

2023 CALIFORNIA ADAPTATION FORUM – POMONA, CA

AUGUST 2, 1:00–2:00 PM



Fire-Adapted Communities for California's Future

Moderator:

Erik de Kok, AICP,

Director of Interdisciplinary Planning

Ascent





Fire-Adapted Communities (FAC) Framework



- Holistic approach to community-scale fire adaptation
- Not intended to be prescriptive or exhaustive of all dimensions of adaptation, or individual/unique community needs
- FAC tools:
 - FAC Self-Assessment Guide
 - FAC Pathways Tool
- CA Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force:
 - Goal 2: Strengthen the Protection of Communities
 - New initiative launched in 2023: FAC Roadmap and Dashboard project



FAC Vision for California

- California's communities will become safer and more resilient to wildfires by **redefining our relationship with fire, protecting and sustaining our people and the places we live**, and working towards a **fire-adapted future**.
- Our vision for fire-adapted communities will require **working across sectors and scales** in new ways by **engaging** people and institutions to **build community capacity and partnerships, leveraging investments, and prioritizing and scaling actions** for maximum impact.
- We will **accelerate action and improve the effectiveness** of fire prevention, planning, mitigation, response, evacuation, and recovery.
- We will **embrace holistic and equitable** approaches that empower our communities and build sustained wildfire resilience at all scales, while respecting the diverse places and landscapes across our state.



Session Panelists



Royal Ramey, Co-Founder and Chief Program Officer
Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program (FFRP)



Pauline Allen, Community Resilience Specialist
Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains (RCDSMM)



Frank Bigelow, Assistant Deputy Director, Community Wildfire Preparedness &
Mitigation and Fire Engineering & Investigations
CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)



Frank Bigelow, CAL FIRE



CAL FIRE

Office of the State Fire Marshal

Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Division
Assistant Deputy Director – Frank Bigelow

