

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board

September 3, 2025, 1:00 p.m.



*Hybrid Meeting
Junipero Serra Building, Carmel Room
320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles, CA*

Participation Information



Using more than one participation option may create feedback

Please begin your comment by stating your name and organization

- **Microsoft Teams:** <https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

Meeting ID: 255 411 824 163 1 | Passcode: hH9MR6Yo

- **Phone:** +1 (469) 998-6045 | Conference ID: 710 136 283#

Participants will be placed on mute in “listen-only” mode until the public comment portion of the meeting. Once the public comment portions of the meeting begin, participants may dial *5 (star five) when they wish to speak to be placed in a queue. The hosting team will unmute callers in order of request.

- **Email:** Written comments may be emailed to WSAB@energysafety.ca.gov.
- **Technical Issues:** e-mail WSAB@energysafety.ca.gov or call Unique Coleman at 916-709-3079





Meeting Materials Are Available at:

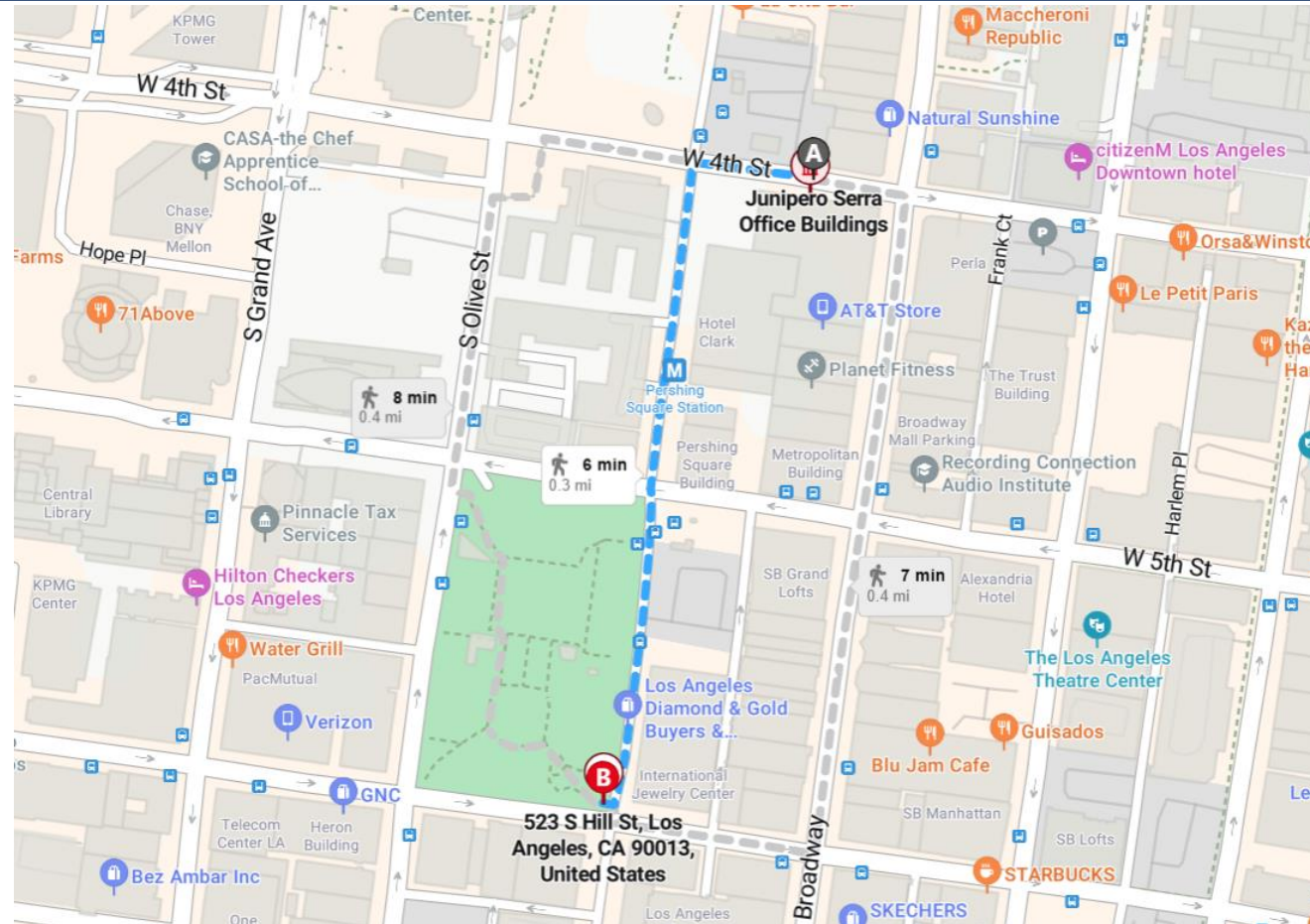
<https://energysafety.ca.gov/what-we-do/wildfire-safety-advisory-board/wsab-events-and-meetings/>

Written Public Comments Are Available at:

<https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/EFiling/DocketInformation.aspx?docketnumber=2025-WSAB-WSAB>



Safety Briefing



1 – Call to Order and Roll Call



- **Ralph Armstrong Jr.**
- **Jessica Block, Chair**
- **Marybel Batjer**
- **Tim Haines**
- **John Mader**
- **Chris Porter, Vice Chair**
- **Alexandra Syphard**



2 – Meeting Minutes



- **June 4, 2025**



3 – Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety Update



Dakota Smith

Supervisor, Electric Safety Policy Division

Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

California Natural Resources Agency



ENERGY SAFETY POLICY DIVISION (ESPD) AND SAFETY CULTURE BRANCH BRIEFING

Sept. 3, 2025



AGENDA

- ESPD and Safety Culture Branch Workstream Activities:
 - IOU Wildfire Mitigation Plans (WMPs)
 - Risk Model Working Group (RMWG)
 - Safety Culture Assessments (SCA)
 - Executive Compensation Structures
 - Safety Certifications



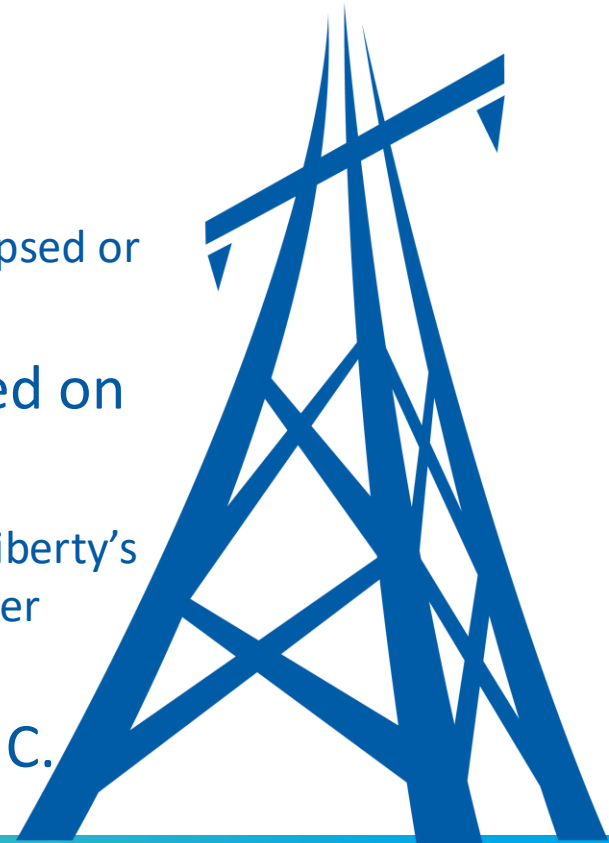


WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANS

IOU WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANS (WMPs) ^{1 of 3}

2025 WMP Update Evaluations

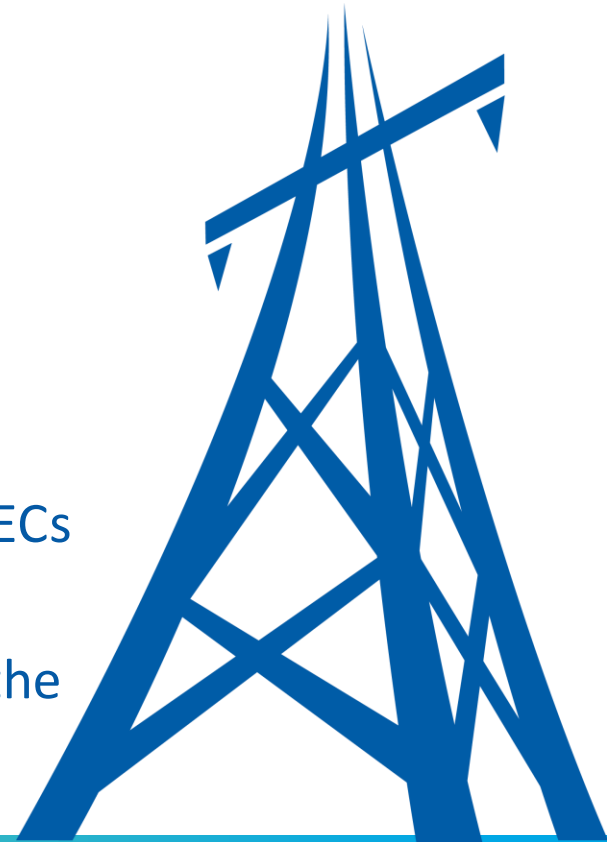
- ❑ ESPD evaluated a Petition to Amend (PTA) from SDG&E, submitted on 4/10/2025.
 - ❑ Published PTA Decision on 7/11. Using the PTA criteria, ESPD:
 - ❑ Approved six amendments that met PTA requirements
 - ❑ Denied 11 amendments for which the performance period had elapsed or did not align with the General Rate Case decision
- ❑ ESPD evaluated a Change Order request from Liberty, submitted on 4/22/2025.
 - ❑ Published Change Order Decision on 6/17. ESPD rejected all (three) of Liberty's change order requests, due to the requests not meeting the change order criteria of reducing risk.
- ❑ All 2025 WMP Update Decisions have been ratified by the CPUC.



IOU WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANS (WMPs) ^{2 of 3}

2026-2028 Base WMPs

- ☐ Received all WMPs; ESPD is evaluating, sending Data Requests, and having internal discussions.
- ☐ Issued Revision Notices to PG&E (6/27) and SCE (8/15).
 - ☐ Due to critical issues found within WMP submissions
 - ☐ PG&E response received 7/28; SCE response due 9/15
- ☐ Issued Rejection and Order to Resubmit to SDG&E (6/24).
 - ☐ Due to WMP submission not conforming to WMP Guidelines requirements
 - ☐ Revised WMP received 7/18
- ☐ Held WMP public workshops on 5/21, and 7/29, which covered all 9 ECs WMPs with specific prompts addressed.
- ☐ Published a revised WMP evaluation schedule on 8/15 that extends the draft Decision dates.



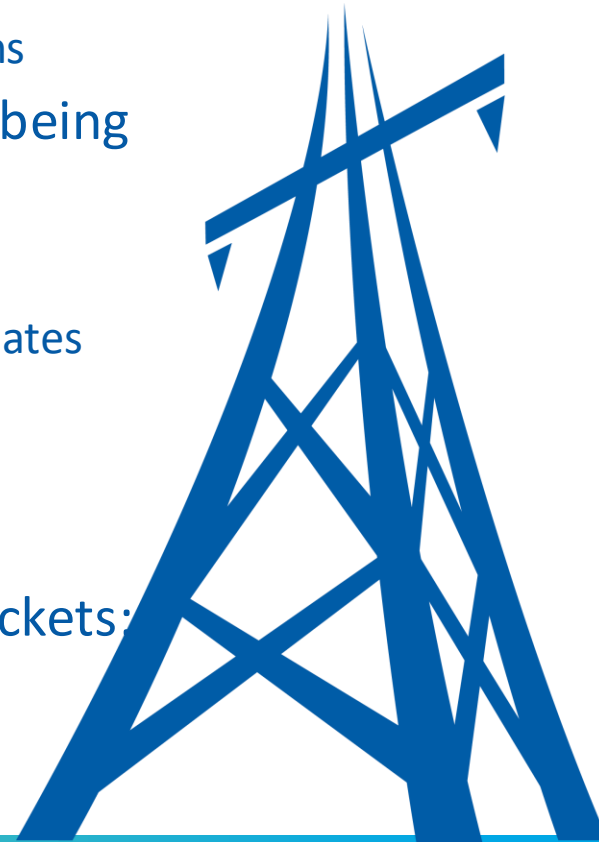
IOU WILDFIRE MITIGATION PLANS (WMPs) ^{3 of 3}

WMP Guidelines

- ❑ Energy Safety published the draft WMP Update Requirements Chapter of the WMP Guidelines on 8/19.
 - ❑ This chapter is specific to the requirements of the WMP Update submissions
- ❑ Public Comments are being accepted through 9/18, and a workshop is being held tomorrow, 9/4.
- ❑ Contents include:
 - ❑ 1) General Instructions specific to WMP Updates; 2) the six Reportable Updates Categories; and 3) the WMP Update evaluation process

Document Availability

- ❑ All mentioned documents can be found published on Energy Safety Dockets:
 - ❑ ['26 – 28 Base WMP](#)
 - ❑ [WMP Guidelines](#)

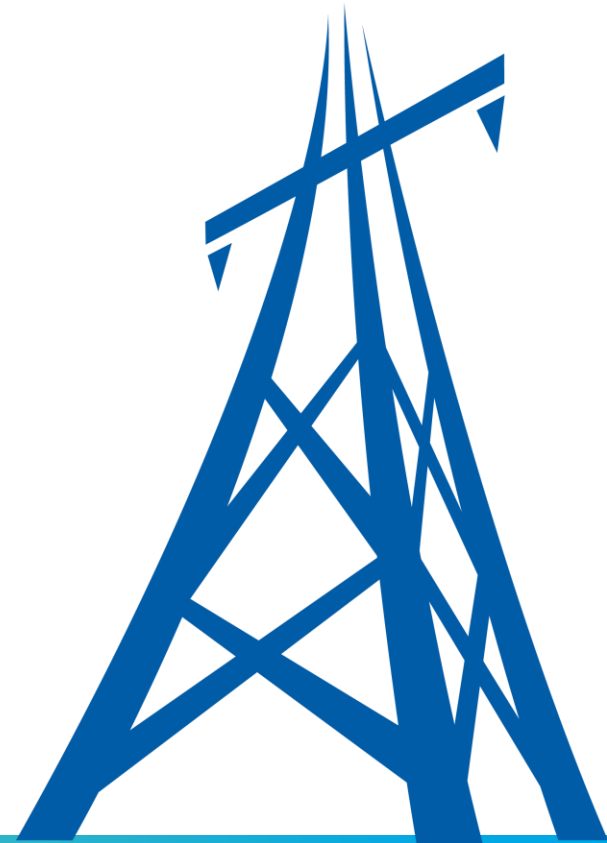




RISK MODEL WORKING GROUP

RISK MODEL WORKING GROUP (RMWG)

- ❑ The attendees are developing a document on how electrical corporations in California model, or should model, their wildfire risk.
- ❑ Topics discussed in the RMWG in 2025 so far include:
 - ❑ Calculation of natural units in wildfire consequence modeling
 - ❑ Monetization of natural units for cost benefit analysis
 - ❑ Fire Potential Index determination
 - ❑ Consequence scaling from egress and socioeconomic factors
 - ❑ Weather design scenarios
 - ❑ Vegetation and asset data collection
 - ❑ Probability of ignition calculation





SAFETY CULTURE ASSESSMENTS

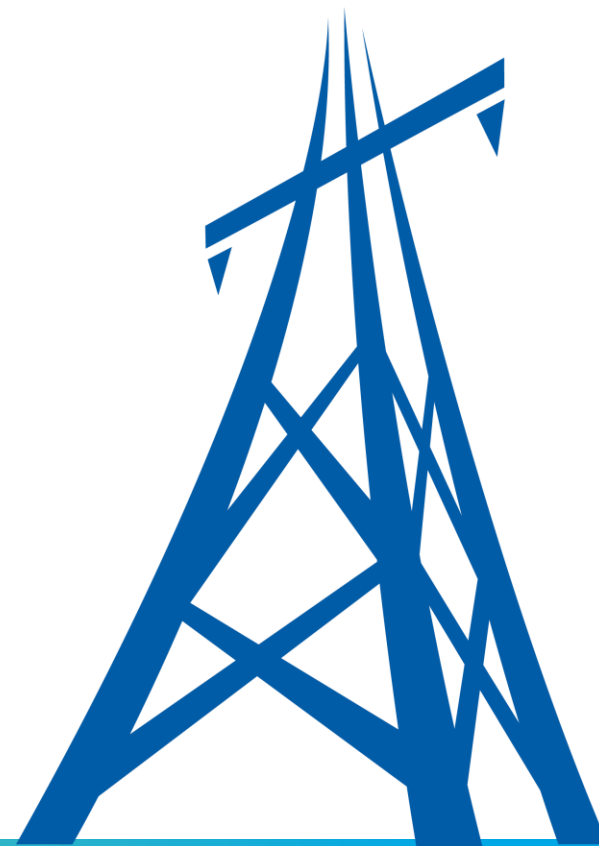
SAFETY CULTURE ASSESSMENTS (SCAs)

□ 2024 SCAs

- Draft reports are currently under Energy Safety review.
- Publication of 2024 SCA reports for ECs targeted for late Q3 2025.

