.06
1	102	Roblar	2.28

1	113	Tenaja	4.63
1	0	Welk View	5.36

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
1	Station 11	Mountain Meadow Road X Old Highway 395	Planned
1	Station 10	Gopher Canyon Road X Old Highway 395	Planned
1	Station 15	Old Highway 395 X West Lilac Road	Planned
1	Station 14	Highway 78 X West Zoo Road	Existing
1	Station 14	Del Dios Highway X Date Lane	Planned
1	Station 16	De Luz Road X Supale Ranch Road	Planned
1	Station 16	De Luz Murrieta Road X San Diego County Line	Planned

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
1	Deer Springs	Active
1	Fallbrook	Active
1	Vista	Active
1	Harmony Grove	Active



OVERVIEW

Battalion 2 is located in the southern portion of San Diego County and consists of two state funded fire stations and one county funded station. It is bordered by Mexico to the south, and San Diego City to the west. The administrative boundary for Battalion 2 includes the communities of Jamul, El Cajon, Alpine, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, Santee, Lakeside, and Northern San Diego City. The Battalion is approximately 83,213 acres or 130 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Chaparral, coastal sage scrub, coastal oak woodlands, and grasslands
- Significant oak tree dieback. Heavy riparian along creek bottom

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

Fires in Battalion 2 often exhibit extreme fire behavior, including long flame lengths, high rates of spread, and significant energy outputs. This was evident during the West Fire in July 2018, which consumed 505 acres and over 20 structures, and again during the 2019 Sloane Fire, which burned 200 acres. The Sloane Fire was eventually stopped by the Sycuan Truck Trail, underscoring the importance of fuel reduction efforts within the battalion. The wildland-urban interface in Battalion 2 is highly prevalent, with numerous communities and residents at risk of being impacted. Due to the diverse topography and heavy fuel loading, all initial attack fires in Battalion 2 have the potential to escalate into extended attack incidents.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County. We will measure success through monitoring: treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections and the number of public education contacts.

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Provide fire preparedness programs to students K-12
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 4,100 inspections
- Engineering and structural ignitability education and information
- Ensure accurate collection of LE-100 data, utilizing the departments issued electronic platform
- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect Valley View, Sycuan, Skeleton Flats, Suncrest, Sloane Truck Trails to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access
- Maintain the Crest Community Fuel Break
- Continually evaluate opportunities of additional Fuel Treatment Projects

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot Roadway Clearance: Mountain View Road, Dehesa Road
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs
- Strategic Fuel Breaks and Priority Prefire Maintenance Projects

STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECT

Fuel Breaks			
Battalion	Project Name	Type	Acres Treated
2	Alpine Community Defense	Fuel Break	65
2	Suncrest Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	4
2	Skeleton Flats Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	9
2	Valley View Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	21
2	Crest Fuel Break	Fuel Break	160
Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
2	126	Valley View	4.63
2	27	McClain B (Bullard)	2.05
2	28	McClain A (Bullard)	1.56
2	29	Cornelius	1.10
2	171	Sycuan	1.83
2	172	Sycuan Spur	1.14
2	172	Skeleton Flats	1.85
2	0	Suncrest	1.31

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
2	Station 20	Japatul Road X Hidden Glen Road	Planned
2	Station 21	Dehesa Road X Harbison Canyon Road	Planned

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
2	Crest	Active



OVERVIEW

Battalion 3 of the San Diego Unit is located in the south-central portion of San Diego County consisting of three state funded fire station and three San Diego County funded fire stations. The battalion encompasses the community of Jamul on the western border, east to the community of Potrero, north to the southern border of the Cleveland National Forest, including the communities of Deerhorn Valley and Lawson Valley, south to the Mexican Border. Numerous county highways and one state highway traverse the battalion, serving the rural communities identified above as well as the additional communities of Dulzura, Barrett Junction, and Tecate. Battalion boundaries encompass approximately 177,122 acres or 277 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Mixed chaparral and coastal sage, grass and oak woodlands
- Heavy old age class chaparral in Coyote Hollar area and on Hauser Mountain
- Only modest post-fire recovery of chaparral due to prolonged drought
- Mixed chaparral in islands missed by 2007 fire

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

With critical fire weather, fires will burn with extreme behavior, high rates of spread, and long-range spotting. This is a historic corridor for fire and high winds. High risk for civilian entrapment and structural loss. Several fatality fires have resulted in 13 firefighter fatalities and numerous civilian fatalities: (a)1943 Hauser Creek Fire-11 Marines (+72 burn injuries) due to wind reversal in ebbing Santa Ana, (b)1973 Bell Valley Fire-1 firefighter during flare-up and run to escape, (c)1948 Barrett Dam Fire-1 firefighter during flare-up and crew separation, (d)2007 Harris Fire-5 civilian fatalities in the area of Barrett-Smith Rd. CAL FIRE engine burned over off Hwy 188, cross of Emery Lane with 1 civilian fatality.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County. We will measure success through monitoring: treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections and the number of public education contacts.

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the San Diego County Fire-Community Risk Reduction
- Provide fire preparedness programs to students K-12
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- California Wildfire Mitigation Program - Home Hardening Initiative: Dulzura (2022) and Potrero (2023)
- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 2,600 inspections. Evaluate high risk areas based on environmental and infrastructure conditions
- Aggressive law enforcement (citation) for burning without a permit

- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect the Wisecarver, Daley Ranch, Honey Springs, Lyons/Lawson, and Barrett Truck Trails to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access
- Maintain Otay Fuel Break, Potrero Fuel Break, Tecate Fuel Break, Wisecarver Fuel Break, International Fuel Break
- Implement vegetation management treatments and ignition reduction projects in priority WUI areas: Dulzura, Potrero, Barrett Junction
- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot Roadway Clearance: Lawson Valley Road, Emry Road, Potrero Valley Road, Round Potrero Road, Barrett Lake Road, Harris Ranch Road
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs

STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Fuel Breaks			
Battalion	Project Name	Type	Acres Treated
3	Lucky Six Fuel Break	Fuel Break	68
3	Honey Springs Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	17
3	Round Potrero Fuel Break	Fuel Reduction	76
3	Lyons-Lawson Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	9
3	Barrett Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	38
3	Wisecarver Fuel Break	Fuel Break	33
3	Remote Watertank Maintenance Project	Water Tank Maintenance	N/A

Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
3	54	Barrett	7.12

3	57	Bell Valley	5.48
3	30	Beaver Hollow	4.08
3	31	Sloan Ranch	2.70
3	35	Tecate	7.91
3	36	Otay	3.69
3	37	Honey Springs	4.56
3	38	Daley Ranch	4.80
3	39	Marron Valley	7.33
3	40	Lucky Six	6.37
3	41	Skunk Hollow Spur	2.37
3	42	Minnewawa	2.98
3	43	Doghouse Spur (Lower Minnewawa)	5.01
3	44	Hubbard Spur	3.86
3	45	Honey Springs Spur	2.77
3	46	Mine Canyon	3.32
3	47	Border Road	10.78
3	48	Hollenbeck	2.25
3	49	Lupe Springs Spur	0.61
3	50	Barber Mountain	3.23
3	51	Scraper	0.58
3	52	Grapevine North	1.80
3	53	Grapevine South	1.82
3	77	Lyons-Lawson	3.17
3	164	Hauser Mountain West	2.64
3	165	Hauser Mountain East	3.44
3	167	Mother Grundy	5.01
3	0	Wisecarver	5.94

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
3	Station 36	Highway 94 X Melody Road	Existing
3	Station 31	Highway 94 X Potrero Valley Road	Planned
3	Station 30	Otay Lakes Road X Otay Mountain Truck Trail	Planned
3	Station 32	Honey Springs X Lyons Valley Road	Proposed
3	Station 30	Honey Springs X Hwy 94 @ Hollenbeck Trailhead	Proposed

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
3	Dulzura / Barrett	Active
3	San Diego County Rural FSC	Active
3	Potrero / Tecate	Active



OVERVIEW

Battalion 4 is located in the extreme southeastern corner of San Diego County and consists of two state funded stations and five county funded station is bordered by Mexico to the south, Imperial County to the east, and USFS land to the north. The communities of Boulevard, Campo, Descanso, Jacumba, Lake Morena, and Pine Valley fall within Battalion 4's Direct Protection Area with a size totaling approximately 495,497 acres or 774 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Heavy, contiguous, old age class chaparral with oak and pine mix
- Significant oak tree and pine dieback due to insect infestation
- Mixed chaparral and coastal sage, grass and oak woodlands in the lowlands

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

Fires may burn with extreme fire behavior, including high rates of spread, long range spotting, and high energy outputs during Red Flag fire weather conditions. Beware high fire indices onshore wind days. Watch for development of extreme fire behavior in old age fuels, and deep in canyons. Spotting up to two miles ahead when large smoke columns are present. Flame lengths of 40+ feet possible in heavy chaparral. Expect geographic turbulence during high winds. High winds occur during Santa Ana episodes and during some afternoons of onshore wind days.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County. We will measure success through monitoring: treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections, and the number of public education contacts.

