

2015 Status Report on the State Responsibility Area (SRA) Fire Prevention Fee



September 28, 2016

The mission of the Board is to lead California in developing policies and programs that serve the public interest in environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable management of forest and rangelands and a fire protection system that protects and serves the people of the state.

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STATE BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION**

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1.1 Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Overview:

The California State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) is a Governor-appointed body within CAL FIRE. Members are appointed on the basis of their professional and educational qualification and their general knowledge or interest in problems that relate to watershed management, forest management, fish and wildlife, range improvement, forest economics, or land use policy. Of its nine members, five are chosen from the general public, three are chosen from the forest products industry, and one member is from the range-livestock industry.

The Board is responsible for developing the general forest policy of the State, determining the guidance policies of the Department and for representing the State's interest in Federal land matters located within California. Together, the Board and the Department work to carry out the California Legislature's mandate to protect and enhance the State's unique forest and wildland resources.

1.2 State Responsibility Area and State Responsibility Fire Prevention Fee Overview

Pursuant to Public Resources Code (PRC) 4125 – 4128, the Board is additionally responsible for classifying State Responsibility Area (SRA) and periodically reviewing and revising SRA classification. The revision process of lands classified as SRA is a comprehensive process in which the Board works closely with CAL FIRE to make revisions based primarily on changes to land use that occur on lands previously classified as SRA. This periodic review occurs every five (5) years, with the last revision occurring in 2015.

In 2011, the State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fee (SRA fee) was enacted by Assembly Bill X1 29. The law approved the new annual SRA fee to pay for fire prevention services within the SRA. The fee is applied to all habitable structures within the SRA. Pursuant to PRC 4212, the fee is reviewed annually by the Board, and based upon an identified necessity; the Board may adjust the fee. Under 14 CCR 1665.6 the fee is currently levied at the rate of \$152.33 per habitable structure, which is defined as a building that can be occupied for residential use. Owners of habitable structures who are also within the boundaries of a local fire protection agency will receive a reduction of \$35 per habitable structure. The fee is assessed annually on a fiscal year basis (July 1- June 30).

The Board of Equalization is the agency responsible for sending bills to assessed landowners, as well as the collection and deposit of revenue into the State Responsibility Fire Prevention Fund (SRA fund). CAL FIRE is the agency responsible for implementation of the fire prevention program that is funded through the fee.

The fire prevention program includes activities such fuel reduction projects that lessen the risk of wildfire to communities, evacuation routes, and infrastructure. Other activities include defensible space inspections, helping communities create and update their Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs), fire prevention education, fire hazard severity mapping, implementation of the State and local fire plans, and fire-related law enforcement activities such as arson investigation.

2.1 Board's Annual Reporting on SRA Fee

The above mentioned administrative responsibilities of the Board are coupled with a reporting responsibility as well. The Board is required, pursuant to PRC § 4214, to submit to the Legislature a written annual report on the status and uses of the SRA fund. There are specific mandated metrics of interest that shall be addressed in this report. They are as follows:

- An evaluation of the benefits received by Counties based on the number of habitable structures in the SRA;
- The effectiveness of the Board's grant programs;
- The number of defensible space inspection in the reporting period;
- The degree of compliance with defensible space requirements,
- Measures to increase compliance; and
- Recommendations to the Legislature.

2.3 Evaluation of the Benefits Received by Counties Based on the Number of Habitable Structures in the SRA

The ability for the Board evaluate benefits on a county by county basis is limited because records are kept by CAL FIRE units, which do not coincide with county boundaries. The Board relies on CAL FIRE to compile fiscal data on the implementation of the fire prevention program that is funded by the SRA fee. CAL FIRE is an agency that is distributed statewide in 21 distinct Units, and has been geographically distributed in this manner for decades. The accounting system of the Department is dedicated to tracking fiscal expenditures and revenues by program (e.g. fire prevention program) in each individual Unit, rather than on a county basis. An individual CAL FIRE unit may, at times, utilize county jurisdictional boundaries as a Unit boundary, but in many cases may also use a physical feature such as a waterway, roadway or topographic feature to determine a Unit boundary. As a result individual CAL FIRE Units may contain entire, or portions thereof, of up to 3 counties. Chart 2.0 below provides a graphical depiction of the Counties of the State in contrast to CAL FIRE Units.

