



# California Wildfires Responses

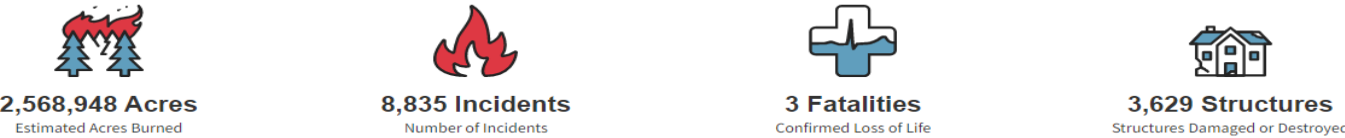


Ops in Field



# RECENT CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

2021



2020



2018



2017



Source: The Guardian

- Typically, USEPA gets mission assigned when there is a Presidential Disaster Declaration and the number of structures exceeds State and local capacity...usually ~1000 structures.
- 2019 total structures damaged/destroyed was 732.
- USEPA has been activated in years prior to 2017.

Source: CalFire



# NATIONAL RESPONSE FRAMEWORK EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTIONS (ESFs)

ESF 1: Transportation

ESF 2: Communications

ESF 3: Public Works & Engineering

ESF 4: Firefighting

ESF 5: Emergency Management

ESF 6: Mass Care, Housing &  
Human Services

ESF 7: Resource Support

ESF 8: Public Health & Medical Services

ESF 9: Urban Search & Rescue

**ESF 10: Oil & Hazardous Materials (USEPA)**

ESF 11: Agriculture & Natural Resources

ESF 12: Energy

ESF 13: Public Safety & Security

ESF 14: Long-term Community Recovery &  
Mitigation

ESF 15: External Communications





# ESF10 GENERAL DUTIES

- ❖ Commit agency assets
- ❖ Approve and implement mission assignments
- ❖ Maintain situational awareness and report on ESF operations
- ❖ Represent agency on task forces and ad hoc groups
- ❖ Serve as technical experts





# MISSION ASSIGNMENTS

- **Activation MA - Surge funding**
  - ESF10 Deploys
  - SMEs develop cost estimates
- **HHW MA – Fed Disaster Dec**
  - Often amended to add counties, non-profits & other tasks
  - USEPA has always finished ahead of schedule & under-budget
  - Final HHW disposal, returning staging areas to original state, final data reports & contract closeouts take time after HHW collection is completed.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
MISSION ASSIGNMENT (MA)

