Napa County Wildfire Home Safety Webinar

August 24, 2021

NAPAFIREWISE

Agenda

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- Who is NCFF, Why You Should Care & What You Can Do
- How We're Helping Protect the County: Plans and Grants
- Napa County Emergency Preparedness
- Preparing Your Home and Community for Wildfires

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Who is NCFF, Why You Should Care & What You Can Do

Christopher Thompson, Board President, NCFF

What We Do, and Why We Do It…

- Napa Communities Firewise Foundation is a county-wide nonprofit organization that has been operating since 2004.
- The mission of the NCFF is to reduce the risk and impacts of wildfires, through fire fuel reduction.
- Napa County spans over 504,960 acres,73% of which is designated as “Fire Hazard Severity Zone.”
- The NCFF represents about 30,000 residents through 16 Fire Safe Councils (FSC). 94% of those Fire Safe Council areas are in the designated CalFIRE Hazard Severity Zones.

16 Firesafe Councils in Napa County

1. Angwin
2. Atlas Peak
3. Berryessa Estates
4. Berryessa Highlands
5. Calistoga
6. Circle Oaks
7. Deer Park
8. Diamond Mt
9. Gordon Valley
10. Hennessey Rector
11. Lake Hennessey
12. Mt. Veeder / Dry Creek
13. Silverado
14. Soda Canyon
15. Spring Mountain
16. St. Helena

Recent Accomplishments

- NCFF = **Napa Communities Firewise Foundation**
- Released County-wide **CWPP** in April = **Community Wildfire Protection Plan**
- Received a commitment of $6.4 Million from **Napa County** for fuel reduction work
- In the last four months, the NCFF has executed over $1 Million in fuel reduction work in Circle Oaks and Angwin
- NCFF is working with the **California Fire Safe Council** on a $1 Million grant for Defensible Space efforts in underserved neighborhoods. Our first project is in the Berryessa Estates and covers 180 residences
- NCFF has $11 Million in **Fire Protection & Forest Health Applications** being considered by CalFIRE which will cover all areas of the County if approved
- NCFF submitted a $42 Million budget for the next 5-years, we will ask the community to pass a tax to raise $100 Million over 10-years for the work that's needed

Hardening Your Home Basics

What IS Required For Fire

Defensible Space Removes The Fuel

Why Defensible Space Matters? **Because *you* are also responsible for protecting the County**

Defensible Space is not just to protect your home from the wildand, it's also to protect the wildland from your home!

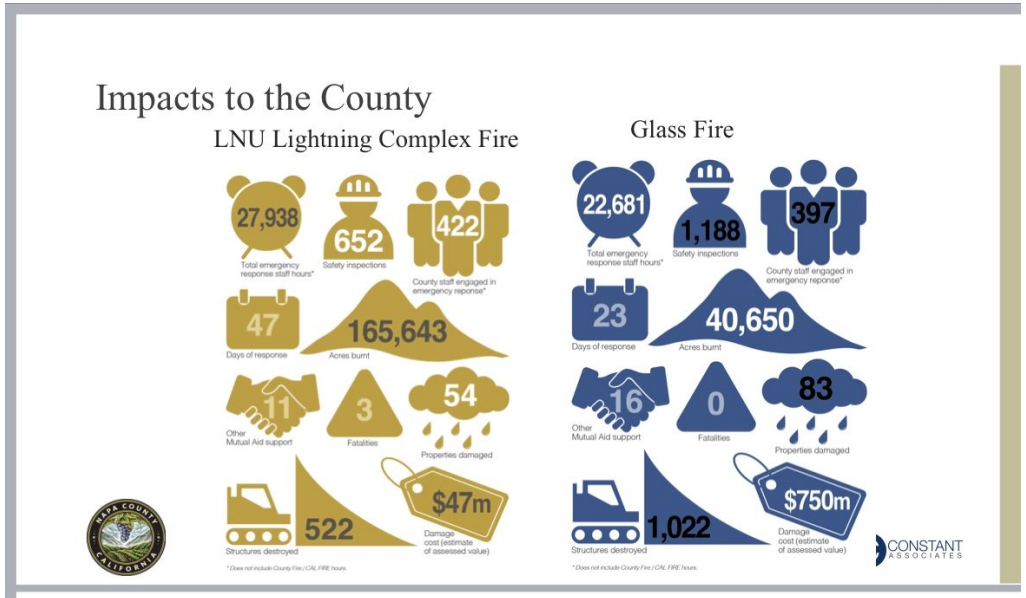
The 2010 Census states that in Deer Park there are 546 homes

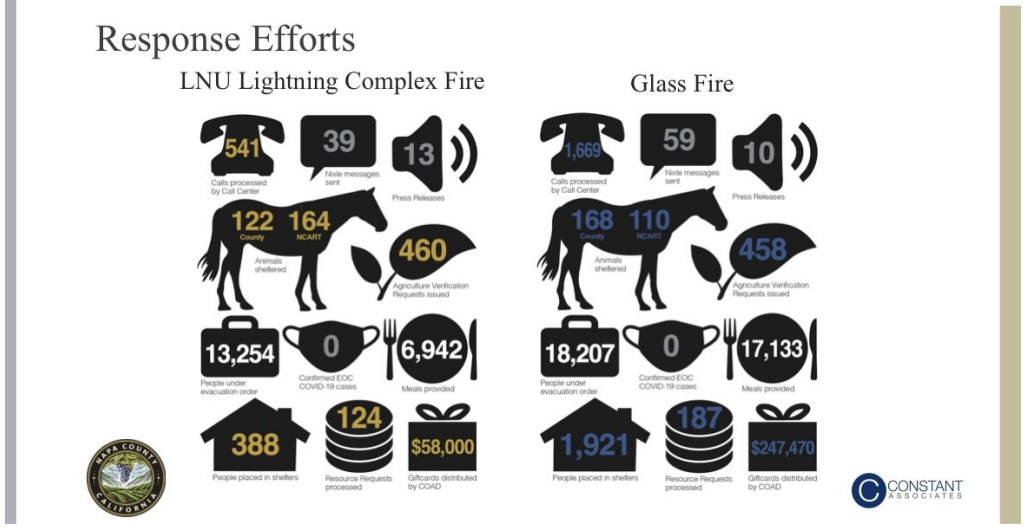
Imagine if each home was ¼ acre. That's 136 acres that would have been hardened and provided a place for firefighters to position their apparatus to both protect your home, and to take a stand against the incoming fire

What Does A Fire Season Look Like?

Sept '20 Glass Fire:
- 40,000 Acres Burned!
- $750m Damages
- 1022 Structures Lost

Aug '20 LNU Lighting Complex:
- 165,000 Acres Burned
- 3 Fatalities
- 522 Structures Lost





What Can I Do?

911 Signs!

What we often see

What we are moving to

What Else Can I Do? What Else Should You do…

- Again, Make Defensible Space Around Your Home!
- Understand Home Hardening Basics
- Pay Attention to Red Flag Warnings
- Learn Your Zone!
- Evacuate When You Are Told To Leave

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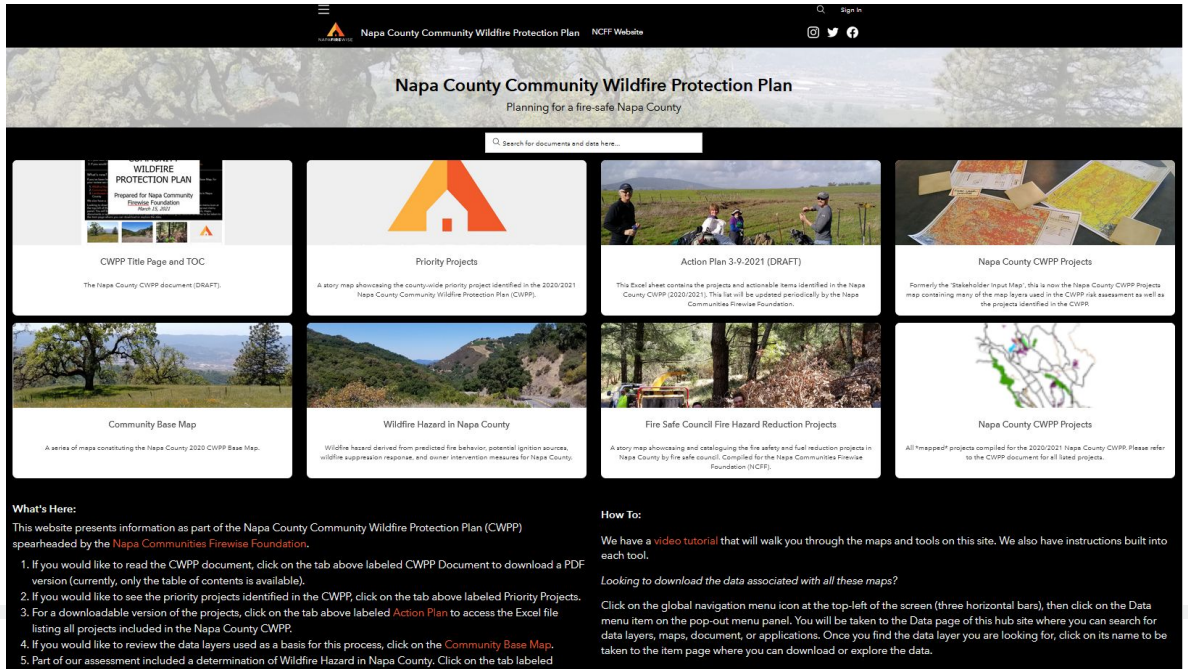
How We're Helping Protect the County: Plans and Grants

Joe Nordlinger, VP Grants, NCFF

Final Product

- **Napa CWPP Hub on the web with:**
- Community Base Map with tabs
- Hazard and Risk assessment
- Master Project list, searchable database (on Hub)
- Interactive maps of Projects
- CWPP Document
- **Action Plan!**



Our CWPP – A Fuels Roadmap For The Future!