□ 2025 SCAs

- Scheduled to begin in Q4 2025.

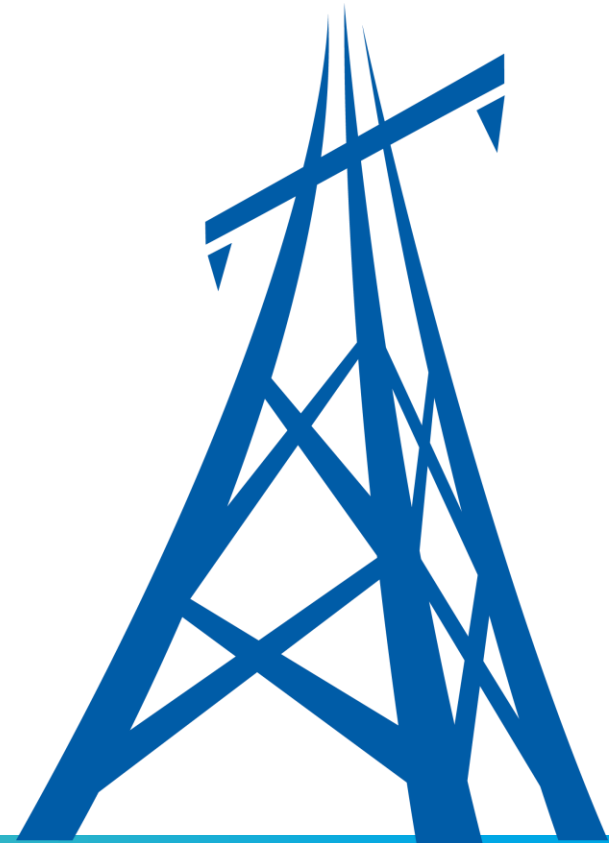




EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION STRUCTURES

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION STRUCTURES

- ❑ BVES, PG&E, SCE and SDG&E submitted 2025 Executive Compensation Structures on May 23, 2025.
- ❑ Publication of 2025 Executive Compensation Structure decision letters targeted for late Q3 2025.

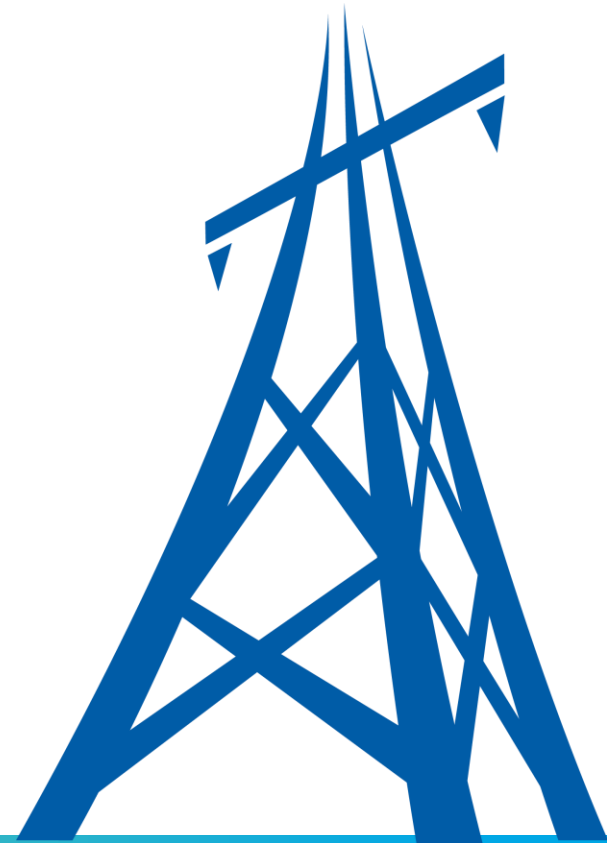




SAFETY CERTIFICATIONS

SAFETY CERTIFICATIONS

- ❑ Energy Safety adopted its Safety Certification Guidelines on April 25, 2025.
- ❑ Publication of 2025 Safety Certification request schedule targeted for late Q3 2025.





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4 – Vegetation Management Best Management Practices



Colin Lang

Supervisor, Environmental Safety Division

Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety

California Natural Resources Agency



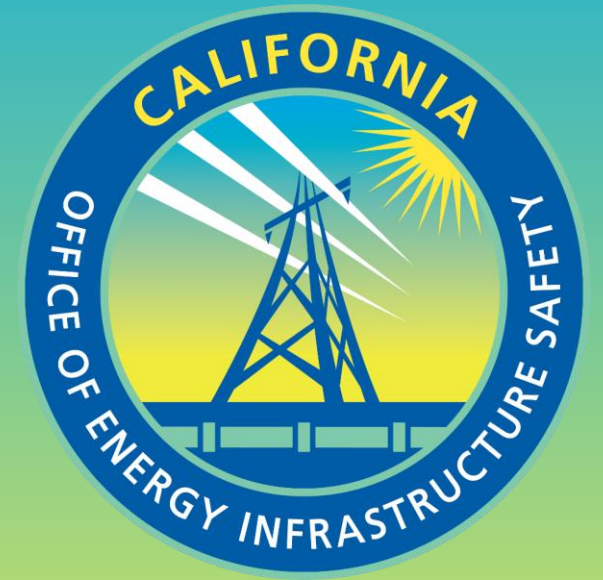
ESTABLISHING UTILITY VEGETATION MANAGEMENT BEST PRACTICES FOR WILDFIRE SAFETY

Presentation to the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board
September 3, 2025



AGENDA

- Background
- BMP Topics
- Plan
- Tentative Timeline
- Board Engagement

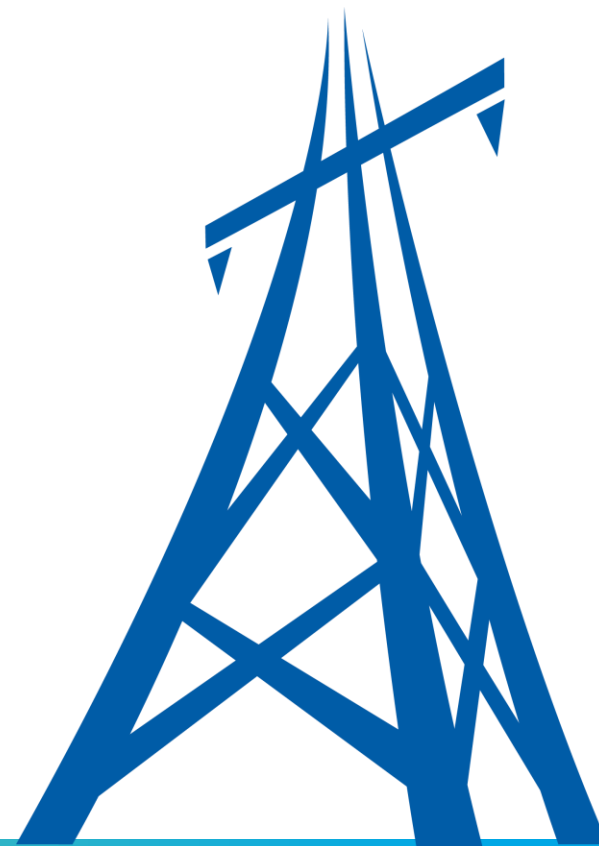




BACKGROUND

2022 WMP EVALUATION: IDENTIFYING THE NEED

- Energy Safety noticed that there were components of the WMPs that were not consistent across electrical corporations
 - Unclear which EC was doing these components “correctly.”
 - As such, Energy Safety recognized gaps in its own knowledge that limited the analysis of these same components:
 - Utility Vegetation Management for Wildfire Safety
 - Climate Change in planning/ decision-making
 - Community Vulnerability in planning/ decision-making
 - Risk modeling (2021 Decision)
- Energy Safety committed to holding a scoping meeting that would “lead to efforts to help clarify the current differences between electrical corporations’ vegetation management programs and allow for collaboration among the electrical corporations, stakeholders, and academic experts.”

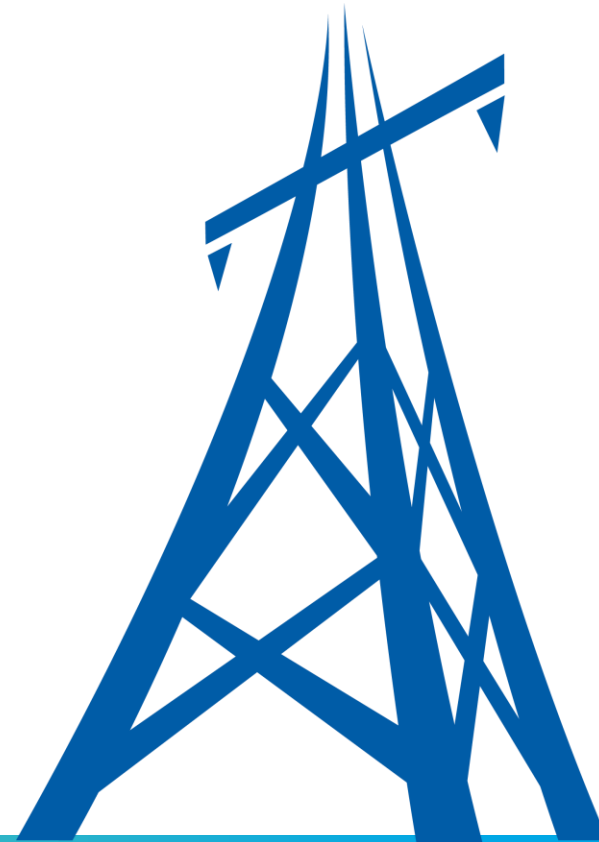


SCOPING MEETING: PROBLEM STATEMENT

In advance of the scoping meeting, Energy Safety worked to clarify the need for BMPs and developed the following problem statement:

“Current industry standards and regulations do not provide adequate guidance on how utilities should manage vegetation to prevent vegetation-caused outages and ignitions in high fire risk areas. As a result, utilities have adopted differing strategies to raise the standard of care in high-risk areas.

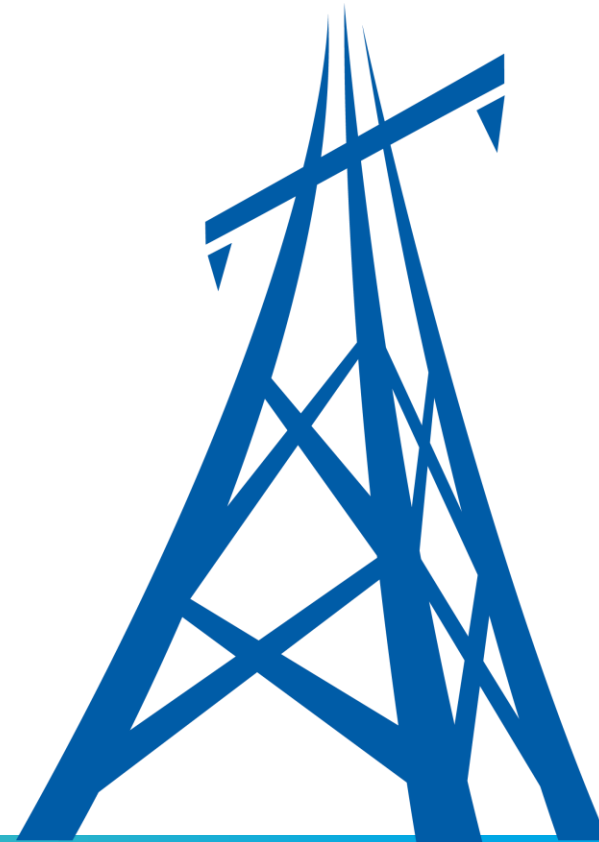
Utilities, Energy Safety, and relevant stakeholders must strive to determine effective practices and establish standards/expectations for vegetation management for reducing wildfire risk, while considering the diverse biological and cultural resources of California.”



SCOPING MEETING

- Held February 10, 2023
- Featured two experts:
 - Stephen R. Cieslewicz: Utility Vegetation Management (UVM) Consultant and Host of The UVM Podcast
 - Lawrence J. Kahn: Director, Utility Vegetation Management Initiative at Tulane Law School

https://youtu.be/6DvA-PW75_I



SCOPING MEETING

Pre-Meetings w/ Large IOUs

Common Topics:

- Hazard Tree Inspection
- Remote Sensing
- Distribution ROW Management

Other Topics:

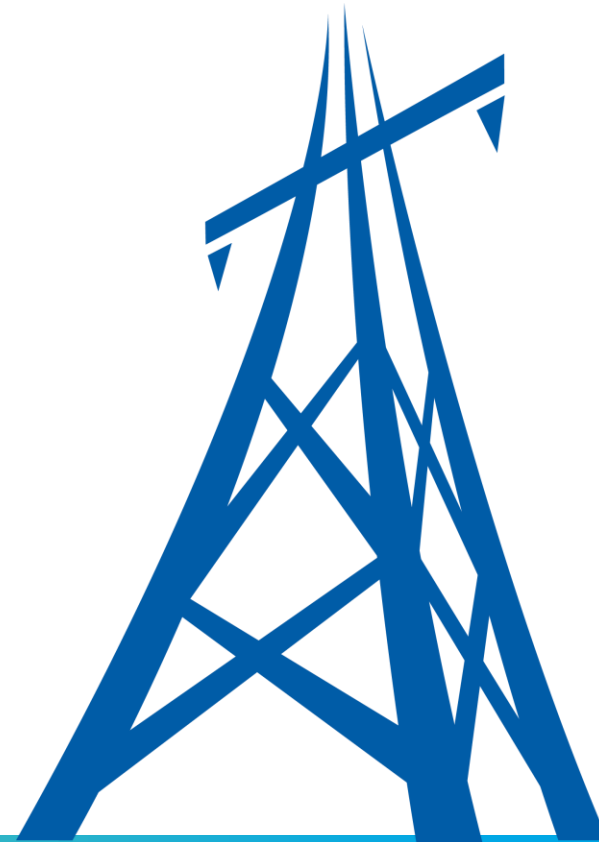
- Training
- Contract Management
- Quality Management
- Pole Clearing beyond PRC 4292
- Customer/Landowner Notification
- Post-fire restoration/recovery including worker safety in burned areas

SCOPING MEETING GOALS

- Identify and prioritize UVM practices in need of standardization for wildfire safety
- Explore how to achieve alignment among electrical corporations

FOLLOW-ON ACTIVITY GOAL

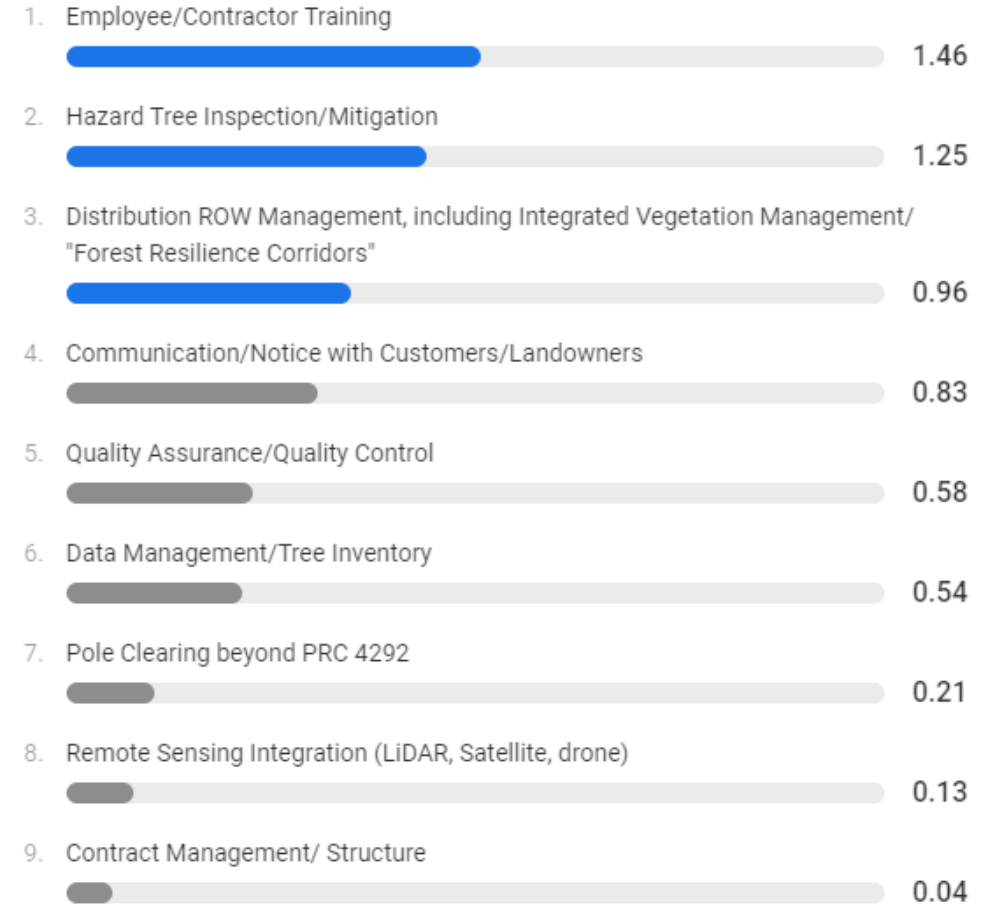
Establish standards and expectations for vegetation management to mitigate outages and wildfire risk in high fire risk areas, that consider the diverse biological and cultural resources of California



SCOPING MEETING: LIVE POLL RESULTS

What UVM practices for wildfire mitigation need standardization/ alignment?
(24 responses)

What UVM practices for wildfire mitigation need standardization/alignment?