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Provide fire preparedness programs to students K-12
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 4,000 inspections
- Engineering and structural ignitability education and information
- Ensure accurate collection of LE-100 data, utilizing the departments issued electronic platform
- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect Shockey Truck Trail to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access

- Maintain Lake Morena Fuel Break, Tierra Del Sol Fuel Break, Camp Locket Fuel Break, Cameron Fuel Break, International Fuel Break, Pine Valley Fuel Break, and Tule Jim Fuel Break
- Implement vegetation management treatments and ignition reduction projects in priority WUI areas: Guatay, Pine Valley, Lake Morena, Campo, and Boulevard

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot Roadway Clearance: Pine Valley Road, Riverside Drive, Boulder Creek Road, Corte Madera Road
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs
- Strategic Fuel Breaks and Priority Prefire Maintenance Projects

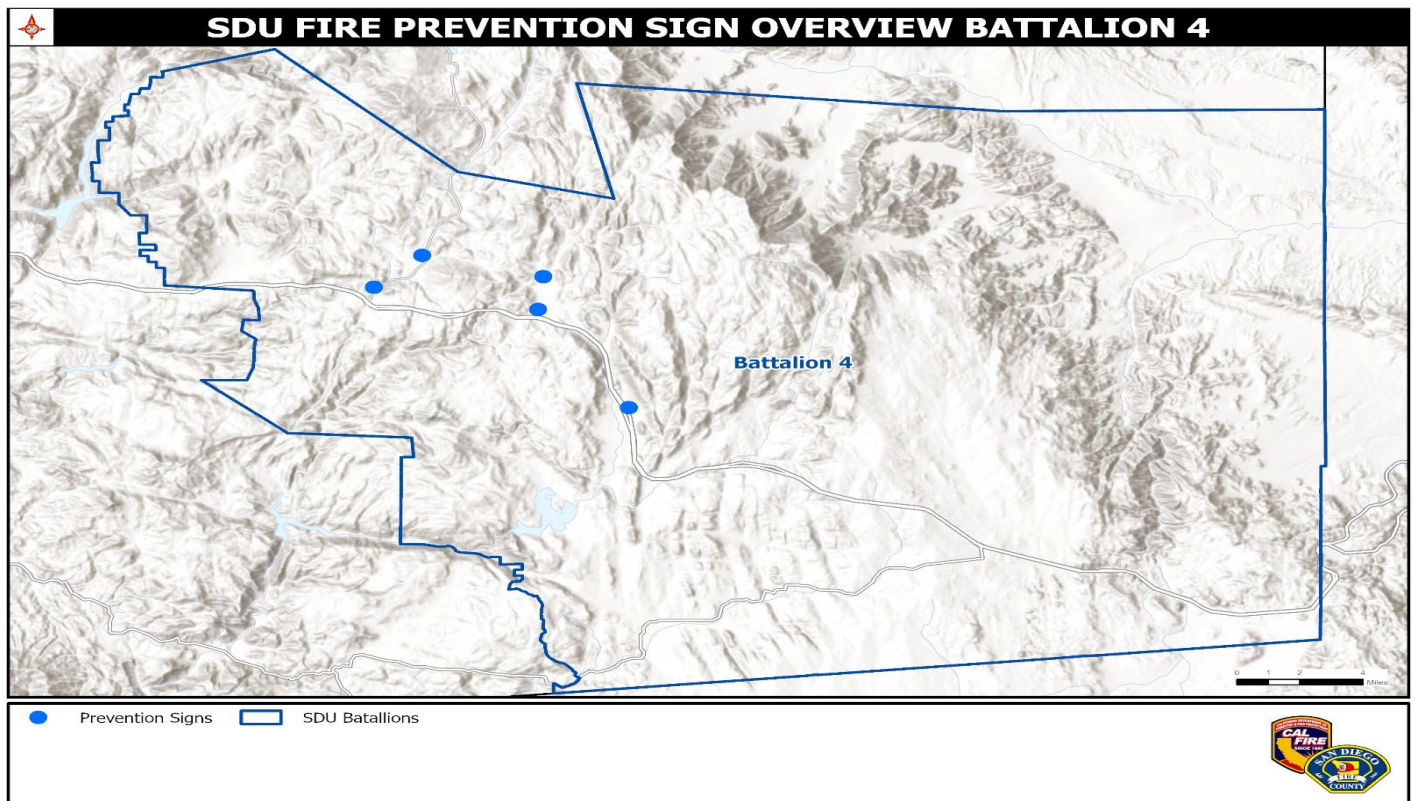
STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Fuel Breaks			
Battalion	Project Name	Type	Acres Treated
4	McCain Valley Rx Fire Training	Rx Burn	400
4	Corte Madera VMP	Rx Burn	427
4	Tule Jim Lane Fuel Break	Fuel Break	39
4	Tierra Del Sol Fuel Break	Fuel Break	89
4	Calexico Lodge Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	14
4	Cameron Extension Fuel Break	Fuel Break	11
4	Remote Water tank Maintenance Project	Water Tank Maintenance	N/A

Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
4	8	Shockey	3.80
4	8	Hauser Mountain East	84.46

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
4	Station 45	Wildwood Glen Lane X Highway 79	Existing
4	Station 45	Highway 79 X Viejas Boulevard	Existing
4	Station 44	Old Highway 80 X Pine Creek Road	Existing
4	Station 44	Old Highway 80 X Pine Valley Road	Existing
4	Station 42	Old Highway 80 X Buckman Springs Road	Existing

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
4	Mt Laguna	Active
4	Pine Valley	Active
4	Real East County	Active
4	Campo / Lake Morena	Active
4	Descanso	Active



OVERVIEW

Battalion 5 is bordered by Battalion 6 to the east and Riverside County to the North and consists of three state funded stations and three county-funded stations. It also contains a unique landscape ranging from the beginning of the desert floor at the eastern portion to mountains in the central. The fuels range from predominantly grasses at the desert floor at elevations near sea level to hardwood timber at elevations above 6000 feet. Temperatures range from mid-teens in the winter with snow in higher elevations to 120 degrees in the desert portions during the summer. The Battalion is approximately 324,781 acres or 507 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Heavy mixed chaparral intermixed with timber in higher elevations
- Grass-Oak woodlands on north end S/O Hwy. 78
- Homes are interspersed within fuels
- Heavy chaparral on slopes with heavy riparian along drainages
- Pines mixed with chaparral on ridge tops. Grass lands on valley floor
- Fuels are drought stressed, oak and pine dieback is present

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

This area includes one of the heaviest fuel beds in San Diego County. A historical wildfire corridor is due west in the San Diego River drainage. The area experiences strong Santa Ana winds in this drainage. Under critical fire weather, fires will burn w/ extreme fire behavior, explosive fire growth/high spread rates, heavy spotting, & crowning in timber. Established fires may develop strong plume dominated/fuel driven characteristics in the absence of wind domination. In the past, initial attack fires have immediately involved structures. Periods of returning onshore winds following a Santa Ana event can pose high risks and has historically contributed to firefighter deaths and large structural loss.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on cohesive fire strategies. We will measure success through monitoring: treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections and the number of public education contacts.

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Provide fire preparedness programs to students K-12
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 3,200 inspections

- Engineering and structural ignitability education and information
- Ensure accurate collection of LE-100 data, utilizing the departments issued electronic platform
- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect Mason Valley, Volcan, Rodriquez, Chariot, Cooper Cienega, Beauty Mountain, Indian Flats, Lost Valley, and Puerta La Cruz Truck Trails to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access
- Maintain Sunrise Fuel Break
- Implement vegetation management treatments and ignition reduction projects in priority WUI areas: Julian, Whispering Pines, Harrison Park, Cuyamaca Woods, and Chiwawa Valley
- Continually evaluate for opportunities of additional Fuel treatment projects

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot Roadway Clearance: Pine Hills Road, Farmers Road, East Grade Road, Wynola Road, Engineers Road, Boulder Creek Road
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs

STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

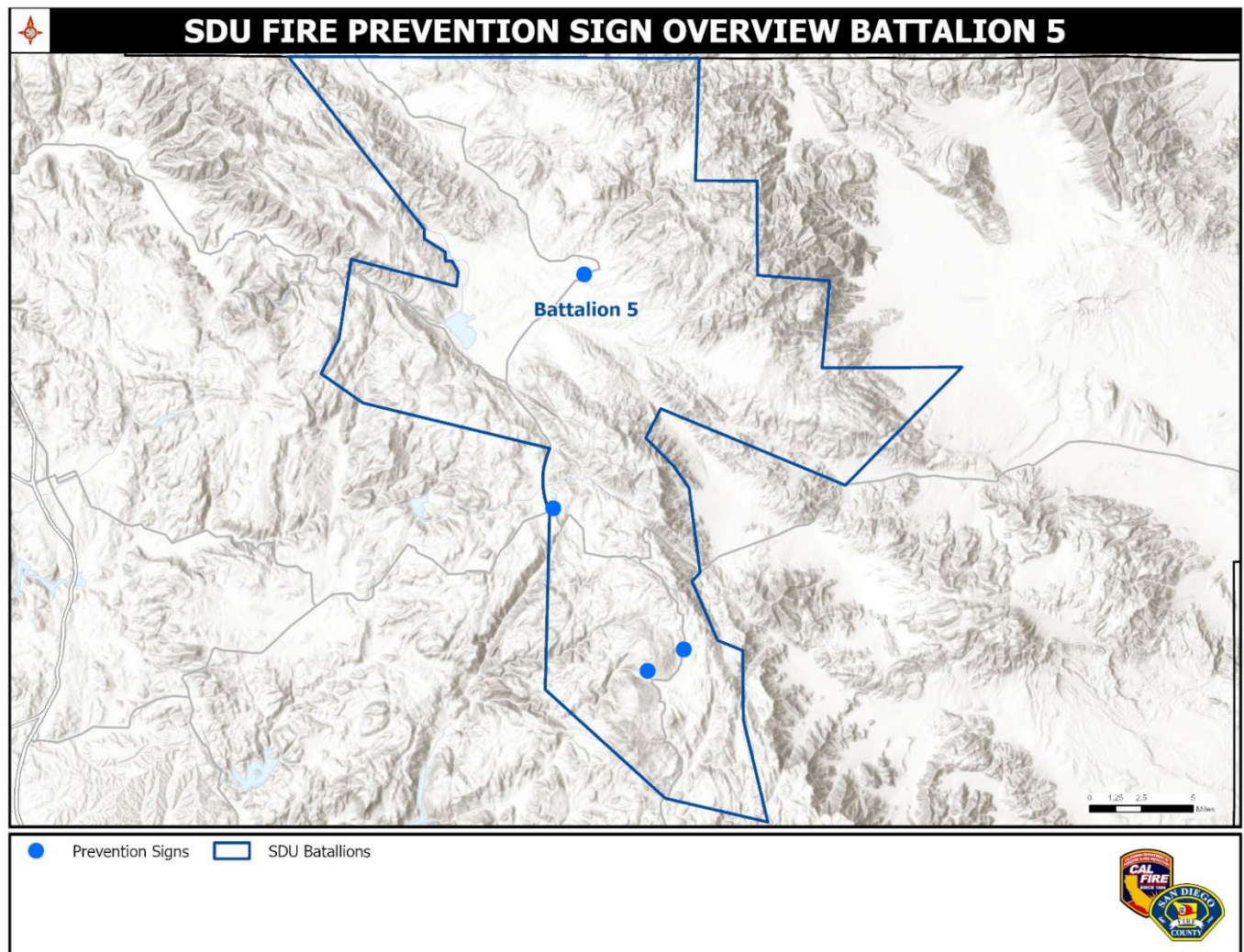
Fuel Breaks			
Battalion	Project Name	Type	Acres Treated
5	La Cima Roadside Brushing	Fuel Reduction	20
5	Sunrise Fuel Break	Fuel Break	47
5	Cuyamaca Peak Rx Burn	Rx Burn	86
5	Warner Springs Estates Fuel Break	Fuel Break	26
5	SRA Cuyamaca State Park Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	8
5	SRA Harrison Park Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	12
5	Lusardi Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	17
5	Remote water tank Maintenance Project	Water Tank Maintenance	N/A

Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
5	131	North Peak	1.63
5	132	Volcan	18.87

5	133	Rodriguez	5.64
5	134	Mason Valley	9.39
5	135	Chariot	5.43
5	162	Indian Flats	1.95
5	163	Puerta La Cruz	2.30
5	14	Cooper Cienega	2.65
5	18	Lost Valley Spur #1	1.14
5	19	Lost Valley	9.26
5	20	Los Coyotes	10.73
5	160	Lusardi	3.76
5	21/22	Los Coyotes Spur #2 and #3	2.59/1.24
5	23	Los Coyotes Spur #1	7.73
5	24	Beauty Mountain	11.40

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
5	Julian Station	Highway 79 X Engineers Road	Existing
5	Cuyamaca Station	Highway 79 X Sunrise Highway	Existing
5	Warner Springs Station	Highway 79 X Warner Springs Station 52	Planned
5	Warner Springs Station	Highway 79 X Highway 78	Existing

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
5	Julian Fire Safe Council	Active
5	Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council	Active
5	Wynola Estates Fire Safe Council	Active
5	Greater Sunshine Summit Fire Safe Council	Active
5	Los Tules/Warner Springs Fire Safe Council	Active



OVERVIEW

Battalion 6 is located in the Northeast corner of San Diego County and consists of 3 county funded fire stations. The Battalion is bordered by Sunshine Summit, Warner Springs, Julian and Cuyamaca to the west, Riverside County to the North, Imperial County to the East, and Jacumba and Mount Laguna to the South. The Battalion size is approximately 503,933 acres or 787 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Desert Scrub including creosote bush, brittlebush, and bur sage
- Heavy mixed chaparral intermixed with Grass-Oak woodlands
- Annual Grass
- Cactus including barrel cactus, cholla, and prickly pear
- Palms including California and desert fan palms.
- Dry and dead vegetation

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

Battalion 6 fire behavior is heavily influenced by the diverse desert vegetation and topography. Banner Grade itself traverses through rugged terrain characterized by desert scrub, including creosote bush, brittlebush, and cholla cactus, which can act as readily available fuel for wildfires. Additionally, the presence of dried annual grasses, palms in oasis habitats, and occasional patches of dead vegetation further contributes to the fuel load. The arid climate and hot, dry conditions prevalent in the region create an environment where fires can spread rapidly and exhibit erratic behavior, especially during periods of high winds. Firefighters face significant challenges in containment due to the steep slopes, and limited access.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on the cohesive fire strategies and stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County: We will measure success through monitoring, treated acres, the number of completed defensible space inspections and the number of public education contacts.

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs
- Borrego Youth Pilot Project: 6, 7, and 8 grade home fire safety and escape plan project

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 4,000 inspections
- Evaluate high risk areas based on environmental and infrastructure conditions, and use inspection compliance history to identify areas of focused inspections in the Battalion
- Ensure accurate collection of LE-100 data, utilizing the departments issued electronic platform
- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Continually evaluate opportunities of additional Fuel treatment projects
- Continuing to support community chipping events with Fire Crews and Equipment

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

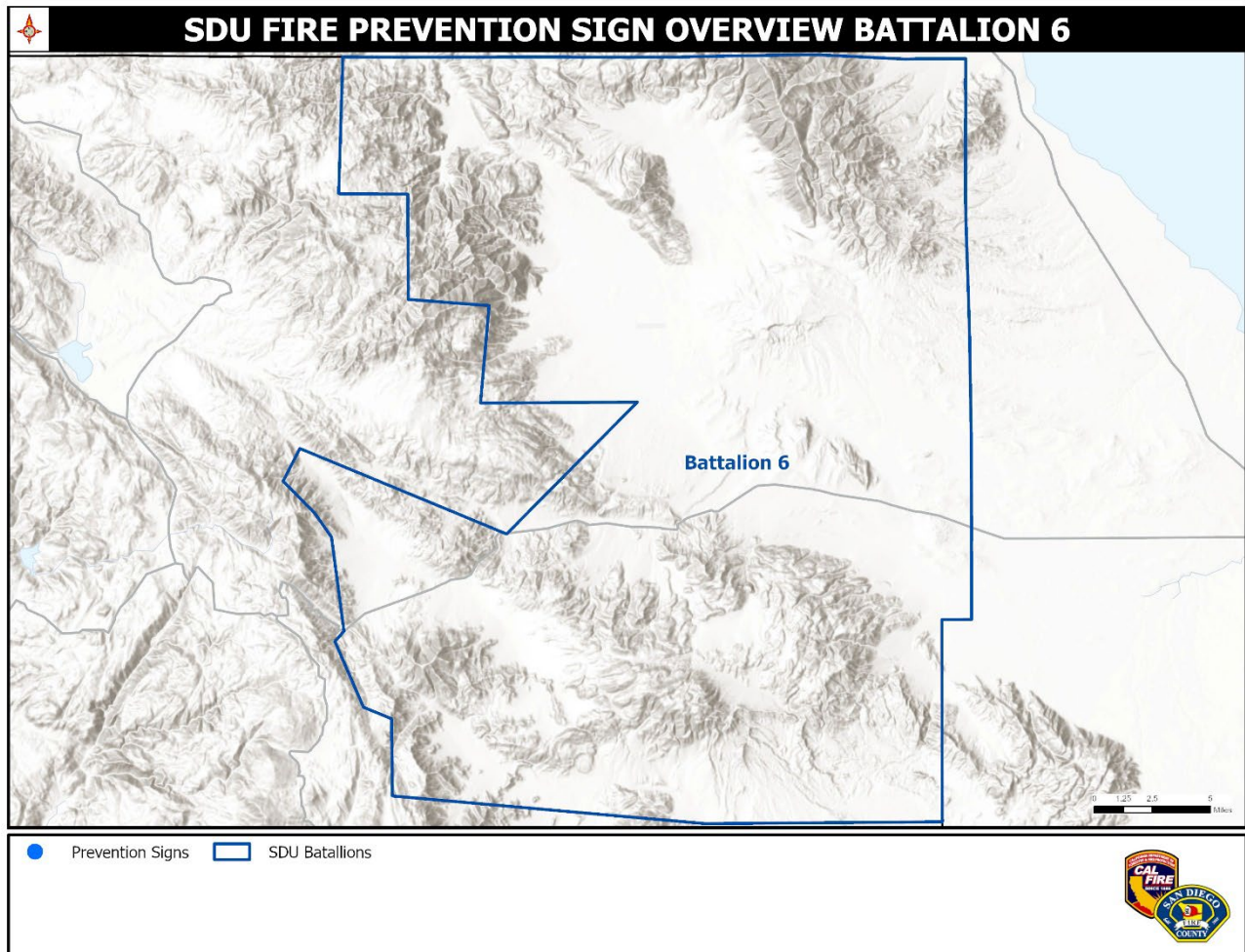
- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs

STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Battalion	Project Name	Acres Treated	Acres
6	None currently. Looking for opportunities		

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
6	Station 62	Great Overland X Highway 78	Planned
6	Station 60	Montezuma Valley Road 15mm	Planned
6	Station 60	Yaqi Pass Road X Rams Hill	Planned

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
6	Looking into establishing with the existing community group in Borrego	Planned



OVERVIEW

Battalion 7 is located in northern San Diego County. It is bordered to the north by Riverside County and the Cleveland National Forest (Palomar District), to the east by CAL FIRE Julian Battalion, to the west by CAL FIRE Red Mountain Battalion and the Deer Springs Fire Protection District, and to the south by the cities of Escondido and San Marcos and consists of two state funded stations and one county funded station. The Fox Fire Center is also located in Battalion 7. The Valley Center Battalion is unique in its orientation (SW to NE); this orientation lines up with northeast wind events (Santa Ana) which presents the potential for large fast-moving fires. The Battalion is approximately 176,635 acres or 276 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Heavy, old chaparral & coastal sage scrub on slopes, heavy riparian along creeks
- Grass-oak woodland or agricultural on valley floor
- Higher elevation mixed conifer with intermixed chaparral

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

This area includes one of the heaviest fuel beds in San Diego County. A historical wildfire corridor is due west in the San Diego River drainage. The area experiences strong Santa Ana winds in this drainage. Under critical fire weather, fires will burn w/ extreme fire behavior, explosive fire growth/high spread rates, heavy spotting, and crowning in timber. Established fires may develop strong plume dominated/fuel driven characteristics in the absence of wind domination. In the past, I.A. fires have immediately involved structures. Periods of returning onshore winds following a Santa Ana event can pose high risks & has historically contributed to firefighter deaths and large structural loss.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County:

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Provide fire preparedness programs to students K-12
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 5,200 inspections.
- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect Guejito, La Jolla, Von Sagren, Ridge Ranch, Wohlford Truck Trails to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access
- Implement vegetation management treatments and ignition reduction projects in priority WUI areas: Palomar Mountain, La Jolla, Pala, Pauma, and Rincon Reservations.

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot Roadway Clearance: North Lake Wohlfod Road, Valley Center Road, Cole Grade Road, East Grade Road, Old Castle Road, South Grade Road, Lilac Road
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs

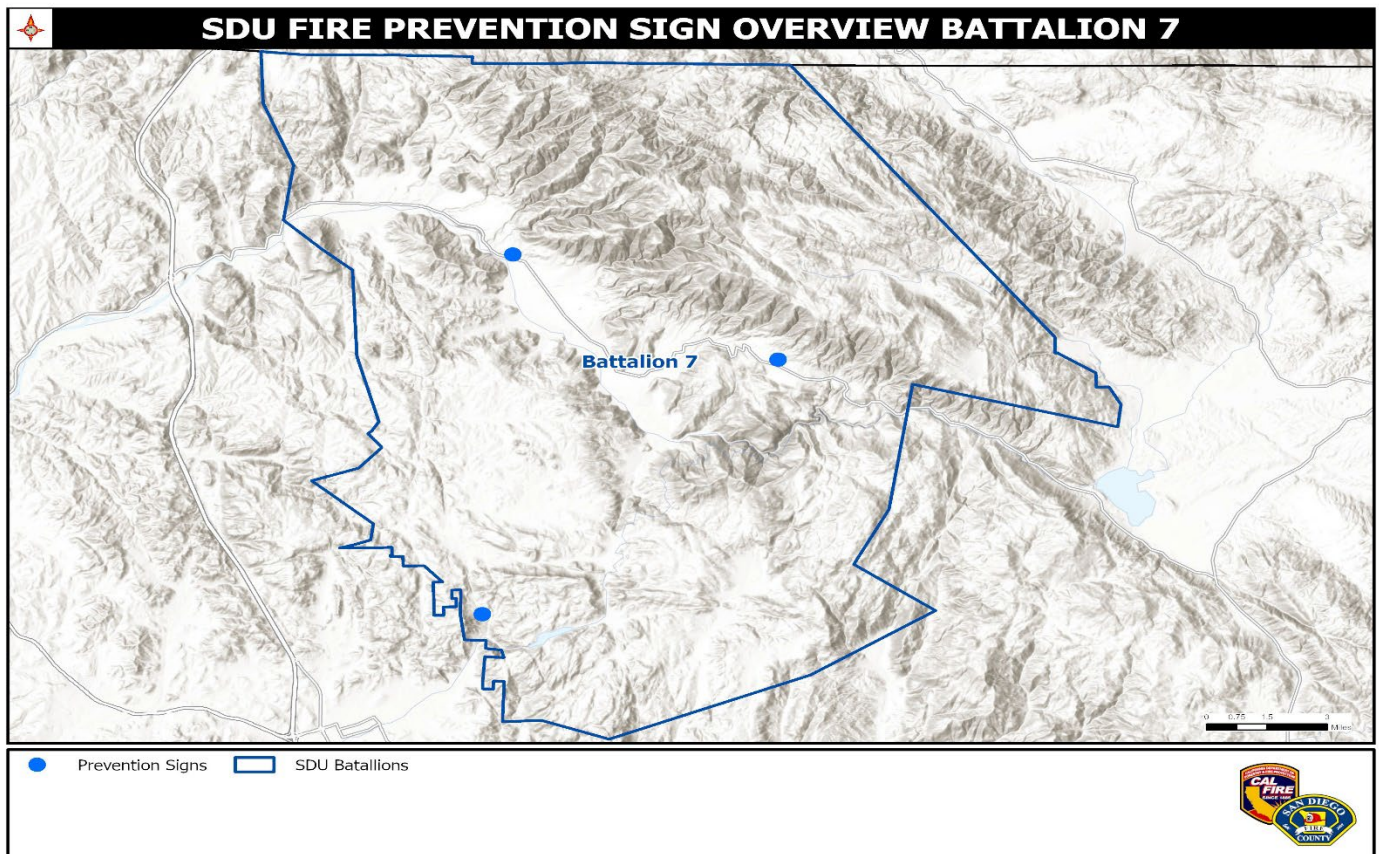
STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Fuel Breaks			
Battalion	Project Name	Type	Acres Treated
7	SRA - Palomar Divide Fuel Break	Fuel Break	34
7	Orosco Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	13
7	Von Sagren Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	13
7	Ridge Ranch Truck Trail	Fuel Reduction	9

Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
7	64	Guejito	4.80
7	9	Wohlford	2.15
7	10	Guejito	2.46
7	11	La Jolla	14.23
7	166	Orosco	5.06
7	170	Von Sagrin	3.06
7	171	Ridge Ranch	2.01

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
7	Station 71	Valley Center Road X Engelmann Road	Planned
7	Station 71	Old Castle Road X Old Castle Way	Planned
7	Station 70	Highway 76 X Adams Drive	Planned

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
7	Palomar Mountain	Active
7	Valley Center	Active



OVERVIEW

Battalion 8 is in the center of San Diego County. Battalion 8 is bordered by Julian and the Cuyamaca mountains to the east, the Barona Reservation, and Lakeside to the south, Escondido, San Diego, and Poway to the west, and the Cleveland National Forest (Palomar District) to the north and consists of two state funded stations and four county funded stations. The eastern boundary of Battalion 8 is Highway 78 x Hwy 79 crossing in Santa Isabel. The southern boundary is in Lakeside at Slaughterhouse Canyon Rd X Hwy 67. To the west, is the San Pasqual area near the San Diego Wild Animal Park X Hwy 78. The Battalion is approximately 187,920 acres or 294 square miles.