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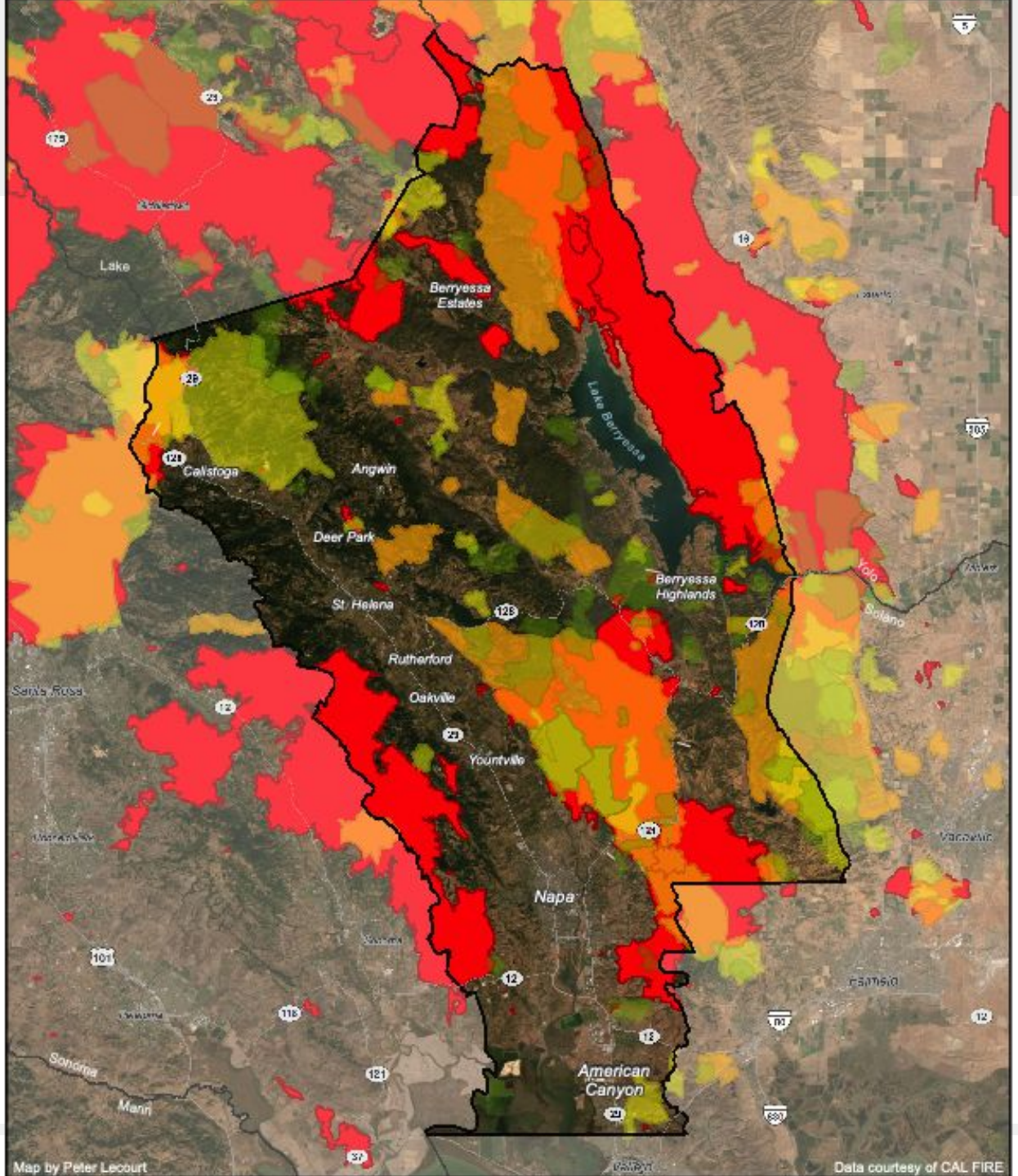
- A Reference Architecture for the evolution of NCFF and Napa County
  - Access and Egress
  - Regional Historical Fire Complexes
  - Fire Safe Councils
  - Areas of Individual Rural Landowners
  - Based on the state-of-the-art technology with latest, most accurate data



70 Yrs of NAPA COUNTY FIRE HISTORY

Fire Perimeters
1950 *to* 2019

RED: 2001 – 2018
ORANGE: 1981 - 2000

YELLOW: 1961 - 1980

GREEN: 1947 - 1960

Napa's Fire Safe Councils

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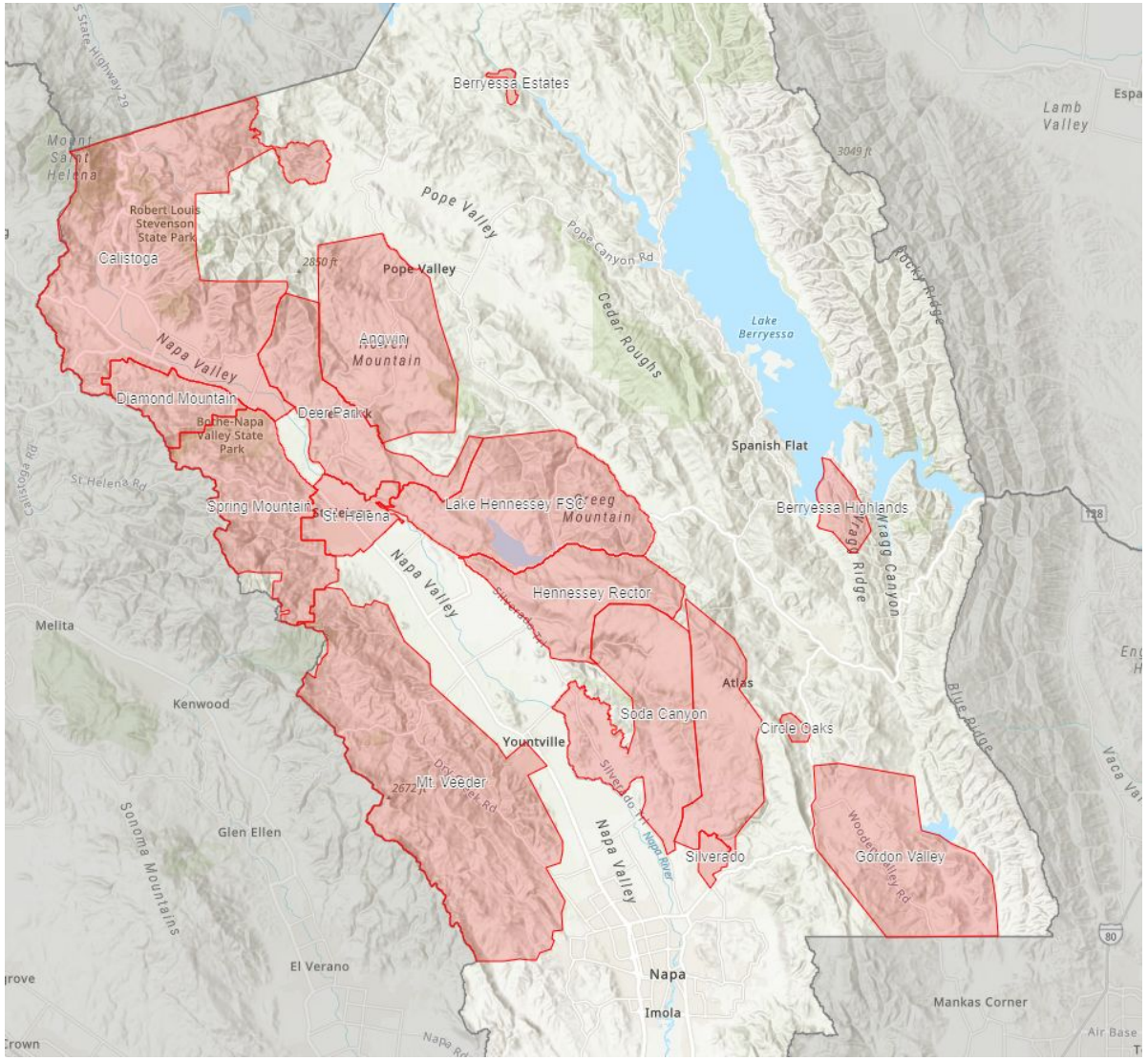

16 FIRE SAFE COUNCILS OF THE NAPA COMMUNITIES FIREWISE FOUNDATION

Project Priorities – The Road Map for 5 Years

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Types of projects which are critically important

1. Evacuation Corridors for ingress and egress
   - County, Limited Access, Legacy Fire Access Infrastructure
   - Water Source Protection
2. Rural Land Compartments
   - Fuel Reduction at the Property Level
   - Hardening/Defensible Space
   - Water Storage

FUNDING LANDSCAPE – DIFFICULTY/REWARD MATRIX

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1 -NCFF Direct Ad : Episodic Funds Simple application, no CEQA or NOE or financials, simple grant administration

2 -PG&E (Vegetation Management): Simple application, CEQA and NOE required, simple grant administration

3 -Cal Fire (Fire Prevention Grants): Detailed application, CEQA and NOE required, moderate grant administration

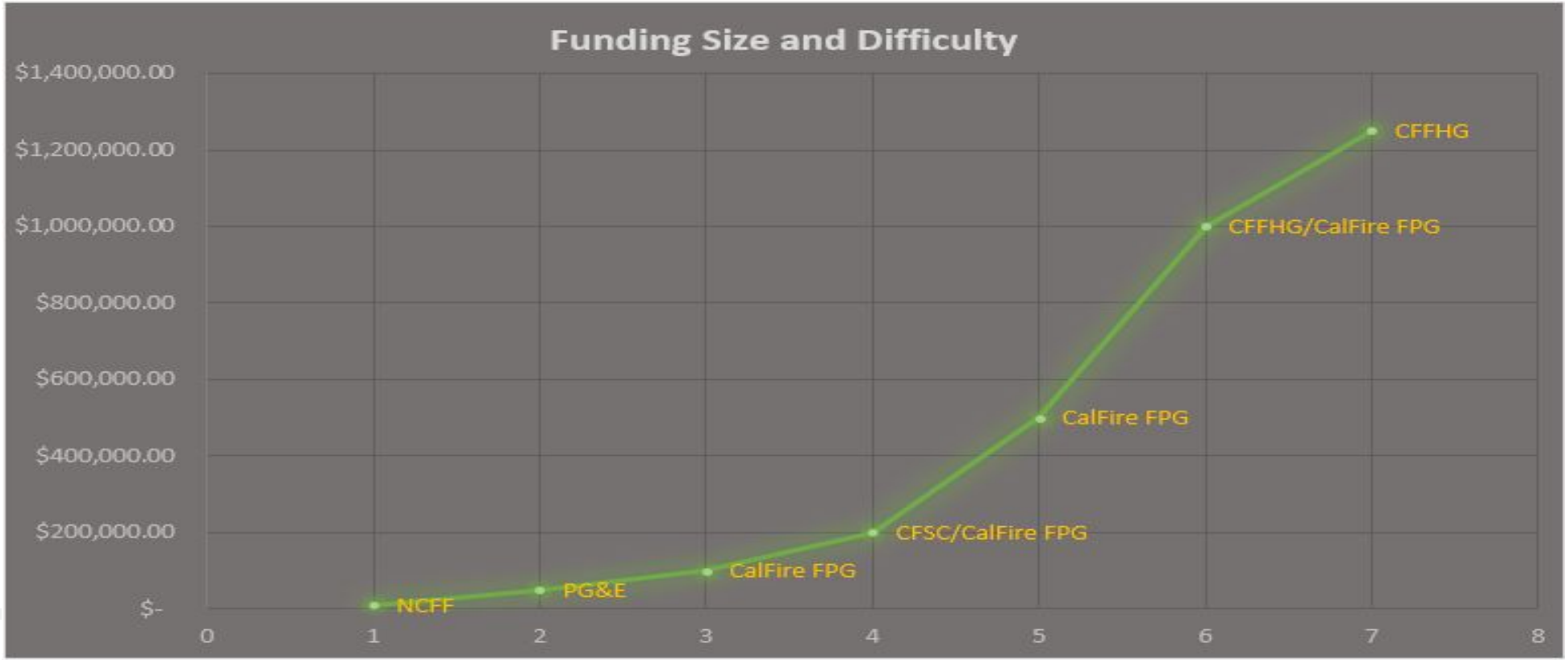
4 -Cal Fire Safe Council: Detailed application, financials, matching funds, CEQA and NOE required, detailed grant administration

5 -Cal Fire FPG/FHG: Very detailed application, GHG Calc, financials, CEQA and NOE required, detailed grant administration

6 -Cal Fire (FPG and FHG): Very detailed application, GHG Calc, financials, CEQA and NOE required, detailed grant administration

7 -Cal Fire (FPG and FHG): Very detailed application, GHG Calc, financials, CEQA and NOE required, detailed grant administration

8 – FEMA: Detailed and Technical application requiring County Sponsorship, Economic Impact Analysis, detailed grant admin



