

SIGNATURES

Unit Strategic Fire Plan developed for San Benito-Monterey:

This Plan:

- Was collaboratively developed. Interested parties, Federal, State, City, and County agencies within the Unit have been consulted and are listed in the plan.
- Identifies and prioritizes pre fire and post fire management strategies and tactics meant to reduce the loss of values at risk within the Unit.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only. It is the responsibility of those implementing the projects to ensure that all environmental compliance and permitting processes are met as necessary.

Unit Chief

Richard C. Hutchinson, Jr.

Date

Pre-Fire Engineer

Catey S. Trenner

Date

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The California Fire Plan is the state's road map for reducing the risk of wildfire. By placing the emphasis on what needs to be done long before a fire starts, the Fire Plan seeks to reduce fire fighting costs and property losses, increase firefighter safety, and to contribute to ecosystem health. The San Benito – Monterey Unit, with the cooperation of key stakeholders, has designed a plan with the intention of meeting the goals set by both the stakeholders and the California Fire Plan. Pre-fire management projects are designed to reduce costs and losses, especially during periods of severe fire weather. With the use of fire resistant landscaping, mechanical fuels treatment, prescribed burns, building construction standards, infrastructure, land use planning and pre-fire safety zones and escape plans, the Unit strives to keep what would otherwise be a large, catastrophic fire, to smaller fire with less intensity, reducing suppression costs and property loss.

The San Benito-Monterey Unit management intends to support the Fire Plan and make it successful by meeting the following objectives:

- Collect, analyze and prepare data to assess communities at risk and in need of fuel reduction or other projects
- Work with grant writers and stakeholders to secure funds to implement projects.
- Utilize CAL FIRE personnel and resources in conjunction with other public and private efforts to assist with the project work on the ground.
- Educate the public on fire prevention and incorporating fire resistant landscaping and construction to their property, as well as hazardous fuel reduction to keep their lives, homes, property and natural resources safe from catastrophic wildfires.

With these goals in mind, the Unit strives to reduce fire suppression costs, property loss and damage to our environment and local ecosystems in the San Benito-Monterey Unit through our pre-fire work and by protecting life, property and the environment from destructive wildfires.