August 02, 2023

2023 California Adaptation Forum

California's Wildfire Strategy



Parcel-level
Mitigation

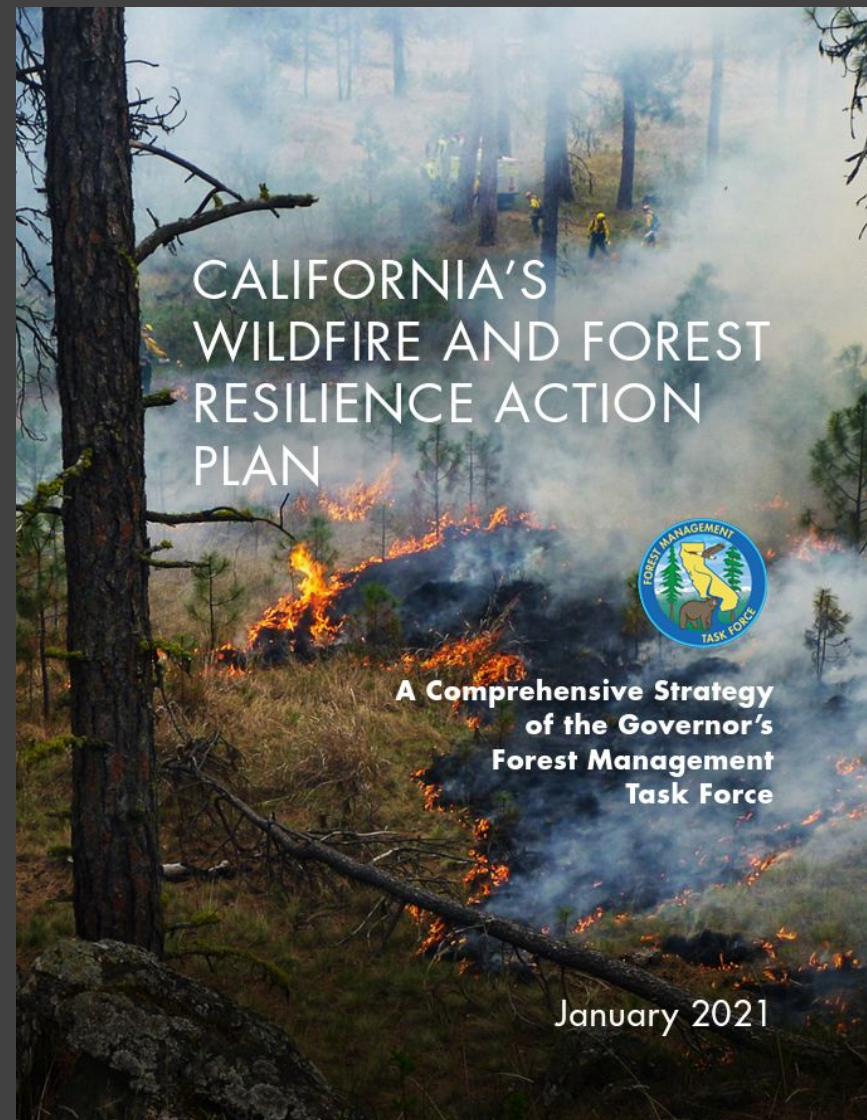


Community
Hardening



Forest
Health

Wildfire Strategy

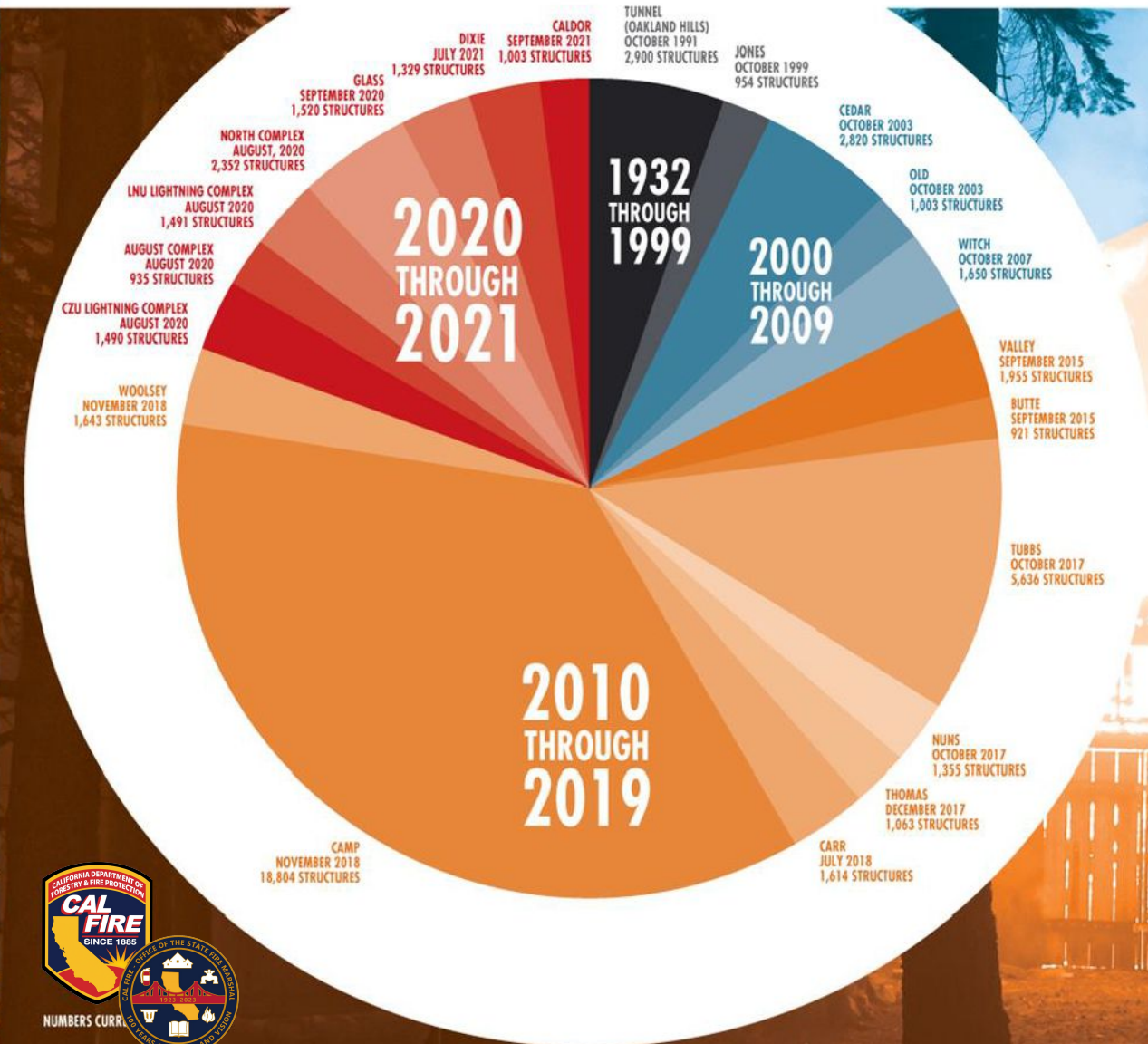
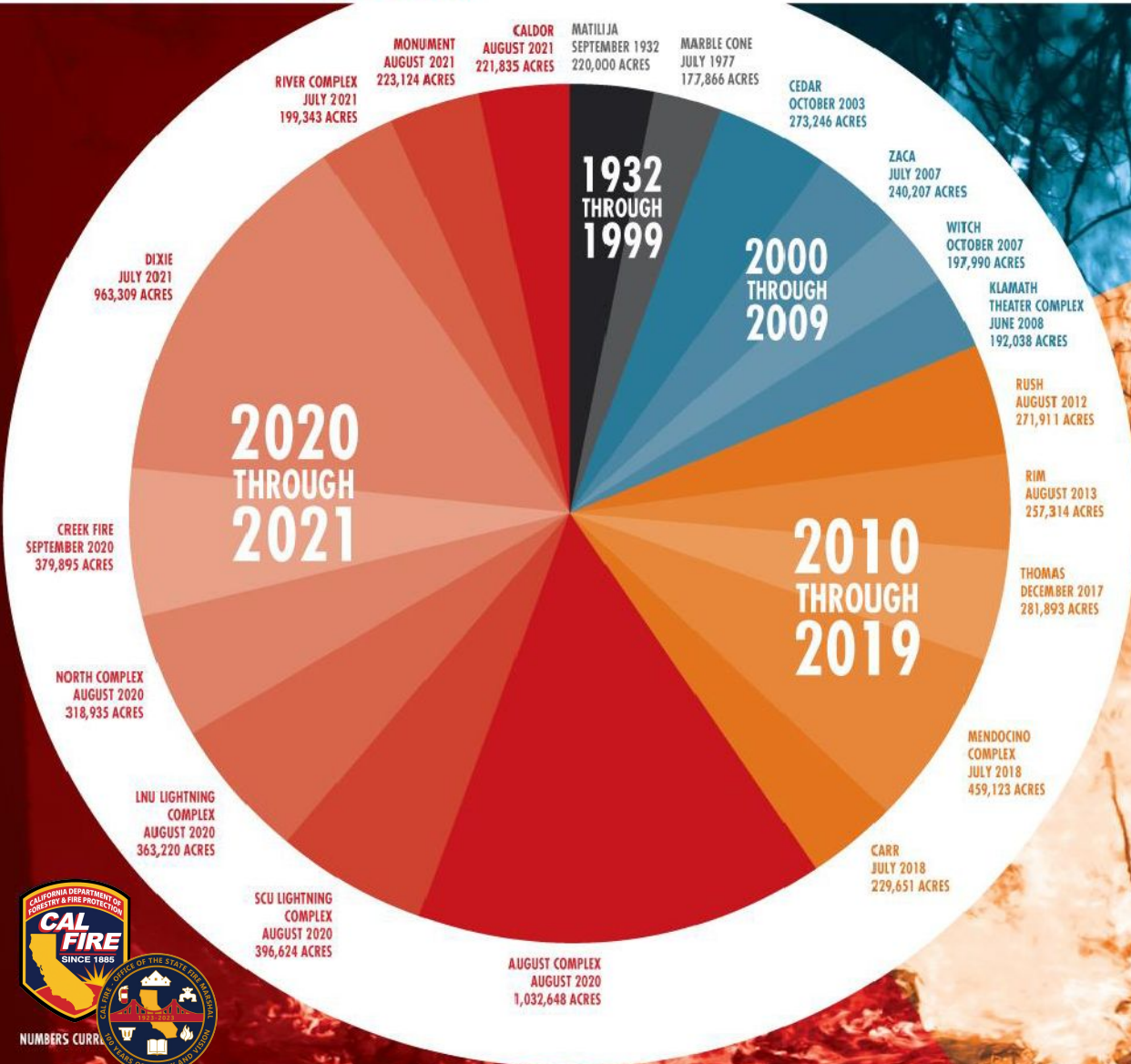