CAL FIRE has developed an in-depth accounting system for the SRA fee over the course of several years of building and refining the program and has provided the Board with detailed fiscal data that demonstrates the benefit received by CAL FIRE Unit. These data are based upon revenue received and expenditures for individual CAL FIRE Unit. The Board has determined that the system of reporting and maintenance of records on a Unit basis provides clear data on the distribution of benefit across the State, even though the data is not reported on county jurisdictional basis. Charts 2.1 – 2.2 below provides those fiscal data.

CHART 2.0: CAL FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS AND CONTRACT COUNTIES



CHART 2.1: TOTAL FEES COLLECTED COMPARED TO EXPENDITURES BY CAL FIRE UNIT

Amounts are rounded to the nearest dollar

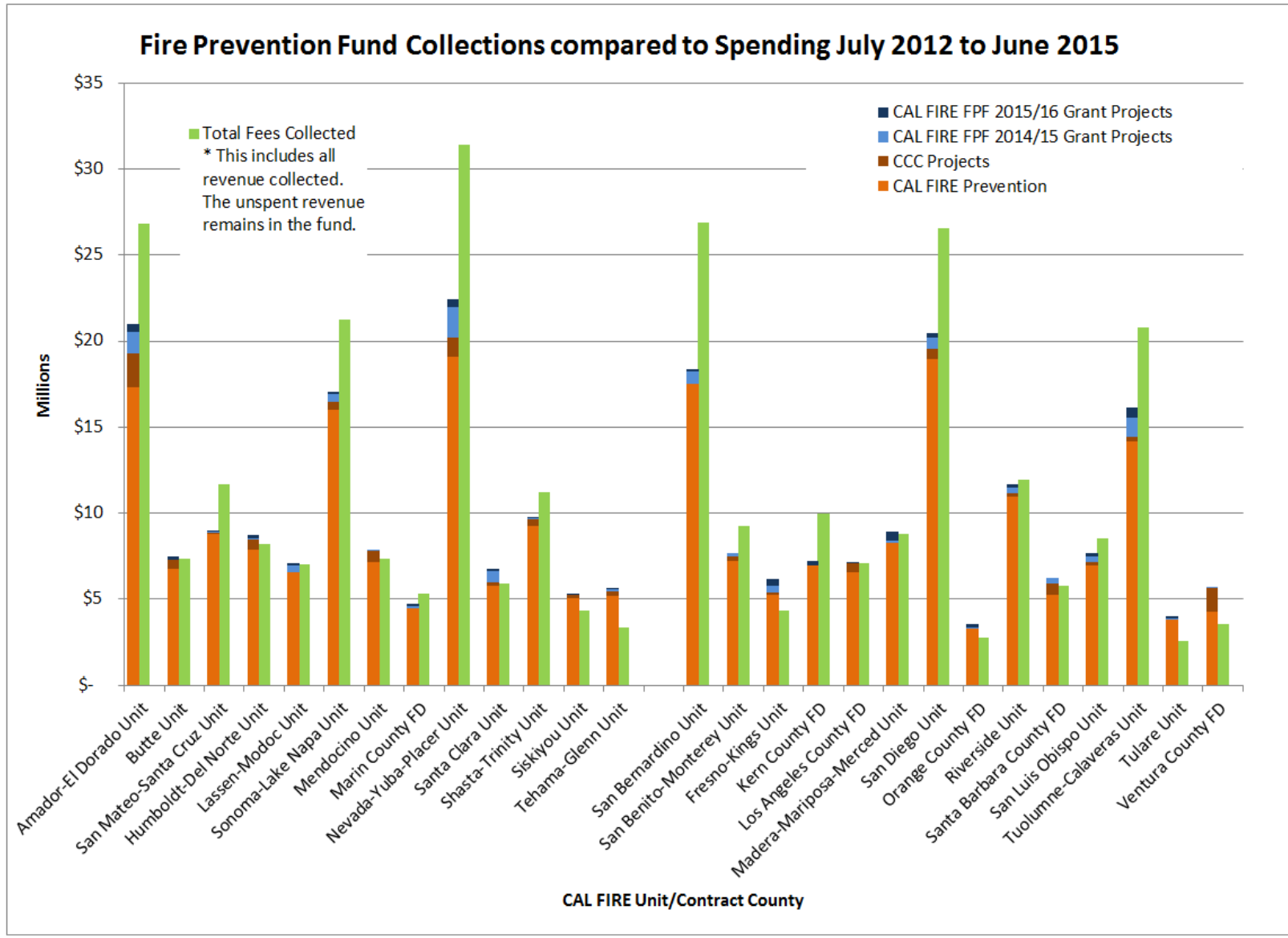
| Unit/Contract County | Revenue Proportion by Unit (%) | Revenue Rec'd by Unit (\$) | Region and Sac Costs Supporting Units 11/12 - 14//15 | Global Admin Costs (CAL FIRE, BOE, SCO, & FISCAL) 11/12 - 14/15 | CCC Projects Funded Fiscal Years 11/12 - 14/15 | FPF Grants (\$) Fiscal Year 2014/15 | Program Startup Fiscal Year 2011/12 | Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2012/13 | Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2013/14 | Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2014/15 | Budgeted Expenditures (Estimated) Fiscal Year 2015/16 | Total Program, CCC, Grants and Administration Expenditures Fiscal Years 11/12 - 15/16 |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| (Northern Region) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Amador-El Dorado | 9.05% | \$28,842,096 | \$3,538,538 | \$4,503,306 | \$1,005,613 | \$1,270,761 | | \$1,126,690 | \$1,397,557 | \$1,862,207 | \$7,272,800 | \$21,977,472 |
