

Wildfire Mitigation Plan Potential Focus Areas

May 2026

Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB) staff, with guidance from WSAB members, is researching and writing summaries of focus areas. This outline shows a potential list of focus areas and topics each might include:

Past Focus Areas

- **Risk Identification**
 - Mapping infrastructure and wildfire risk
 - Additional tools (Wildfire Forecast & Threat Intelligence Integration Center, US Forest Service, weather data, etc.)
 - Local knowledge
 - Detailed, quantitative risk assessment
- **Preemptive de-energization**
 - Data for decision making
 - Mitigating reliability impact
 - Communication
 - Drills
 - Post-event restoration and review

Current Focus Areas

- **Protective Equipment and Device Settings** (enhanced powerline safety settings [EPSS], fast-trip, fast curve, etc.)
 - Common settings
 - Thresholds/decisions for use
 - Design considerations
- **Situational Awareness**
 - Weather and fuels forecasts and data
 - Grid monitoring
 - Wildfire detection

Potential Focus Areas

- **Inspections**
 - Asset inspection cycle
 - Patrol vs detailed

- Considerations for going beyond General Order 165 minimums
 - Aerial, infrared
 - Asset inspection effectiveness
 - Quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC)
 - Asset and grid personnel training
- **Asset Management and Data**
 - Asset inventory and condition database
 - Condition monitoring
 - Failure analysis
 - Maintenance strategy (e.g., reactive, preventative, predictive, reliability-centered)
 - Replacement/repair condition (e.g., time interval, inspection finding, sensor reading, predictive maintenance, data analytics, machine learning)
 - Timeframe for remediation/work order processes
 - Equipment rated for load and fault duty
 - Data governance
 - Data collection and curation
 - Data transparency and analytics
- **Grid Design and Hardening**
 - Grid design for minimizing ignition risk and maximizing reliability
 - Examples:
 - Replacing expulsion fuses, lightning arrestors, copper lines, etc.
 - Covered conductor installation
 - Undergrounding of electric lines and/or equipment
 - Pole/tower replacements and reinforcements
 - Traditional overhead hardening (capacitors, circuit breakers, cross-arms, transformers, fuses, connectors, switches, etc.)
 - Emerging grid hardening technology installations and pilots
 - Microgrids
 - Legacy equipment
- **Emergency Preparedness and Community Outreach**
 - Emergency planning and preparedness
 - Wildfire and de-energization emergency and disaster preparedness and recovery plans
 - Collaboration and coordination with public safety partners
 - Public communication strategy
 - Stakeholder cooperation and community engagement
 - Cooperation and best practice sharing with other utilities

- Engagement with communities on utility wildfire mitigation initiatives
 - Engagement with limited English proficiency and access and functional needs populations
- **Plan Metrics and Monitoring**
 - Results and lessons learned (risk-spend efficiency, implementation experience, effectiveness)
 - Processes for continuous improvement
 - Culture assessment
 - Culture development actions
 - Near-miss tracking and responses
 - Metrics table
- **Vegetation management**
 - Policy, including enhanced vegetation management for grow-in and fall-in risk drivers
 - Pole clearing
 - Inspections
 - Frequency
 - Work orders/data tracking
 - Workforce
 - QA/QC
 - Vegetation management activities
 - Prioritization/execution
 - Work orders/data tracking
 - Workforce
 - QA/QC
 - Landscape-scale/corridor/beyond right-of-way projects
- **Wildfire response/consequence reduction**
 - Field response – water backpacks or tanks with electrical workers; PG&E Safety and Infrastructure Protection Teams
 - Helicopter dip tanks
 - Funding local fire departments
 - Pre-watering/site prep/hot work protocols
- **Decision making**
 - Risk evaluation
 - Prioritization
 - Mitigation selection