Large & Destructive Wildfires



TOP 20 LARGEST CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

TOP 20 DESTRUCTIVE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES



Space trees and remove brush from under

Grass mowed 4 inches (10cm)

Limb branches up 6ft (2m)

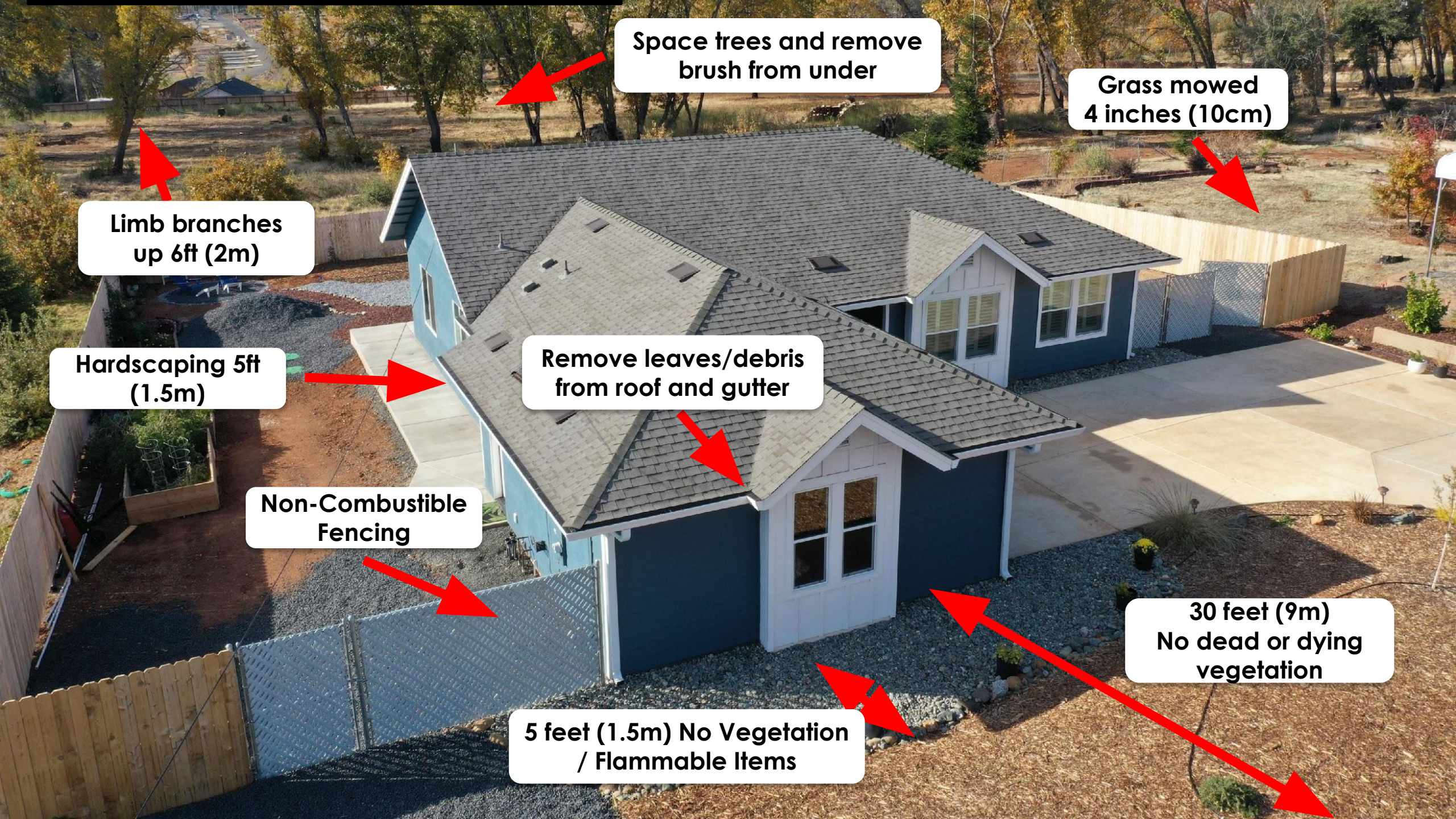
Hardscaping 5ft (1.5m)

Remove leaves/debris from roof and gutter

Non-Combustible Fencing

30 feet (9m) No dead or dying vegetation

5 feet (1.5m) No Vegetation / Flammable Items





Why is 5 Feet so Important?