FUELS SUMMARY

The following is a fuels summary list:

- Predominately moderate chaparral, coastal sage, and annual grasses
- Some standing dead oak trees due to insect infestation
- Persistent drought has hindered fuel recovery from areas burned during 2007 fires to the north and 2003 fires to the south

FIRE BEHAVIOR SUMMARY

The San Diego River Canyon has a bad history as a deadly fire corridor. During Red Flag Warnings with high Santa Ana east wind conditions, fires may burn with extreme fire behavior: long flame lengths, high rates of spread and energy outputs, and long-range spotting. The topography of drainages and canyons forms a passage for northeast wind driven fires from the Santa Ysabel area to align with slopes and typically moves into this area at a very high rate of spread. There was substantial structure loss throughout Ramona during the Cedar fire in 2003.

BATTALION PREFIRE GOALS

The following objectives have been developed based on stakeholder input and are intended to facilitate multi-agency cooperation for fire protection planning efforts in San Diego County:

FOSTER FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

- Ensure effective communication and coordination with the Unit Communication Bureau
- Provide fire preparedness programs to students K-12
- Participating in Public Events to further community education
- Continue Ready Set Go and Why 100 education programs

PROMOTE STRUCTURAL HARDENING AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE TECHNIQUES TO IMPROVE STRUCTURE SURVIVABILITY.

- PRC 4291 Inspections – Battalion goal of 3,300 inspections
- Engineering and structural ignitability education and information
- Ensure accurate collection of LE-100 data, utilizing the departments issued electronic platform
- Identify operational/response planning needs (e.g., wildfire response plans, evacuation areas, evacuation routes, shelter locations, fire equipment staging areas, control objectives, significant environmental areas, etc.)

ESTABLISH STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND REDUCED FUEL ZONES TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY DEFENSE.

- Regularly inspect Foster, Mount Woodson, Iron Mountain, and Kimball Truck Trails to ensure back country access roads are maintained and brushed to support wildland fire access
- Implement vegetation management treatments and ignition reduction projects in priority WUI areas: Ramona, Mussey Grade

MAINTAIN DEPENDABLE INGRESS AND EGRESS ROUTES.

- Maintain evacuation corridors utilizing the P.A.C.E. concept (Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency)
- 20-foot Roadway Clearance: Highway 67 & 78
- Provide Wildland interface preparation training
- Work with Fire Safe Councils on CWPP and community education programs

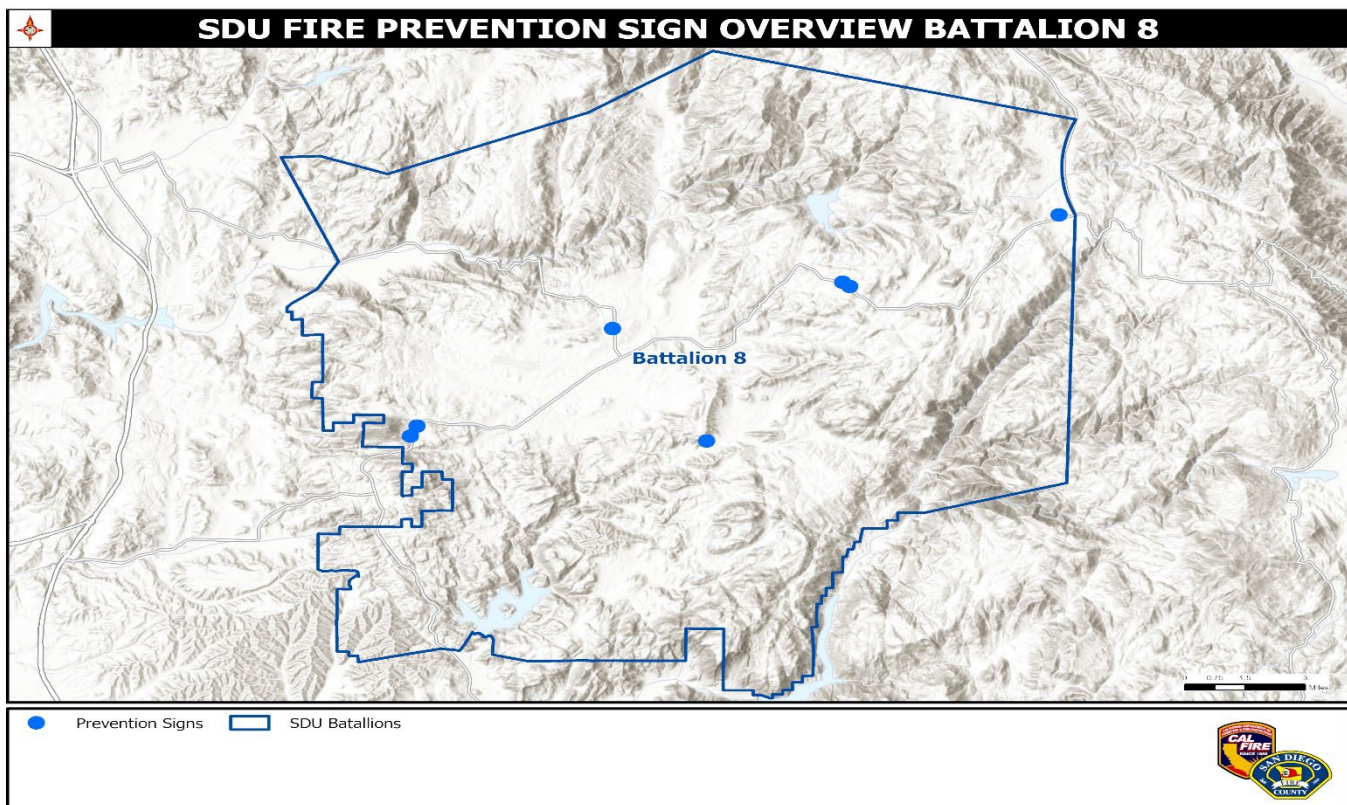
STRATEGIC FUEL BREAKS AND PRIORITY PREFIRE MAINTENANCE PROJECTS

Fuel Breaks			
Battalion	Project Name	Type	Acres Treated
8	Tulloch Ranch VMP	Rx Burn	909
8	SRA Ramona West End Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	54
8	Moretti Ranch VMP	Rx Burn	284
8	Mt. Woodson Road / Repeater Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	9
8	San Diego County Country Estates	Fuel Reduction	95

Truck Trails			
Battalion	Map Labels	Truck Trails	Length in Miles
8	63	Foster	4.98
8	15	Mount Woodson	1.66
8	17	Iron Mountain	4.65
8	169	Kimball	7.00

Prevention Signs			
Battalion	Maintenance	Sign Location	Status
8	Station 86	Highway 78 X Cedar Street	Existing
8	Station 86	San Vicente Road X Serra Way	Existing
8	Station 87	Highway 78 X Highway 79	Existing
8	Station 85	Highway 78 X Rancho Santa Teresa Drive	Existing
8	Station 85	Highway 78 X Casner Road	Existing
8	Station 86	Highway 67 X Rockhouse Road	Existing
8	Station 86	Highway 67 X Mount Woodson Road	Existing
8	Station 87	Old Julian Highway X Wood Hill Lane	Planned

Fire Safe Councils		
Battalion	Fire Safe Councils	Status
8	Ramona West	Active



APPENDIX A—CURRENT PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

The Unit's Pre-Fire/Resource Management Projects and Activities are directly linked to specific Unit Goal and Objectives. These projects and activities are related to fuel modification, community outreach and education programs, etc.

Battalion	Project Name	Status	Type	Acres	Year
1	Roblar Truck Trail	Active	Fuel Reduction	9	2024
1	Rainbow Truck Trail	Active	Fuel Reduction	9	2026
1	Moosa Fuel Break	Planned	Fuel Reduction	106	2024
1	Welk View Truck Trail	Active	Fuel Reduction	102	2026
2	Crest Community Fuel Break	Active	Fuel Break	158	2025
2	Valley View Truck Trail	Planned	Fuel Reduction	19	2024
2	Suncrest Truck Trail	Completed	Fuel Reduction	6	2023
2	Lonestar VMP	Planned	Rx Fire	1100	2025
2	Viejas Tribe VMP	Planned	Rx Fire	430	2025
3	Honey Springs Truck Trail	Completed	Fuel Reduction	33	2024
3	Daley Ranch Truck Trail	Completed	Fuel Reduction	21	2024
3	Lucky Six Fuel Break	Completed	Fuel Break	68	2023
4	McCain Valley Rx Fire Training	Active	Rx Burn	200	2024
4	Corte Madera VMP	Active	Rx Burn	219	2024
4	Campo Hills Fuel Break	Completed	Fuel Break	15	2023
4	Pine Valley Fuel Break	Completed	Fuel Break	35	2023
4	Campo VMP	Completed	Rx Burn	454	2025
4	La Posta Tribe Fuel Reduction	Active	Fuel Reduction	690	2025
4	Southern California Ignition Reduction Program: I-8 Corridor	Active	Fuel Reduction	90	2025
4	CDFW Wister VMP	Active	Rx Burn	5,253	2026
5	Moretti Ranch VMP	Active	RX Burn	1,209	205
5	Sunrise Fuel Break	Active	Fuel Break	280	2024
5	Cuyamaca Lookout Road	Completed	Fuel Reduction	14	2023

5	Warner Springs Estates Fuel Break	Completed	Fuel Break	26	2025
7	La Jolla Truck Trail Fuel Reduction	Completed	Fuel Reduction	82	2023
7	Palomar Divide Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	42	2022
7	Guijeto Ranch VMP	Planned	Rx Fire	4500	2025
7	Von Sagrin Truck Trail	Planned	Fuel Reduction	13	2026
8	Mt. Woodson Repeater	Completed	Fuel Reduction	280	2023
8	San Diego Country Estates	Active	Fuel Reduction	95	2024
8	Ramona West End Fuel Break	Planned	Fuel Break	54	2024
8	Moretti Ranch VMP	Planned	Rx Burn	284	2024
8	Tulloch Ranch VMP	Active	Rx Burn	909	2023
8	Barona Tribe Rx Fire	Active	Rx Fire	610	2025
8	Vista Irrigation District Rx Fire	Planned	Rx Fire	4000	2025

APPENDIX B—COMPLETED PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Below is a list of completed fuels management projects in support of the overall strategic fire plan goals.