| Butte | 2.49% | \$7,923,617 | \$973,587 | \$1,239,031 | \$539,702 | \$43,000 | | \$925,137 | \$1,120,497 | \$1,154,956 | \$1,998,013 | \$7,993,923 |
| Humboldt-Del Norte | 2.79% | \$8,869,689 | \$1,090,886 | \$1,388,312 | \$714,577 | \$83,162 | | \$1,092,182 | \$1,497,055 | \$1,363,534 | \$2,236,574 | \$9,466,282 |
| Lassen-Modoc | 2.38% | \$7,579,987 | \$930,577 | \$1,184,295 | | \$371,223 | | \$1,040,885 | \$1,003,679 | \$1,113,311 | \$1,911,363 | \$7,555,333 |
| Marin County | 1.80% | \$5,719,134 | \$703,798 | \$895,685 | | \$123,200 | | \$564,666 | \$682,937 | \$669,499 | \$1,442,132 | \$5,081,917 |
| Mendocino | 2.49% | \$7,918,903 | \$973,587 | \$1,239,031 | \$1,636,124 | \$6,000 | | \$1,027,109 | \$1,243,508 | \$1,318,792 | \$1,996,824 | \$9,440,975 |
| Nevada-Yuba-Placer | 10.54% | \$33,547,793 | \$4,121,126 | \$5,244,734 | \$893,303 | \$1,808,657 | | \$858,999 | \$1,390,784 | \$1,647,958 | \$8,459,385 | \$24,424,946 |
| San Mateo-Santa Cruz | 3.84% | \$12,239,731 | \$1,501,435 | \$1,910,795 | \$25,237 | \$98,280 | | \$844,556 | \$1,110,865 | \$1,188,682 | \$3,086,361 | \$9,766,211 |
| Santa Clara | 2.00% | \$6,352,867 | \$781,997 | \$995,206 | \$93,363 | \$624,680 | | \$757,022 | \$982,030 | \$1,180,317 | \$1,601,934 | \$7,016,549 |
| Shasta-Trinity | 3.61% | \$11,484,902 | \$1,411,505 | \$1,796,346 | \$389,298 | \$79,493 | | \$960,701 | \$1,561,494 | \$1,323,483 | \$2,896,024 | \$10,418,344 |
| Siskiyou | 1.41% | \$4,489,179 | \$551,308 | \$701,620 | \$171,312 | \$16,698 | | \$884,320 | \$917,210 | \$1,175,930 | \$1,131,988 | \$5,550,386 |
| Sonoma-Lake-Napa | 6.93% | \$22,064,312 | \$2,709,621 | \$3,448,388 | \$379,482 | \$439,804 | | \$1,385,158 | \$2,024,274 | \$2,335,899 | \$5,563,720 | \$18,286,346 |
| Tehama-Glenn | 1.05% | \$3,346,181 | \$410,549 | \$522,483 | \$78,853 | \$127,469 | | \$1,017,470 | \$1,161,109 | \$1,368,075 | \$843,770 | \$5,529,778 |