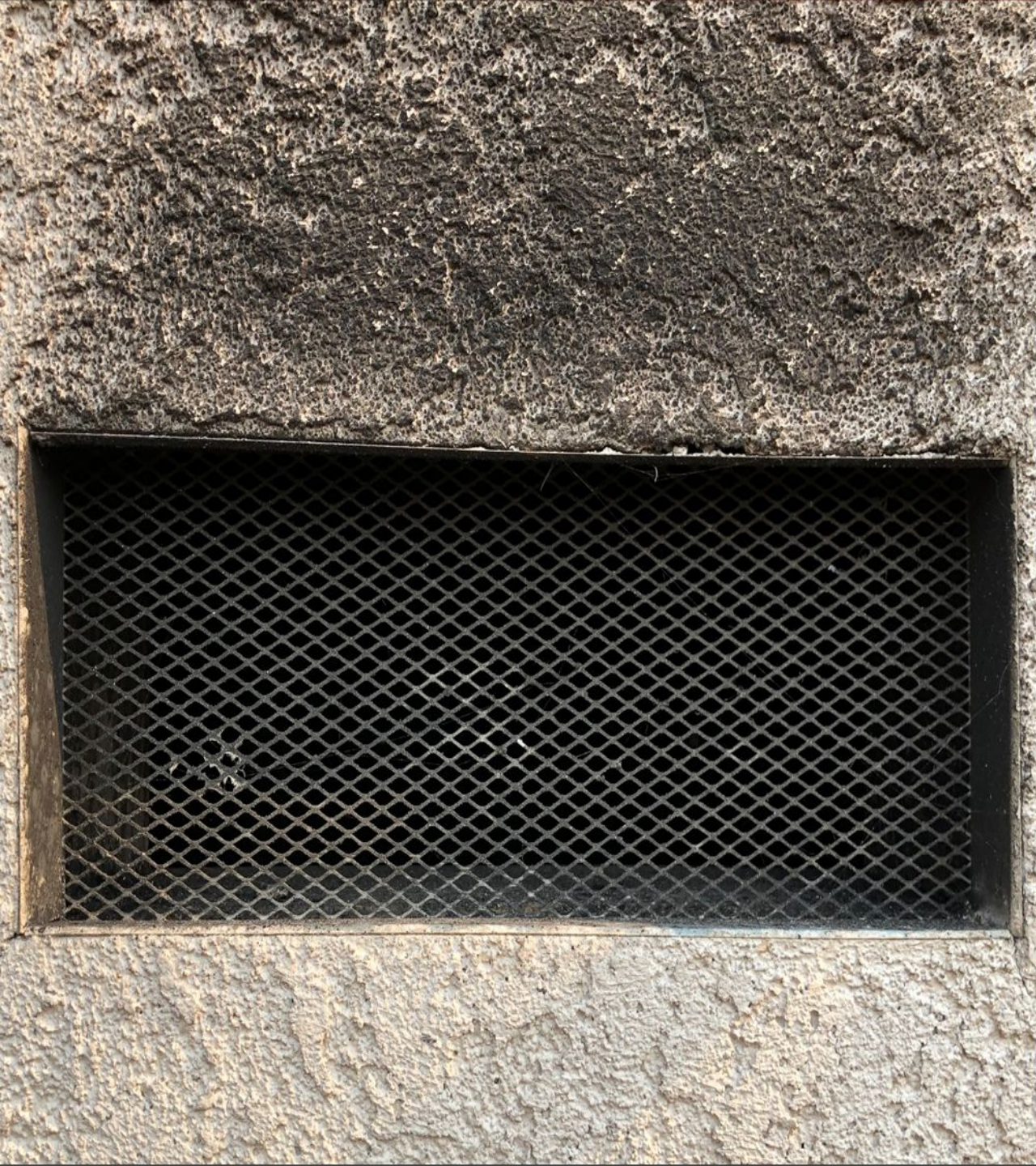
What is Home Hardening?



- ① **ROOF**
Wood shingle
- ② **EAVES**
Open | Exposed
- ③ **SIDING**
Wood Siding
- ④ **WINDOWS**
Single pane
No screens
- ⑤ **MULCH**
Bark | Wood Chips
- ⑥ **OPENINGS**
Non-Protected
Vents | Openings
- ⑦ **DECK**
Standard spacing
Combustible material