O.M.B. No. 1660-0002  
Expires May 31, 2017

PAPERWORK BURDEN DISCLOSURE NOTICE			
Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 20 minutes per response. The burden estimate includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the needed data, and completing and submitting this form. This collection of information is required to obtain or retain benefits. You are not required to respond to this collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding the accuracy of the burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing this burden to: Information Collections Management, Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, 500 C Street, SW, Washington, DC 20472-3100, Paperwork Reduction Project (1660-0047). NOTE: Do not send your completed form to this address.			
<b>I. TRACKING INFORMATION (FEMA Use Only)</b>			
State CA (California) Incident:2020082004-R09 California Wildfires 2020		Resource Request Number 2610-460566	
Program Code/Event Number 4558DR-CA: WILDFIRES		Date/Time Received 12/17/2020 18:52	
<b>II. ASSISTANCE REQUIRED</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See Attached			
Assistance Requested Amendment #5 Extend projected end date to 02/15/2021 Amendment #4 Increase funding \$5,000,000.00 and extend project end date to 01/15/2021			
Delivery Location JFO 2995 Prospect Park Dr Rancho Cordova, CA 95605		Internal Control Number Date/Time Required 12/17/2020	
Initiator/Requestor Name Janston & #34, Jay & #34; dentonglida		24 Hour Phone Number (916) 636-3757	Email Address Ryan.Buras@caloes.ca.gov
Site POC Name Matt Davis		24 Hour Phone Number (202) 320-7179	Email Address Date 12/17/2020
<b>III. INITIAL FEDERAL COORDINATION (Operations Section)</b>			
Action to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ESF #: 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		Date/Time 12/17/2020 18:36	Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> 1. Lifesaving <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3. High <input type="checkbox"/> RSF: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 2. Life sustaining <input type="checkbox"/> 4. Normal
<b>IV. DESCRIPTION (Assigned Agency Action Officer)</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See Attached			
Statement of Work In support of State of California request, as directed by and in coordination with FEMA, EPA will conduct oil and hazardous materials field operations, including cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials and oil in support of FEMA disaster operations.			
Your agency must validate the unliquidated MA balance at least annually as stipulated by FEMA to maintain reimbursable authority. Accrual data must also be provided to FEMA no later than the third business day after fiscal quarter end close. Information can be submitted to FEMA-Disaster-MA-ULO@dhs.gov. For MA billing and reimbursement information, please visit <a href="http://www.fema.gov/federal-agencies-providing-disaster-assistance">http://www.fema.gov/federal-agencies-providing-disaster-assistance</a> .			
Assigned Agency EPA (ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY)		Projected Start Date 09/09/2020	Estimated Projected End Date 02/15/2021
<input type="checkbox"/> New or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment to MA #: 4558DRCAEPA0204		Total Cost Estimated \$0.00	Total Required this Obligation Cycle
ESF/OFA/RSF Action Officer BILL JONES		Phone # (619) 806-6737	Email jones.bill#64@epa.gov
<b>V. COORDINATION (FEMA Use Only)</b>			
Type of MA: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Direct Federal Assistance State Cost Share (0%, 10%, 25%)		Federal Operations Support <input type="checkbox"/> State Share (0%)	
State Cost Share Percent 25 %		State Cost Share Amount: \$ 0.00	
Fund Citation: 20 2 1 -06- 4 5 5 8 DR- 9 0 9 4 XXXX-250 2 -D Appropriation code: 70X0702			
Mission Assignment Manager (Preparer) DELANE GARNER			Date 12/18/2020
**FEMA Project Manager/Branch Director (Program Approval) JANSTON DENTON-GILDEA			Date 12/18/2020
**Comptroller/Funds Control (Funds Review) JOHN SYOLOS			Date 12/18/2020



## PHASE 1 & PHASE 2 DEBRIS MISSIONS

- *Phase 1 - Survey, removal, and disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) at affected properties. (ESF10)*
- Once teams remove household hazardous waste, property owners may move into Phase II. ESF3 is the lead for Phase 2.
- Typically, property owners cannot perform Phase 2 cleanup themselves – owners are required to engage in the Government Program or hire properly licensed and certified contractors and consultants to complete cleanup in the Private Program.



# Examples of household hazardous waste (HHW)

- Paint
- Fertilizers and pesticides
- Aerosol cans
- Fire extinguishers
- Pool chemicals
- High-pressure gas cylinders
- Propane cylinders
- Intact compressed gas cylinders
- Ammo  $\leq$  .50 caliber
- Batteries
- Fuels and used oil
- Fluorescent light ballasts



# Examples of high-hazard waste

- Ammo larger than .50 (larger than your fist)
- Explosives
- Tanks >100 gal
- Radioactive material
- Bulging drums, or >1 large drum with unknown liquids
- Cylinders unsafe for transport





# e-Waste

- Microwave ovens
  - LCD, plasma, and CRT displays
  - Stereo components
  - Copiers, fax machines
  - Phones and answering machines
  - VCRs
  - Computers, laptops
  - Routers, peripherals
  - Calculators
- Solar panels are also e-Waste and will be collected when they are heat impacted but in relatively good condition.



# Asbestos-containing material (ACM)

- ACM typically removed as part of Phase 2 Debris mission.
- Removed during Phase 1 if it is easily identifiable, easily removable, poses a significant exposure risk, and can be removed in less than 30 minutes without heavy machinery.