| Unit/Contract County | Revenue Proportion by Unit (%) | Revenue Rec'd by Unit (\$) | Region and Sac Costs Supporting Units 11/12 - 14//15 | Global Admin Costs (CAL FIRE, BOE, SCO, & FISCAL) 11/12 - 14/15 | CCC Projects Funded Fiscal Years 11/12 - 14/15 | FPF Grants (\$) Fiscal Year 2014/15 | Program Startup Fiscal Year 2011/12 | Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2012/13 | Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2013/14 | Program Expenditures Fiscal Year 2014/15 | Budgeted Expenditures (Estimated) Fiscal Year 2015/16 | Total Program, CCC, Grants and Administration Expenditures Fiscal Years 11/12 - 15/16 |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| (Southern Region) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fresno-Kings | 1.47% | \$4,679,869 | \$574,768 | \$731,476 | \$36,440 | \$380,000 | | \$749,676 | \$980,839 | \$1,438,317 | \$1,180,072 | \$6,071,588 |
| Kern County | 3.38% | \$10,776,795 | \$1,321,576 | \$1,681,898 | \$0 | \$0 | | \$566,314 | \$847,835 | \$726,410 | \$2,717,468 | \$7,861,501 |
| Los Angeles County | 2.42% | \$7,693,999 | \$946,217 | \$1,204,199 | \$644,461 | \$0 | | \$879,538 | \$1,158,784 | \$1,077,826 | \$1,940,113 | \$7,851,138 |
| Madera-Mariposa-Merced | 2.99% | \$9,516,468 | \$1,169,086 | \$1,487,833 | | \$161,408 | | \$880,728 | \$1,150,794 | \$1,963,140 | \$2,399,665 | \$9,212,654 |
| Orange County | 0.96% | \$3,053,370 | \$375,359 | \$477,699 | | \$110,000 | | \$564,820 | \$680,691 | \$681,939 | \$769,935 | \$3,660,443 |
| Riverside | 4.02% | \$12,810,753 | \$1,571,815 | \$2,000,363 | \$72,894 | \$296,000 | | \$1,189,637 | \$1,209,759 | \$2,748,189 | \$3,230,349 | \$12,319,006 |
| San Benito-Monterey | 3.13% | \$9,950,767 | \$1,223,826 | \$1,557,497 | \$152,704 | \$203,950 | | \$740,938 | \$784,616 | \$1,218,476 | \$2,509,177 | \$8,391,184 |
| San Bernardino | 9.05% | \$28,835,529 | \$3,538,538 | \$4,503,306 | | \$707,010 | | \$1,190,270 | \$1,070,323 | \$2,295,336 | \$7,271,144 | \$20,575,927 |
| San Diego | 8.85% | \$28,172,708 | \$3,460,338 | \$4,403,785 | \$174,980 | \$700,115 | | \$1,581,904 | \$1,881,397 | \$2,662,950 | \$7,104,008 | \$21,969,477 |
| San Luis Obispo | 2.86% | \$9,092,420 | \$1,118,256 | \$1,423,144 | \$59,588 | \$323,986 | | \$849,294 | \$1,038,387 | \$962,220 | \$2,292,737 | \$8,067,612 |
| Santa Barbara County | 1.93% | \$6,144,144 | \$754,627 | \$960,374 | \$826,206 | \$326,054 | | \$721,352 | \$847,974 | \$879,065 | \$1,549,303 | \$6,864,955 |
| Tulare | 0.79% | \$2,531,034 | \$308,889 | \$393,106 | | \$78,056 | | \$827,164 | \$864,633 | \$880,714 | \$638,223 | \$3,990,785 |
| Tuolumne-Calaveras | 6.69% | \$21,300,537 | \$2,615,781 | \$3,328,963 | \$80,760 | \$1,123,391 | | \$1,257,012 | \$1,440,288 | \$1,448,954 | \$5,371,127 | \$16,666,276 |
| Ventura County | 1.08% | \$3,449,366 | \$422,279 | \$537,411 | \$1,719,806 | \$22,186 | | \$796,345 | \$884,186 | \$878,205 | \$869,789 | \$6,130,207 |
| Program Startup Costs | | | | | | | \$50,000,000 | | | | | \$50,000,000 |
| Total Statewide | 100% | \$318,386,150 | \$39,099,867 | \$49,760,286 | \$9,694,704 | \$9,524,583 | \$50,000,000 | \$25,279,887 | \$30,933,504 | \$37,564,384 | \$80,284,000 | \$332,141,215 |

Notes in reference to data included in Chart 2.1:

1. This chart provides updated expenditures from Chart #2 as published on page 10 in the SRA Information Report dated June 15, 2016.
2. This chart includes a \$50 million start-up cost during FY 2011-12 which provided for implementation of the program. No individual breakdown of expenditures is provided for this first year as the program was being created and implemented.
3. The expenditure columns reflect costs during FY 2012-13, FY 2013-14, FY 2014-15 and estimated expenditures for FY 2015-16 based upon projections allocated through the Budget.
4. Below is an explanation for each column:
 - a) Revenue Proportion by Unit: The percentage of fee payers broken down by CAL FIRE Units and Contract Counties.
 - b) Revenue Received by Unit: Total amount received statewide from program inception in 2011 (\$318,386,150) and broken down by percentage to each CAL FIRE Unit and Contract County.
 - c) Region and Sacramento Costs Supporting Units: Costs expended by both North and South Region, as well as statewide support from Sacramento, such as mapping efforts by FRAP, and the program costs itself.
 - d) Global Admin Costs (CAL FIRE, BOE, SCO, & FISCAL): Cumulative costs expended as administrative charges from multiple departments.
 - e) CCC Projects Funded: Costs allocated to the California Conservation Corps for use on SRA Prevention Projects.
 - f) FPF Grants: Dollar amounts awarded to successful applicants for SRA Fire Prevention Fund Grants to perform prevention projects throughout the SRA.
 - g) Program Start-Up: One time \$50 million expenditure for program implementation.
 - h) Program Expenditures (3 Fiscal Years – one column for each FY): Costs expended by each CAL FIRE Unit and Contract County for all fire prevention projects and activities that include the Vegetation Management Program, Defensible Space Inspections, Land Use Planning efforts, prevention projects performed by Conservation Camp Crews, Law Enforcement, and Education programs.
 - i) Budgeted Expenditures (Estimated) FY 2015-16: Projected estimates for allocated expenditures as represented from the Budget.
 - j) Total Program, CCC, Grants and Administration Expenditures.

CHART 2.2: FIRE PREVENTION FUND COLLECTIONS COMPARED TO SPENDING JULY 2012 THROUGH JUNE 2015 UNIT



3.0 Effectiveness of the Board’s Grant Program

The Board has not yet been allocated fund for a grant program. The Board has taken the necessary administrative steps towards developing a transparent process for a SRA grant program in preparation of potential funding in the future. During 2015 and 2016 the Board engaged in rulemaking under the Administrative Procedures Act to develop regulations, known as “SRA Fire Prevention Grant Program”. The goal of the regulatory action was to provide the public with process that could be utilized should funding be allocated. The final rulemaking package has been submitted to Office of Administrative Law and is currently under final review. The Board expects an effective date of the regulation to occur on October 1, 2016. A copy of the Board adopted regulations can be found on the [Board’s website](#).

The Board felt it prudent to provide data on the grant program that has been funded by the fee that is currently being administered by CAL FIRE as a surrogate for the Board’s grant program. In FY 14/15, CAL FIRE was allocated \$10 million to award as grants through the [SRA Fire Prevention Grant Program](#). \$475, 417 was spent, commensurate with the Governor’s budget on administrative overhead, while \$9,524,583 was delivered in the form of 83 funded projects throughout the state. Chart 3.0 provides detailed information on the each of the 83 projects that were funded under the SRA Fire Prevention Grant Program in FY 14/15. The Board has determined that CAL FIRE is making an excellent effort to distribute the funds in grants proportional to how fees are collected.

CHART 3.0: Fiscal Year 14/15 APPROVED SRA FIRE PREVENTION FUND GRANTS

Fiscal Year 14/15 State Responsibility Area Fire Prevention Fund Grants- Drought Augmentation

| | Projec | | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------|-----|----------------|
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0005 | Hazen C-Line Fuel Break | \$95,549 | TGU | Tehama |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0006 | Twain Harte Green Waste Curbside Pick-up | \$50,000 | TCU | Tuolumne |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0014 | Highway 162 Fuel Break | \$31,920 | TGU | Glenn |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0020 | Calaveras County CWPP Update | \$10,000 | TCU | Calaveras |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0027 | Big Bear Valley SRA Chipping Grant | \$199,500 | BDU | San Bernardino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0045 | Dead, Dying and Diseased Tree Removal - Descanso, Guatay and Pine Valley | \$450,000 | MVU | San Diego |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0047 | Deer Springs Community Fuels Reduction and Chipping Project | \$29,610 | MVU | San Diego |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0052 | Goat Grazing, East Bay Hills SRA | \$204,000 | SCU | Contra Costa |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0055 | Butte County Sheriff Office Inmate Roads Maintenance | \$43,000 | BTU | Butte |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0057 | Chrome Ridge Wildfire Protection Project. | \$100,000 | AEU | El Dorado |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0062 | El Dorado Integrated County Wildfire Protection Plan (Master CWPP) | \$73,870 | AEU | El Dorado |
| 14-SRA-HF-01- | Dunsmuir Community Wildfire Protection Plan Update | \$16,698 | SKU | Siskiyou |

