California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan Implementation Strategy January 2022



WILDFIRE & FOREST RESILIENCE TASK FORCE Patrick Wright, Director Kristen Merrill, Program Manager

As required under Senate Bill No. 456

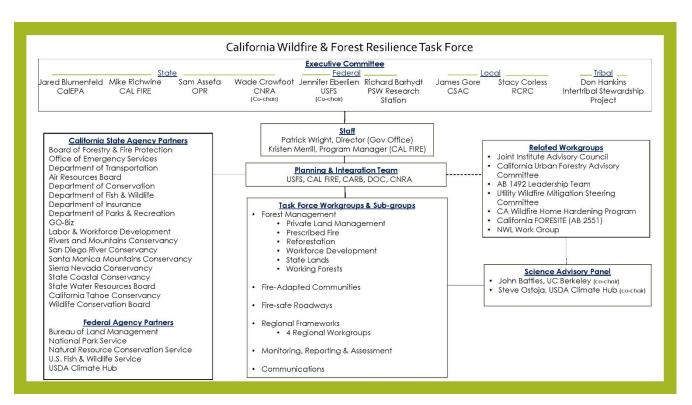
Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan Implementation Strategy

Senate Bill 456 requires the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to "develop a comprehensive implementation strategy to track and ensure the achievement of the goals and key actions identified in the California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan."

The implementation strategy consists of the following:

Task Force Organization: Organizational Charter, published April 2021

The charter outlines the organizational structure of the Task Force which is comprised of the Executive Committee, Task Force staff, an interagency Planning and Integration Team, Science Advisory Panel, and Working Groups (including sub-groups and ad-hoc committees). Each of the 99 Key Actions included in the Action Plan was assigned to a Work Group.



Task Force Meetings:

- <u>2020 Meetings</u>: The inaugural meeting of the Task Force was held May 20, 2021, with quarterly meetings held August 16 and November 18, 2021. The meetings are noticed on the interim website and sent to Task Force membership via an Outlook mailing list of over 500 contacts.
- 2021 Meetings: Task Force meetings in 2022 are expected to be in a hybrid in-person/webinar format, subject to COVID-19 restrictions. The meeting frequency is increasing from quarterly to approximately every other month: January 27, March 24, May 5, July 21, September 15, November 17. Two of these meetings are expected to be held in different regions of the state, with May's meeting scheduled for Sonoma County and September's meeting planned for a location in the Sierra Nevada.

Program Management: Task Force Airtable platform

Airtable is an online, cloud-based platform that allows the user to store information in a spreadsheet but connect the data as one could in a relational database.

SB 456 requires the Implementation Strategy to include the "identification of lead agencies and a description of the activities completed and still necessary to achieve the goals and key actions." To address this mandate, the Task Force has developed a system using Airtable to track progress on achieving the key actions and meeting the goals.

Within Airtable, each of the 99 Key Actions are assigned to a Work Group, Lead Agency, and Lead Staff. Work Group leads upload progress in Airtable on each of the 99 Key Actions every quarter, and the Task Force presents the <u>Progress on the Key Actions</u> view online and at its meetings.

Work Group Work Plans:

SB 456 requires the implementation strategy address the four main goals of the Task Force and the key Actions under those goals. Each of the Work Groups have developed <u>Work Plans</u> that address their strategy for implementing the key actions to which they have been assigned.

Communications

An <u>interim website</u> was launched April 2021 with essential information on the Task Force, including:

- Calendar of meetings
- Meeting agendas & links to recorded webinars
- Task Force organization and contacts
- Working group assignments and contacts
- Press releases & publications

The website will be redesigned and built out the first quarter of 2022.

Wildfire & Forest Resilience Expenditure Plan

SB 456 requires the Task Force, on an annual basis, to report on "state expenditures made to implement these key actions, and on additional resources and policy changes needed to achieve these goals and key actions." Accordingly, the Task Force has developed a <u>Wildfire and Forest</u>

<u>Resilience Expenditure Plan</u> that links Action Plan deliverables with the state's proposed and enacted budget allocations.

Roadmap to a Million Acres

A key deliverable of the Action Plan is to increase the pace and scale of forest health treatments to one million acres annually by 2025. To accomplish this goal, the Task Force has developed a Roadmap to a Million Acres. The Roadmap is based on a three-tiered strategy: 1) coordination of state and federal plans, mandates and initiatives; 2) development of a regional capacity to invest in high priority projects; and 3) alignment, development, and application of data and tools to prioritize and report on acres treated and the multiple benefits of projects at the local, regional, and state level.