Ingress and egress corridors

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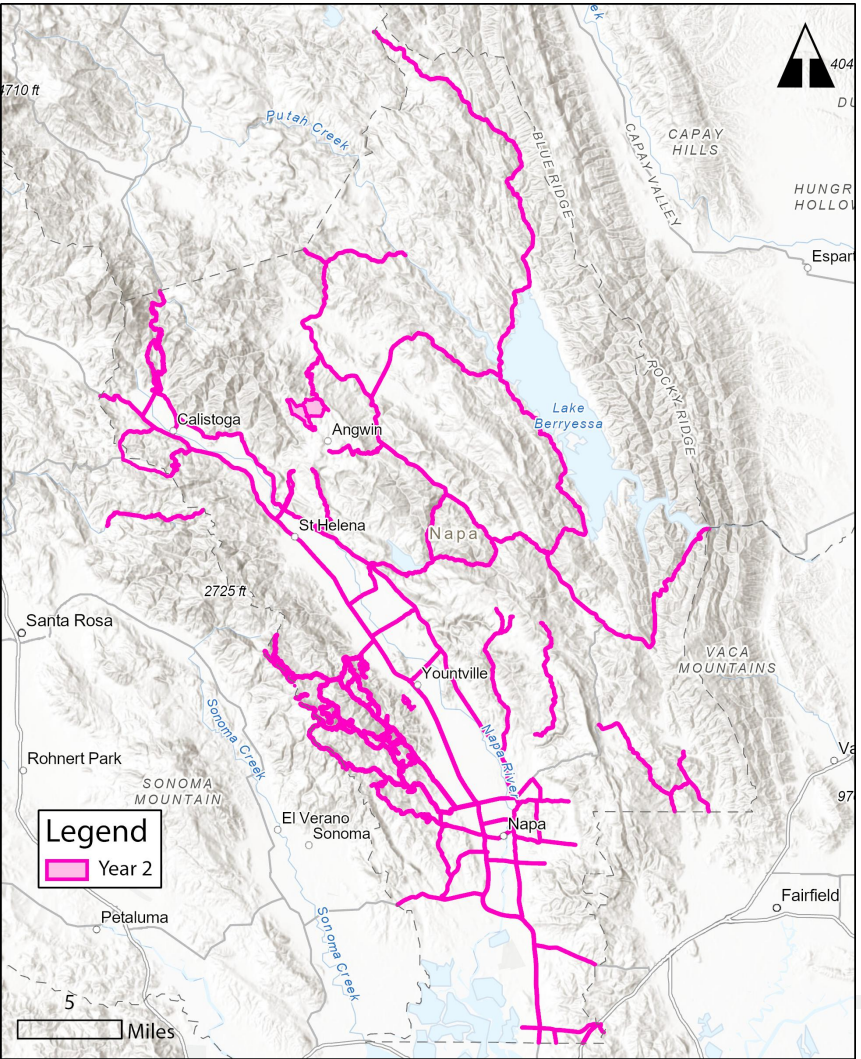
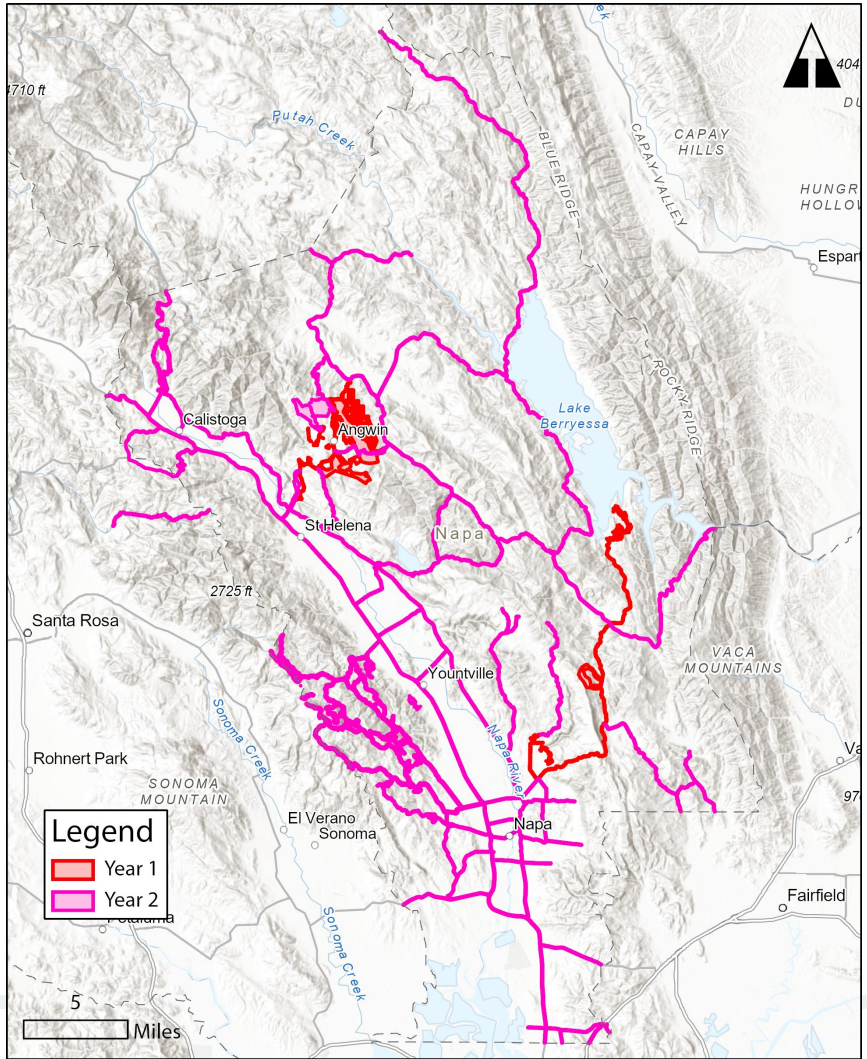
Year 2 Projects Alone



Year 1 and 2 Projects Combined



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NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

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USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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Stay Connected

Programs

- Farm Bill
- Landscape Initiatives
- Financial Assistance
  - Agricultural Management Assistance
  - Conservation Innovation Grants
  - Conservation Stewardship Program
  - Environmental Quality Incentives Program
  - Regional Conservation Partnership Program
- Technical Assistance
- Easements
- Landscape Planning
- Alphabetical Listing & Archive

EQIP Factsheet

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers and non-industrial forest managers to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits such as improved water and air quality, conserved ground and surface water, increased soil health and reduced soil erosion and sedimentation, improved or created wildlife habitat, and mitigation against drought and increasing weather volatility.

How It Works

This voluntary conservation programs helps producers make conservation work for them. Together, NRCS and producers invest in solutions that conserve natural resources for the future while also improving agricultural operations.

FSA
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

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USDA Farm Service Agency
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)

Section Topics

- Disaster Assistance Programs Home
- Disaster Designation Information
- Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP)
- **Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP)**
- Livestock Forage Program (LFP)
- Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)
- Loss Adjustment Standards Handbooks
- Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance

oninsured-crop-disaster-assistance/index

Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP)

In The News

Check back for updates!

Forest Restoration Program

What Is The Emergency Forest Restoration Program?

The Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP) helps the owners of non-industrial private forests restore forest health damaged by natural disasters. The EFRP does this by authorizing payments to owners of private forests to restore disaster damaged forests.

The local FSA County Committee implements EFRP for all disasters with the exceptions of drought and insect infestations. In the case of drought or an insect infestation, the national FSA office authorizes EFRP implementation.

Fact Sheet: Emergency Forest Restoration Program.

Why Is The EFRP Important?

ildlife, help provide nutrients for soil, and help protect

PACE Financing - Napa

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CALIFORNIA PACE PROGRAM

Ygrene ENERGY FUND

CaliforniaFIRST EFFICIENCY FINANCING

NO CREDIT CHECKS . 100% OF YOUR PROJECT COSTS COVERED

hero™

Your energy efficient future, today.

Dual Measure Efficiency and Hardening

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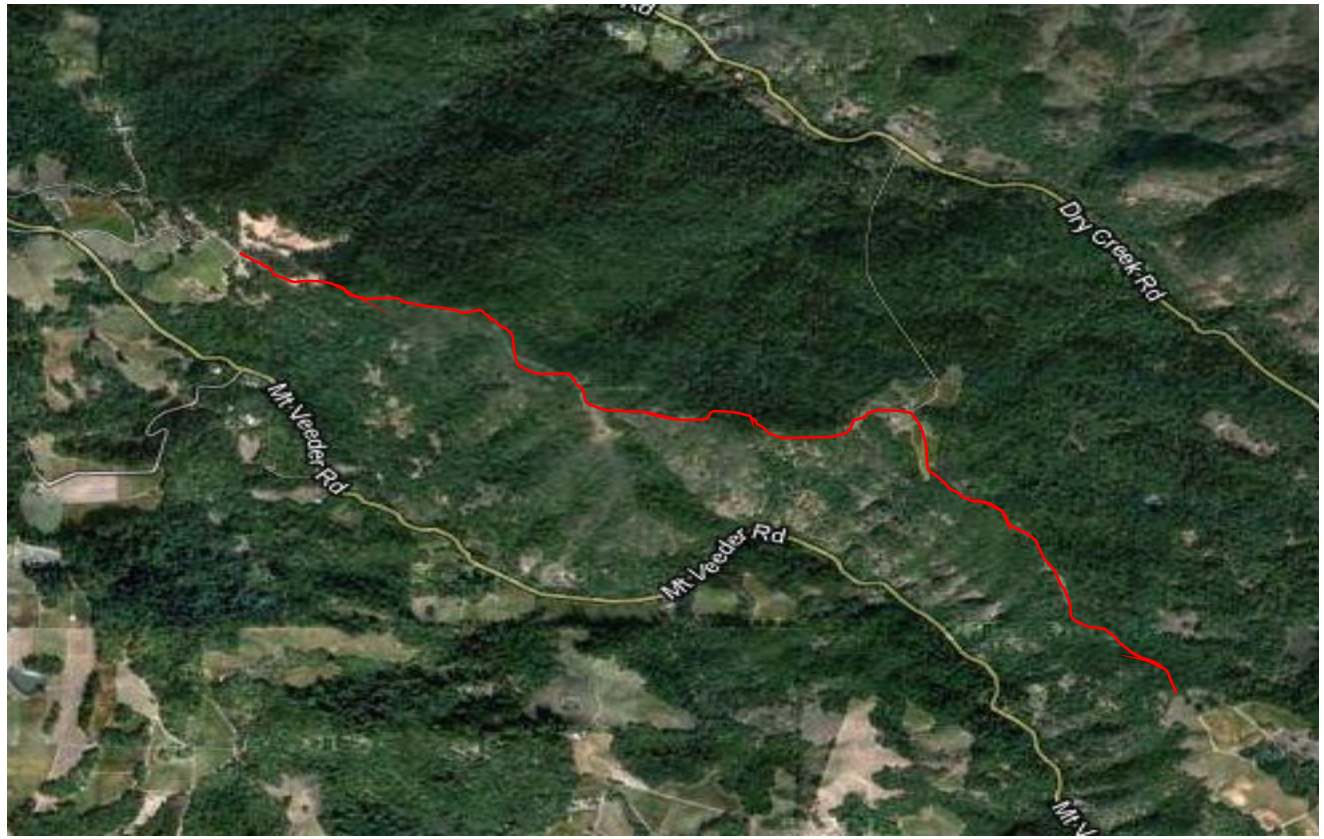
- Water Storage Tank Pads
- Water Storage Tanks
- Rain catchment
  - Gutters
  - Downspouts
  - Surge tank and conveyance
  - Fire hydrants and nozzles

- Structure Hardening
  - Drought tolerant landscaping
  - Defensible space
  - Fire Rated Roof/Windows
  - Fire rated sidings and claddings
  - Skirting under Decks
  - High efficiency sprinkler systems

- Energy independence
  - Solar electric
  - Electricity storage
  - Solar Water
  - Wind

Old Ridge Road Shaded Fuel Break
What's in your neighborhood?

