

Santa Clara Unit Strategic Fire Plan, 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Santa Clara Unit Strategic Fire Plan documents the assessment of the fire situation in the unit, provides wildfire statistical information, includes stakeholder contributions and program and project priorities, and identifies strategic targets for pre-fire solutions. Through identifying communities at risk and assets at risk, project areas can be targeted for hazard reduction and mitigation, within monetary and staffing constraints while collaboration with Stakeholders.

Responsibility for Pre Fire Engineering and Fire Protection Planning falls under the direction of the Fire Prevention Bureau. Pre Fire Engineering includes GIS mapping of assets at risk and the maintenance of various other GIS data layers to assess the existing levels of wildland protection services, identifies communities at risk that are potential locations for costly and damaging wildfires, rank these areas in terms of priority needs, and prescribe what can be done to reduce future costs and losses. The development of the Unit Fire Plan is the responsibility of the Pre Fire Engineer. The plan is developed to reduce the threat of large damaging fires and to respond to the needs and concerns of the public.

This fire plan is divided into several components.

Unit Description:

The demographics, vegetation and topography of the Unit are described in detail. The equipment and assets available for firefighting capabilities are essential to meet our objective of keeping 95% of all wildland fires to 10 acres or less. Both local assets and local government agencies are identified.

Values at Risk:

This section identifies and describes the public, private and community assets that the wildland fire protection system was created and funded to protect.

Pre Fire Management Strategies & Fire Prevention:

Statistical information for wildland fire causes aids the fire prevention bureau to focus on education, enforcement and patrol activities. Information on 2010 fires and a three year trend are defined.

Vegetation Management:

This section summarizes the vegetation management program in the Santa Clara Unit. It identifies the accomplishments and challenges of the program.

Pre Fire Management Tactics:

This section is divided into battalions or geographical boundaries where fuels, weather, topography, and fire history, specific to each battalion are identified. Division battalion program plans

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Annual Priorities, Goals and Objectives:

This plan will utilize the priorities, goals and objectives identified by the Sacramento, Region, Unit and the community and will incorporate them into the plan and implementation process.

This fire plan is intended to be updated yearly with addendums, as the Unit makes progress on meeting statewide and Unit priority goals and objectives.