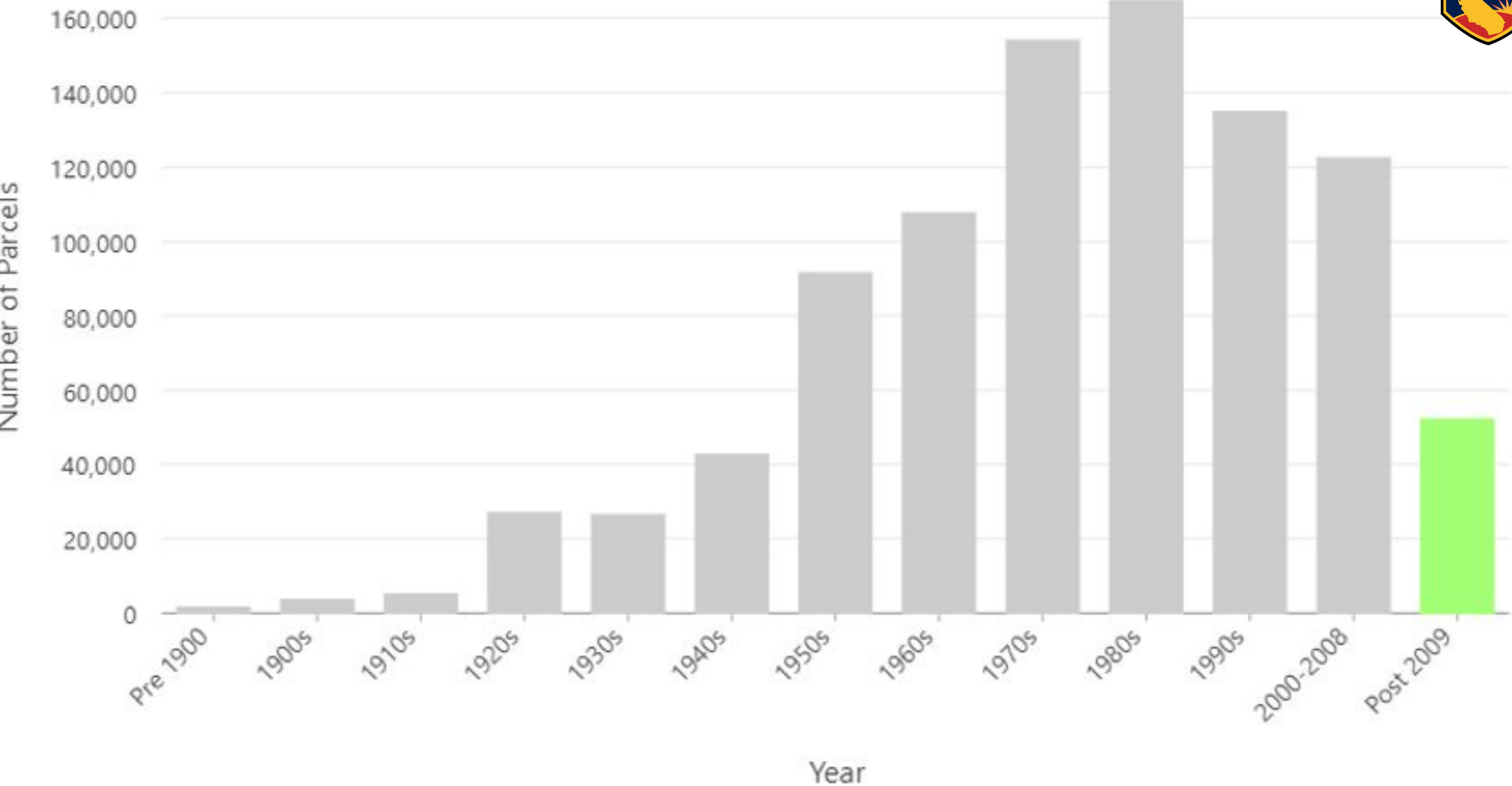


- ROOF** ①
Class A
Fire resistive
- EAVES** ②
Closed | Boxed
- SIDING** ③
Fire resistive material
- WINDOWS** ④
Dual-Pane Tempered
Screens
- MULCH** ⑤
Rock | Pebbles
- OPENINGS** ⑥
Metal screened
Vents | Openings
- DECK** ⑦
Increased joist space
Foil-faced bitumen tape
on top of joists
Non-combustible | Fire resistive