# PRE-HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MISSION ASSIGNMENT RECON

- Windshield Assessments of Damaged Areas
- Meetings with local agencies at County EOC
- Assess staging area Locations
- Develop data layers of damaged parcels





# MISSION ASSIGNMENTS COVERING NUMEROUS COUNTIES IN 2020 WORKED WITH 7 COUNTIES SIMULTANEOUSLY







- All incidents begin and end locally.
- Local officials get the word out regarding site hazards and often restrict access due to public health concerns until Phase 1 HHW completed.



## COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

701 OCEAN STREET, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4073  
(831) 454-2000 WWW.SANTACRUZCOUNTY.US

CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

### PRESS RELEASE

Date: September 15, 2020  
Contact: Jason Hoppin  
Jason.Hoppin@santacruzcounty.us

#### DEBRIS REMOVAL PROHIBITED

Fire debris removal from damaged properties is prohibited by local health order until property owners receive a hazard assessment and approval from environmental health authorities.

Property owners, tenants and members of the public should not attempt to remove, dig, sift or evaluate property debris. Fire sites are often toxic and include hazardous substances such as lead-acid and household batteries; compressed gas cylinders; bulk pesticides, fertilizers, and pool chemicals; paints, thinners, and aerosol cans; asbestos siding, pipe insulation, and tiles; e-waste and more.

Fire-damaged debris will not be accepted at any County waste facility and placement in residential or commercial trash collection bins will result in bins not being accepted by GreenWaste. Removal of hazardous waste must be completed by federal, state and local jurisdictions working under safe handling guidelines. Failure to follow these practices could jeopardize financial assistance and delay the rebuilding process.

"Fire debris can be toxic and needs special handling and disposal procedures," Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Director Dr. Marilyn Underwood said. "It is critical that the public refrain from removing any fire-damaged debris from their property."

Phase I hazardous debris removal will be completed at no cost to CZU Lightning Complex survivors with the assistance of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and the Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Division (SCCEHD). All other debris removal must have an approved plan from the Environmental Health Division prior to removal. USEPA officials are working with the County, and the County will post information about progress on the Fire Recovery website at [www.santacruzcounty.us/firerecovery.aspx](http://www.santacruzcounty.us/firerecovery.aspx) once available.

Detailed information on debris removal, including an FAQ, is available at <http://scceh.com/Home/CZULightningComplexFire/DebrisRemoval.aspx>.



- USEPA has fact sheets and information hotlines to help reduce burden on local agencies.
- Collaboration with local agency reps is critical to ensure accurate and timely messaging.

## Wildfire Recovery

### Phase 1: Household Hazardous Waste Removal

El Dorado County, CA – September 2021

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is leading the survey, removal, and disposal of household hazardous waste (HHW) at residential properties affected by the Caldor Fire in El Dorado County. This HHW removal is Phase 1 of the overall cleanup response.

#### What is household hazardous waste (HHW)?

Everyday products like paints, cleaners, solvents, oils, batteries, herbicides, and pesticides, which often have hazardous ingredients.

EPA's HHW field crews will remove items suspected of having asbestos if they are easy to identify, but the property will not be cleared of asbestos until Phase 2. Pressurized fuel cylinders can also pose a threat and will be removed. Following a fire, these products require special handling and disposal, especially if their containers are compromised.

#### How is HHW removed from properties?

EPA will survey each property, then remove the HHW materials identified during the survey.

Some empty containers and tanks will be marked with white paint (see image to the right) and left for collection in Phase 2, which is the debris removal process. Once EPA removes HHW and Phase 1 is complete on your property, you may move to Phase 2.

**You must get approval from El Dorado County before moving to Phase 2.** For more information on Phase 2, please call El Dorado County Environmental Health at (530) 621-5101

#### Why is HHW removed?

This work removes hazardous materials from the property that can harm the environment or people working on the property. It clears the way for the removal of ash and debris, allowing the rebuilding process to begin. An Executive Order issued August 30, 2021 by the Governor of California gives EPA authority to access properties to protect public health, animals, and the environment.

Phase 1 is being done at no cost to property owners.



Empty containers, marked with white paint, will be picked up during Phase 2.