SELECTED TOPICS

SELECTED TOPICS

Remote Sensing

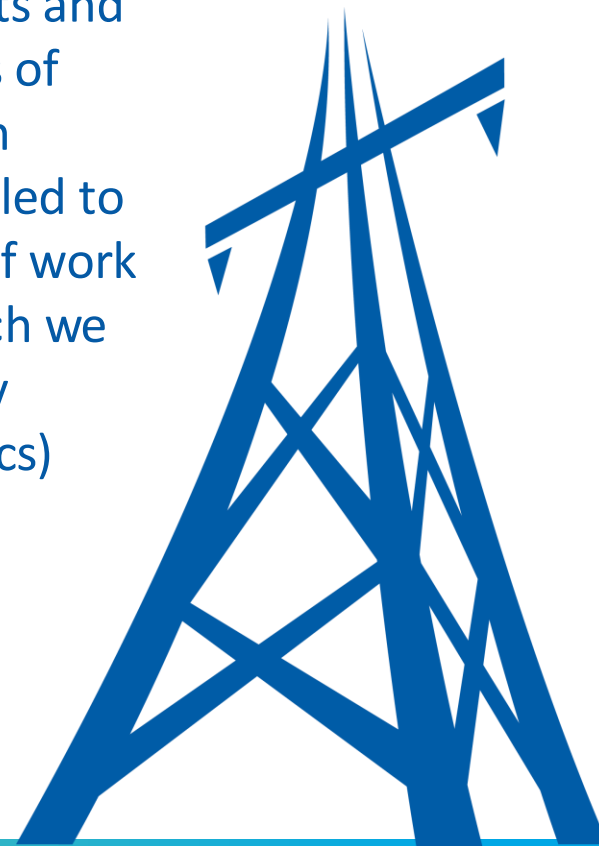
Various remote sensing technologies, such as LiDAR and satellite, can measure aspects of vegetation including the vegetation's position relative to other objects, like electrical facilities. These technologies promise to increase efficiency and effectiveness of utility vegetation management.

Quality Management

Quality management is the process of overseeing the activities and tasks that create a product or service to ensure it meets a desired level of excellence. For utility vegetation management, quality management helps identify weaknesses in inspection and maintenance.

Why these topics?

- Emerging technology with active pilots and various degrees of implementation
- ECs have struggled to report quality of work in a way in which we can consistently evaluate (metrics)





PLAN

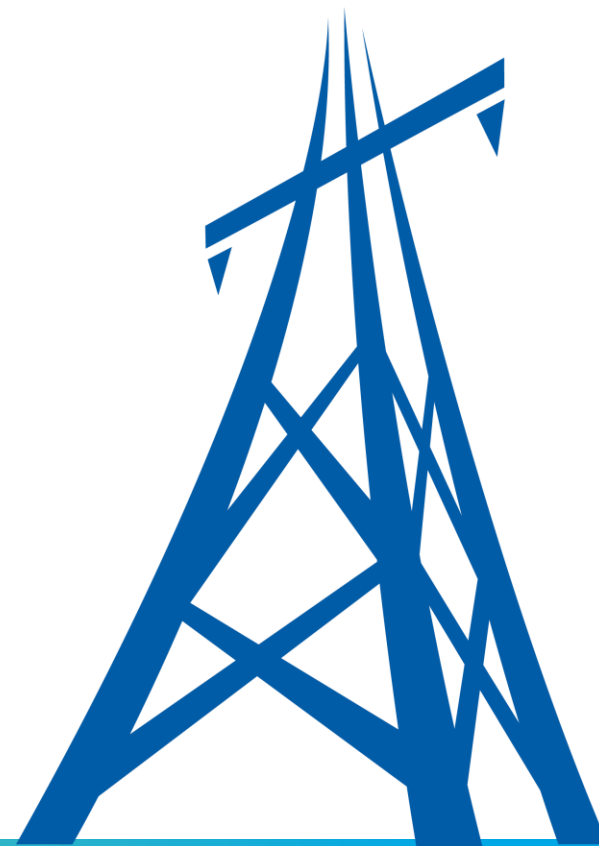
THE PROBLEM & GOAL

Problem

- Current industry standards and regulations do not provide adequate guidance on how electrical corporations should manage vegetation to prevent vegetation-caused outages and ignitions in high fire risk areas.
- Electrical corporations have adopted differing strategies to raise the standard of care in high-risk areas.

Goal

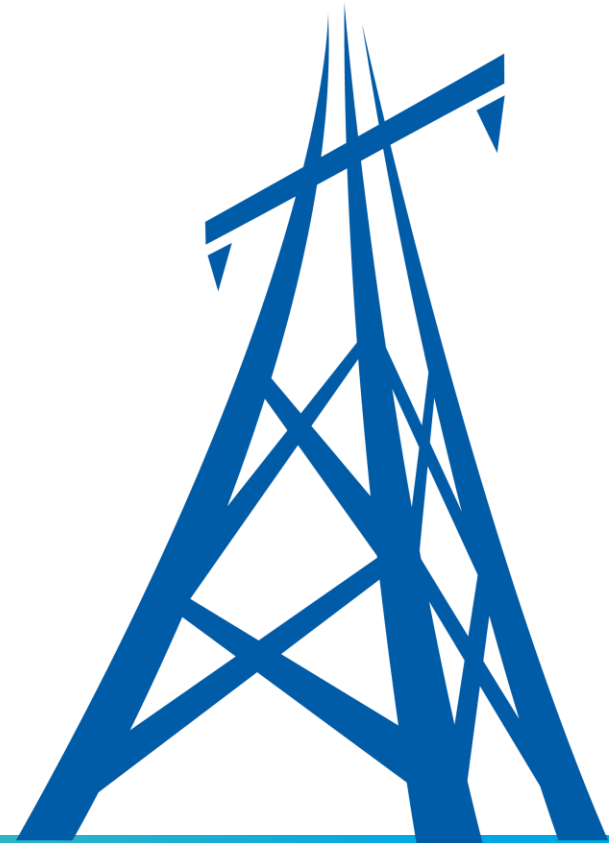
- Establish BMPs to provide such guidance while considering California's diverse biological and cultural resources.



PLAN SUMMARY

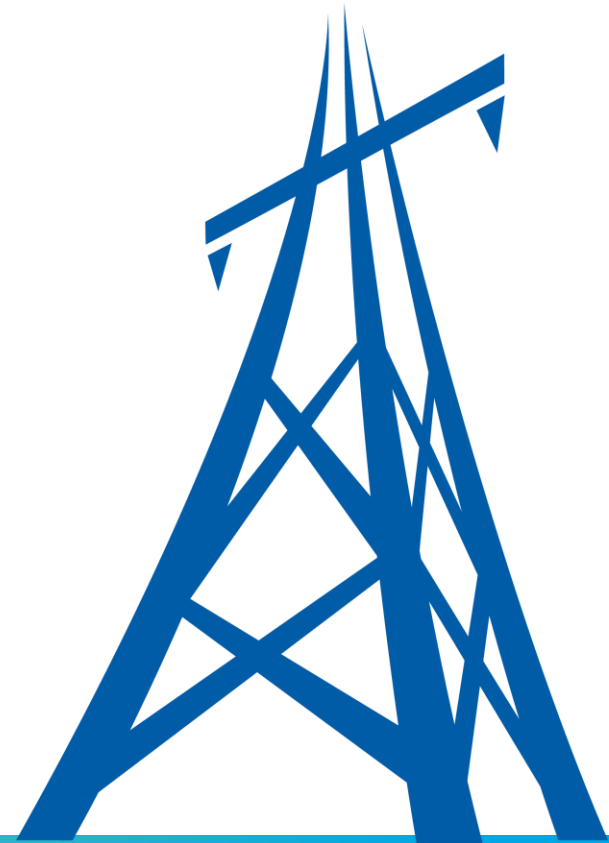
1. **Public Notice:** Alerting electrical corporations and stakeholders of the process to establish the BMPs and the topics.
2. **Research and Engagement** by ESD staff
3. **Publish draft** best practices for comment
4. **Revise** draft and **publish** as final
5. **Implement**

*Workshops can be held anytime during step 2 and/or 3



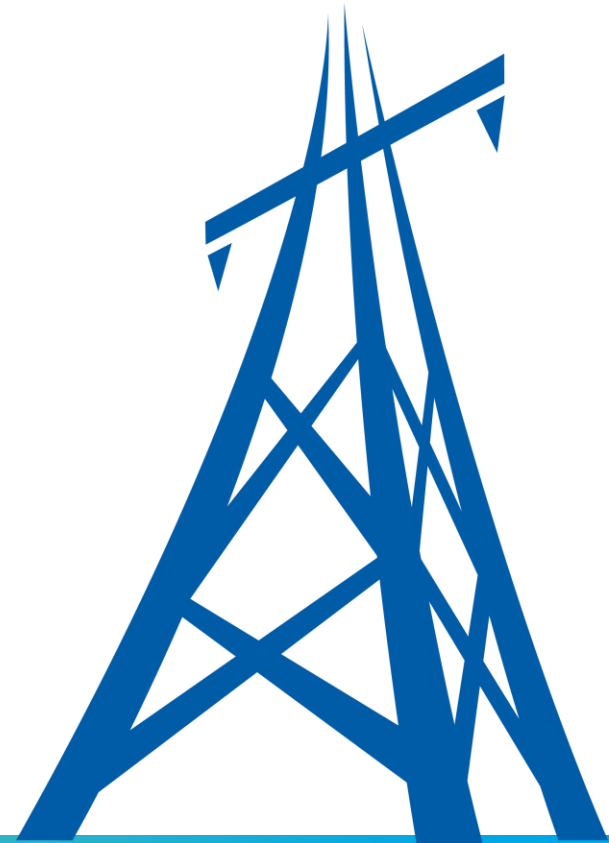
PUBLIC NOTICE

Energy Safety will publish a one/two-page letter/notice alerting electrical corporations and stakeholders of the process to establish the BMPs and the selected topics.



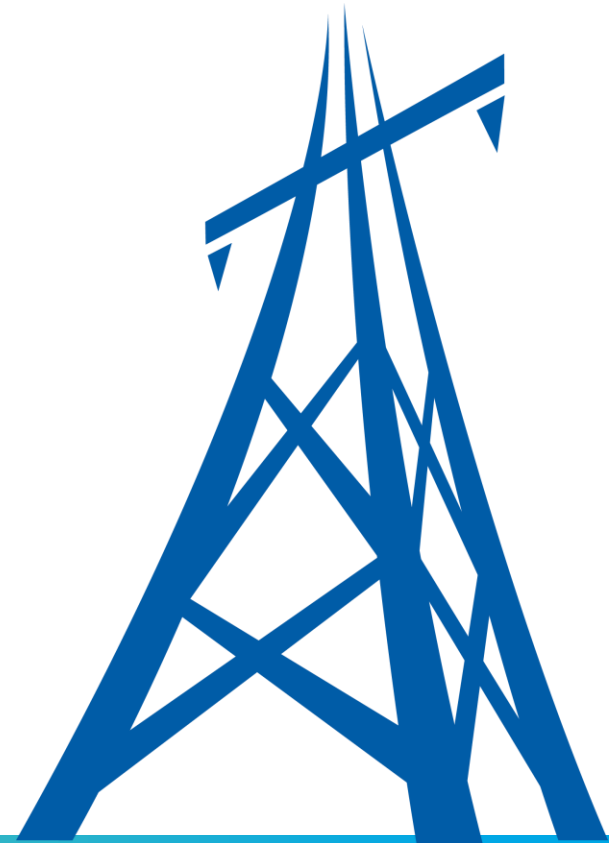
RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT

- **Research:** ESD staff will research the selected topics for which to establish BMPs
- **Engagement** as part of research could include:
 - Data requests soliciting information regarding current electrical corporation practices
 - Targeted interviews/discussions with academic and industry experts
 - Workshops
 - Presenting at industry conference



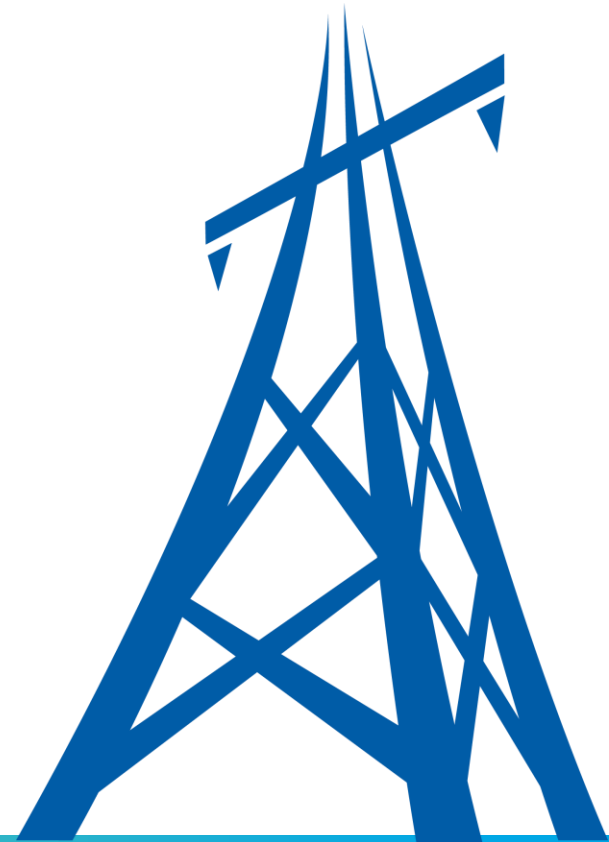
DRAFT AND FINAL BEST PRACTICES DOCUMENTS

1. **Publish Draft:** Each draft BMP document will be published on Energy Safety's docket for public comment before it is finalized.
2. **Hold Workshops:** ESD could hold workshops on the draft BMPs during the public comment period to help stakeholders understand the purpose, scope, and implementation of the BMPs.
3. **Incorporate Feedback**
4. **Publish Final**



IMPLEMENTATION

- BMPs will be considered “best practices documents” as defined by WMP Guidelines:
 - “These materials are provided to assist electrical corporations in meeting guidelines and statutory requirements and to minimize the risk of catastrophic wildfire... information in these publications is intended to assist electrical corporations with developing appropriate approaches to minimize wildfire risk... as part of its WMP. These guidance or best practices materials are not all-inclusive, and do not preclude electrical corporations from employing other technically sound practices.”
- Implementation Mechanisms
 - WMP Decisions (Areas for Continued Improvement)
 - WMP Guidelines
 - Public Utilities Code section 326(a)(7).