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------|-----|-----------------|--|
| 0070 | | | | | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0074 | Rancho Calaveras Fuels Reduction | \$150,000 | TCU | Calaveras | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0075 | Blue Lake Springs H.O.A. Fire Safety Project | \$272,580 | TCU | Calaveras | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0076 | Central Calaveras Fire and Rescue Protection District Wildland Fire Pre-Plan | \$44,800 | TCU | Calaveras | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0080 | SRA Greater Valley Center Community Chipping Days | \$50,000 | MVU | San Diego | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0082 | Woods Valley and Paradise Mountain Road Fuel Reduction Project | \$130,000 | MVU | San Diego | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0084 | SRA Greater Valley Center Community Including Eden and Hidden Valley Fuel Reduction Evacuation Route | \$8,000 | MVU | San Diego | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0085 | Palomar Park Hazardous Fuel Reduction Program | \$79,750 | CZU | San Mateo | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0093 | Clayton-Morgan Territory Fire Safe 2015 | \$170,680 | SCU | Alameda | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0112 | North Tahoe Multi-Jurisdictional Request for Emergency Evacuation Planning Materials | \$43,617 | NEU | Placer | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0113 | Loma Vista Community Perimeter Shaded Fuel Break | \$56,000 | LNU | Napa | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0115 | Foss Valley Community Perimeter Shaded Fuel Break | \$79,000 | LNU | Napa | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0121 | Unincorporated Big Bear City, Running Springs & Arrowbear Wood Shake/Shingle Cost Share Roof Replacement | \$214,916 | BDU | San Bernardino | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0131 | Parkhill Area Fuel Breaks | \$323,986 | SLU | San Luis Obispo | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0132 | American River Canyon Perimeter Shaded Fuel Break (PSFB) | \$100,000 | AEU | El Dorado | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0136 | Development of Fire Adapted Communities on the California Side of the Lake Tahoe Basin | \$200,000 | AEU | El Dorado | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0137 | Sierra County Residential Chipping Program | \$53,200 | NEU | Sierra | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0138 | Anderson Springs Interface Project | \$42,020 | LNU | Lake | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0139 | Sierra City SC1 SC3 Fuels reduction | \$53,725 | NEU | Sierra | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0142 | Muniz Ranches Property Owners Association Fire Prevention Project | \$41,716 | LNU | Sonoma | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0149 | North Bottle Rock Road Fuel Break | \$37,471 | LNU | Lake | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0151 | Mt. Konocti Interface Fuel Break | \$108,597 | LNU | Lake | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0156 | Alpine Meadows Subdivision Roadside Clearing | \$76,880 | NEU | Placer | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0163 | Burney Basin Fire Safe Council --CWPP | \$14,000 | SHU | Shasta | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0168 | Fresno Fairgrounds Public Education Project | \$380,000 | FKU | Fresno | |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0171 | Morning Canyon Fuels Reduction Evacuation Project | \$154,836 | AEU | El Dorado | |