#### Will EPA remove anything other than HHW?

No. EPA will **only** remove hazardous waste. If firearms or suspected remains are found, EPA will immediately stop work and contact the El Dorado County Sheriff. No other items will be removed.

#### How will I know if my property will be surveyed for HHW?

- Search for your address on the EPA StoryMap: <https://www.epa.gov/2021CAfireresponse>
- Click on the El Dorado County button (for mobile users, click on the arrow pointing right to get to El Dorado County)
- Type in your APN or street address.
- Results from your search will show if your property is damaged and in need of assessment.
- If your property is not shown as damaged, but you have fire-damaged or destroyed buildings (even small structures), please call El Dorado County at (530) 621-5101.

#### May I provide input about potential hazards to EPA crews before they arrive at my property?

Yes. Please call the EPA hotline at (415) 947-8135 if you have any special comments or concerns about your property, or if there is a locked gate preventing access.

#### How will I know when the process has been completed?

EPA will post a sign (see image to the right) on each property when the HHW removal (Phase 1) is complete. Completed properties are also marked on the EPA StoryMap and can be found through the search function on the map for El Dorado County.

#### My neighbors' properties were completed for HHW but mine was not. Why not?

There are several factors affecting HHW schedules. For example, HHW field crews may not work in an area when other field crews are present, to decrease traffic and congestion. Weather and daylight also affect the schedule. Also, HHW field crews cannot work on properties with dangerous trees or terrain, unstable structures, or other unsafe conditions. Those properties will be addressed during Phase 2.

For more information, please call El Dorado County at

**(530) 621-5101**





**Governor Executive Order**  
granting USEPA the authority to  
“enter private property in all  
impacted counties to remove debris  
that may contain hazardous  
substances, and to conduct any  
testing appropriate to ensure the  
hazards are mitigated.”

**Debris removal (Phase 2) requires  
opt out or right of entry forms.**

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

EXECUTIVE ORDER N-81-20

**WHEREAS** the 2020 fire season has already proven to be the most destructive fire season on record in California; and

**WHEREAS** on August 16, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist statewide due to an Extreme Heat Event, which resulted in record-breaking temperatures and dangerous fire conditions throughout the State; and

**WHEREAS** on August 18, 2020 I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist statewide due to the numerous wildfires burning throughout the State, including but not limited to the LNU, CZU, and SCU Complex Fires; and

**WHEREAS** on September 3, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist statewide due to another Extreme Heat Event, which again resulted in record-breaking temperatures and dangerous fire conditions throughout the State; and

**WHEREAS** on September 6, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa counties due to the Creek Fire; in San Bernardino County due to the El Dorado Fire; and in San Diego County due to the Valley Fire; and

**WHEREAS** on September 10, 2020, I proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in Siskiyou County due to numerous fires within that county, including the Slater Fire; and

**WHEREAS** these wildfires have collectively destroyed thousands of homes and other structures, tragically claimed 26 lives to date, damaged and destroyed critical infrastructure, burned millions of acres of land, and created a substantial amount of ash, burnt vegetation, and other such debris over large areas of communities; and

**WHEREAS** the wildfires have resulted in widespread hazardous debris, which contains dangerous toxins including heavy metals such as arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, and asbestos, and which must be cautiously and expeditiously removed and properly disposed of; and

**WHEREAS** recovery will be ongoing and it is imperative that governmental agencies are adequately staffed to help facilitate recovery, and that protections remain in place to ensure communities impacted by these wildfires are able to fully recover; and

**WHEREAS** under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find





# USDOT HAZMAT TRANSPORT EMERGENCY WAIVER







## PREPARING FOR DEPLOYMENT

- ✓ Planning for resources: people, staging area, equipment, safety (hazards, COVID-19), areas needing assessment/cleanup
- ✓ Operations: training, logistics to equip and move teams, collect materials





# STAGING AREA BEFORE AND AFTER







# OPERATIONS SOPs

- Field Procedures
- HHW Quick Field Guide
- Pressurized Cylinders
- Equipment Handling – PPE, Ipads, vehicles
- UXO