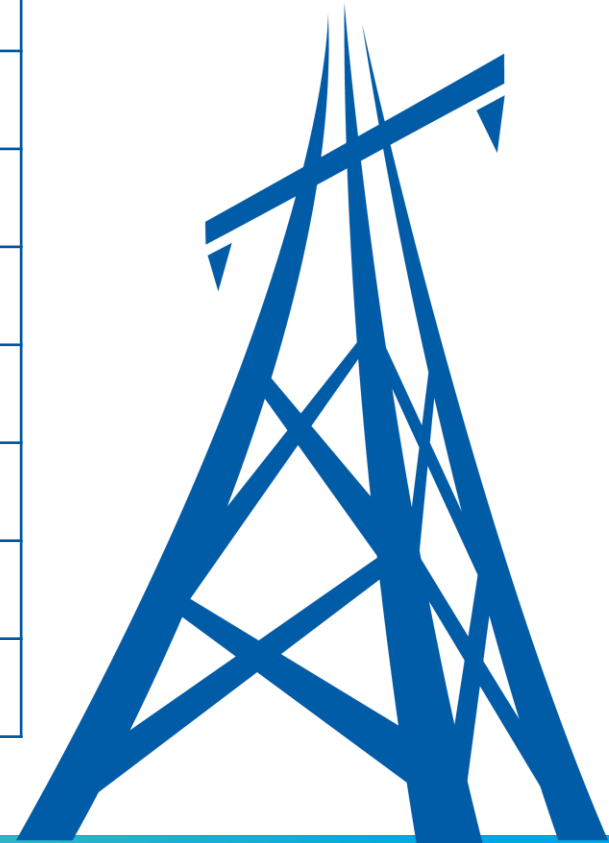




TENTATIVE TIMELINE

TENTATIVE TIMELINE

Task Name	Finish
Publish Notice	September 2025
Research/Engagement Phase	September 2025 – January 2026
Write drafts	January/February 2026
Publish drafts	March 2026
Hold Workshop(s)	Q4 2025 and/or Q1 2026
Receive Comments	April 2026
Incorporate Comments	April/May 2026
Publish as Final	Summer 2026





BOARD ENGAGEMENT

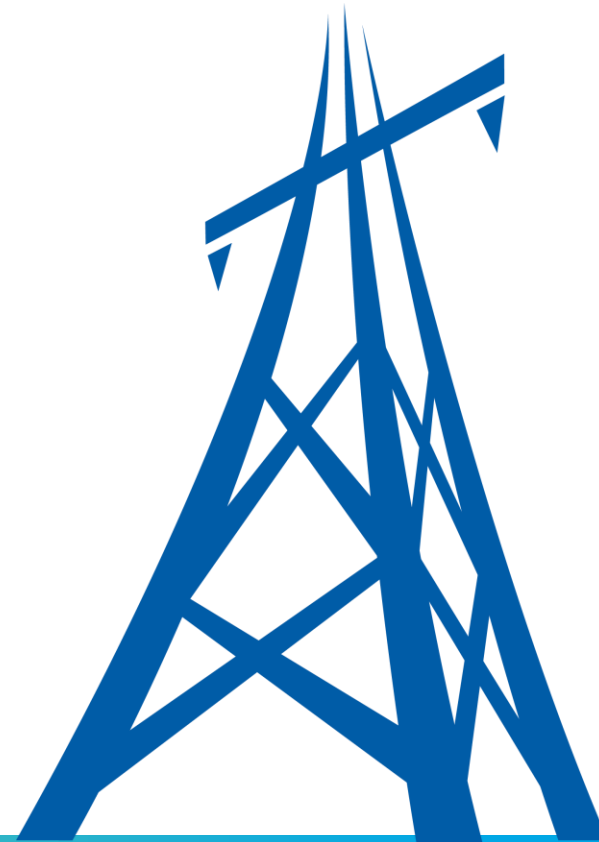
BOARD ENGAGEMENT

Venues for Engagement:

- Targeted meetings with the Vegetation Management Committee during research/engagement phase (Sep 25 – Jan 26)
- Update on research progress during December WSAB meeting
- Distribute drafts to WSAB for review

Input Needed On:

- Scope of the BMP documents and research
 - What aspects of remote sensing and quality management should the BMP documents and research cover?
- Experts in the field, academic and industry
- Contacts at POUs who are or exploring the use of remote sensing and/or have a strong quality management program
- Existing research
- Gaps in research



QUESTIONS?





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California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board



California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board

WE ARE BACK!

Extreme Weather and the January 2025 Southern California Wildfires

Dr. Alex Hall

University of California, Los Angeles





UCLA

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge

**Climate & Wildfire
Research Initiative**

Extreme Weather and the January 2025 Southern California Wildfires

Presentation to the Wildfire Safety Advisory Board, September 3, 2025

Alex Hall

Director, Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, UCLA

Professor, Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences Department, UCLA



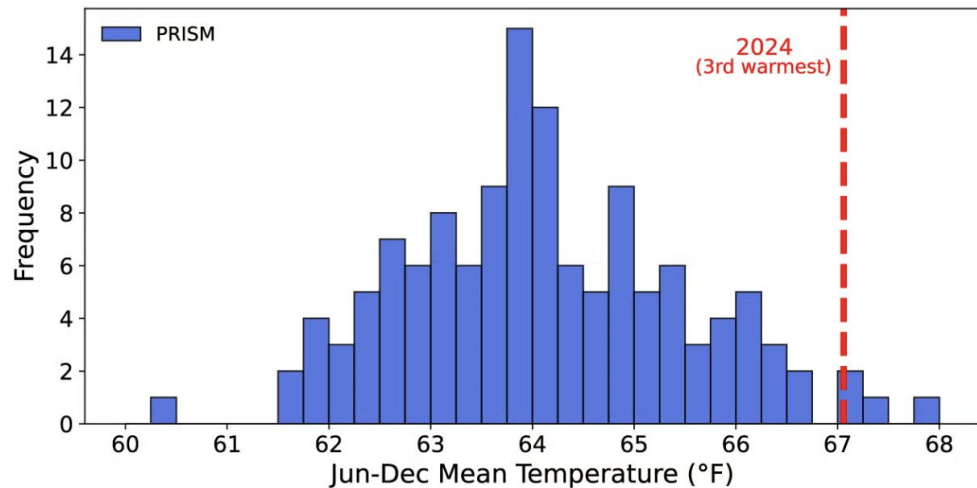
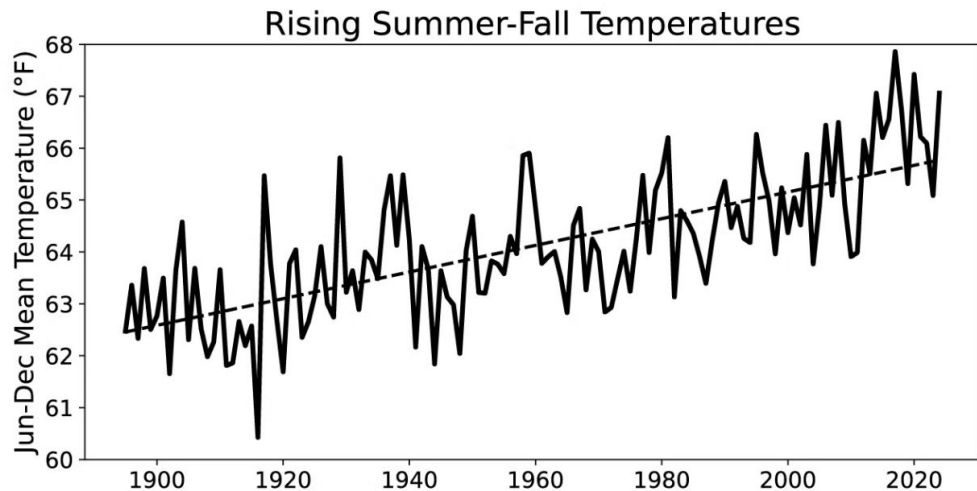
UCLA

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge

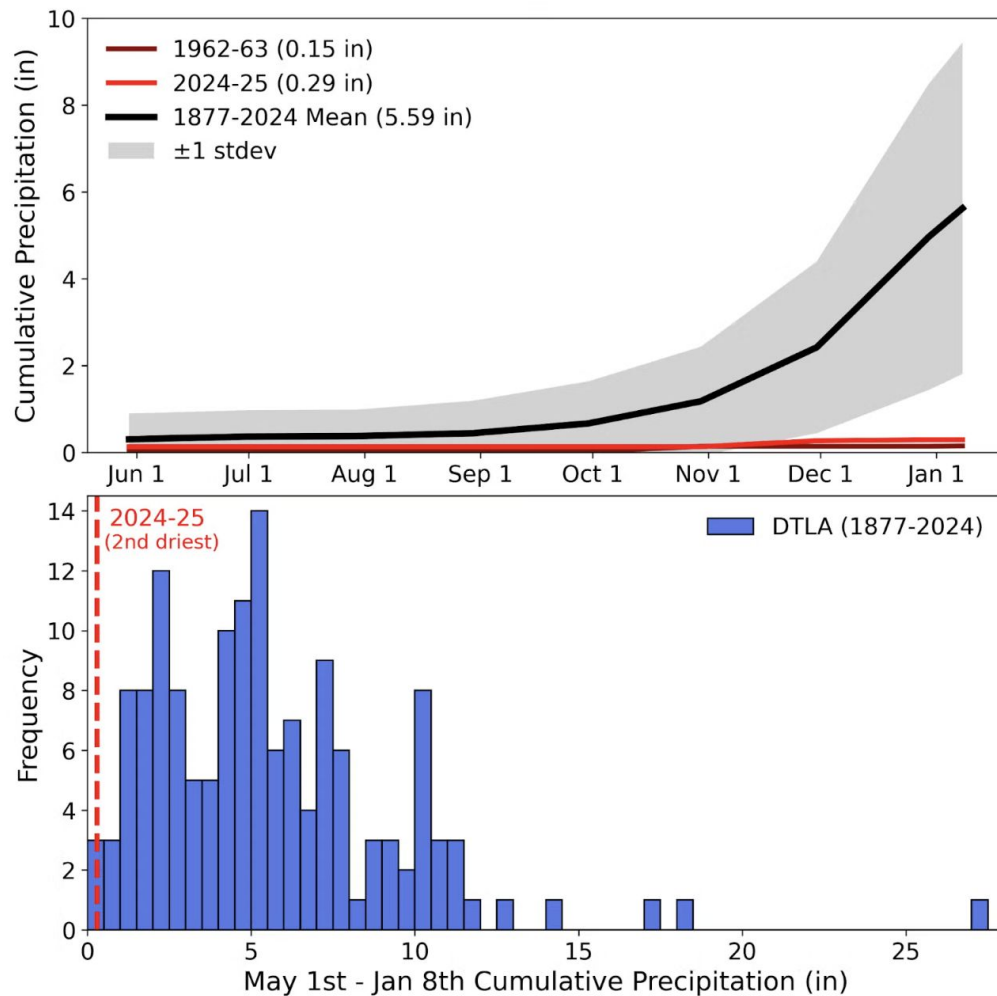
**Climate & Wildfire
Research Initiative**

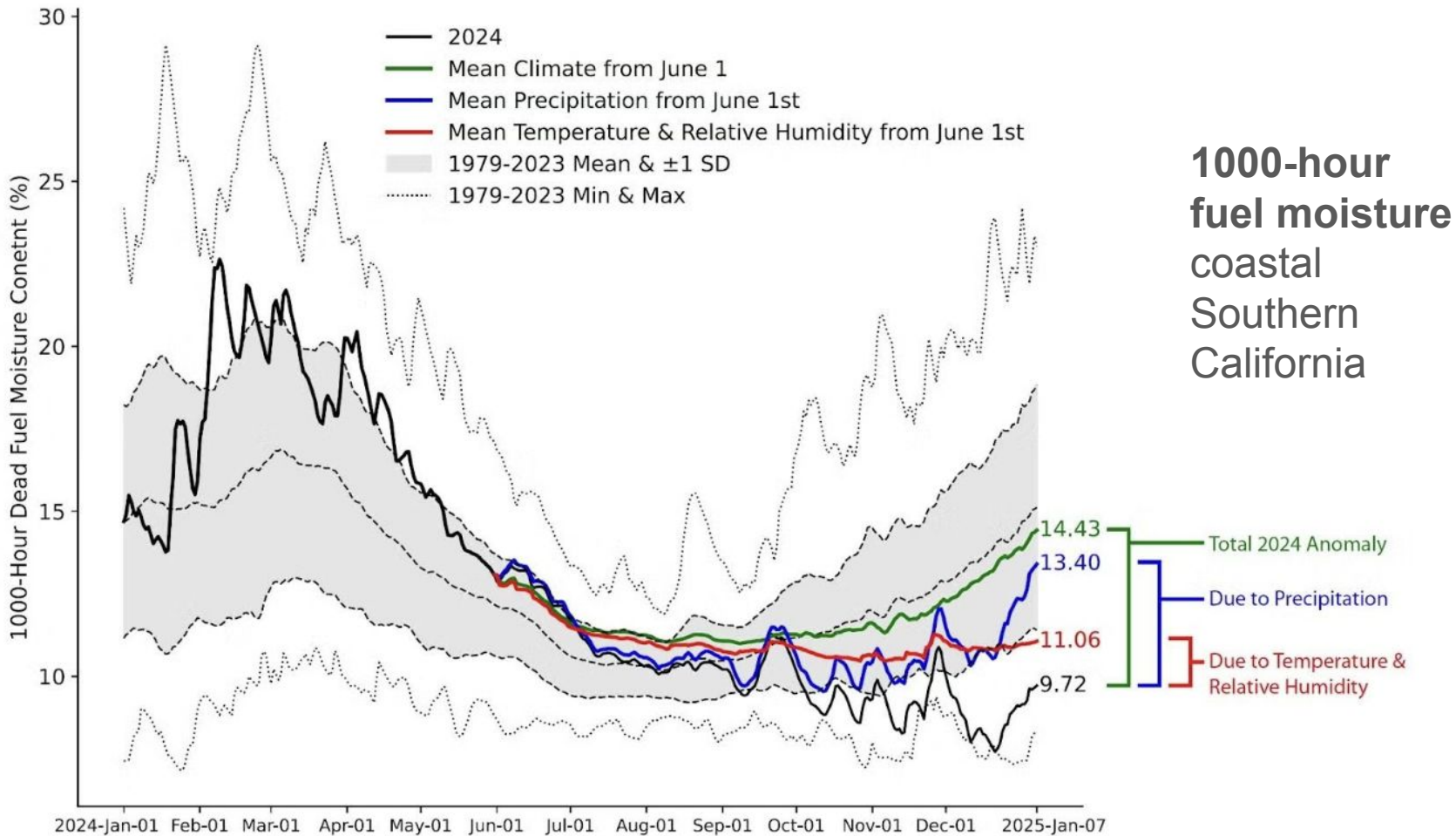
The January 2025 Wildfires: Why were they so extreme?

