



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Overview

California is rich in natural resources. Of the 85 million acres classified as wildlands, nearly 17 million are commercial forest land, half privately-owned and half federal government owned. In addition to timber, the state's wildlands also provide valuable watershed, wildlife habitat, and recreation resources. Maintaining the sustainability of these natural resources is the goal of the CAL FIRE Resource Management Program.

Forest Practice

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) enforces the laws that regulate logging on privately-owned lands in California. The California Forest Practice Act was enacted in 1973, resulting in a comprehensive process where CAL FIRE oversees enforcement of California's forest practice regulations that are enacted by the Board of Forestry. Under the Act, Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) are submitted to CAL FIRE for commercial timber harvesting on all non-federal timberlands. The THP is the environmental review document submitted by landowners to CAL FIRE outlining what timber they want to harvest, how it will be harvested, and the steps that will be taken to prevent damage to the environment. On average, department foresters review 200-300 THPs and conduct over 4,000 field inspections annually.



Resource Protection and Improvement

The objective of this program is to protect and improve forest lands and urban forests. This is achieved through distinct programs across many disciplines that work in collaboration to detect, evaluate, and control forest pests, reforest wildlands after catastrophic events, support forest landowner management and conservation, demonstrate sustainable forestry practices, improve urban forests, and protect the environment. Resource Protection and Improvement Programs include Demonstration State Forests, Urban & Community Forestry, Forest Entomology and Pathology, Cultural Resource Protection, Vegetation Management, Prescribed Fire, Landowner Assistance, and Reforestation Services.

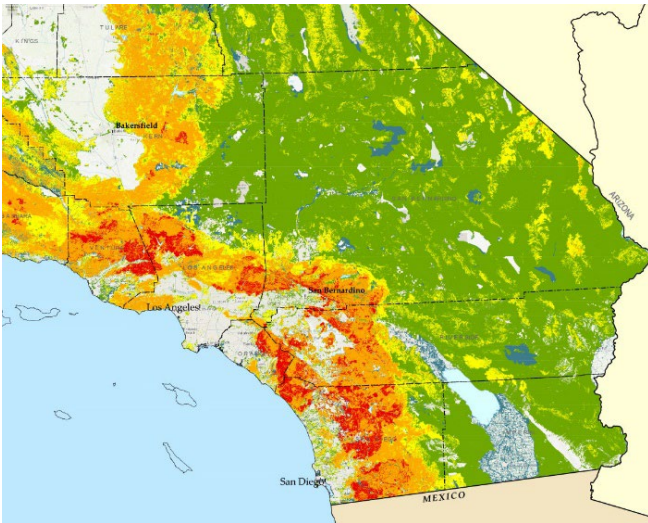




Climate and Energy

Healthy forests have an important role to play in addressing climate change. Trees remove carbon dioxide, the primary greenhouse gas of concern, from the air and store the carbon as they grow. Forest damage and loss due to wildfires, insects, disease, or development can result in significant CO₂ emissions. CAL FIRE has focused its efforts to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions on five areas: reforestation, conservation, forest management, fuels management and biomass, and urban forestry. The Climate and Energy Program works to improve the resilience of California's forests and maintain their carbon storage primarily through its two grant programs. The Forest Health grant program supports fuels

reduction, prescribed fire, pest management, reforestation, and biomass utilization projects on a landscape scale across the state. The Business and Workforce Development grant program supports a diverse set of projects that seek to maintain and enhance the forest-sector workforce and businesses of California to promote healthy, resilient forests.



The Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP)

FRAP identifies emerging resource issues on wildlands, analyzes the results of different types of land use and management on wildland conditions, reviews and evaluates policies by federal, state, and local agencies as they relate to wildland protection, and identifies and analyzes policy options for the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection. The program has established a statewide geographic information system (GIS) of biological, physiographic, demographic, and other types of data needed to address CAL FIRE's mission, including information on vegetation, wildlife, soils, watersheds, fire behavior, and ownership.