- Old Ridge Road
  - 3 miles long
  - Vineyards at ends
  - Vineyard in middle
  - Access at ends and in middle



Ridge Top
Fuel Reduction

Before

After

Before

After

Before

After

OLD RIDGE ROAD (ORR)
HELPED CONTAIN THE NUNS CANYON FIRE

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- **A significant fuel break, funded by CFSC** helped stop the Eastern advance of the Nun's Fire on the western side of Old Ridge Road and slowed the fire's western and southern progress by almost a full day and half.

- **Actual pictures below** are from October 12th and 13th 2017. They show the fire stopping at the ORR and staying on the Westside of the ridge. This saved dozens of homes and prevented the fire progressing towards a suburban area.

- **Halting the Nun's Complex Fire** - The ORR allowed fire crews to establish the final fire line, a ¾ mile wildland hose lay, that ended the Nun's Complex Fire's southern progress on the Eastern side of the ridge. This project was funded in part by CFSC, Napa County, and PG&E

Projects: Year 2: $9.965 million
Ingress and egress corridors

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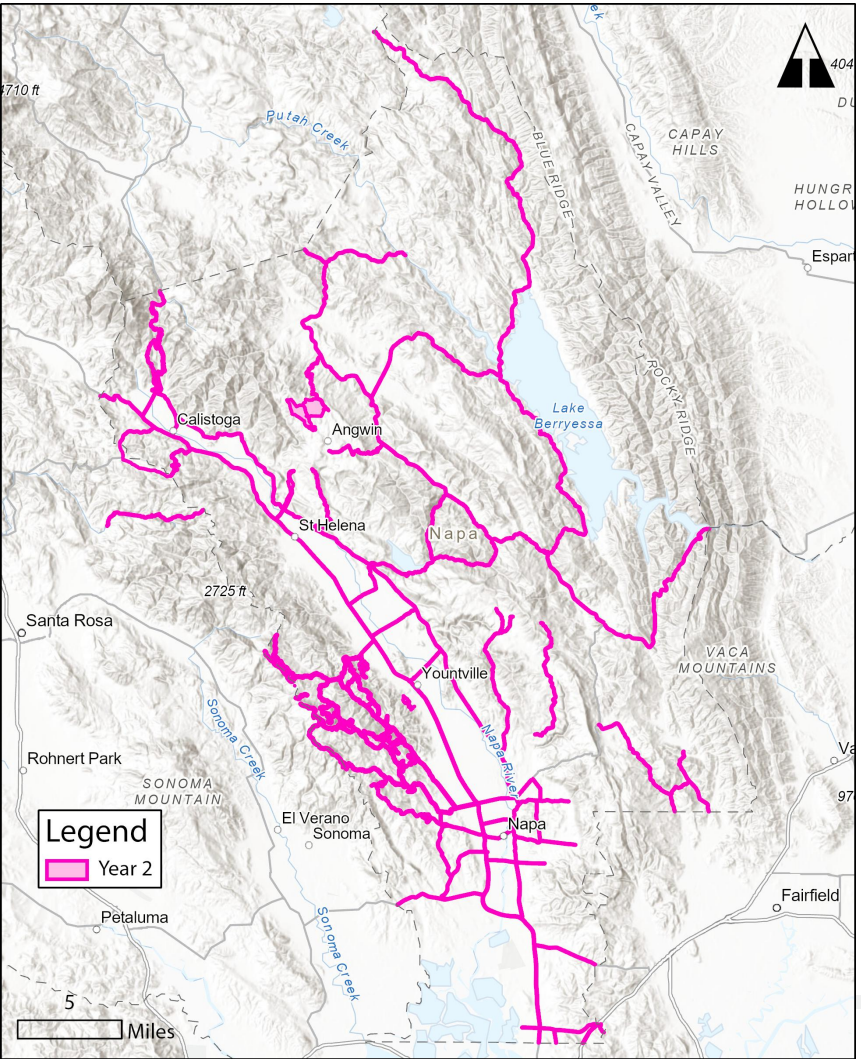
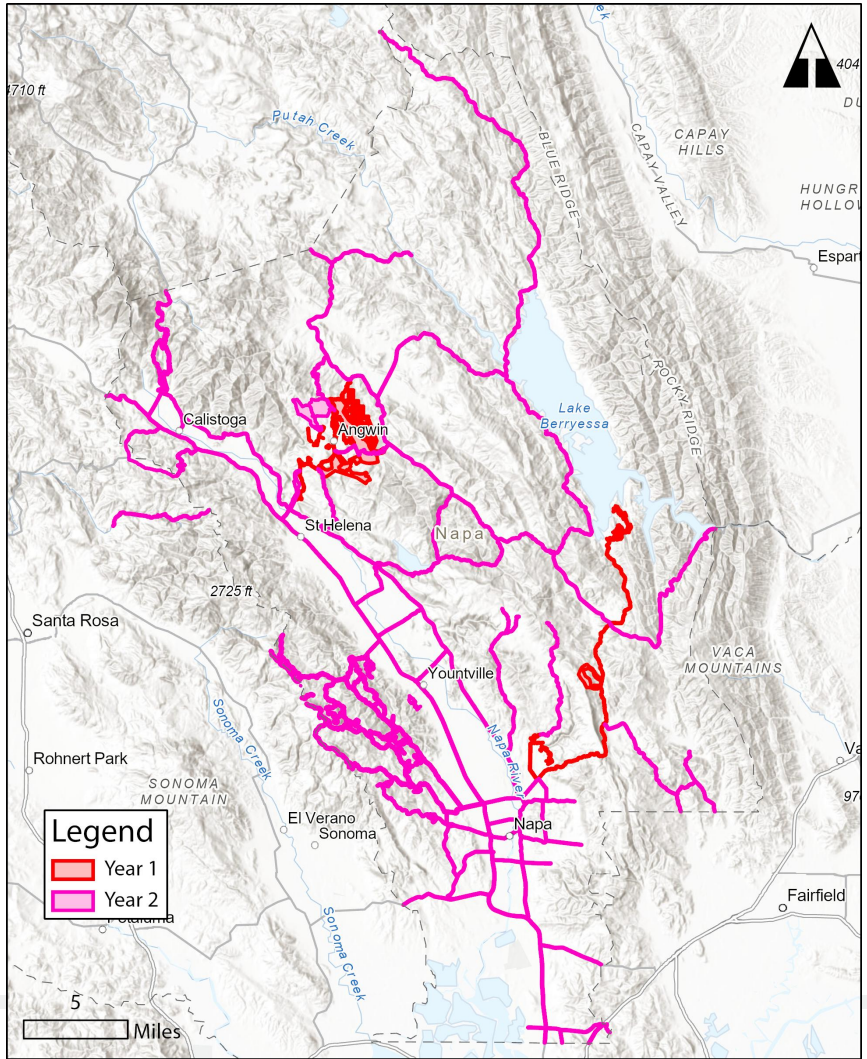
Year 2 Projects Alone



Year 1 and 2 Projects Combined



Year 2 Projects

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1. Roadside fuel reduction work ($2.7 million)
2. Dry Creek/Mt Veeder: Fuel Reduction Maintenance ($650K)
3. American Canyon Eastern perimeter fuel break ($200K)
4. Angwin community fuel break from Friesen Lakes to White Cottage ($1 million)
5. Sharp Road fuels treatment and infrastructure ($265K)
6. Timberhill Park Fuel Break to Partrick Rd ($250K)
7. Calistoga - Old Lawley Toll, Franz Valley, and Diamond Mountain Road ($750K)
8. Deer Park – St. Helena Hospital fuel reduction ($3 million)
9. Veteran's Home of Yountville fuel break ($750K)
10. Fire Safe Council CWPP specific projects ($300K)
11. Environmental studies ($100K)

Projects: Year 3: $9.65 million- Strategic wildfire containment lines + community fuel breaks

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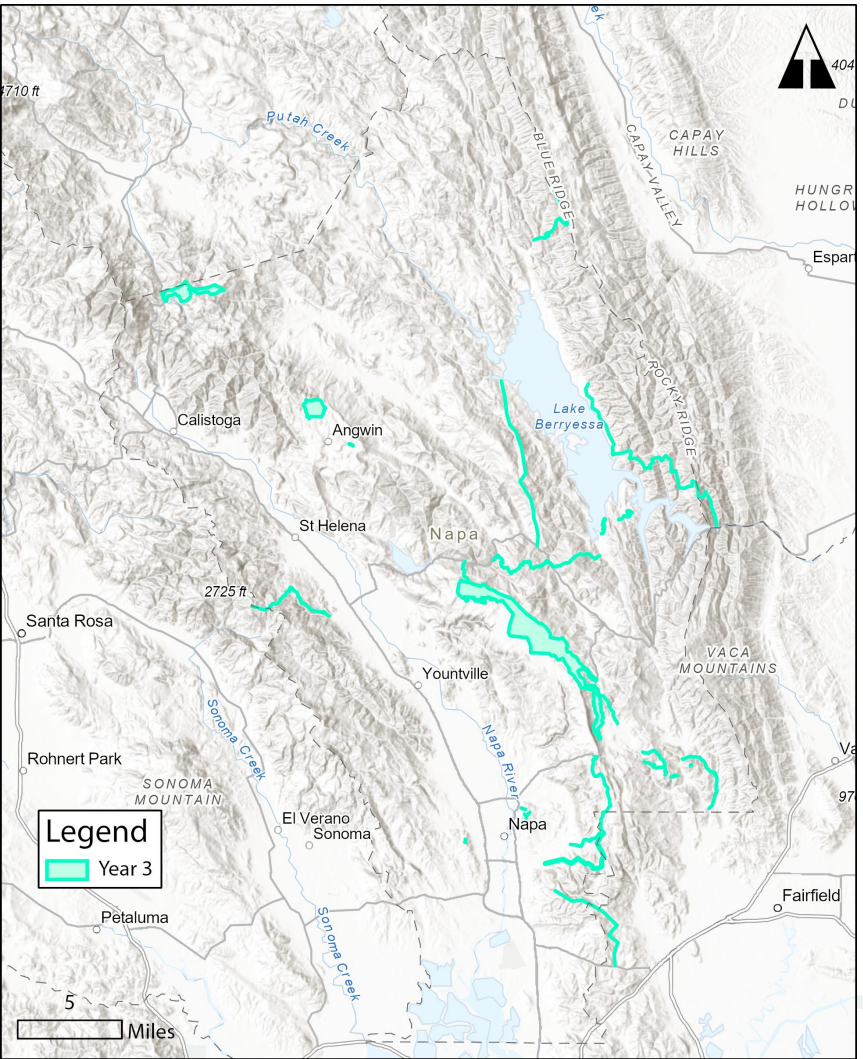
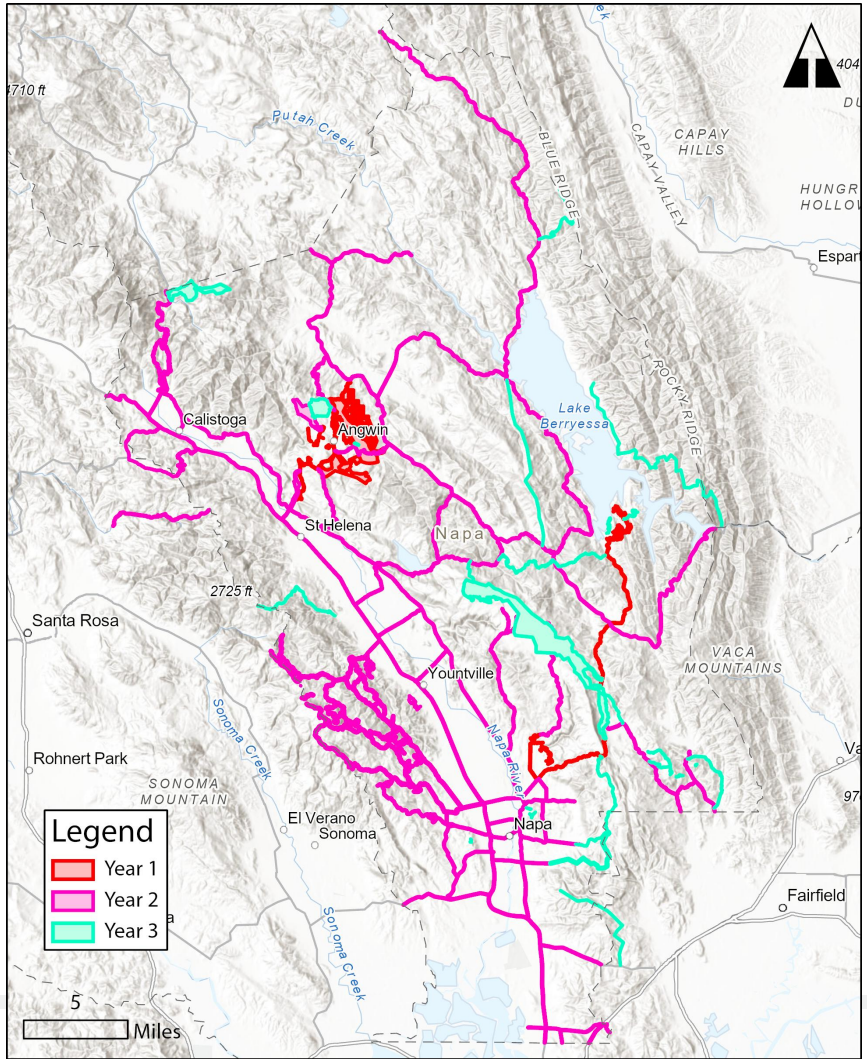
Year 3 Projects Alone