**Preceding
Temperatures:
Coastal
Southern
California**

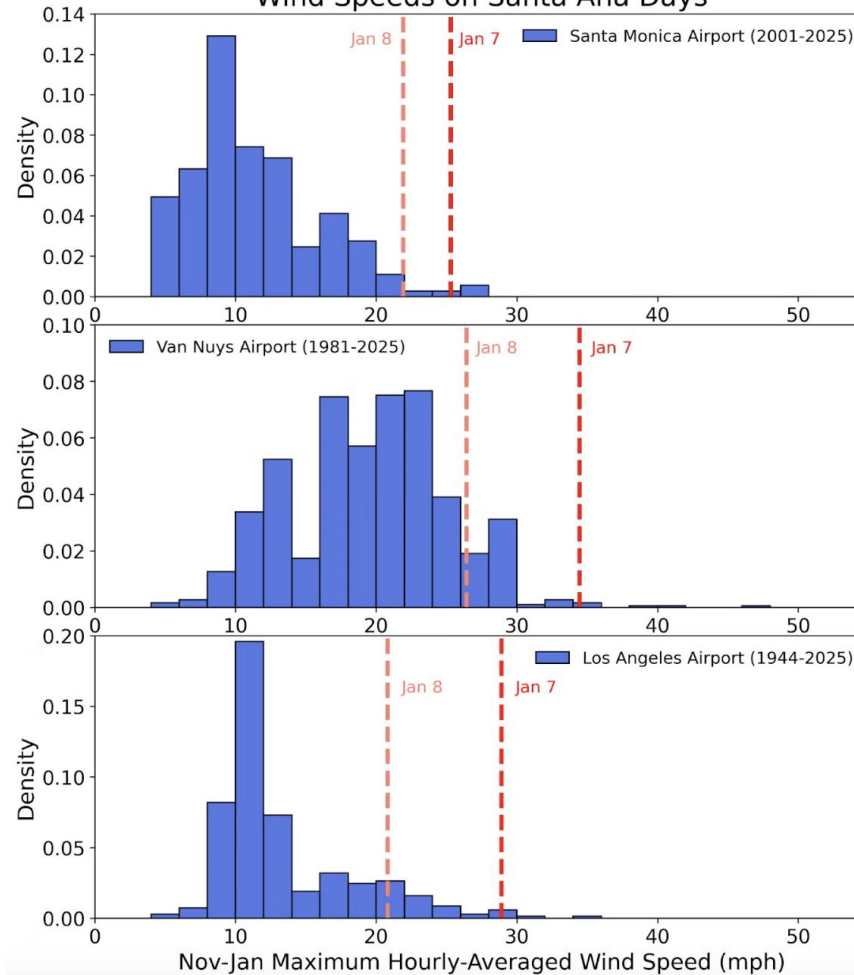


Preceding rainfall: Downtown LA





Wind Speeds on Santa Ana Days



**Santa
Ana
Winds**

Other factors

Ignition events

Temperature / humidity of the winds themselves (a known relationship)

The role of climate change

Climate change may be linked to roughly a quarter of the extreme fuel moisture deficit when the fires began. Some of the fire promoting power of the winds may be traced to climate-change-driven warmer wind temperatures (roughly 2 deg F).

The fires would still have been extreme without climate change, but probably somewhat smaller and less intense.



UCLA

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge

**Climate & Wildfire
Research Initiative**

Simulating and Understanding the 2025 LA Wildfires

PROJECT MOTIVATION

The January 2025 LA firestorms spread much further into urban areas than previous fires. Why did this unusual behavior occur? What measures could have been taken to prevent this? How could this inform resilience measures going forward?

We have built a simulation system to reproduce the January 2025 firestorms. The system components are:

- (1) A weather model to reproduce winds, temperature, and humidity at 100m (328 ft) resolution
- (2) Fuels characterization (biomass and moisture) derived from satellite data
- (3) Wildland fire behavior model
- (4) Urban fire behavior model

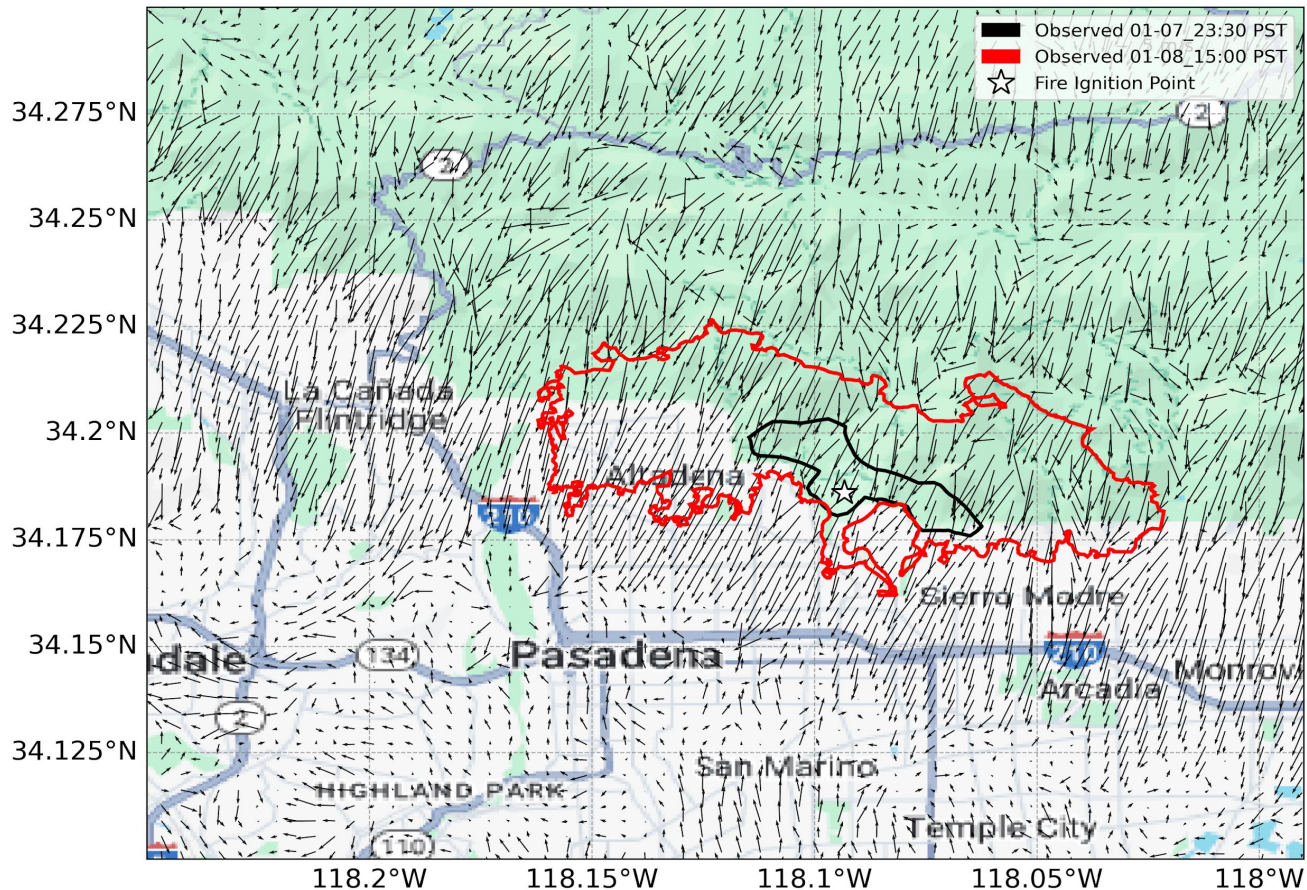
(This is a collaboration among UCLA, NCAR, U of Buffalo, U of Wyoming)

PROJECT MOTIVATION (cont.)

If we can reproduce the observed behavior of the fires, then we can do **counterfactual experiments** to determine the effectiveness of mitigation strategies, and to quantify the role of climate change in the fires

- (1) **Home Hardening.** If the structures had been hardened in a different way, how would that have affected the survival/damage of structures? And the behavior of the fire itself?
- (2) **Vegetation Management.** If the vegetation adjacent to urban areas had been managed in a different way, would that have changed the fire's destructiveness in urban areas?
- (3) **Climate Change.** If the winds had been cooler, consistent with the amount of warming that has occurred since the pre-industrial period, how would the fire behavior have been different? Likewise, if we remove the warming-related component of the fuel dryness, how would the fire have behaved? What if we imagine this fire in an even warmer world than the one we have? This can inform climate risk assessments.

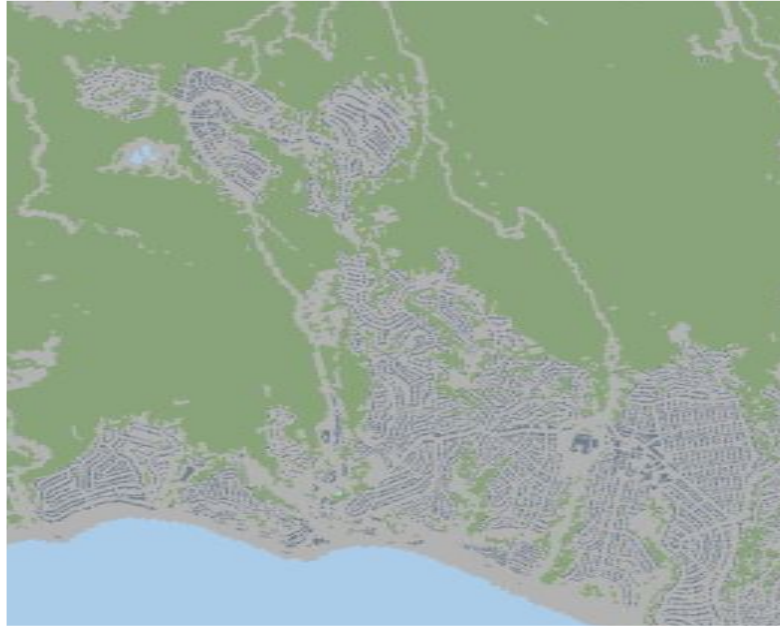
2025-01-07_20:00:00 PST
Wind at 10m and Fire Perimeters



This is a snapshot of the simulated winds shortly after the likely ignition of the Eaton Fire.

Extremely strong winds blowing southward across the San Gabriel Mountains can be seen.

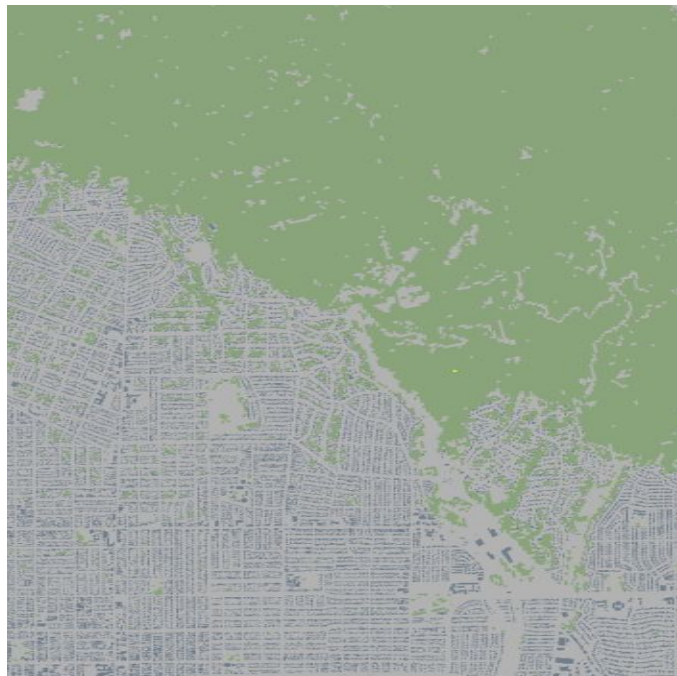
Simulation of Palisades Fire Spread over 12 Hour Period



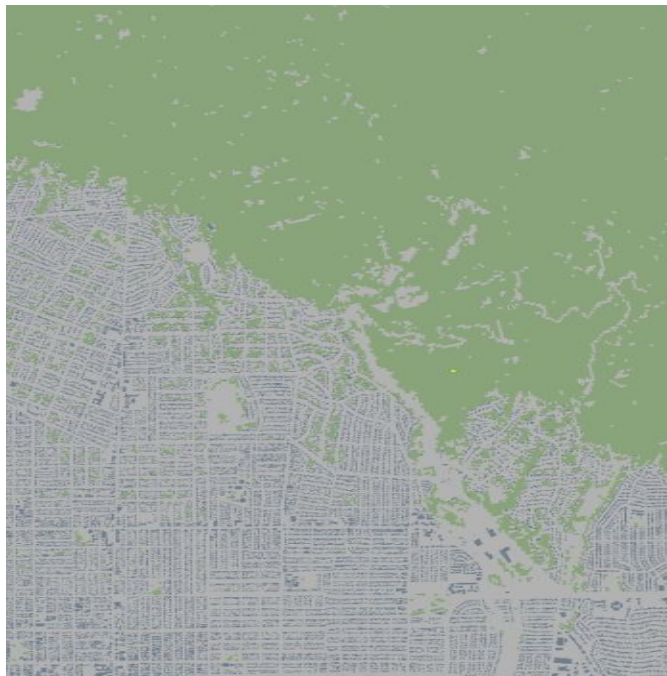
Legend:

- Water
- Non-combustible
- Vegetation
- Vegetation (ignited)
- Vegetation (burned)
- Structure
- Structure (ignited)
- Structure (fire developed)
- Structure (burned)

Eaton Fire Spread Simulation: Two Scenarios



Original Fire Spread



With Home Hardening

Legend:

- Water
- Non-combustible
- Vegetation
- Vegetation (ignited)
- Vegetation (burned)
- Structure
- Structure (ignited)
- Structure (fire developed)
- Structure (burned)

Next steps

Project is in early stages

Operating with no funding, and there is a need for policy/governance guidance and collaboration

What resilience (e.g. home hardening, vegetation management) strategies are being considered?

Which are the most effective in terms of protecting communities? Which are most economical?

Can we make more definitive attribution statements for climate change?

How much further into the urban fabric would this fire have spread if it had taken place in the expected warmer world of 2050? 2080? 2100?



UCLA

Sustainable LA Grand Challenge

**Climate & Wildfire
Research Initiative**

Preventing Ignitions During Strong Santa Ana Wind Events

PROJECT MOTIVATION

Most of the region's most destructive wildfires of the historical record occurred during Santa Ana wind events.

Yet there are **no known natural ignition sources** during Santa Ana events, indicating the fires are typically ignited by human activity. The January 2025 firestorms were very likely ignited by human activity.

Based on the historical wildfire record, our goal is to create a **Santa Ana classification system** (e.g. category 1-5) to determine which events are most likely to produce destructive wildfire, and in which locations.

Can we then **establish protocols** to prevent human ignitions during Category 5 events, in the landscapes most at risk? These could include power shutoffs, power loss impact mitigation, shutting down access to wildlands, intensive ignition detection strategies, etc.

(This is a collaboration between UCLA and UC Irvine.)

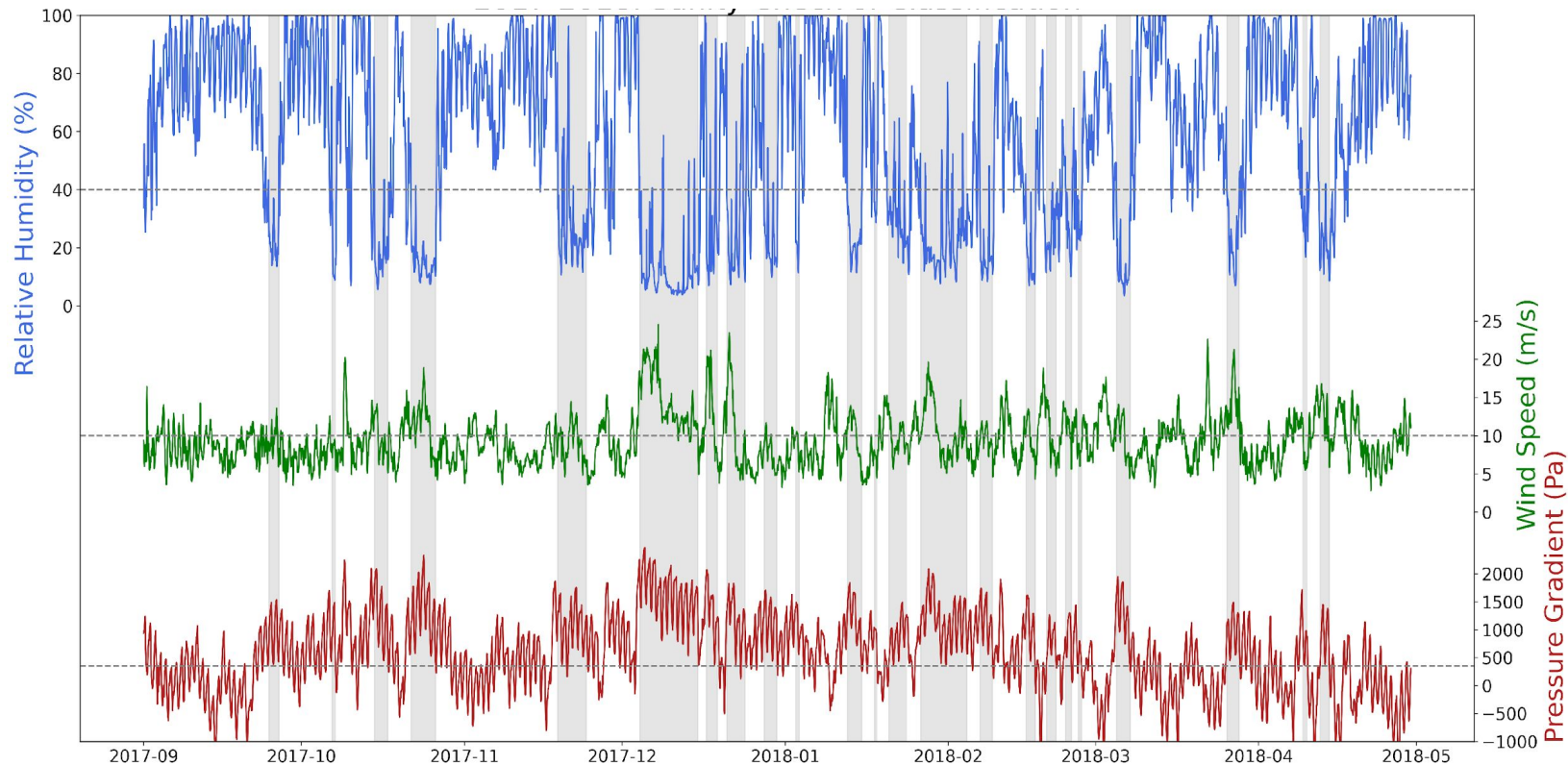
Datasets

1. High resolution (3-km, 6-hourly) reconstruction of weather conditions from 1950-2025, developed at UCLA
2. Fire (time and perimeter) data from the Fire Resource Assessment Program (FRAP), also since 1950