Parcels in Very High FHSZ within LRA/SRA and > \$10,000 Value



Coupled Approach

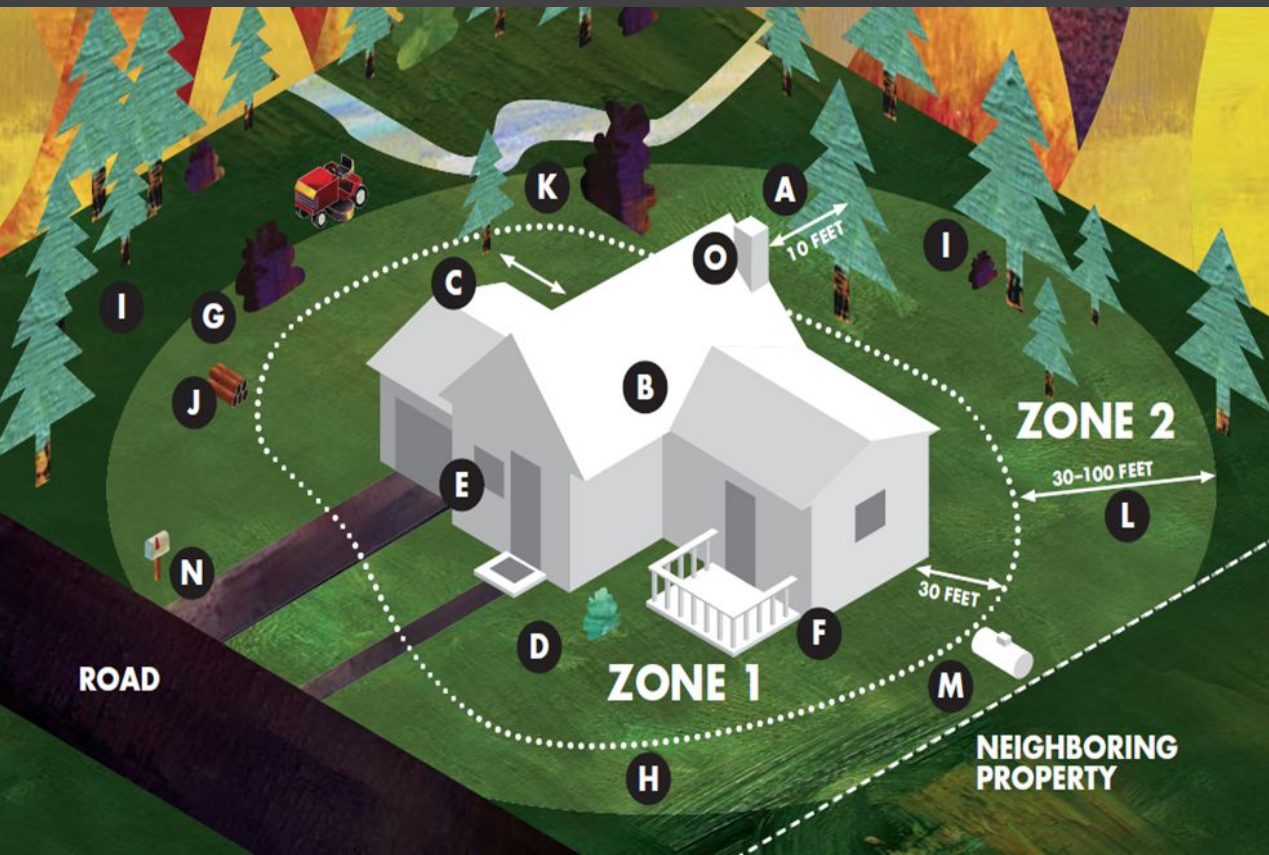


Hardening a home from wildfire is a coupled approach including defensible space and retrofitting. They MUST be done together to give a home the best chance of surviving a