Year 1, 2 and 3 Projects Combined



Year 3 Projects

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1. Wildhorse Valley to Skyline Park fuel break ($750K)
2. Maintenance of strategic dozer lines in Napa County ($1million)
3. Shaded Fuel break Circle Oaks to Wooden Valley Hwy 121 ($2 million)
4. Deer Park Community Fuel Reduction ($3 million)
5. Fuel break and fuel reduction work in the Pritchard Hill area extending through Foss Valley ($2.5 million)
6. Fire Safe Council CWPP specific projects ($300K)
7. Environmental studies ($100K

Projects: Year 4: $8.55 million – Community fuel breaks and maintenance of ingress and egress

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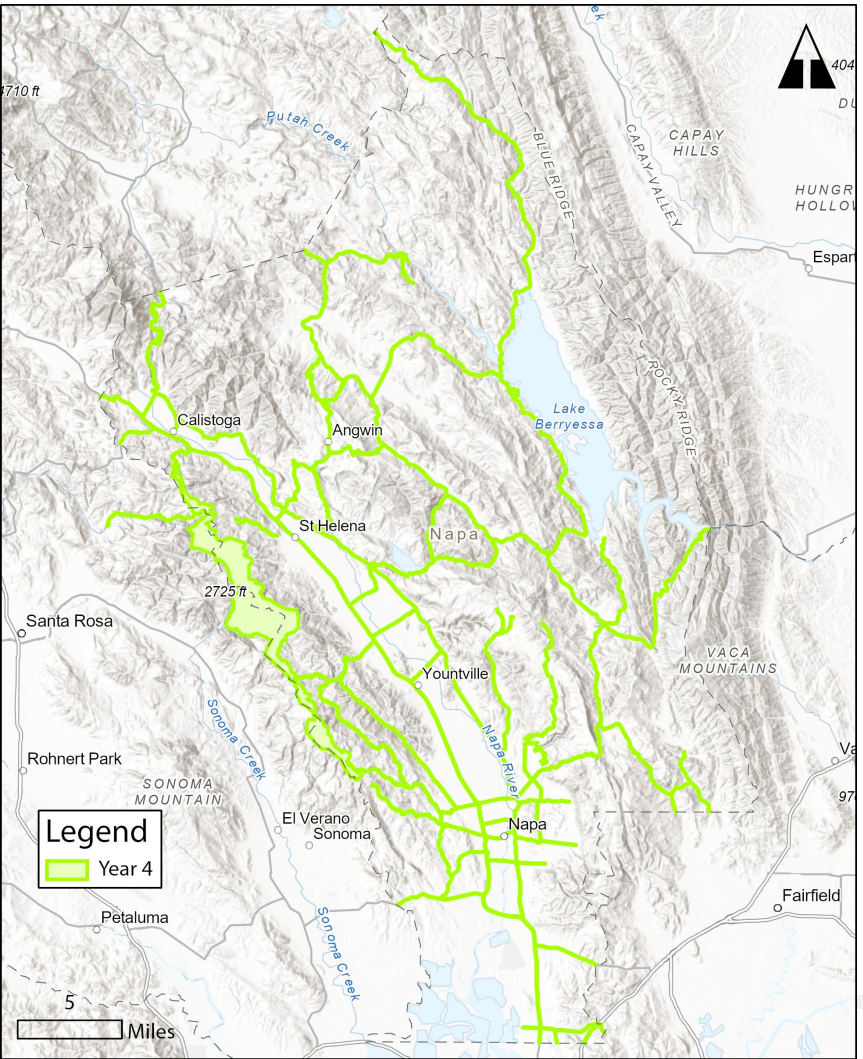
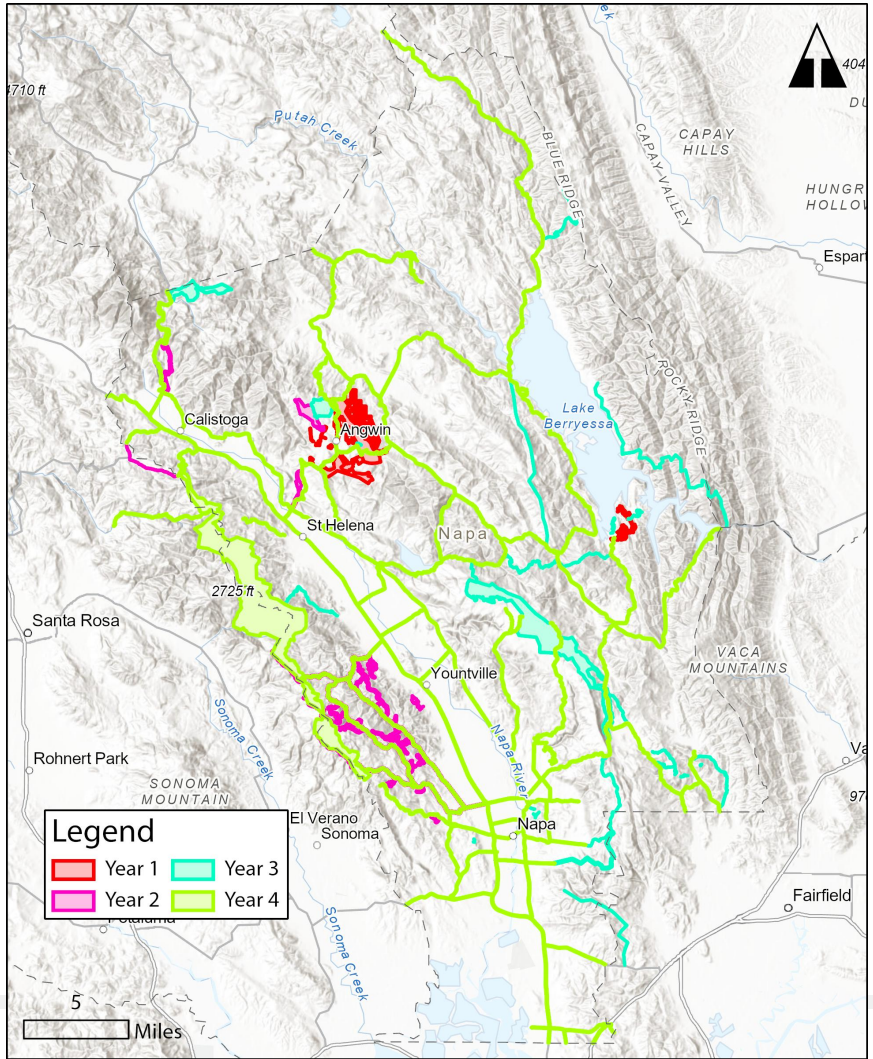
Year 4 Projects Alone



Year 1, 2,3, and 4 Projects Combined



Year 4 Projects

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1. Mt Veeder Fuel Reduction Work ($3 million)
2. Spring Mountain road expanded roadside fuels reduction ($2 million)
3. Berryessa Estates maintenance of fuel breaks ($1.5 million)
4. Napa County evacuation roadside maintenance from year 1 ($1 million)
5. Maintenance of Silverado Country Club Perimeter Fuel Reduction ($500K)
6. Maintenance for Berryessa Pines subdivision ($150K)
7. Fire Safe Council CWPP specific projects ($300K)
8. Environmental studies ($100K)

Projects: Year 5: $8.9 million – Community fuel breaks and maintenance of projects