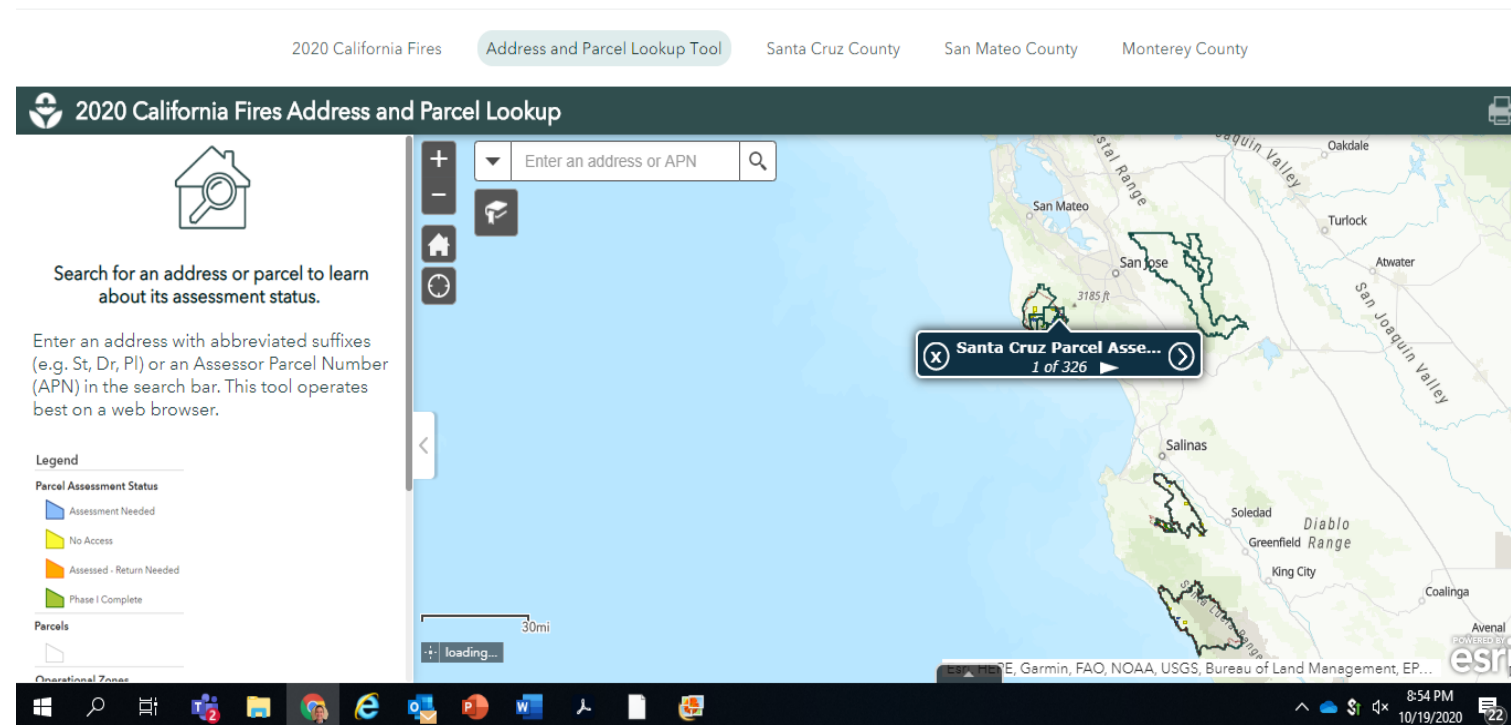


Source: Environmental Protection Agency | 04/03/2016



# HHW Collector Apps

- Access on iPad in field
- Documents site activity
- Standard operating procedures for consistency
- Relevant parcel information
- Ability to look up in real time parcel status



