

Vegetation Management

Proper management of vegetation is critical to a successful Fire Plan and Pre Fire Management. Since 2004, Kern County Fire Department has been able to complete over 2,000 acres of fuels reduction work in and around communities at risk. These projects include shaded fuel breaks to aide with fire suppression activities, escape routes projects for safe access and egress of public and emergency equipment, and community chipper events to assist homeowners with defensible space. It is the goal of the Fuels Management Division to continue and expand this aggressive management strategy throughout the county.



Fire crews and public participating in a “Community Chipper Event”



A Small Masticator was purchased last year to aid in Fuels Management work.

Raws

Since 2005 we have been updating our fire weather collection stations. We have been able to install 8 Remote Area Weather Stations(RAWS) throughout the county.

Station Name	Location
KRN01	Battalion 1
KRN02	Battalion 1
KRN03	Battalion 5
KRN04	Battalion 7
Twisselman	Battalion 2
Grapevine Peak	Battalion 5
Hart Flat	Battalion 1
Woody	Battalion 3

Short and Mid range goals:

- Develop and maintain a herd of goats to be used for Fuel reduction work on existing fuel breaks and in communities where mechanical and Burning would not permit
(Short)
- Continue to develop Community Wildland Pre-Fire Plan Maps.
(Short)
- Develop and maintain Inmate Fire Crews to assist with emergency activity and fuels reduction work
(Mid)