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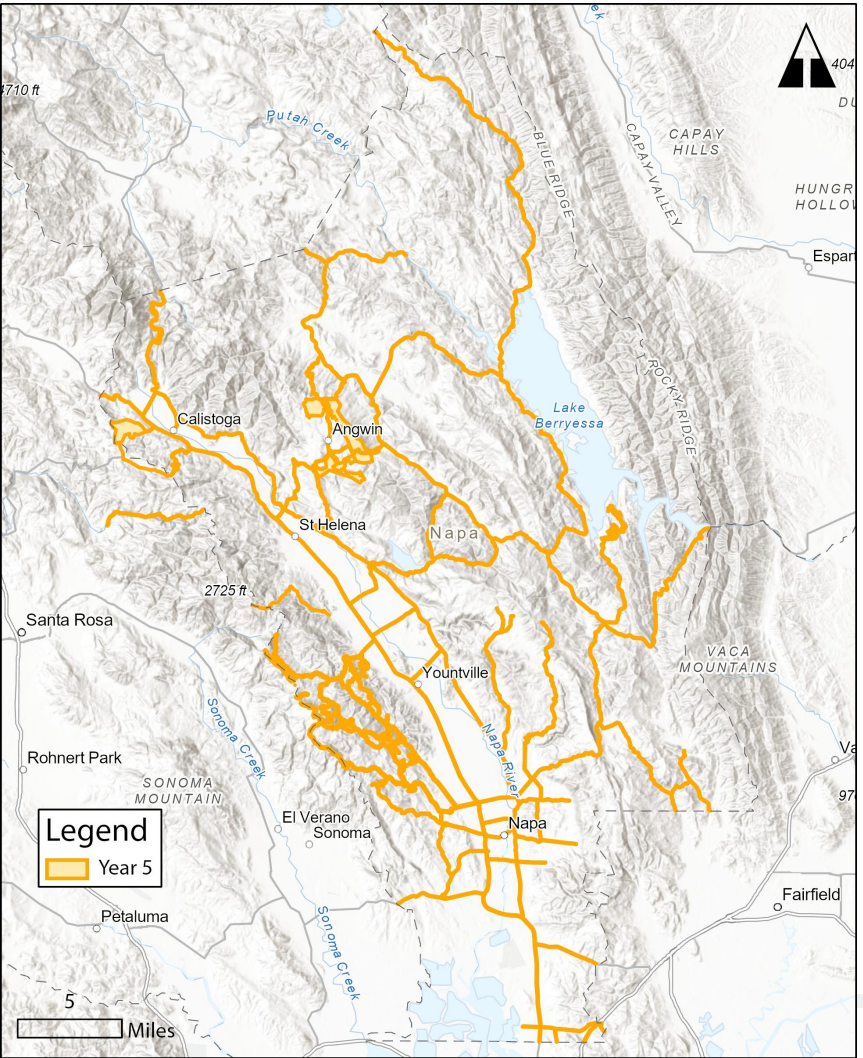
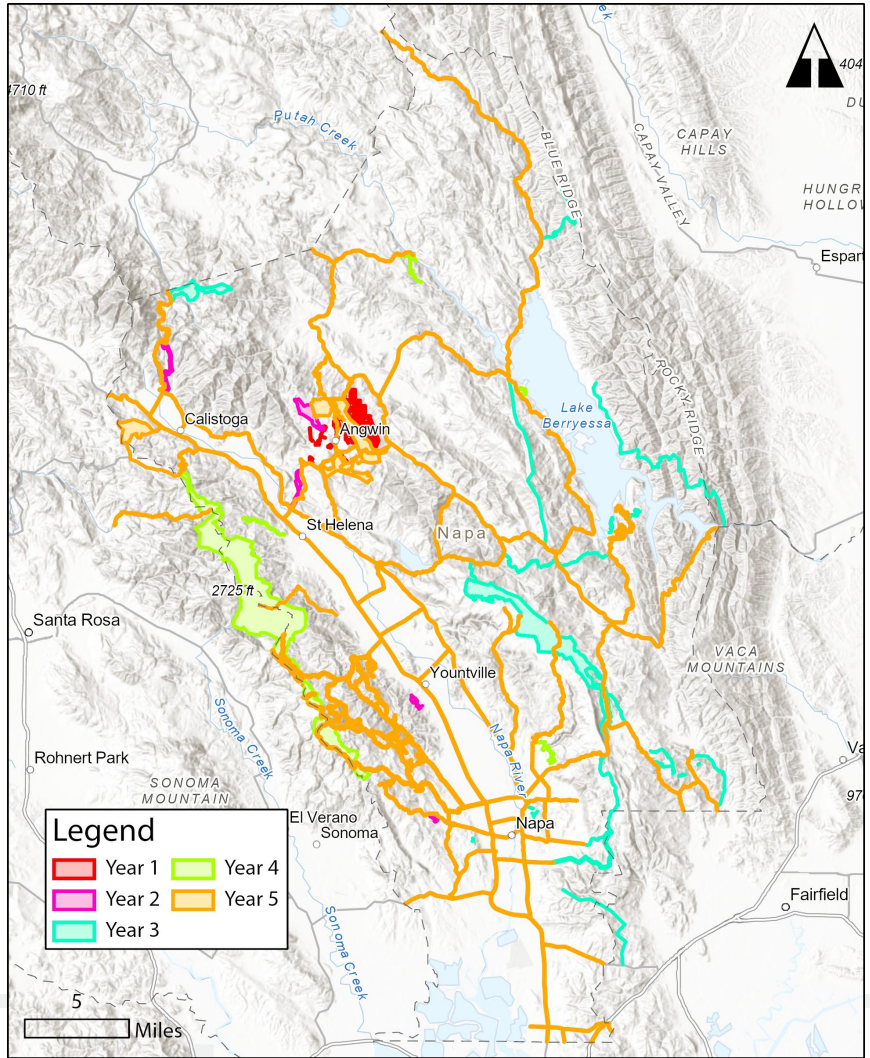
Year 5 Projects Alone



Year 1 through 5 Projects Combined



Year 5 Projects

1. Maintenance of Angwin perimeter fuel breaks ($1 million)
2. Maintenance for Circle Oaks fuel break ($500K)
3. Maintenance for Berryessa Highlands fuel breaks ($500K)
4. Maintenance of legacy fire roads and control lines of the 2017 Nuns Fire in Western Napa County ($1.5 million)
5. Napa County evacuation roadside maintenance from year 2. ($1.5 million)
6. Fuels reduction in Napa County lands of Calistoga ($2.5 million)
7. Ridgetop fuel reduction from Sharp Rd across Diamond Mountain to the south ($1 million)
8. Fire Safe Council CWPP specific projects ($500K)
9. Environmental studies ($100K)

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Working on the Corridors and helping Rural Landowners to work in their Compartments

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Napa County Emergency Preparedness

Jason Martin, Acting Fire Chief, Napa County Fire Department

Napa County Fire Department

https://www.countyofnapa.org/3097/Fire-Marshals-Office

Defensible Space

PRC 4291

Defensible space, coupled with home hardening, is essential to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. Defensible space is the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire

Defensible space, coupled with home hardening, is essential to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire. Defensible space is the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and it helps protect your home from catching fire—either from embers, direct flame contact or radiant heat. Proper defensible space also provides firefighters a safe area to work in, to defend your home.

Defensible Space Zones

Zone 0 extends 5 feet from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

Zone 1 extends 30 feet from buildings, structures, decks, etc. or to your property line, whichever is closer.

Zone 2 extends from 30 feet to 100 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc. or to your property line, whichever is closer.

https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/communications/defensible-space-prc-4291/

Defensible Space

Number of inspections(Complaints and pro-active inspections): 1564

Number of consulting inspections (Community members requesting inspections for residential and commercial properties): 400

Chipper Program:

Number of completed requests: 777

Number of pending requests: 146

Before

After

Before

After

Before

After

Before

After

Structure Triage Categories

Non-Threatened

Threatened Defensible

Threatened Non-Defensible

Working with Neighbors

Benefits of working with neighbors

- Know who your neighbors are
- All homes have adequate defensible Space
- Evacuation Plan (Everyone is accounted for)
- Zonehaven (Know Your Zone)
- Community Signage
- Infrastructure Protection

If we can’t find you, we can’t save you

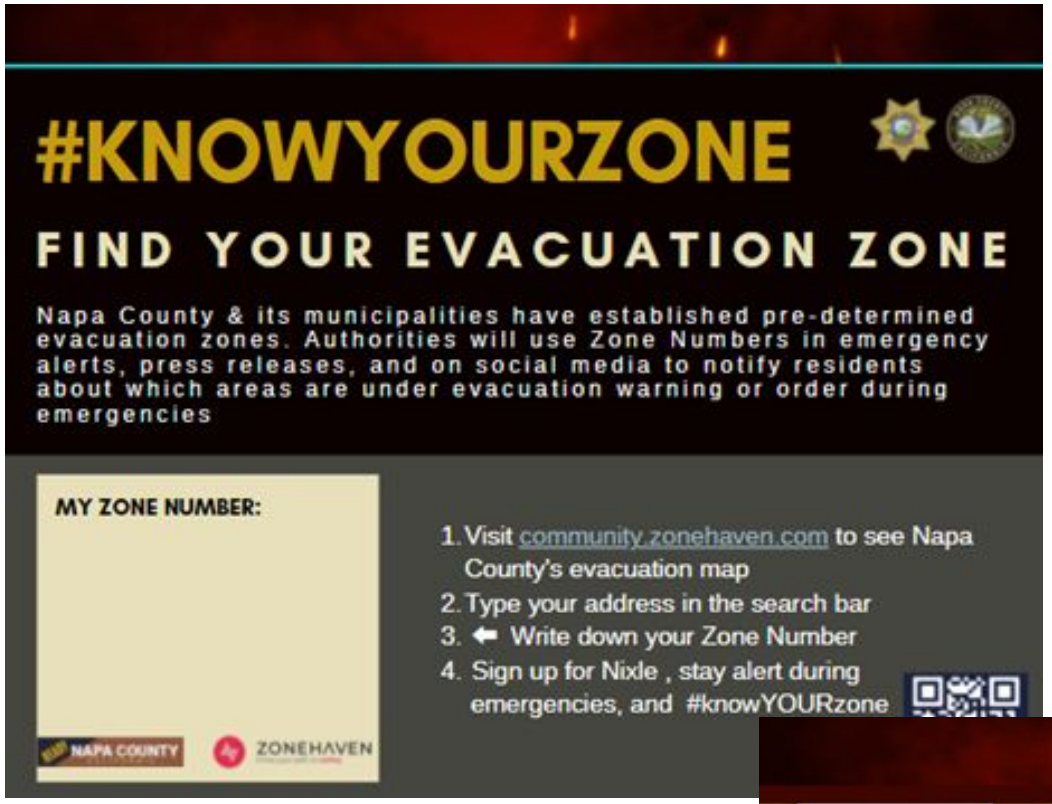
Property Placards:
Many Napa County properties are located up long driveways or behind lock gates. Help 1st Responders with your property information to ensure success during times of emergencies. Some key facts are: information related to water sources, turnarounds for fire apparatus, number of buildings, or special instructions pertinent to your property. These signs are ideally placed at the gate entrance of a property.

Ready, Set, Go

- PLAN. PREPARE. STAY AWARE.
- The geography, weather patterns and number of Wildland Urban Interface communities in California make it a state particularly threatened by devastating wildfire. As catastrophic wildfires continue to increase each year in California, make sure to protect yourself and your family – plan, prepare and stay aware. Property owners and residents in areas most at risk are encouraged to take the steps in CAL FIRE “Ready, Set, Go!” to be ready for wildfire.
- Get prepared for wildfire before it strikes by following Ready, Set, Go!
- Be Ready: Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.
- Get Set: Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate. Ensure you have a plan of what to take and where to go – evacuation plans will be different this year due to COVID-19. Ask friends or relatives outside your area if you would be able to stay with them, should the need arise. If you do need to evacuate and plan to stay with friends or relatives, ask first if they have symptoms of COVID-19 or have people in their home at higher risk for serious illness. If that is the case, make other arrangements. Check with hotels, motels and campgrounds to learn if they are open.
- Also get set by learning about your community’s response plan for each disaster and determine if these plans have been adapted because of COVID-19.
- Be Ready to GO!: When wildfire strikes, go early for your safety. Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

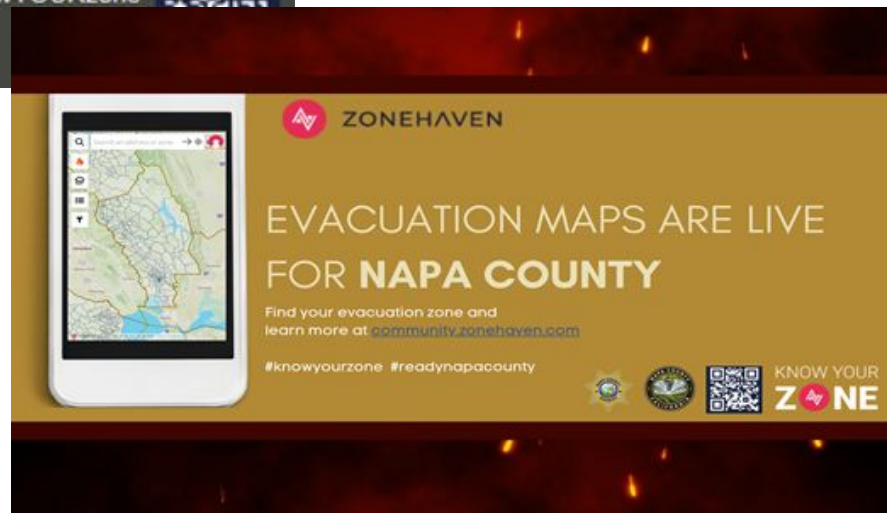
https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/ready-set-go/