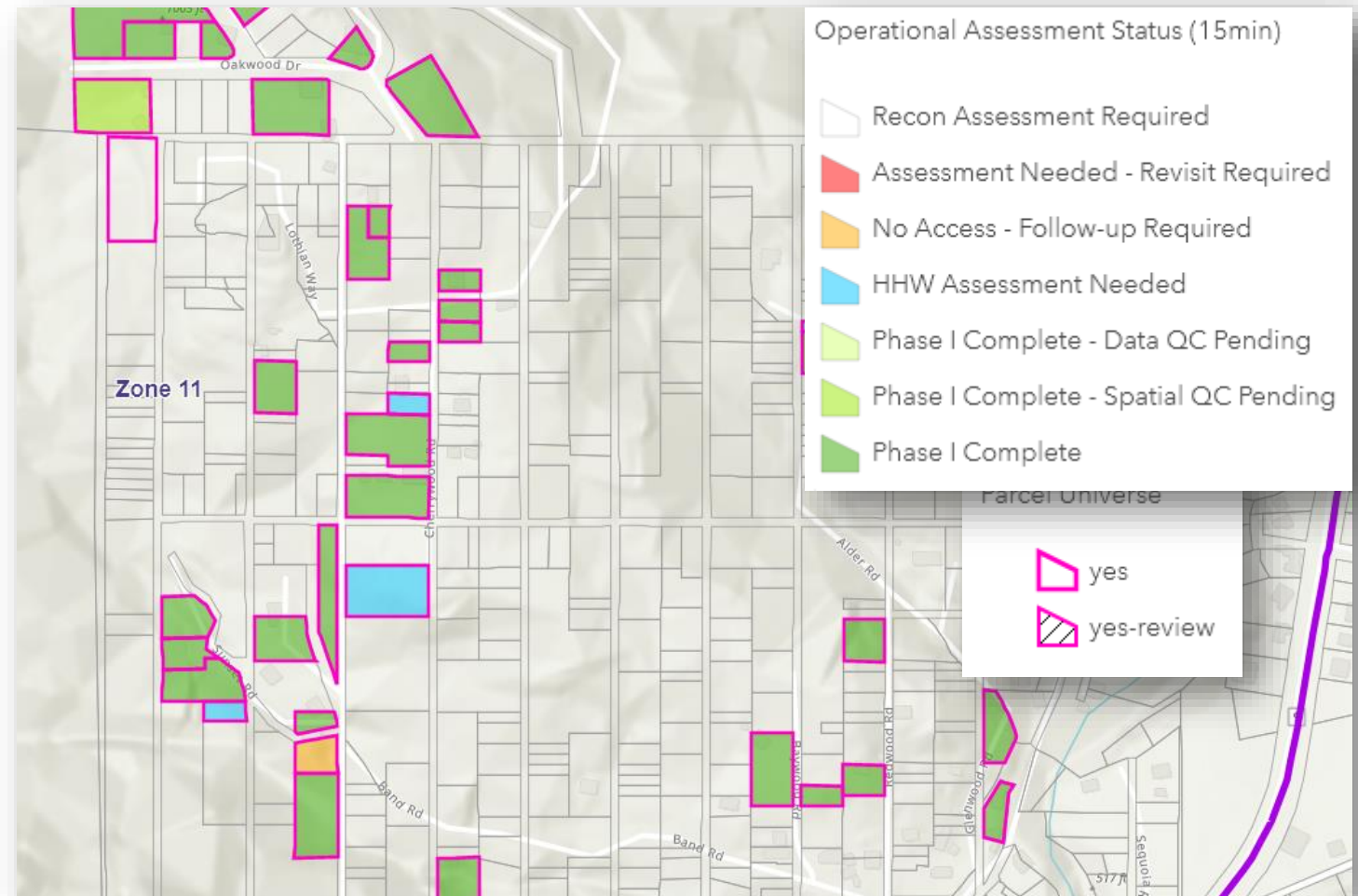




# Phase 1 Project Goals

- Recon and Assess each parcel in the Parcel Universe
- Collect all possible HHW
- Stake properties as:  
**Phase 1 Complete**