Battalion	Project Name	Status	Type	Acres Treated	Year
1	Rainbow Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	9	2023
1	Moosa Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	86	2022
1	Welkview Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	64	2026
1	Tenaja Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	13	2019
1	Roblar Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	9	2018
2	Crest Community Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	158	2025
2	Sycuan Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	13	2016
2	Suncrest Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	4	2021
2	Valley View Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	21	2021
3	Honey Springs Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	17	2023
3	Wisecarver Truck Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	33	2020
3	Daley Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	21	2023
3	Lyons-Lawson Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	9	2019
3	Barrett Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	38	2015
4	Tierra Del Sol Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	89	2022
4	Calexico Lodge Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	14	2021
4	Lake Morena Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	35	2020
4	Campo Hills Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	7	2020
4	Pine Valley Community Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	23	2020
4	Campo/Camp Locket Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	24	2020
4	Guatay Community Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	72	2018
4	SRA – DDD County Tree Removal	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	N/A	2016
5	Puerta La Cruz Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Road	6	2021
5	Cooper Cienega Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Road	6	2021

5	Rodriguez Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Road	14	2021
5	Charriott Mountain Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Road	13	2021
5	Beauty Mountain (East) Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Road	28	2021
5	BSA Camp Mataguay Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	59	2025
5	SRA - Cuyamaca Woods Roadside Hazardous Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	10	2017
5	Cuyamaca State Park Lookout Road	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	20	2017
5	Camp Winacka Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	42	2017
5	SRA Cuyamaca State Park Fuel Reduction Phase II	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	10	2016
5	SRA Cuyamaca Woods Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	10	2016
5	Cuyamaca State Park Prescribed Burn Support	In Maintenance	Rx Burn	80	2016
5	SRA Cuyamaca State Park Fuel Reduction Phase I	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	8	2015
5	SRA Harrison Park Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	12	2015
5	William Hiese/Volcan Mt. Preserve	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	33	2014
6	SRA - San Diego Backcountry Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	11	2017
7	La Jolla Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	100	2023
7	Ridge Ranch Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	9	2021
7	Von Sagren Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	13	2021
7	Rancho Santa Fe Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	15	2020
7	Doane Valley Rx Burn	In Maintenance	Rx Burn	100	2018
7	Lusardi Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	17	2018
7	Orosco Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	13	2017
7	SRA - Palomar Divide Fuel Break	In Maintenance	Fuel Break	34	2017
8	Mt. Woodson Road / Repeater Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	9	2020
8	SRA Ramona West End Fuel Reduction	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	54	2019
8	Foster Truck Trail	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	17	2016
8	SRA - Ramona Community DDD Tree Removal Project	In Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	N/A	2016
4, 5	Remote Watertank Maintenance Project	In Maintenance	Water Tank Maintenance	N/A	2016
All	One Less Spark Media Campaign	In Maintenance	Media Outreach/PSA	N/A	2015

APPENDIX C—GRANT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Through the California Climate Investments (CCI) Fire Prevention Grant Program, CAL FIRE aims to reduce the risk of wildland fires to habitable structures and communities, while maximizing carbon sequestration in healthy wildland habitat and minimizing the uncontrolled release of emissions emitted by wildfires. Below is a list of grants awarded to local cooperators to date in chronological order.

Fiscal Year Grant Awarded	Battalion	Project Name	Deliverable	Grant Amount	Grantee
2014/2015	4	Dead, Dying and Diseased Tree Removal - Descanso	420 trees removed	\$450,000	San Diego County
2014/2015	1	Deer Springs Community Fuels Reduction and Chipping Project	Chipping	\$29,610	Deer Springs Fire Safe Council
2014/2015	7	SRA Greater Valley Center Community Chipping Days	Chipping	\$50,000	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2014/2015	7	Woods Valley and Paradise Mountain Rd Fuel Reduction Project	32 AC	\$130,000	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2014/2015	7	SRA Greater Valley Center Eden and Hidden Valley	24 AC	\$8,000	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2014/2015	7	Palomar Mountain Community Chipping Days	Chipping	\$6,900	Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department
2014/2015	7	Palomar Divide SRA Fuel Break	36 AC	\$25,605	Palomar Mountain Volunteer Fire Department
2015/2016	8	Ramona Dead and Dying Hazardous Tree Removal	86 Trees removed	\$64,799	Ramona West End Fire Safe Council
2015/2016	5	Cuyamaca Woods Roadside Hazardous Fuels Reduction	17 AC	\$49,500	Cuyamaca Woods Fire Safe Council
2015/2016	2	San Diego Back Country Fuel Reduction Project	39 AC	\$93,855	Urban Corps of San Diego County
2016/2017	7	Valley Center Community Chipping Days	Chipping	\$74,000	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2016/2017	5	Julian Community Fire Fuel Reduction Project	26 AC	\$53,612	Urban Corps of San Diego County
2016/2017	8	Ramona Dead and Dying Hazardous Tree Removal - 2	118 trees removed	\$65,099	Ramona West End Fire Safe Council
2016/2017	5	Sunrise Fuel Break	51 AC	\$107,425	Fire Safe Council of San Diego County
2017/2018	7	Valley Center Community Chipping Days	Chipping	\$164,124	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2017/2018	7	Valley Center Community Wildfire Education	Education	\$31,180	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2017/2018	7	Valley Center Community Evacuation Route Fuels Reduction	TBD	\$162,185	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2017/2018	1	Deer Springs Community Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Education	TBD	\$93,230	Deer Springs Fire Safe Council

2017/2018	2	San Diego Right of Way Clearance	58 AC	\$106,761	Urban Corps of San Diego County
2018/2019	8	Ramona Dead and Dying Hazardous Tree Removal - 3	108 dead trees	\$67,100	Ramona West End Fire Safe Council
2018/2019	7	Greater Valley Center Community Wildfire Protection Planning	Planning	\$64,780	Greater Valley Center Fire Safe Council
2018/2019	8	PNEC Fire Safety & Prevention Educational Outreach Program	Education	\$24,608	Poway Neighborhood Emergency Corps
2019/2020	7	Palomar Mountain Fire Break & Evacuation Project	10 AC	\$169,520	Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council
2019/2020	7	Saving San Diego's Last Mixed Conifer Forest (Forest Health Grant)	2,000 AC	\$4,994,531	Fire Safe Council of San Diego County
2020/2021	1-8	Reducing Fuels and Increasing Evacuation Readiness in San Diego	298 AC / DSI PMs	\$5,221,043	San Diego County Fire
2020/2021	7	Pala Fire Prevention Fuels Project	158 AC	\$401,678	Pala Band of Mission Indians
2020/2021	TBD	Caltrans Integrated Vegetation Management	39.5 AC	\$181,539	Urban Corps of San Diego County
2020/2021	1	Deer Springs Community Chipping Program	Chipping	\$24,800	Deer Springs Fire Safe Council
2021/2022	8	PNEC & FSC Enhanced Community Educational Outreach	Education	\$46,743.00	Poway Neighborhood Emergency Corps
2021/2022	8	Ramona Community Dead and Dying Hazardous Tree Removal 4	152 dead trees	\$67,500.00	Ramona West End Fire Safe Council
2022/2023	1	Defensible Space - Tanks, Reservoirs & Pump Stations	TBD	\$161,840.00	Rainbow Municipal Water District
2022/2023	7	Pala Phase 2 and Support for Fire Prevention Grant	TBD	\$442,919.68	Pala Band of Mission Indians
2022/2023	1	Deer Springs Evacuation Route Improvement, Community Chipping, and Education Program	Chipping	\$59,482.50	Deer Springs Fire Safe Council
2022/2023	7	Palomar Mountain Emergency Access and Emergency Evacuation Project	TBD	\$149,700.00	Palomar Mountain Fire Safe Council
Total = \$ 13,843,669.18					