ZONEHAVEN



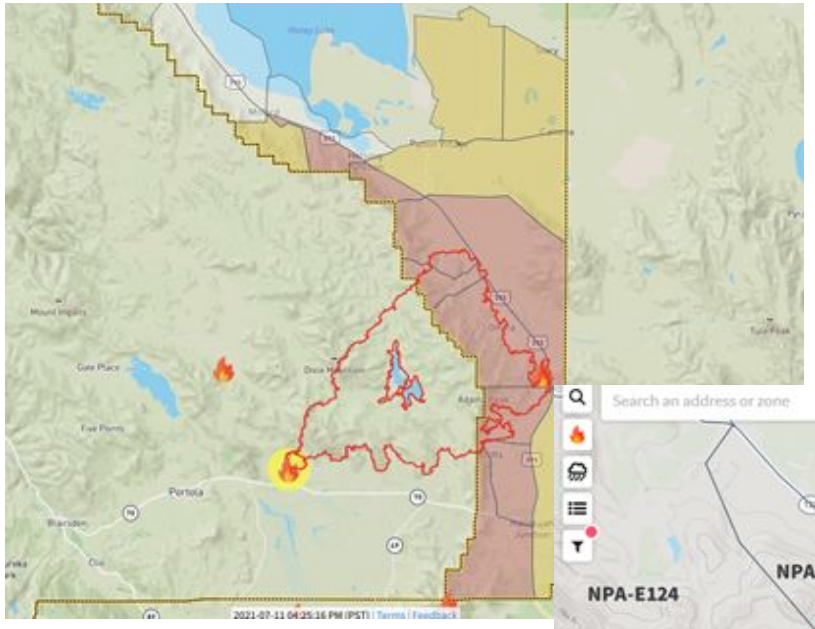
What is Zonehaven?

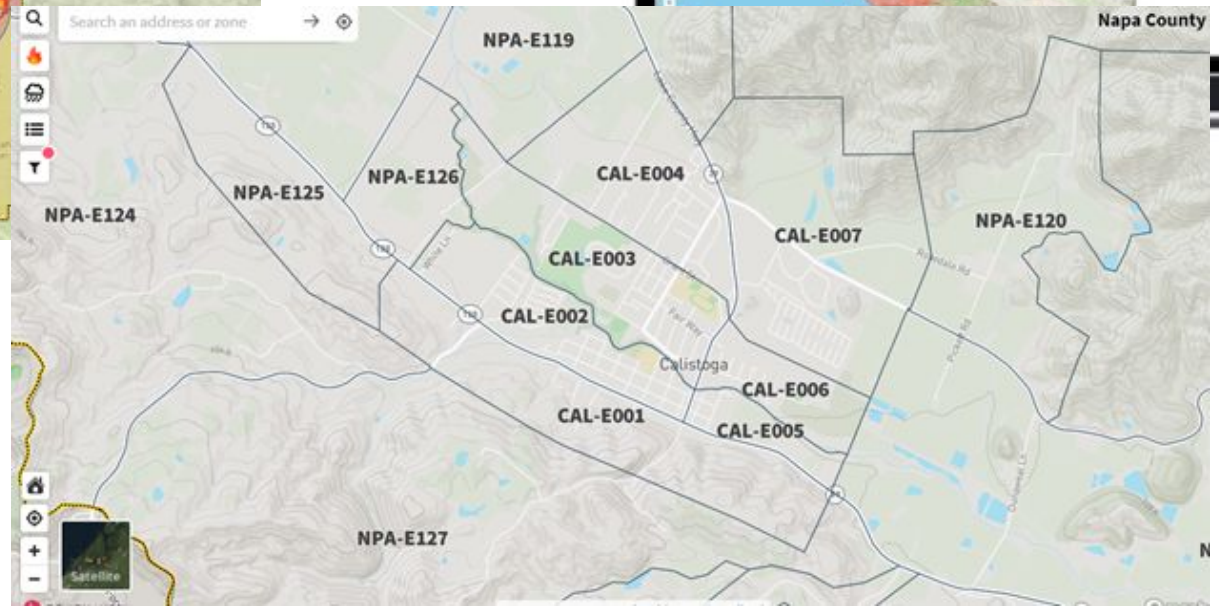
- Why should you know your zone?
- When is the best time to know your zone?
- Where can you find your zone?
- Who should know their zone?

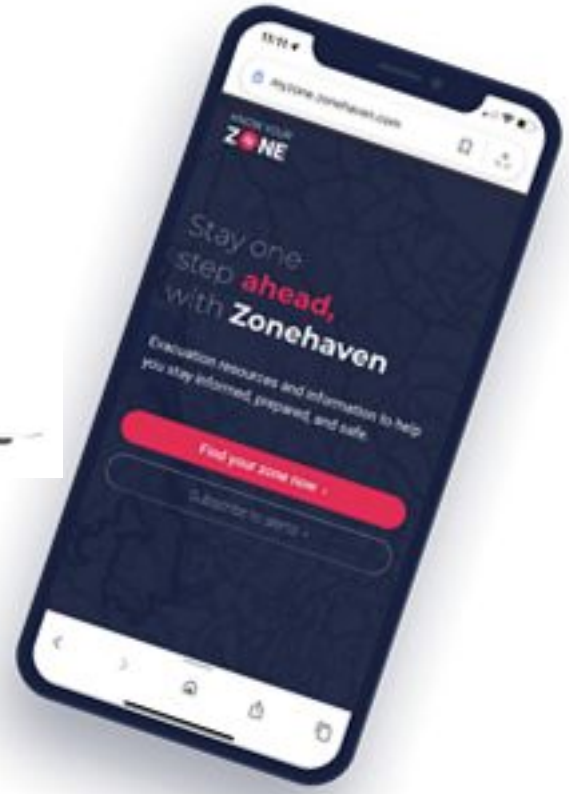


https://community.zonehaven.com/

Zonehaven What is it?

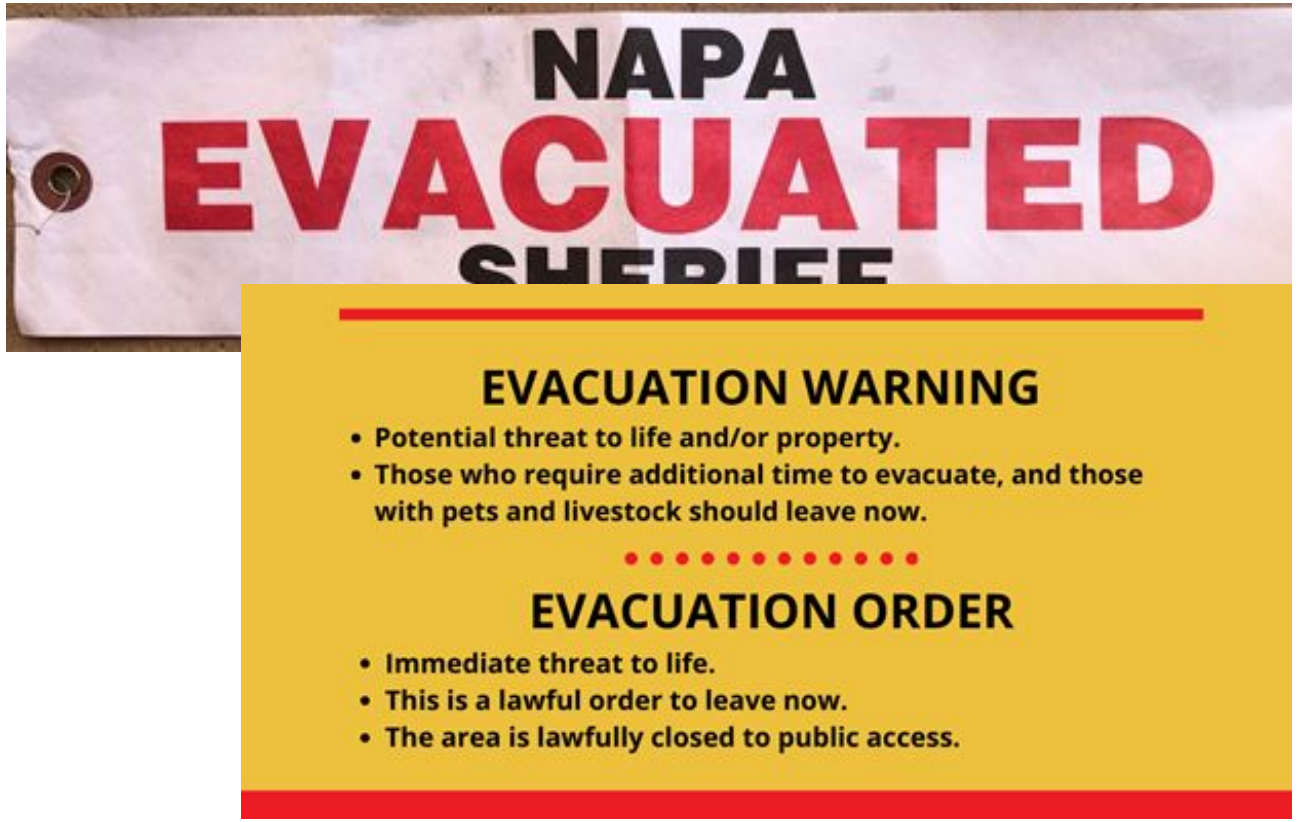






Importance of Evacuating

- Saves lives
- Allows first responders to focus on firefighting efforts



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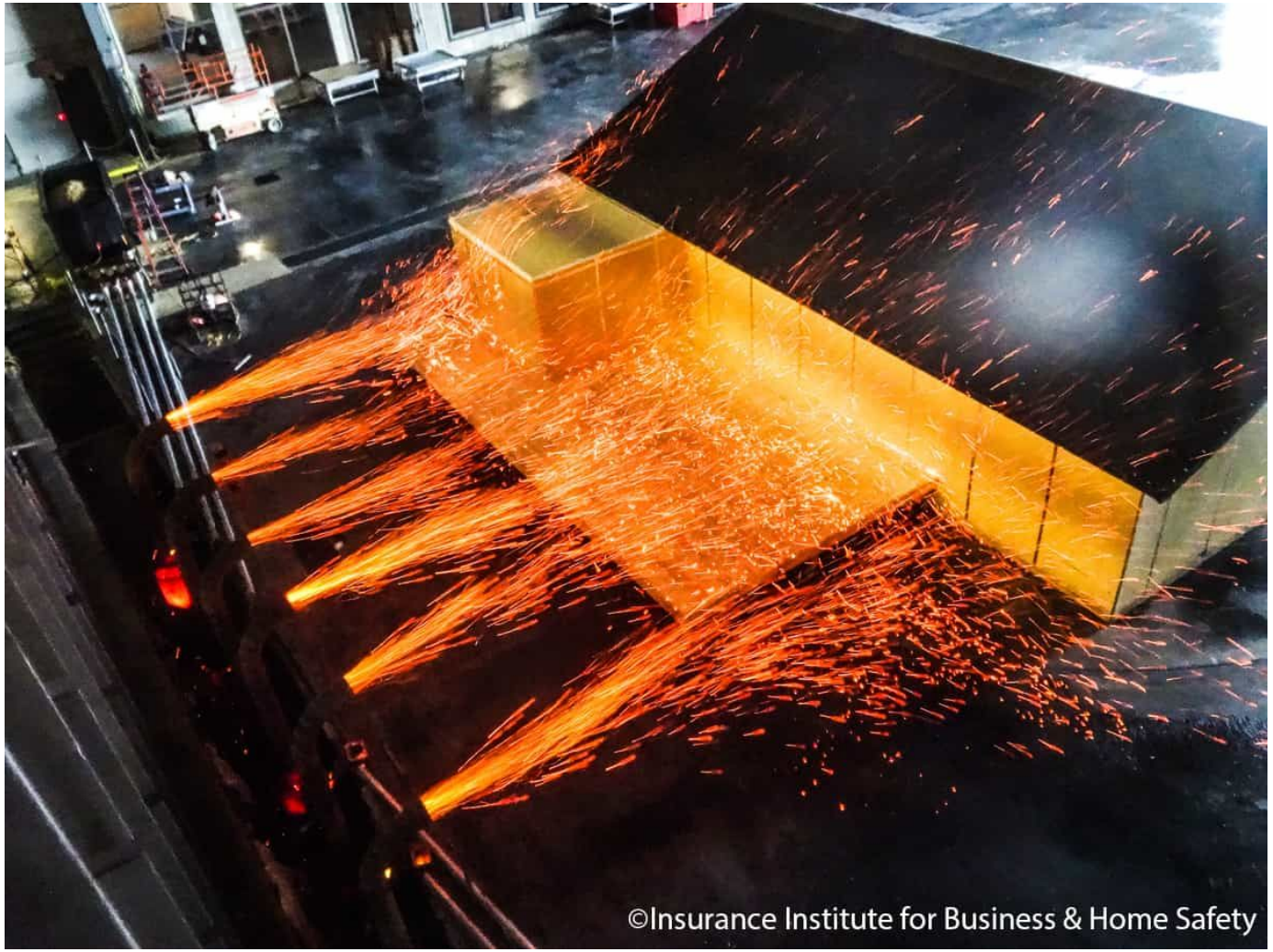
Preparing Your Home and Community for Wildfires