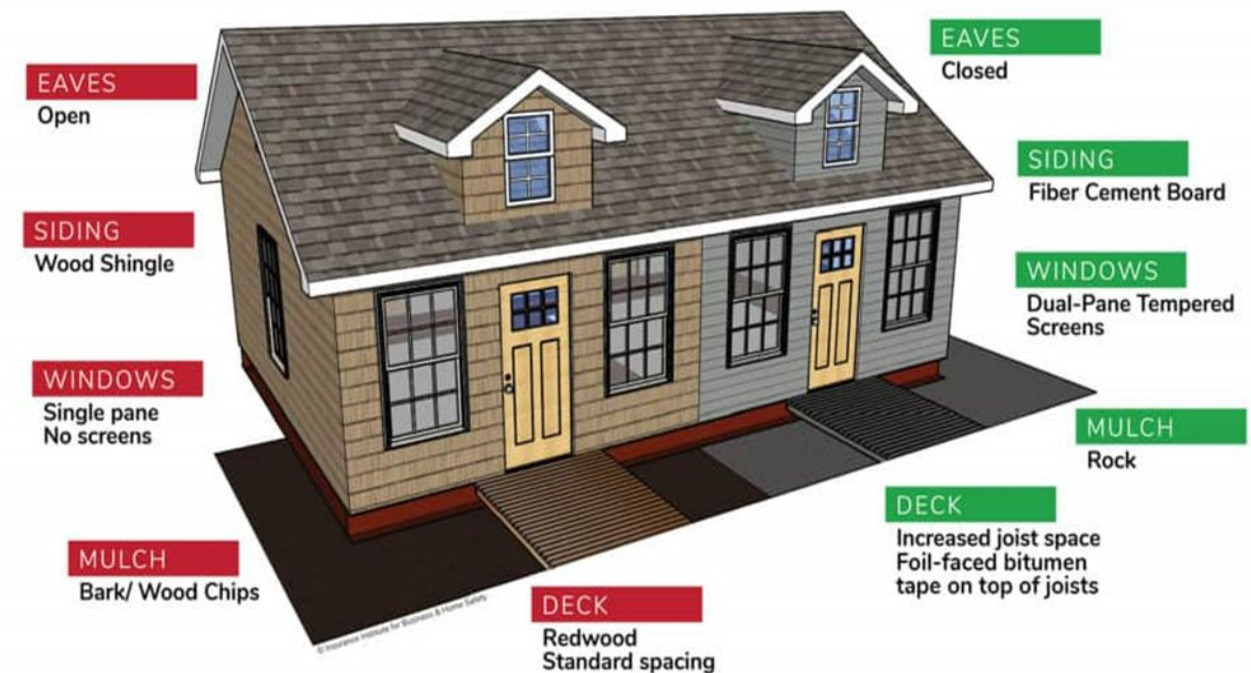
Defensible Space

wildfire.
AND

Home Hardening



Wildfire-Resistance: Make the "RIGHT" Choices



Community-Wide Mitigation

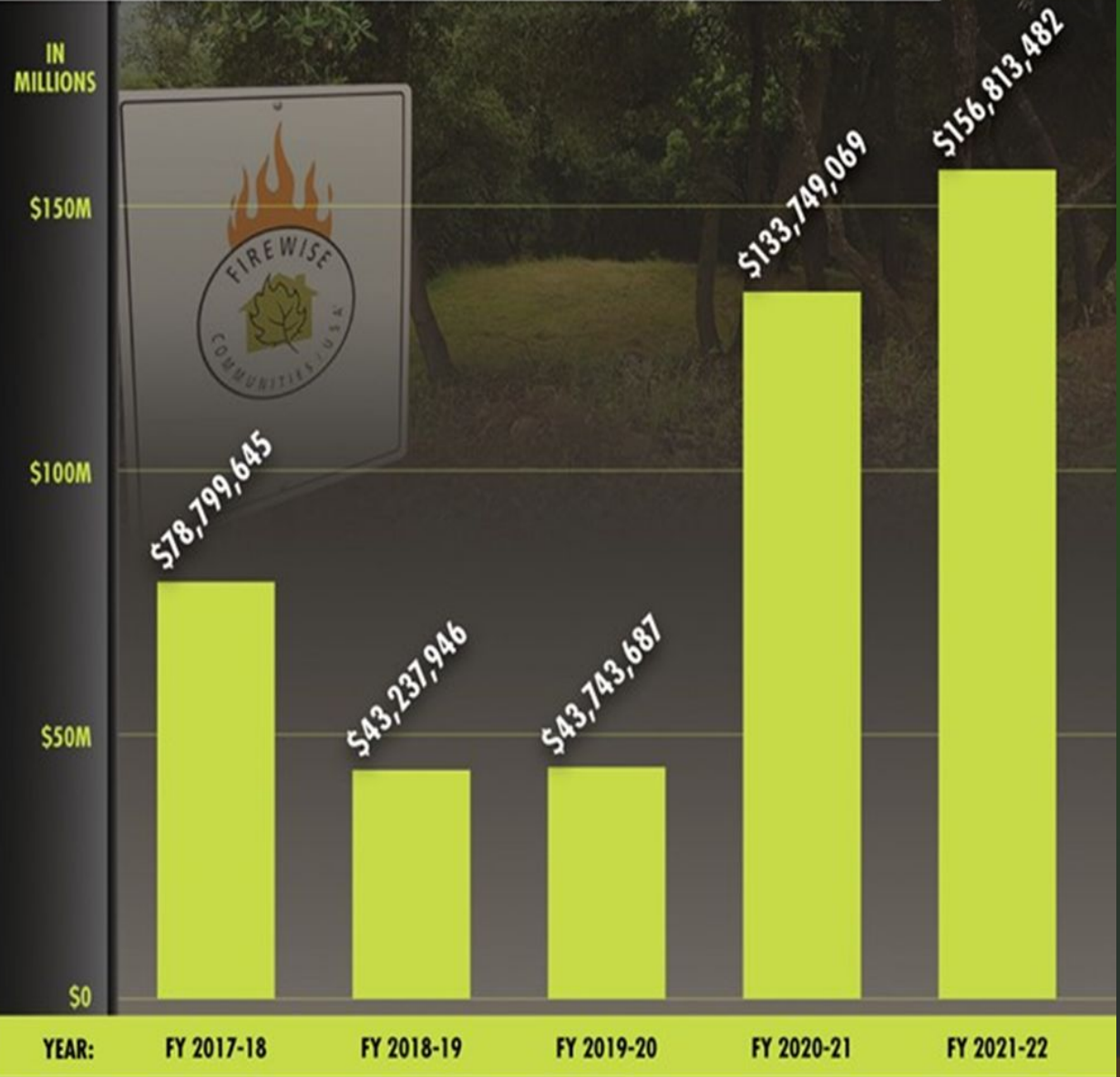


Fuel Breaks





CAL FIRE WILDFIRE PREVENTION GRANTS COMPETITIVE AND DIRECT AWARDS



NUMBERS CURRENT TO 12/31/2022.



FUEL REDUCTION ACRES

(2015-22) Acres treated by CAL FIRE and our grantees.



NUMBERS CURRENT TO 12/31/2022.

Note: Acres may increase as grantee reporting is completed. Numbers rounded to the nearest thousand.

Fuel Reduction

Green Belts

**Land Use Planning /
Development Standards**

Defensible Space

**Building Code /
Home Hardening**

**Utility Hardening /
Veg Clearance**

Thank you!



<https://osfm.fire.ca.gov>

[v/](#)

frank.bigelow@fire.ca.gov



Chief Royal Ramey, FFRP



Ready to Serve

A Community Based Solution to California's Growing Climate and Criminal Justice Challenges

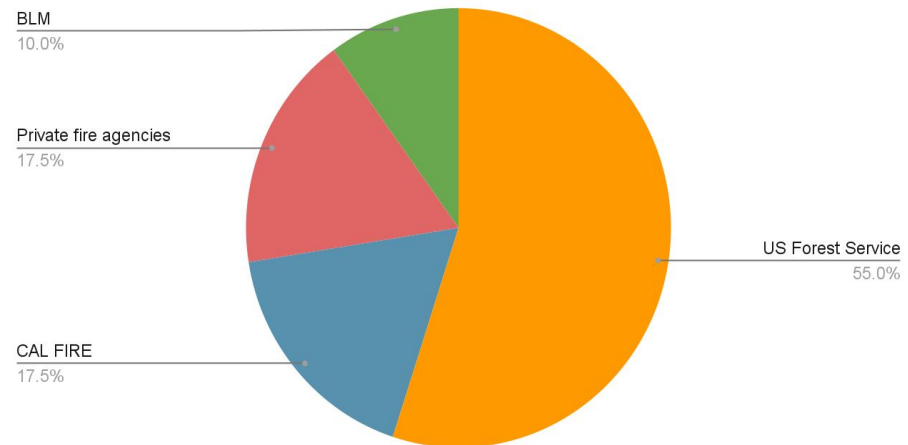
We are The Forestry & Fire Recruitment Program (FFRP)



FFRP at a Glance

- ➔ FFRP established: 2015
- ➔ Placed 175+ people into careers
- ➔ Graduated 40 people statewide in April – 100% entered into fire and forestry careers

Cohort 4 Career Placements



FFRP's Intersection



What's the Impact of FFRP?