2023/2024	7	Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove Fuels Reduction	Fuel Reduction / Grazing	\$649,208.00	Elfin Forest Harmony Grove Fire Safe Council
2023/2024	7	Pauma Pyrodiversity Project: Reviving Tribal Diversity	Rx Fire / Reforestation	\$734,040.00	Pauma Band of Mission Indians
2023/2024	5	INSY Forest Management	Fuel Reduction / Reforestation	\$2,000,000.00	lipay Nation of Santa Ysabel
2023/2024	7	Balanced Forest Health & Cultural Fire	Rx Fire / GSOB	\$2,500,000.00	La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
2023/2024	N/A	Regional Forest & Fire Capacity Program	CWPP / Community Outreach / Coordination	\$5,355,000.00	RCD of Greater San Diego
2024/2025	2	Crest Curbside Chipping	Chipping	\$63,860.00	Crest Fire Safe Council
2024/2025	7	Scripps Ranch Dead, Dying and Diseased Tree Removal Project	Dead/Dying Tree Removal	\$289,052.14	Scripps Ranch Fire Safe Council
			Total = \$ 25,434,829.30		

EXHIBITS: MAPS

The following list of maps provides the background information regarding the geographical layout of the San Diego Unit:

MAP 1: SAN DIEGO UNIT OVERVIEW MAP

MAP 2: SAN DIEGO UNIT LAND OWNERSHIP

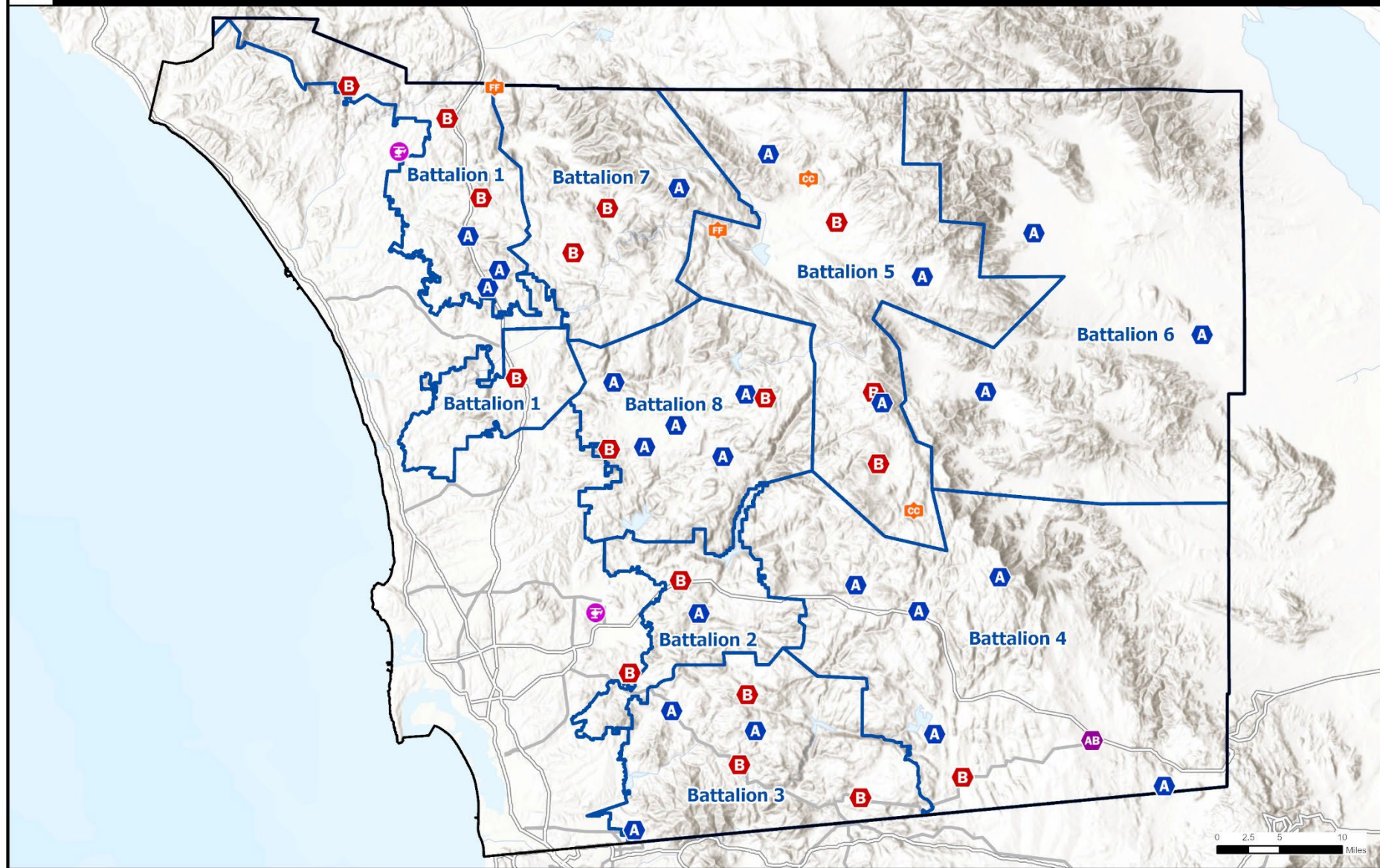
MAP 3: SAN DIEGO UNIT FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES