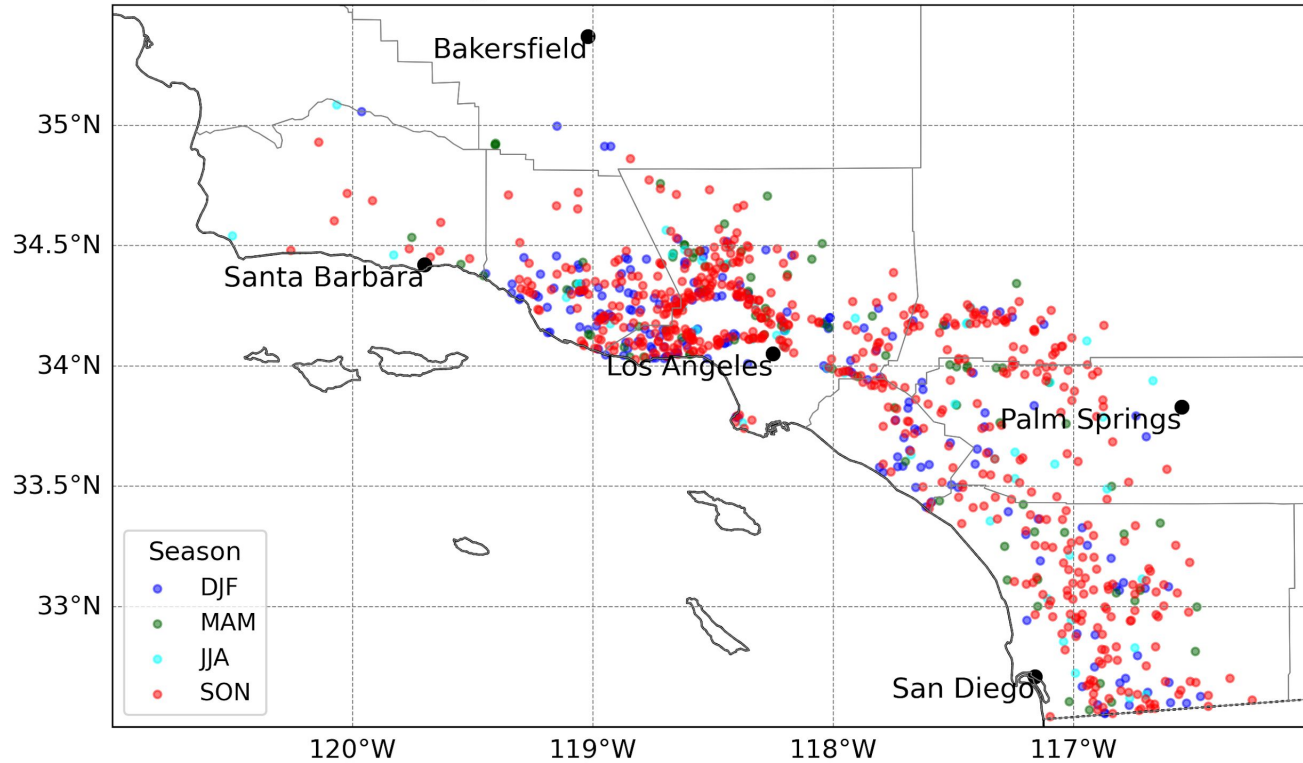
If we know 1, can we predict 2?

Example of Santa Ana event detection: 2017-2018

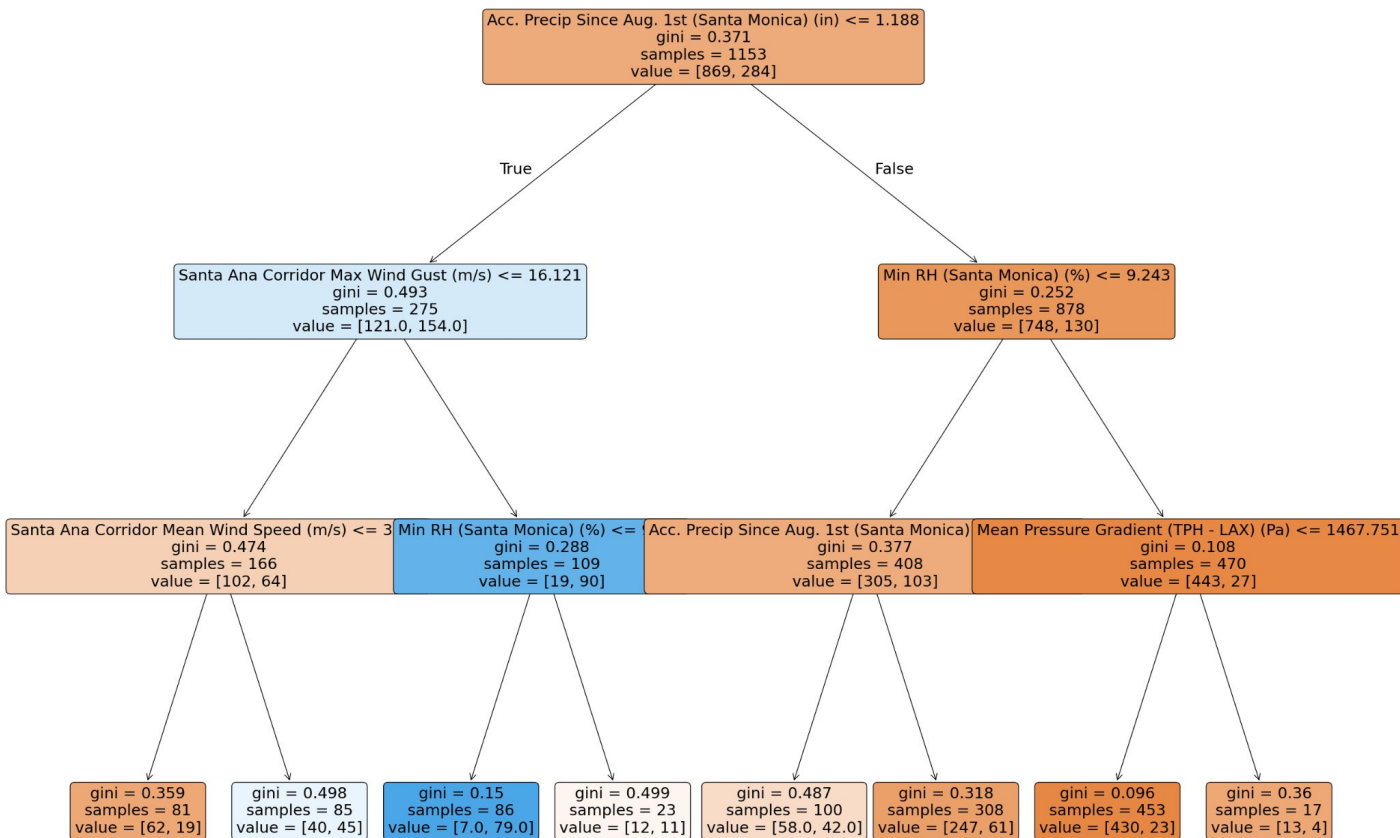
Grey bars show detected Santa Ana events, based on relative humidity at Santa Monica airport, wind speed at Santa Monica airport, and atmospheric pressure.



Location of the center of all Santa Ana wildfires since 1950, color coded by season



Machine learning approach to wildfire prediction



Next steps and questions

Project is in early stages

Need for policy/governance guidance and collaboration

*If we do have more frequent, and more targeted PSPS during “Category 5 Santa Ana events”, **what should we include in PSPS protocols** to protect vulnerable communities? e.g. hospitals, cooling centers, public transportation, etc.*

*How can the **distributed energy infrastructure be designed/leveraged** to support community resilience during a PSPS?*

Update on Risk Modeling Work

Shaun Richards, Senior Policy Advisor



Energy Safety Request



- 1. Risk Model Adequacy in Light of Los Angeles Fires.** January fires in Los Angeles occurred in conditions of extreme wind and extremely high vapor pressure deficit after a wet two years that allowed for much vegetation growth. We request your expertise to advise us as to whether the risk models used by electric utilities adequately consider the circumstances Southern California faced in January and other realistic extreme scenarios. If the risk models do not adequately consider these realistic extreme scenarios, we request your recommendations on how electrical utilities should modify their risk models to provide more useful outputs for informing electric utility planning and operations.



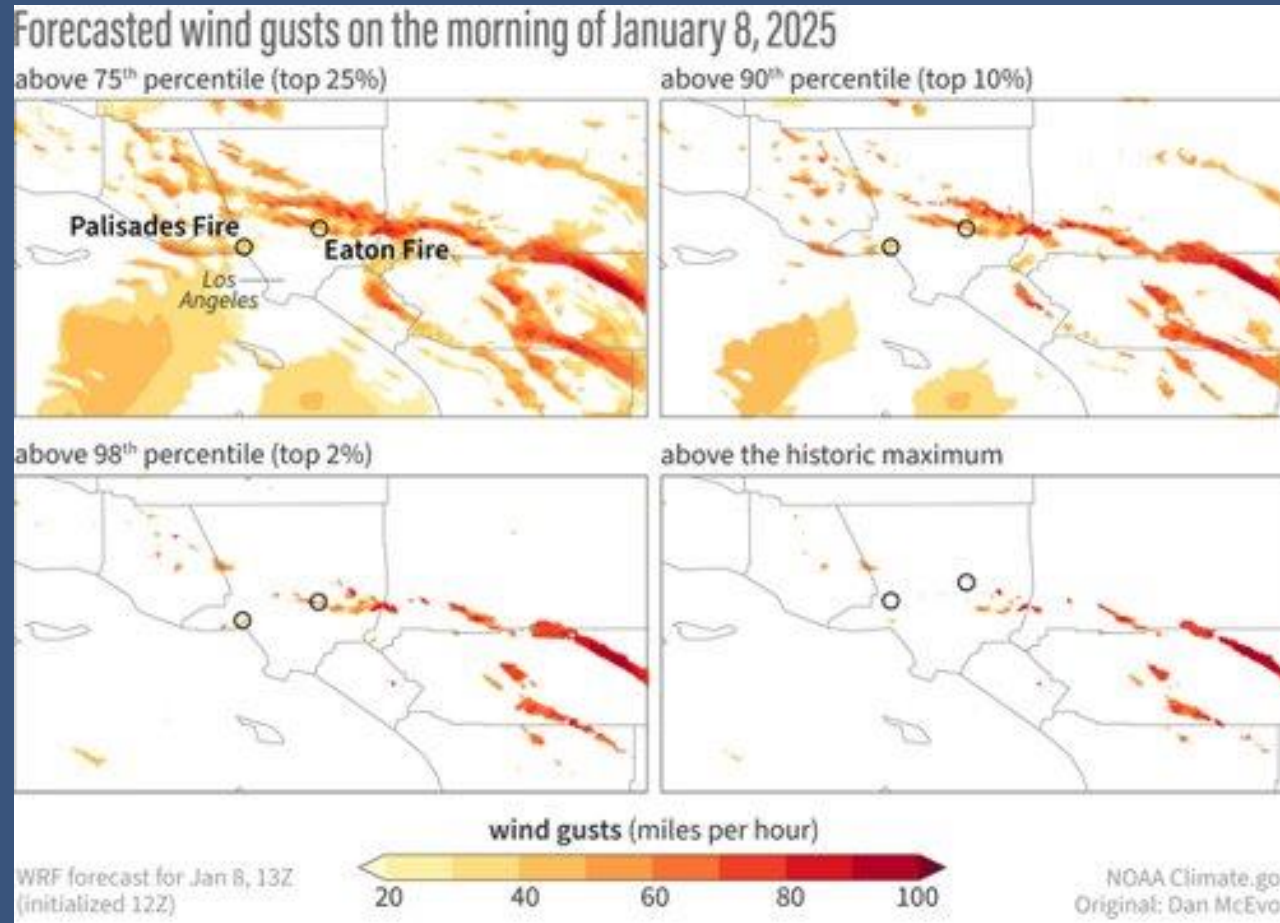
Energy Safety Request



extreme wind and extremely high vapor pressure deficit after a wet two years that allowed for much vegetation growth.

recommendations on how electrical utilities should modify their risk models to provide more useful outputs for informing electric utility planning and operations.

"extreme wind"

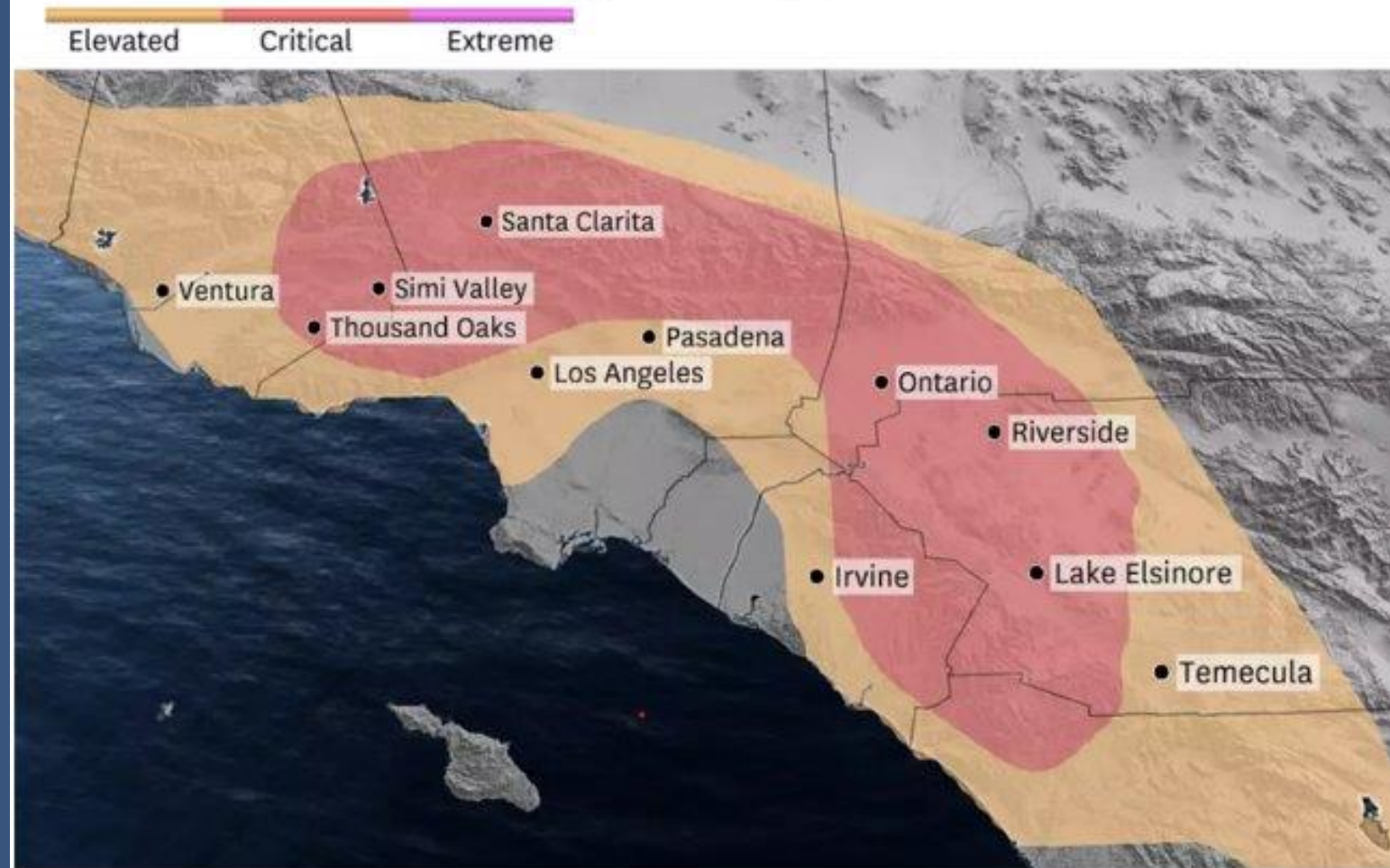


Source: <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/event-tracker/weather-and-climate-influences-january-2025-fires-around-los-angeles>

“extremely
high vapor
pressure
deficit”

Source: <https://www.sfchronicle.com/weather/article/winds-wildfire-danger-20016482.php>

Fire outlook for Tuesday, January 7



The Storm Prediction Center warns of critical fire weather in Southern California on Tuesday and Wednesday. Wind gusts could reach up to 100 mph in areas that have received little to no rain in more than eight months.