FFRP is creating the change we want to see:

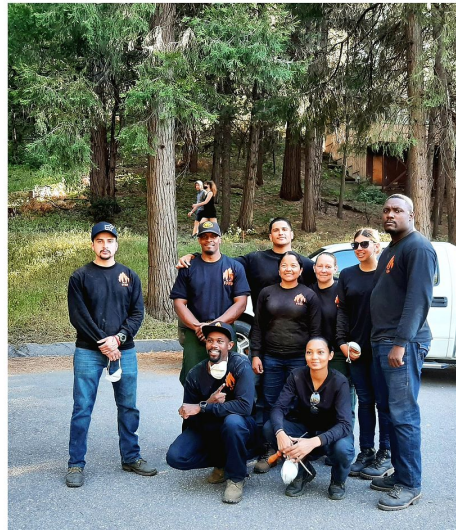
- ➔ Lowering rates of recidivism amongst graduates with gainful employment **(3%)**
- ➔ Prioritizing: justice-impacted, female-identifying, and BIPOC community members
- ➔ Creating generational change & opportunities for economic mobility

How does FFRP do it?

- Paid on-the-job training (\$17.50/hour)
- Pro-bono legal supports & case management
- Career development & attainment
- Post-employment support & credentialing



Let's Get to Work!



FORESTRYFIRERP.ORG

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Bay Area Director
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RAFFLE! FUNDRAISER



Ascent will make a \$250 donation in the raffle winner's name to the Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program.

The Forestry and Fire Recruitment Program (FFRP) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to increase wildfire personnel from non-traditional and underrepresented communities, providing them with the training, skills, resources, and experiences needed to secure gainful, family-winning employment.

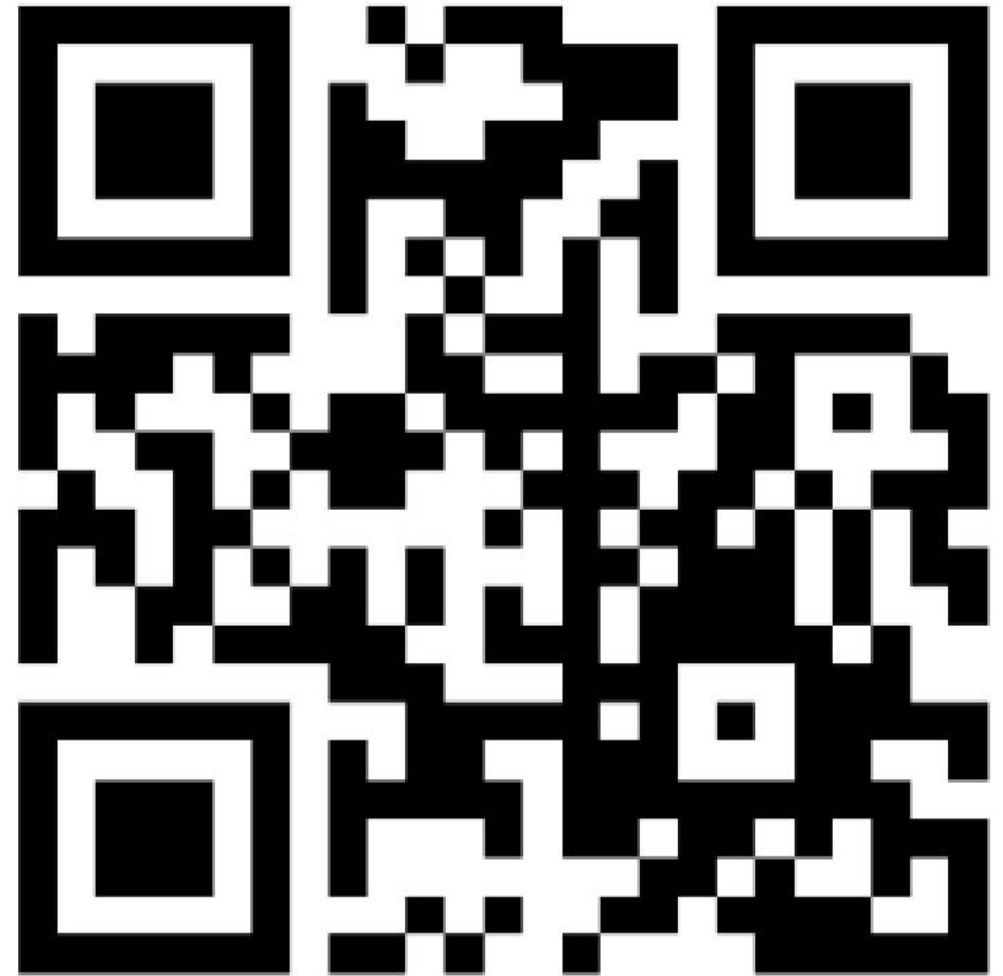
Donating to FFRP means more wildland firefighters at work, more jobs and careers for underrepresented communities, and greater environmental development and pre-fire fuel treatments. Consider Supporting FFRP's Mission to Address California's Wildfires. You can donate anytime, by visiting www.forestryfirerp.org/donation.

ENTER HERE*



eepurl.com/iuwuPY

**Winner will be notified by email following the CAF.*





Pauline Allen, RCDSMM



Discussion + Q&A



RAFFLE!

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