MAP 4: SAN DIEGO UNIT DIRECT PROTECTION AREAS

MAP 5: SAN DIEGO UNIT FIRE SAFE COUNCILS / CWPP MAP



SDU UNIT OVERVIEW



Fire Station - Schedule A



Fire Station - Schedule B



Fire Station - Schedule A/B



Conservation Camp



Fire Center - Firefighter Crews



Helitack Base

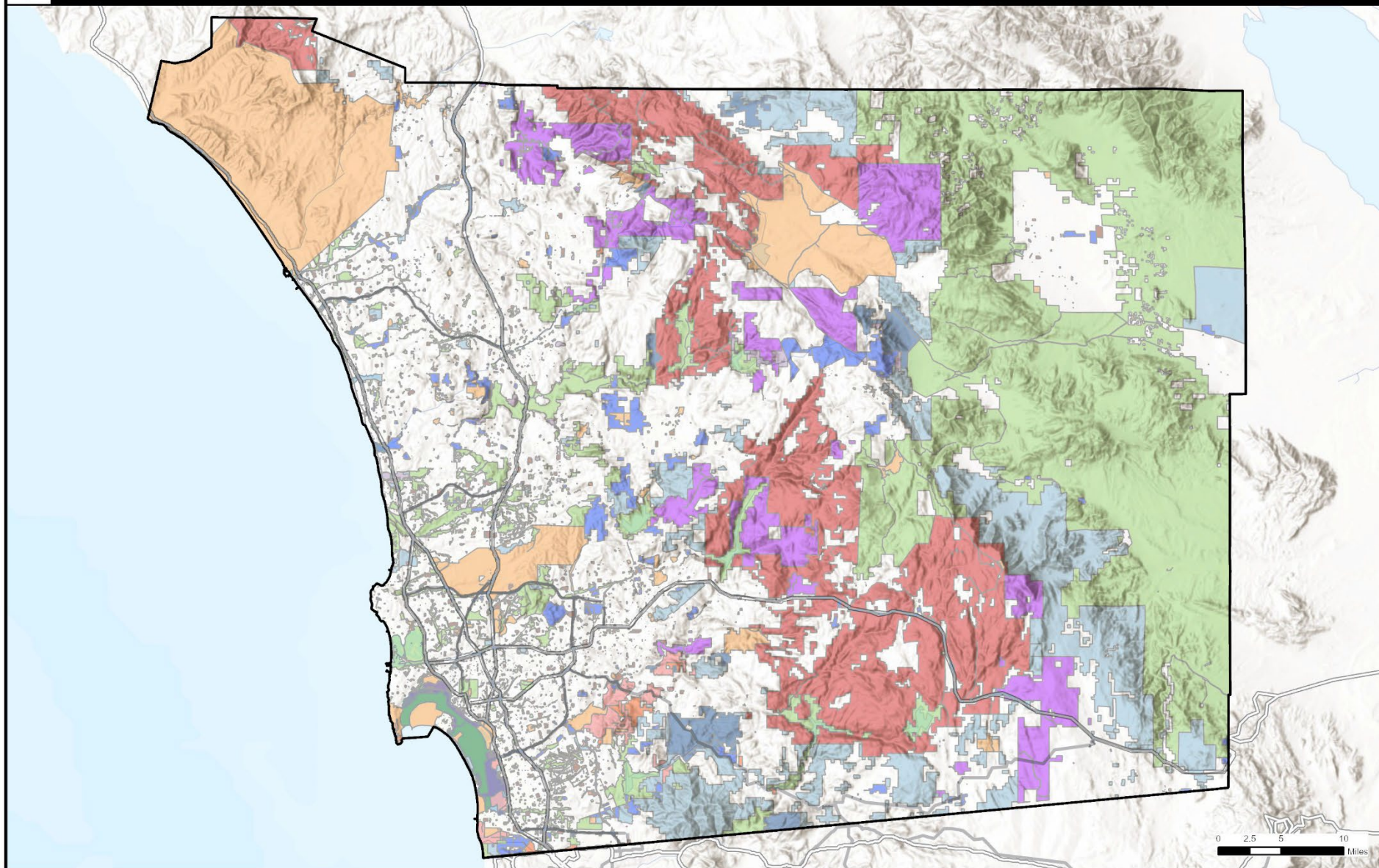


SDU Battalions





SDU LAND OWNERSHIP

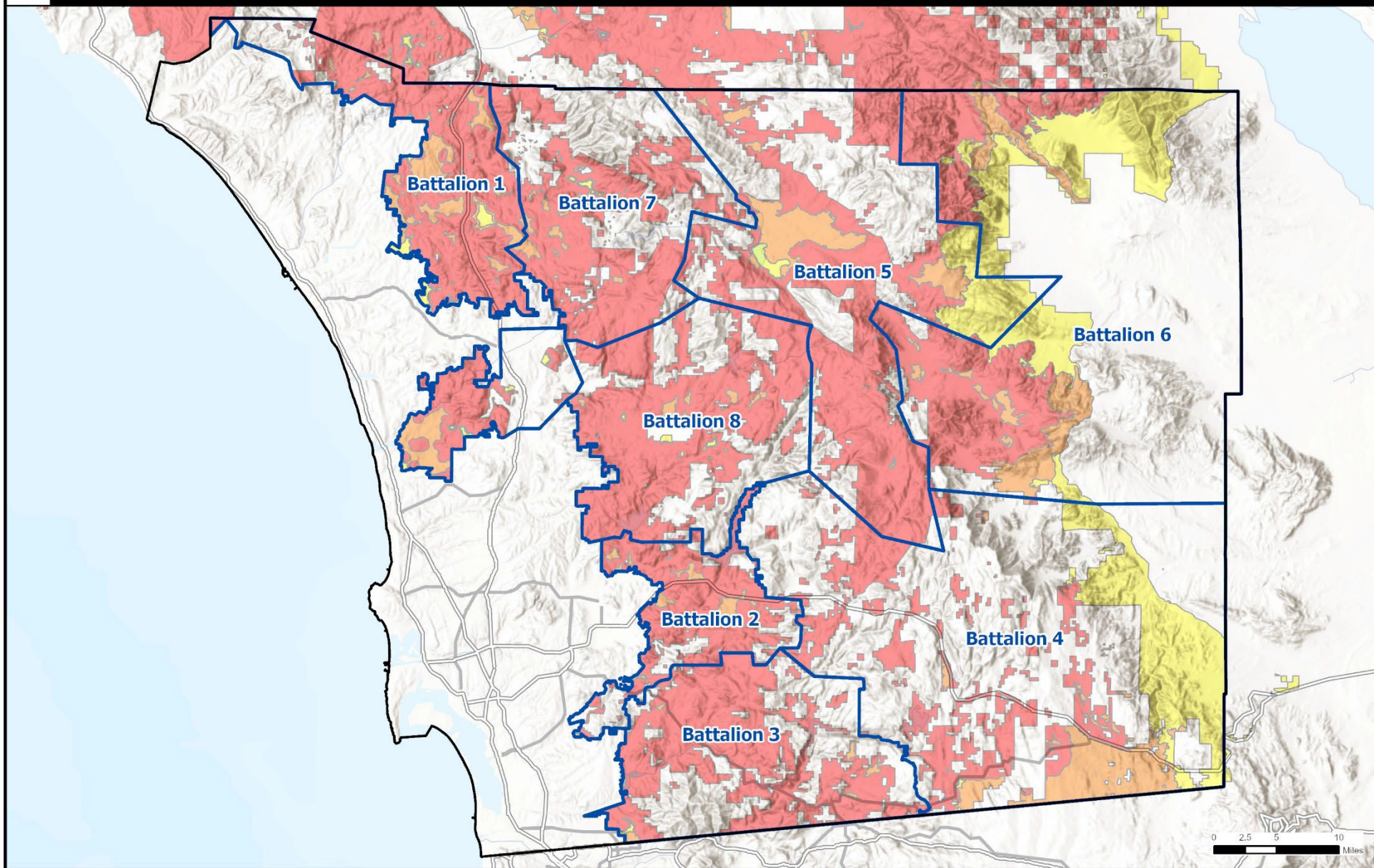


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|--|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Bureau of Land Management | Indian Reservations | Sanitation Districts | State of California Land Commission |
| California Department of Fish and Game | Military Reservations | School Districts | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service |
| City | Other Federal | State | U.S. Forest Service |
| County | Other Special Districts | State (Caltrans) | Water Districts |
| Fire Districts | Port of San Diego | State Park | |



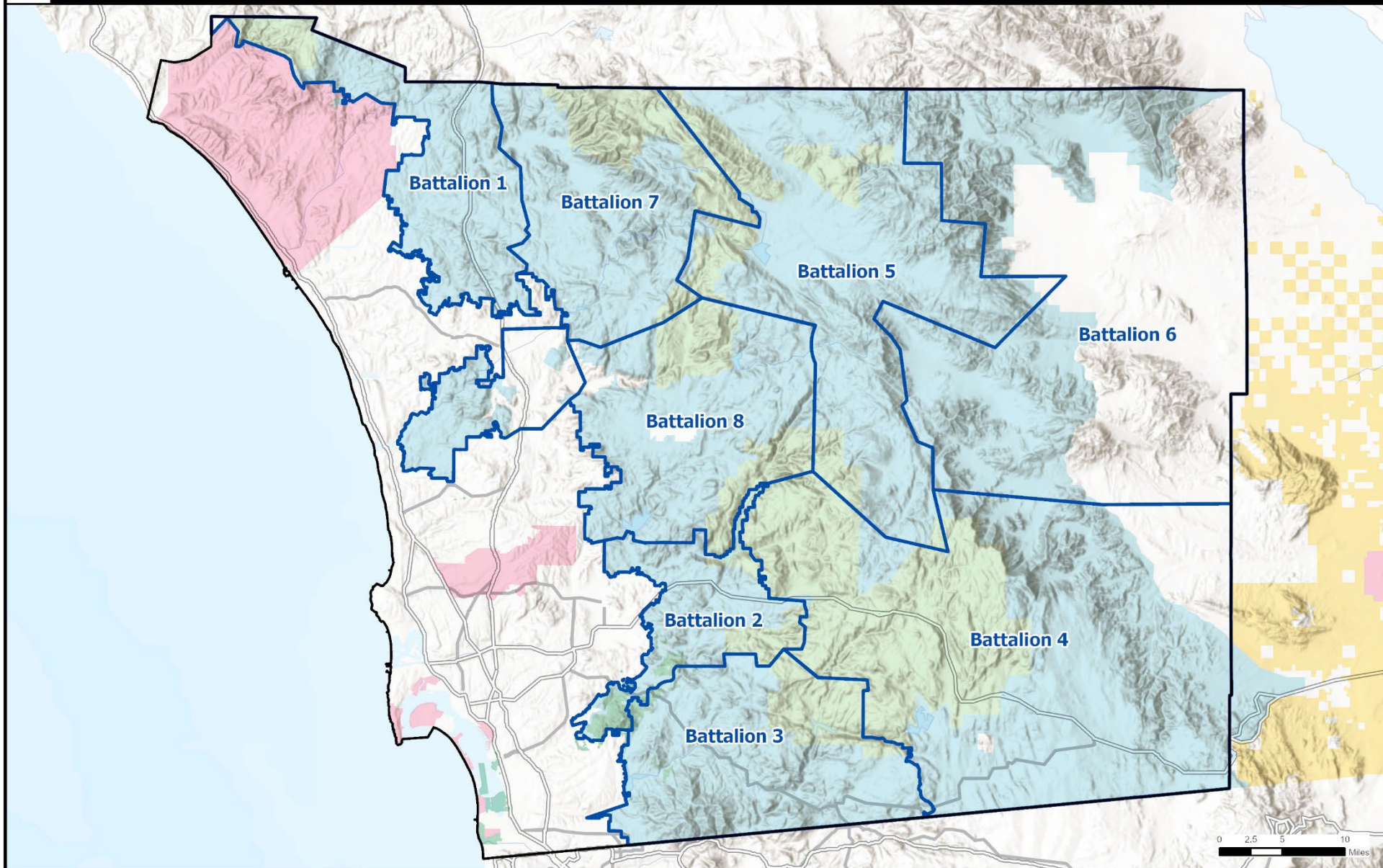


SDU FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES 2024





SDU DIRECT PROTECTION AREAS



- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Bureau of Indian Affairs | Department of Defense | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | SDU Battalions |
| Bureau of Land Management | NASA | USDA/Forest Service | |
| Bureau of Reclamation | National Park Service | | |
| CAL FIRE | | | |





SDU FIRE SAFE COUNCILS/CWPP



Please visit <https://firesafesdcounty.org/> for latest info