Baron/Lynx



"much vegetation growth"



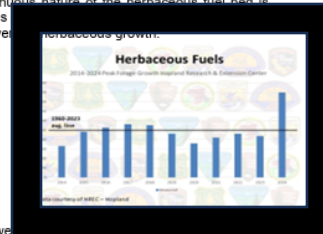
Fuels and Fire Behavior Advisory California Grass and Herbaceous-Dominated Ecosystems July 22, 2024



Subject: Herbaceous fuel loading is above to well above average across most of California's grass-dominated systems, including typically arid deserts and valleys that often do not support fire growth.

Discussion: Precipitation and temperature alignments throughout the winter and spring of 2024 have resulted in an above average load of herbaceous fuels across many grass-dominated systems throughout California. The above normal grass and herbaceous load creates a continuous fuel bed, allowing for rapid spread of fires when these fuels are cured. The continuous nature of the herbaceous fuel bed is enhanced by remnant thatch resulting from herbaceous fall of 2023 and multiple consecutive years of above average herbaceous growth.

Difference from normal conditions: Herbaceous fuel loadings in the California Coast Ranges, Sierra Foothills, and areas east of the Sierra Crest range from 120% to as much as 198% of normal. Below 3,000 ft. these fuels are nearly to fully cured. Curing and drying in the area of concern was enhanced during a recent heat wave and period of widespread humidity values in the teens to single digits and poor overnight humidity recovery.



Concerns to Firefighters and the Public:

- Continuous and above normal fuel loading lowers spread of fires during initial attack. Under what are typically low to moderate wind speeds, rates of spread and flame lengths are likely to exceed direct attack capabilities.
- Areas that typically resist fire spread, such as grazed areas, may not slow fire growth or reduce fire behavior as expected.
- Continuous fuels in arid and semi-arid ecosystem, such as deserts and high valleys, are likely to support continuous fire spread in areas typically considered non-burnable.
- Heavy and continuous cured herbaceous fuels may serve as a catalyst for fire spread into brush fuel types, even at fuel moisture levels that would otherwise make them resistant to rapid fire spread.

Mitigation Measures:

- Brief all incoming resources about these conditions, especially out-of-area resources unfamiliar with local conditions.
- Consider augmentation of initial attack resources in areas of heavy herbaceous fuels.
- Fire behavior prediction simulations using fuel models GR1 and GR2 are likely to underpredict spread; modification to GR4 or GR7 may be needed to accurately model fire spread in herbaceous fuels.
- Modify tactics to account for increased fire line intensity and spotting.

Area of Concern:

Across Central and Southern California, areas of concern focus on foothills, grasslands and deserts at or below 3,000 ft. in elevation. This includes portions of the following predictive services areas: NC02, NC03A, NC03B, NC04, NC05, NC07, and all South Ops PSA's.

Across the northeast portion of the state this includes hills, valleys, and deserts near and below 5,500 ft in elevation in parts of predictive services areas NC06 and NC08.

Issued By: Predictive Services Units from Northern California and Southern California, in coordination with Cal Fire and Cal OES Fire and Rescue Division.

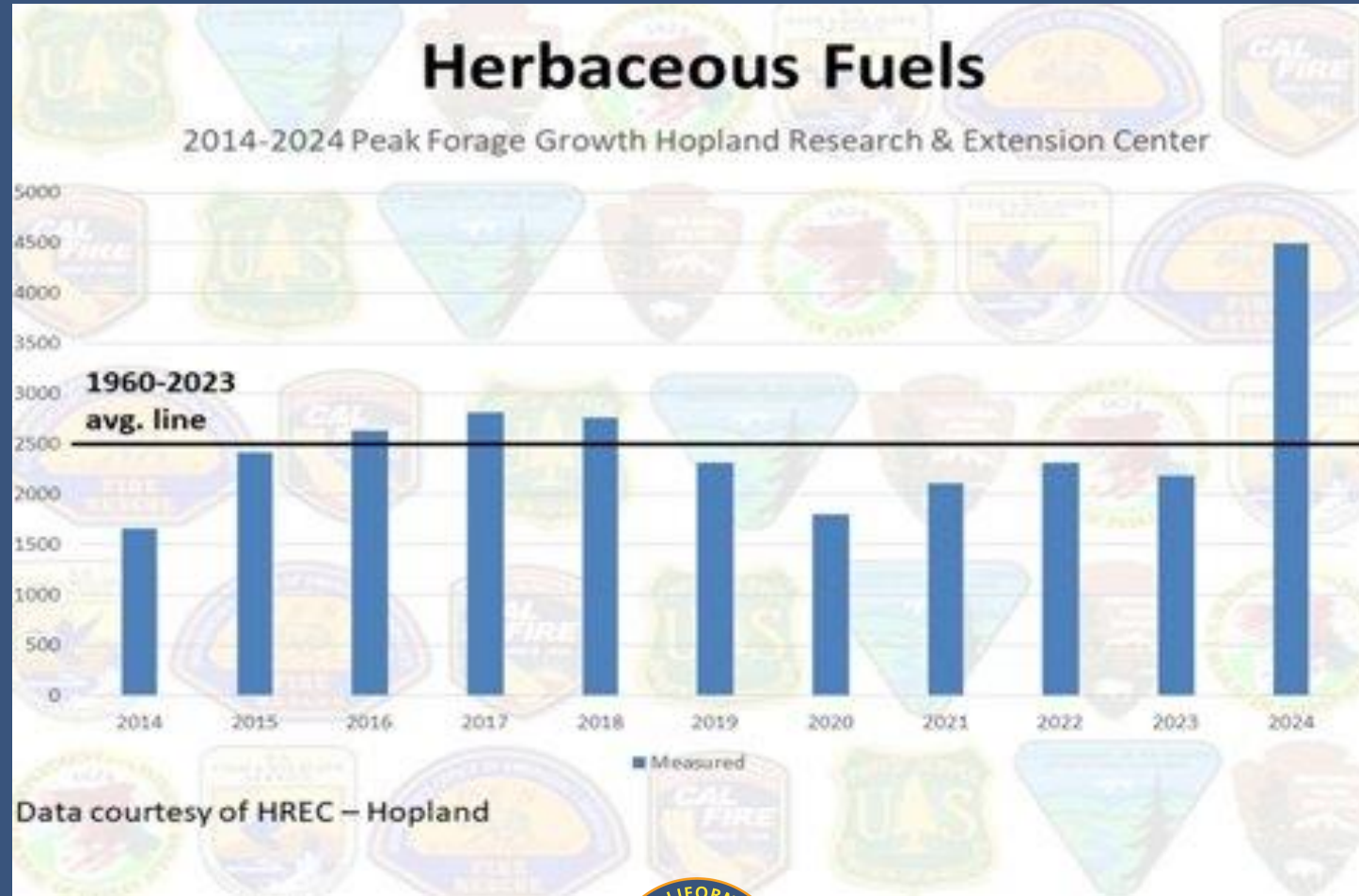


Source:

www.nifc.gov/sites/default/files/FireInformation/2024%20Advisories/Fuels_Fire_Behavior_Advisory_CA_Herbaceous_20240722.pdf



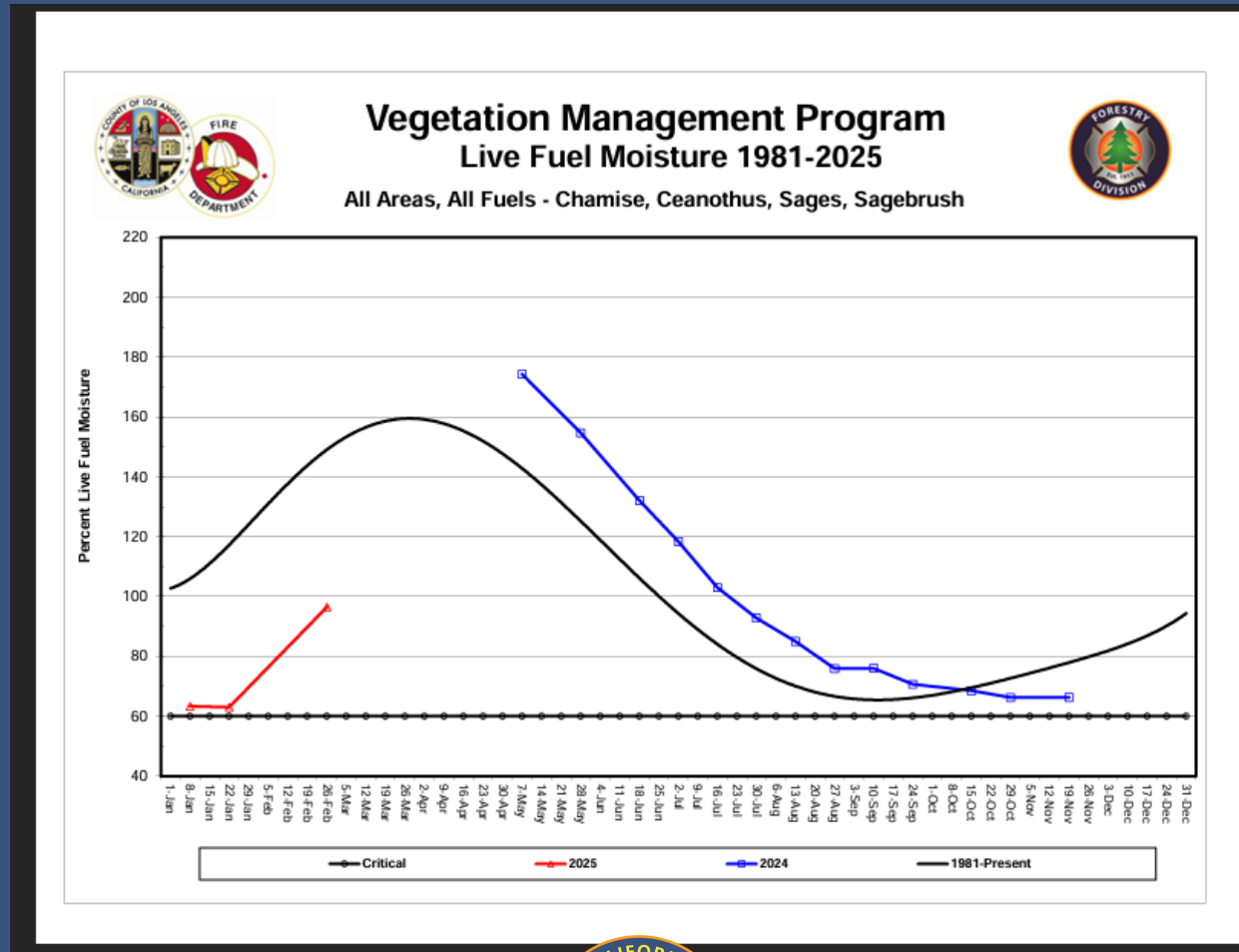
"much vegetation growth"



Source:
www.nifc.gov/sites/default/files/FireInformation/2024%20Advisories/Fuels_Fire_Behavior_Advisory_CA_Herbaceous_20240722.pdf



Extremely low live fuel moisture

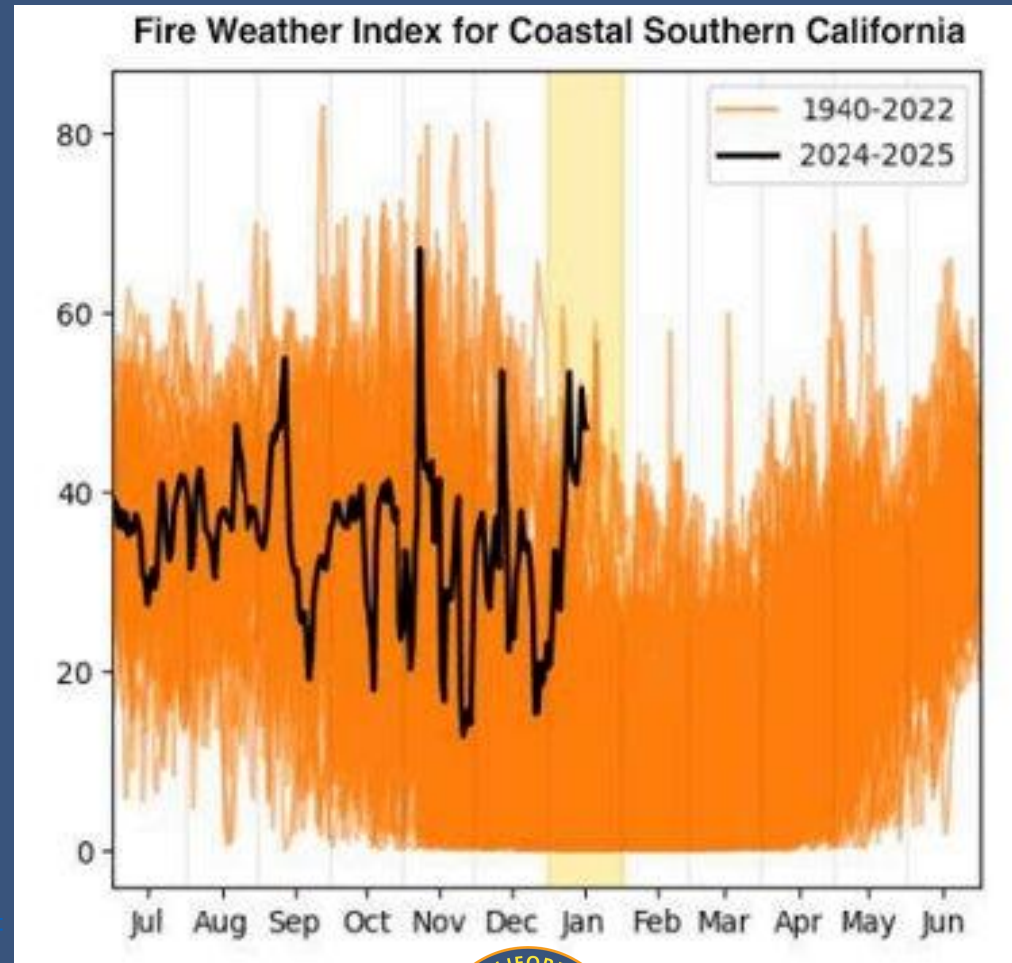


Source: <https://fire.lacounty.gov/fire-weather-danger/>





Extreme fire weather



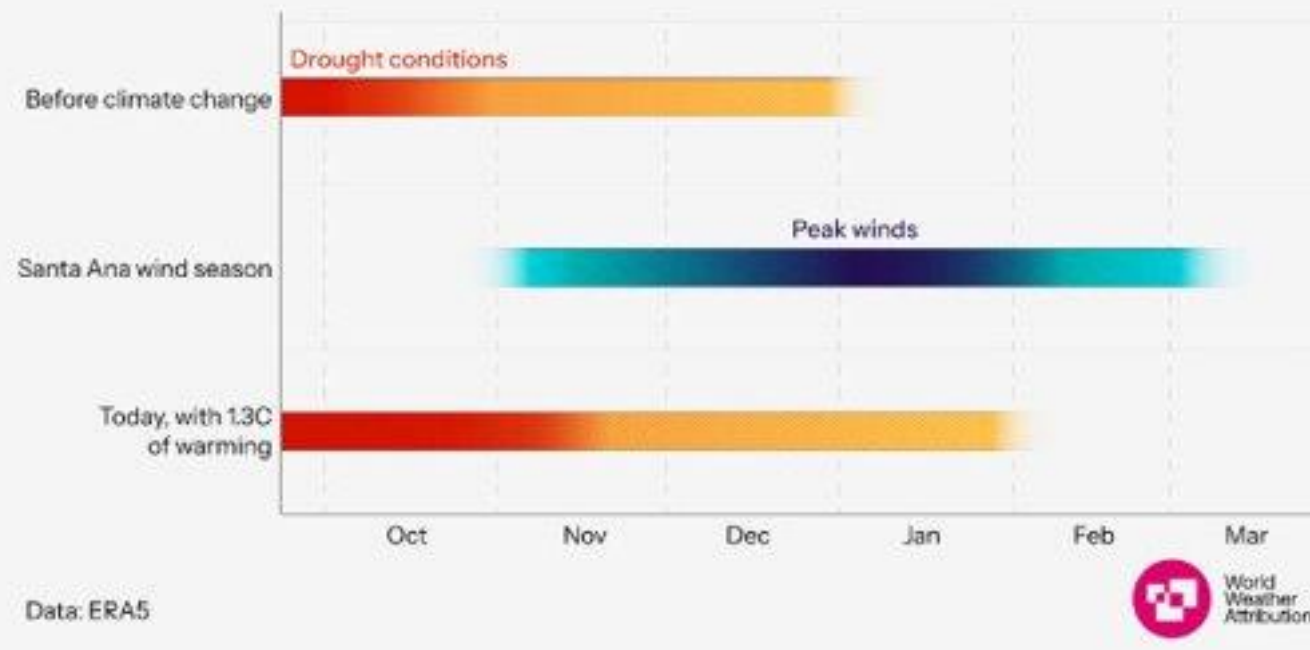
Source: <https://vclimateconnections.org/2025/01/climate-change-made-deadly-los-angeles-wildfires-35-more-likely-new-attribution-study/>