Sharuk Khanna, Co-Founder, Firemaps, Inc.

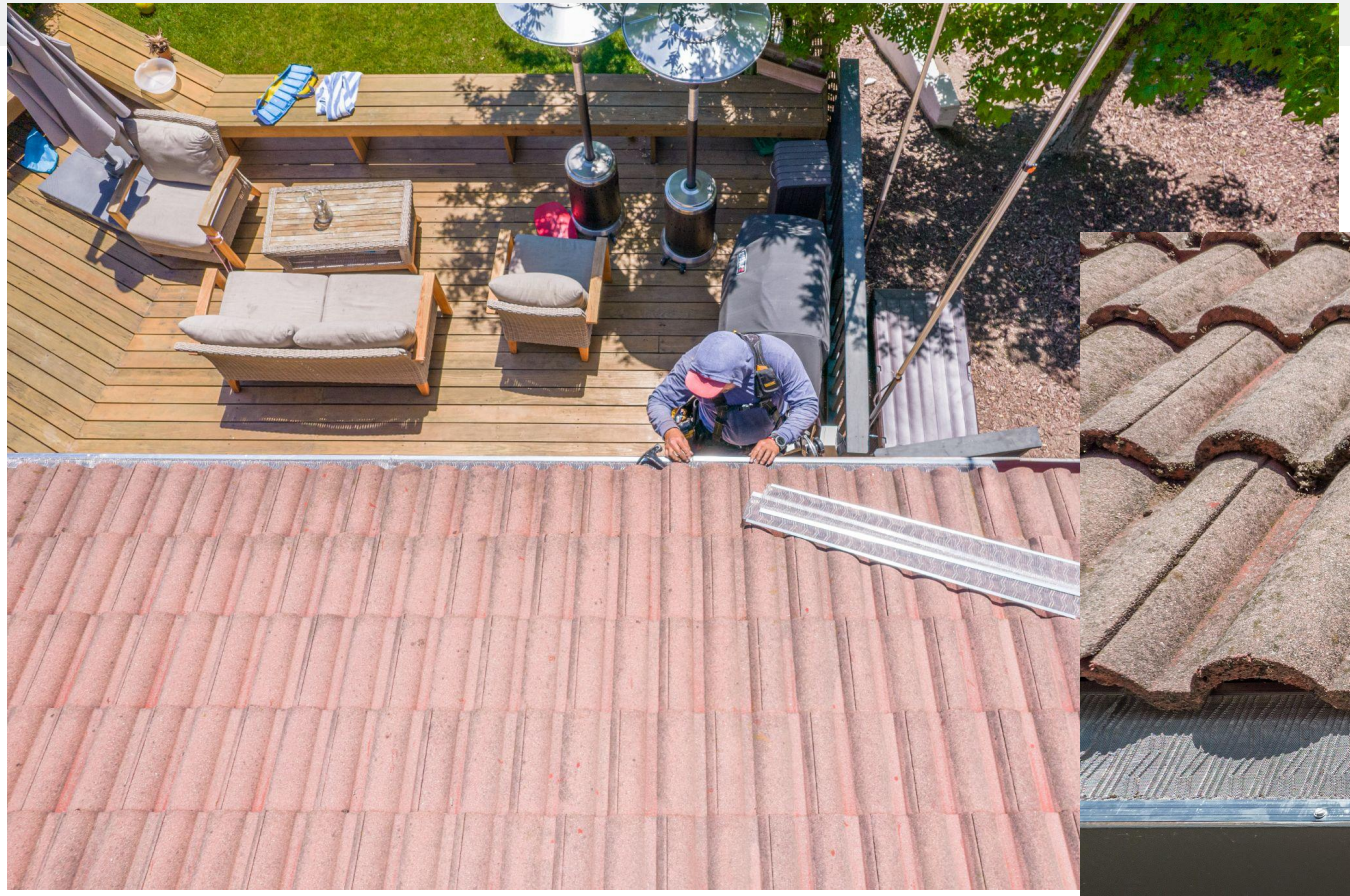
What is Home Hardening?

- Foundation and Wall Vents
- Gutter Guards
- Siding Material
- Porch Material
- Roof Shingles
- Spark Arrestors
- Doors
- Windows
- Active Systems



What Does Home Hardening Look Like?

NAPAFIREWISE



What Does Home Hardening Look Like?

NAPAFIREWISE

What Does Home Hardening Look Like?

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Working as a Community

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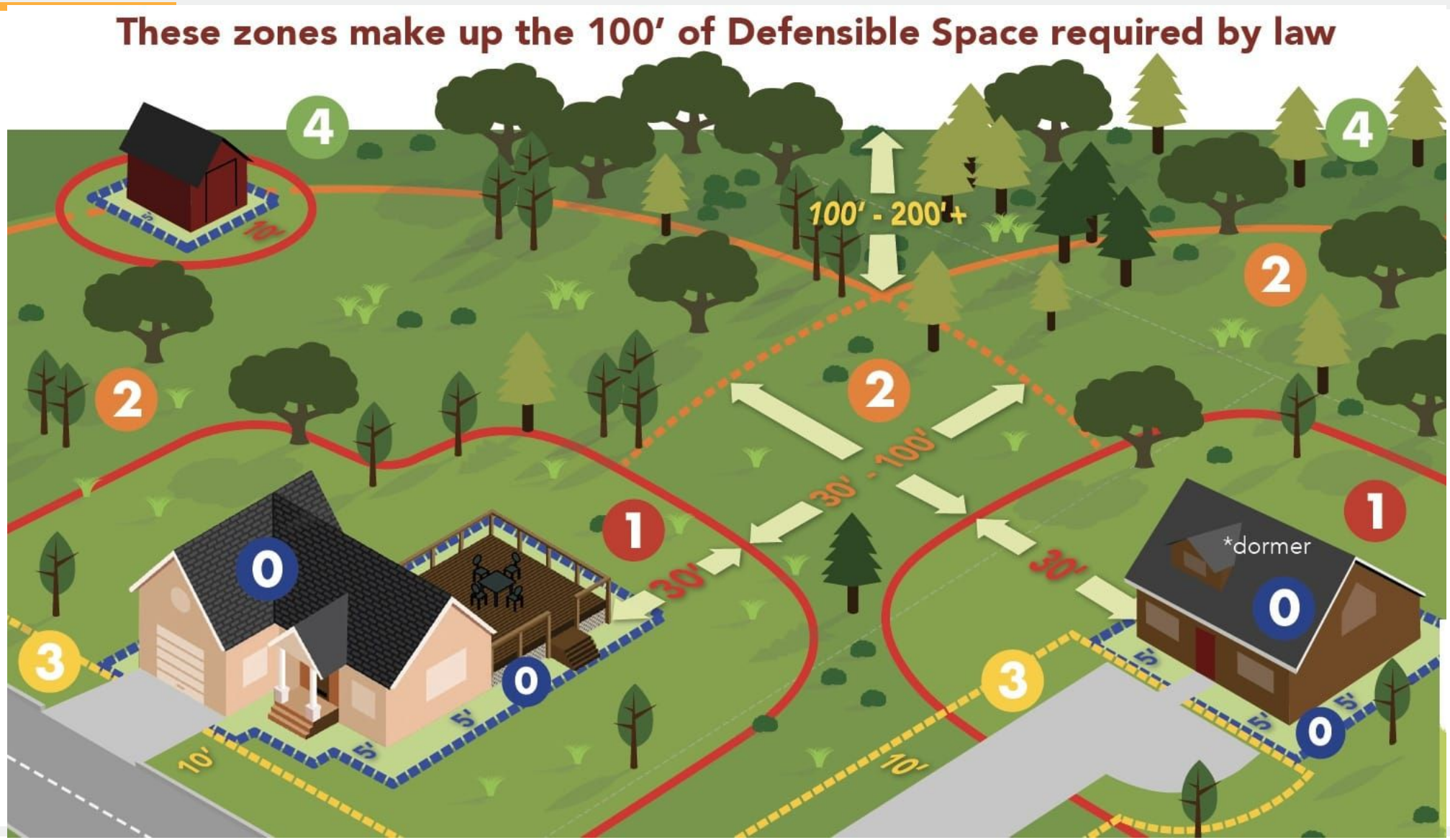

Current State – Home Insurance

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- All major insurance companies are putting out wildfire defense requirements.
  - Remaining on plan
  - Premium discounts
- Insurance moratorium for 2021 fires.
- Requirements follow already established rules.
  - Calfire
  - IBHS
  - PRC 4291
- Ask your agent to send you their specific requirements and programs.

Fuel Management	
Within 30 feet	Removal of all flammable vegetation and any dead or dying plants. (Well pruned single trees or other vegetation trimmed of all dead and dying foliage may be kept.)
Within 70 feet	Removal of surface litter to not exceed a depth of three inches (i.e., fallen leaves, twigs, pods, small branches, needles, pinecones, bark, etc.)
	Removal of logs and stumps unless embedded.
	Removal of snags (standing dead trees) in excess of one per acre.
	Separation of fuels based on property characteristics (slope, vegetation size/type, grass, trees, etc.)
	Grasses should not exceed four inches in height except where separated from other fuels and necessary to stabilize soil in which case grasses may be up to 18 inches in height.
	Clearance between trees and shrubs should be between 4 and 40 feet depending on slope, size, and type of vegetation.
Trees	Tree branches must not extend within 10 feet from the ground, from the roof structures, and/or from chimneys/stovepipes
Firewood	Firewood and all other combustible materials must be stored at least 30 feet from the dwelling. If the structure is on a slope these items must be stored uphill from the structure.
Dead Trees	All dead trees within 50 feet of a structure must be removed (including beetle-kill trees).
Fuel Tanks	Above ground fuel storage tanks (including propane and fuel oil) should maintain an area of 10 feet clear of debris and combustible materials around the tank.