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|--------------------------|--|-----------|-----|----------------|
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0184 | Mountain Rim Fire Safe Council Community Wildfire Protection Plan | \$21,000 | BDU | San Bernardino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0186 | Truckee Fire Protection District Community Wildfire Protection Plan | \$27,000 | NEU | Nevada |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0188 | Yuba County Service Area 2 Shaded Fuel Breaks | \$29,750 | NEU | Yuba |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0189 | Lake Tahoe Wildfire Hazard Awareness and Mitigation Public Outreach Campaign | \$77,250 | AEU | El Dorado |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0192 | American Valley Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project | \$317,856 | LMU | Plumas |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0201 | Crest Forest Fire Safe Demonstration Sites | \$10,300 | BDU | San Bernardino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0206 | San Juan Canyon Road Shaded Fuel Break & Residential Chipping | \$117,150 | BEU | San Benito |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0207 | Santa Barbara Foothill Community Defensible Space Project | \$326,054 | SBC | Santa Barbara |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0233 | Tuolumne County Roadside Brushing | \$84,000 | TCU | Tuolumne |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0236 | Central Ventura County Fire Safe Council Community Chipper Days Project | \$22,186 | VNC | Ventura |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0238 | Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan 2015 Update | \$65,493 | SHU | Trinity |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0249 | 2015 Klamath River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TREX) | \$83,162 | HUU | Humboldt |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0255 | Lake Tahoe Community Chipping Project | \$153,797 | AEU | El Dorado |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0262 | OCFA - County-Wide Wildfire Protection Plan for Orange County, CA | \$110,000 | ORC | Orange |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0265 | 2015 Marin County Community Wildfire Protection Plan | \$123,200 | MRN | Marin |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0267 | Maxwell Trail Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project | \$296,000 | RRU | Riverside |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0268 | Special Needs Defensible Space Assistance Program | \$142,366 | NEU | Yuba |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0269 | Nevada County Chipping Program | \$159,478 | NEU | Nevada |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0272 | Mountain Top Chipper Days | \$33,500 | BDU | San Bernardino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0273 | Soper Company Shakespeare Mastication | \$121,771 | NEU | Yuba |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0276 | Abatement Assistance & Advocacy | \$43,200 | BDU | San Bernardino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0277 | Yuba County Residential Chipping Program | \$100,000 | NEU | Yuba |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0287 | Santa Clara County CWPP | \$250,000 | SCU | Santa Clara |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0291 | Hazardous Fuels Removal Along Non County Maintained Roads Creating a Fireline | \$161,408 | MMU | Mariposa |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0292 | Highway 120 Corridor Fire Break and Fuels Reduction | \$244,160 | TCU | Tuolumne |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0294 | Franklin Canyon Hazardous Fuels Reduction and Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Project | \$53,367 | LMU | Modoc |

| | | | | |
|-------------------|--|-----------|-----|----------------|
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0296 | Weber Creek Fuel Reduction Project, PP-1 | \$191,075 | AEU | El Dorado |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0304 | Bear River Pines Fuels Reduction | \$294,578 | NEU | Nevada |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0307 | Lokoya Community Fuel Reduction Project | \$75,000 | LNU | Napa |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0321 | Bell Springs Road Community Wildfire Protection Plan | \$6,000 | MEU | Mendocino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0340 | Placer County Chipper Program - Track Chipper Acquisition | \$200,000 | NEU | Placer |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0343 | Web-based Map Interface for CWPPs | \$56,970 | BDU | San Bernardino |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0344 | North Fork American River Fuel break - CEQA | \$46,063 | NEU | Placer |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0345 | Nevada County Landfill Site Fuel Modification | \$31,020 | NEU | Nevada |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0346 | Placer County Residential Chipper Program | \$429,209 | NEU | Placer |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0347 | River Pines | \$179,933 | AEU | Amador |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0349 | Bear Valley Common Area Fuels Reduction | \$40,000 | TCU | Alpine |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0350 | Mi Wuk/Sugar Pine Fuel Reduction Program | \$190,516 | TCU | Tuolumne |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0351 | Monterey County Regional Fire District Chipping and Pre-Planning Map Grant | \$86,800 | BEU | Monterey |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0360 | Fire Prevention Materials and Road Signs | \$16,576 | TCU | Tuolumne |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0361 | Turnback Creek Fuel Reduction Phase 2 (Maintenance) | \$60,759 | TCU | Tuolumne |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0367 | Tulare County Chipper Days | \$78,056 | TUU | Tulare |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0376 | Palomar Mountain Community Chipping Days | \$6,900 | MVU | San Diego |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0377 | Palomar Divide SRA Fuel Break | \$25,605 | MVU | San Diego |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0378 | Newell Drive Fuel Reduction | \$18,530 | CZU | Santa Cruz |
| 14-SRA-HF-01-0400 | Wheeler Crest Fuels Reduction, 2015/2017 | \$127,624 | BDU | Mono |

*83 total projects for a total of \$9,524,583 of funded grants statewide.

4.0 Defensible Space Inspections

There are two metrics that are required to report upon in regards to the Defensible Space Inspections that are conducted by CAL FIRE. Those metrics include the number of defensible space inspections conducted during FY 14/15 and the degree of compliance with defensible space inspections. Given the data collection on the inspections were conducted on an annual basis, the Board is able to report on a more extended period of time than what is required by law. Chart 4.0 provides data on the on-the-ground inspections conducted by CAL FIRE

employees between FY 12/13 and 14/15. In addition, the Board is also able to report on the number of citations issued during those inspections, which provides a measure of compliance in regards to homeowners complying with defensible space standards.

