

LEVEL OF WILDLAND PROTECTION SERVICES (LOS)

The Level of Service (LOS) rating is a method that measures initial attack suppression success and failure rates throughout California wildlands.

The LOS is determined by using the number of fires (size and intensity), vegetation type, and weather over a 10-year period. Fire activity is updated on a continuing basis through the Emergency Activity Reporting System. The data is electronically passed on to the Emergency Command System. This data is then stored at the CDF Headquarters in Sacramento.

Success (and Failure) Calculation:

SUCCESS RATE =

$$\frac{\text{Annual number of fires that were small and extinguished by initial attack}}{\text{Total number of fires}}$$

SUCCESS RATE = X percent

This results in an initial attack success rate expressed in percentage of fires by vegetation type and by area.

The San Mateo & Santa Cruz Unit uses 4 vegetation types (brush, coastal and interior conifer, and grass) for calculation purposes.

The following chart gives you the Unit's Success Rate over the past 10 years: the data was compiled via EARS and the Unit is actively verifying its accuracy.

Vegetation Type	Number of Fires (past 10 years)				% Success
	Spot	Small	Medium	Large	
Brush	16	2	1	1	90
Coastal Conifer	908	32	33	9	98
Interior Conifer	117	11	10	1	94
Grass	25	2	3		90

Acreage definition:

Spot: Less than acre
 Small: 1 – 2 acres
 Medium: 2 – 10 acres
 Large: 10 – 100 acres

The following graphic displays location of vegetation fires in the Unit for 2003. Fires are overlaid on two types of data: the Fire Hazard Severity and Population Density for the Unit.

VEGETATION FIRES 2003