Additional information



Flammable drought conditions are increasingly overlapping with peak Santa Ana winds



Source: <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/event-tracker/weather-and-climate-influences-january-2025-fires-around-los-angeles>

Planning v. Operations



Figure 4: PSPS Protocols for Distribution

1

PSPS is considered if the minimum fire conditions are met

Minimum Fire Potential Conditions

The minimum fire conditions are the minimum criteria considered for a PSPS event. The following criteria are reviewed in PG&E's High Fire Risk Areas (HFRA):

- Sustained wind speeds above 19 mph
- Dead Fuel Moisture 10hr less than 9%
- Dead Fuel Moisture 100 less than 12%
- Relative humidity less than 30%
- Normalized Differential Vegetation Index
- Fire Potential Index above 0.22

Note: High risk warnings from Federal Agencies (Warnings) are also considered

Fire Potential Index (FPI)

The likelihood of an ignition causing a large wildfire, based on:

- Weather (wind speed, turbulence, temperature, pressure deficit)
- Dead and Live Fuel Moistures
- Topography (terrain, slope, alignment)
- Fuel Type (grass, shrubs, forests, etc.)

2

...then if ANY of these three criteria are met, we turn off power for safety

Catastrophic Fire Probability

FPI is combined with the Ignition Probability Weather (IPW) to generate the Catastrophic Fire Probability (CFP₀) rating.

Risk Informed Decision Making

CFP₀ is a risk-based assessment of the probability of fire ignitions combined with the probability of catastrophic fires. CFP₀ increases as wind speeds increase.

Catastrophic Fire Behavior

Even if probability of failure is unlikely, we may still turn off power where catastrophic fires are possible. We evaluate fire behavior criteria across 8 hour forecast fire simulations using Technosolv fire simulations:

CFP₀ above 7 | CFP₀ = FPI*IPW

Appendix B: PSPS Wind Speed Thresholds by Circuit as of 04/01/21

Circuit	Wind Threshold (mph)	Gust Threshold (mph)	99th Percentile Wind Speed (mph)	99th Percentile Gust Speed (mph)
ABACUS	31	46	35.91	51.3
ABRAHAM	31	45.2	34.94	45.2
ACADEMY	31	46	34.74	47.47
ACADIAN	27.59	39.26	27.59	39.26
ACAPULCO	28.04	42.72	28.04	42.72
ACCENT	26.63	38.03	26.63	38.03
ACE	31	46	35.68	56.44
ACOSTA	31	46	39.99	63.85





Planning v. Operations



Source: <https://www.wtaj.com/weather/top-climate-hazards-in-2050-2/>



Planning v. Operations



What's next?



September 2025

December 2025



7 - Update on Wildfire Mitigation Plans Review

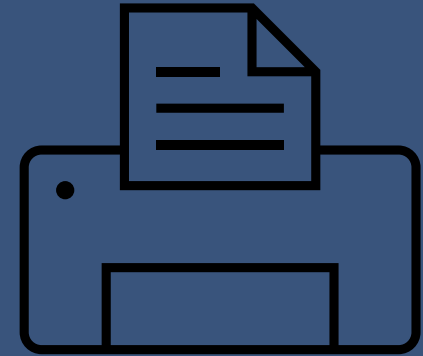
Publicly Owned Utilities Committee



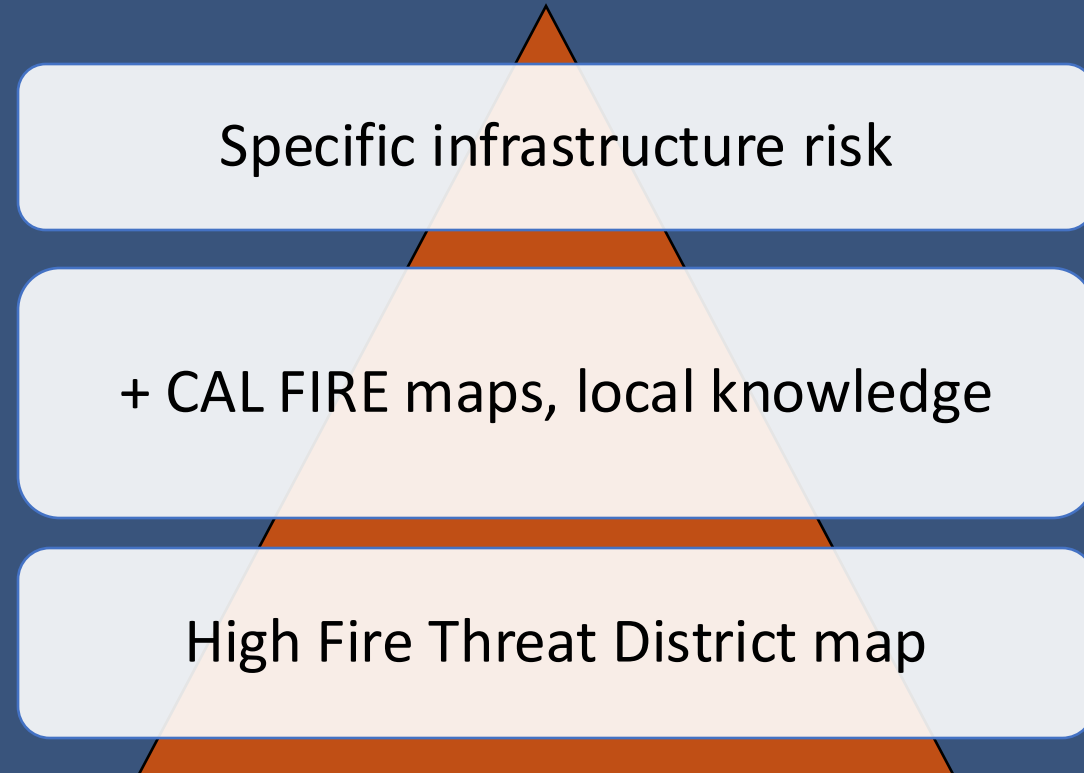
Staff reviewed WMPs



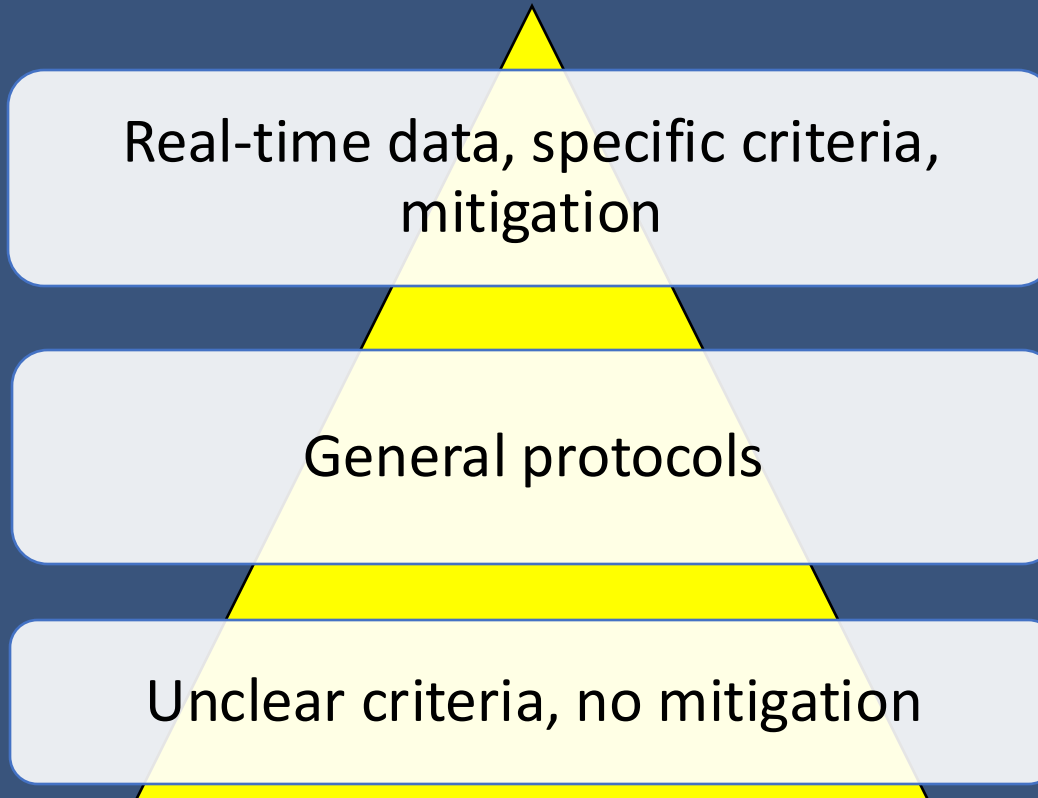
- Reviewed 43 WMPs
 - 1 submitted last week
 - 7 not yet submitted
- Sent questions to 29 utilities
- Sent questions to Board members



Risk Identification



Preemptive De-energization



What's next?



September



October



November



December



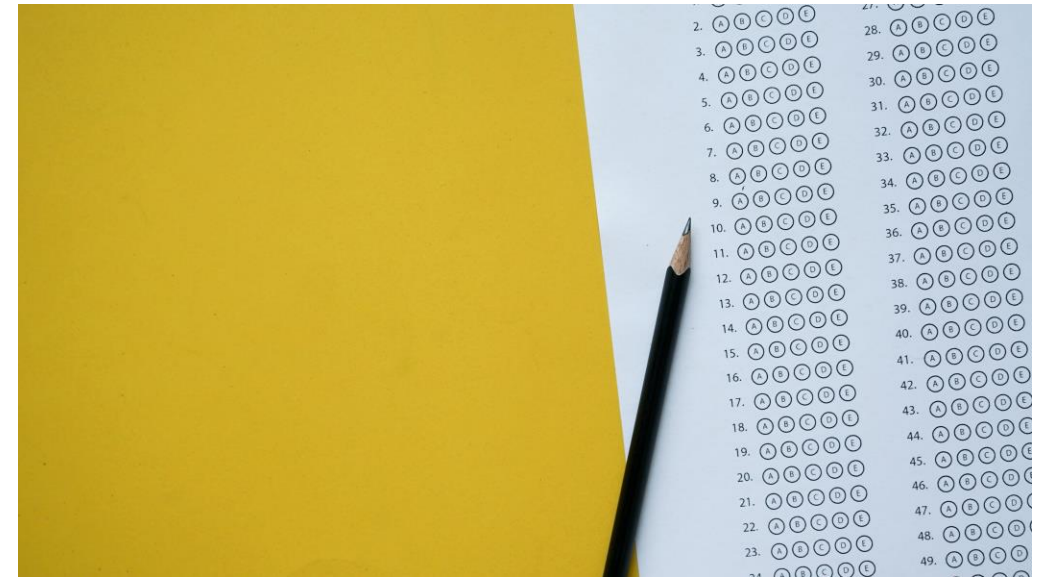
8 – Staff Update



Strategic Plan: Staff Survey



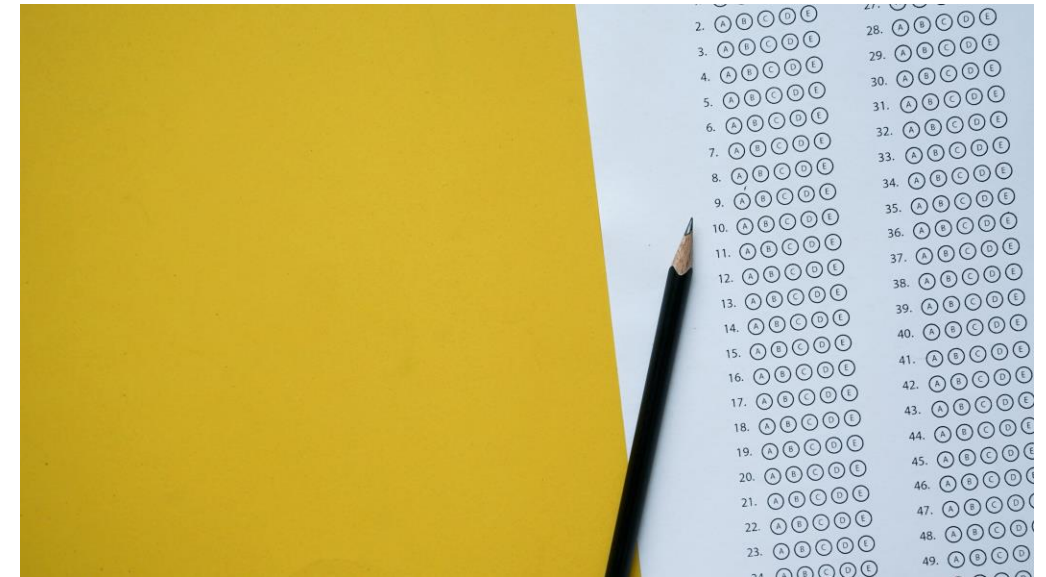
- **Good scores on:**
 - Overall satisfaction
 - Mission and recognition
 - Work-life balance
- **Mixed scores on:**
 - Professional development
 - Teamwork



Strategic Plan: Energy Safety and Board Survey



- **Good scores on:**
 - Staff communication
- **Mixed scores on:**
 - Collaboration with Energy Safety



Upcoming



- **Next Board Meeting:**
 - December 3, 2025
 - Santa Rosa
- **Annual recommendations to Energy Safety**



9 – Agenda Items for Future Meetings



Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting

Agenda and Notice

September 3, 2025
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Physical Location:
Junipero Serra Building, Carmel Room
320 West Fourth Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013

Remote Access via Microsoft Teams™
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>,
Meeting ID: 255 411 824 163 1 and passcode: hH9MR6Yo

OR by Telephone
Phone +1 (469) 998-6045 and passcode: 710 136 283#

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

All times indicated are approximate and subject to change. Any agenda items other than public comments may include a Board vote and may be taken out of order for scheduling convenience. Items designated for information are appropriate for Board action if the Board chooses to take action.



10 – Public Comments for Matters Not on Agenda



Please begin your comments by stating your name and organization (if applicable).

- a. In the room**
- b. On Teams or the phone**
- c. Via email**



11 – Adjournment



- For more information:
 - Website:
<https://energysafety.ca.gov/what-we-do/wildfire-safety-advisory-board/>
 - Email: WSAB@energysafety.ca.gov