CHART 4.0: Defensible Space Inspection Conducted by CAL FIRE for Fiscal Years 12/13 - 15/16

| STATEWIDE INSPECTIONS | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Prevention Activities | Totals FY 2012/13 | Totals FY 2013/14 | Totals FY 2014/15 |
| Citations Issued | 890 | 2,539 | 631 |
| Inspections | 149,672 | 203,340 | 207,295 |

5.0 Measures to Increase Compliance with Defensible Space Standards

The SRA fee has allowed CAL FIRE to increase staffing specifically dedicated to the job of conducting defensible space inspections and has increased the number of properties inspected since the implementation of the fee.. The use of specialized, trained inspectors has improved the quality of interactions with the public, resulting in increased compliance.

Another means of increasing compliance with defensible space standards is through maintenance of a public education and outreach program. CAL FIRE employees spend many thousands of hours in public settings each year with the ultimate goal of education the public on wildfire and resource management and protection issues. These public outreach efforts are conducted at county and state fairs, academic institutions, parades, public workshops and gatherings and other special events. In addition, the public outreach extends to public service announcements during radio and television broadcast and well as media outreach. Given the relative low number of citations issued, the education outreach has been seemingly effective and maintaining this level of public outreach will likely result in is attaining higher level of compliance. This continued outreach is of particular importance as the population within the state increases resulting in additional home density within the wildland urban interface.

6.1 Recommendations to the Legislature

- Currently, the required reporting standards under PRC § 4214(f) state that the annual report provided by the Board shall “include an evaluation of the benefits received by counties based on the number of habitable structures in state responsibility areas within their jurisdictions.” As mentioned within the body of this report, the Board is reliant upon the Department for the data as it pertains to SRA fee expenditures. The Department operates under the structure of Administrative Units. This includes day to day operations as well as fiscal accounting. In order for the Department to recast the SRA fee expenditures on a County by County basis would be very problematic for the Department and ultimately the Board in meeting this reporting standard. This standard of reporting introduces a significant time commitment, would be extraordinarily expensive and could inadvertently introduce error in reporting due to the lengthy and intricate process of reorganizing complex fiscal data. Therefore, in order to maintain efficiency in reporting and congruity with statute, the Board recommends that consideration of revising PRC §

4214(f) to read that the report provided by the Board shall “include an evaluation of the ~~benefits received by counties~~ expenditures within each departmental administrative unit or Contract County based on the number of habitable structures in state responsibility areas within their jurisdictions.”

- Public commentary the Board has received indicates there is considerable public interest in increasing the funding for grant programs to expend these funds directly in the State Responsibility Area. The number of grant applications received exceeds the amount of money appropriated for the grant program thus far and indicates an unmet need for funding for direct fire prevention projects in SRA communities. The Board recommends the Legislature increase the funding to the grant programs under this fee to provide a direct benefit to the fee payers through local fire prevention projects.
- Currently, the required metric to report upon under PRC § 4214(f) in regards grant programs is “the effectiveness of the board's grant programs.” As previously addressed, the Board’s grant program, although established in regulation, is not currently funded. Therefore, the Board has decided to report on the Department’s grant program as a surrogate until the Board’s grant program is funded. In order to make statute congruent with reportable metrics, the Board recommends consideration of revising PRC § 4214(f) to read “the effectiveness of the board's and/or department’s grant programs”.
- For the purpose of efficiency, the Board recommends that beginning in 2017 and every year thereafter, the Department provide to the Legislature a report pursuant to PRC § 4214(f). The fee program is managed by the Department, and therefore a reporting standard that applies to the Department will streamline Board and Department operations. The Department has taken it upon itself to produce an annual report for the purposes of public transparency and plans to produce reports on a semi-annual basis from this year forward. It is these reports that the Board utilizes to gather data that is provided in the required annual report under PRC § 4214(f). The Board respectfully requests that a provision that would allow for the Board to review the Department’s report be considered so that the Board may ensure that substantive public comment that the Board has received within any given year is addressed within the report. Therefore, in order to maintain efficiency in reporting, the Board recommends that consideration of revising PRC § 4214(f) to read “By January 31, 2015, and annually thereafter, the board department, with board approval, shall submit to the Legislature a written report on the status and uses of the fund pursuant to this chapter.....”