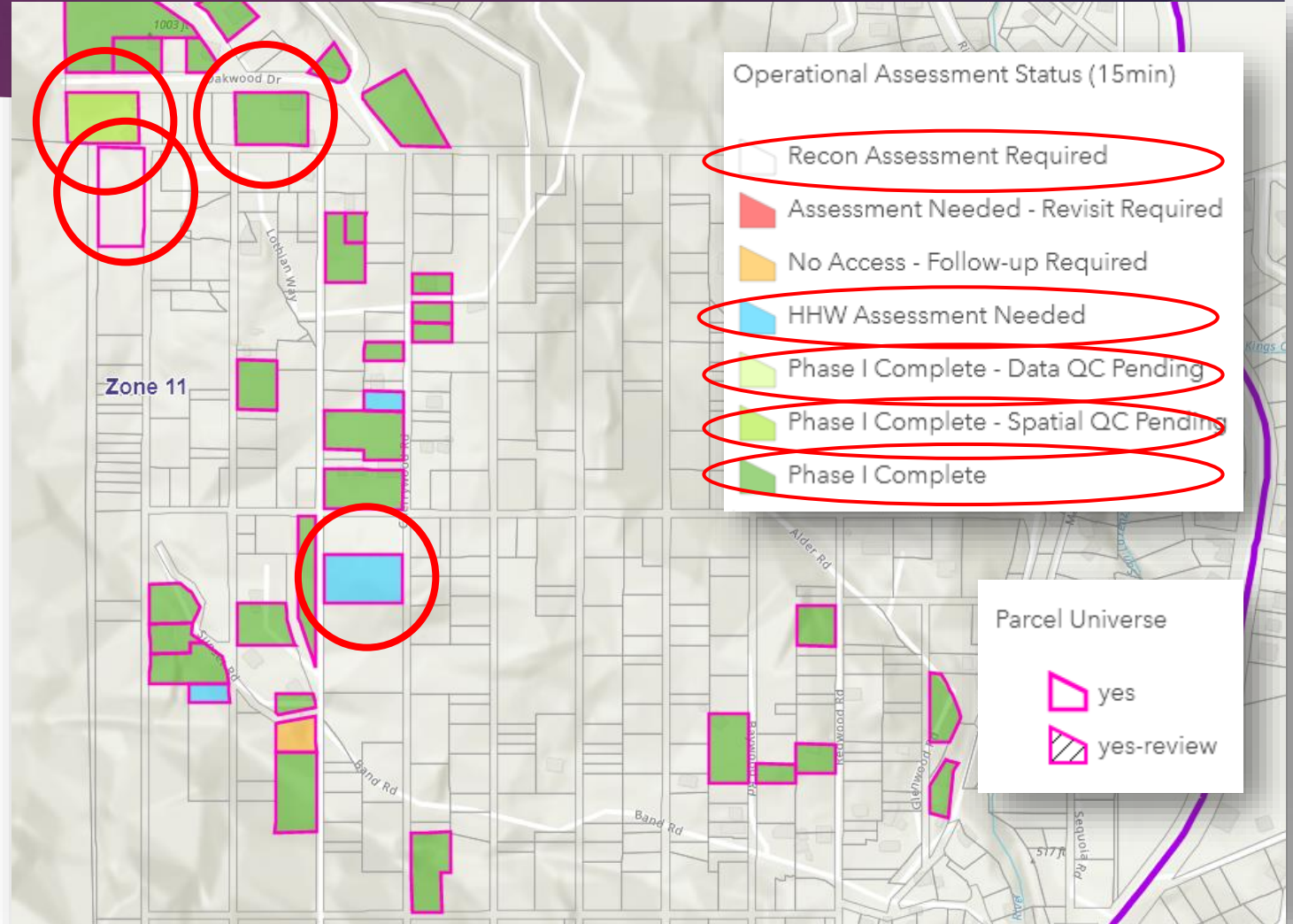
- ❖ *HHW - Household Hazardous Waste*
- ❖ *Parcel Universe – Parcels that have been burned or damaged, outlined in pink in Collector*



# Project Cycle

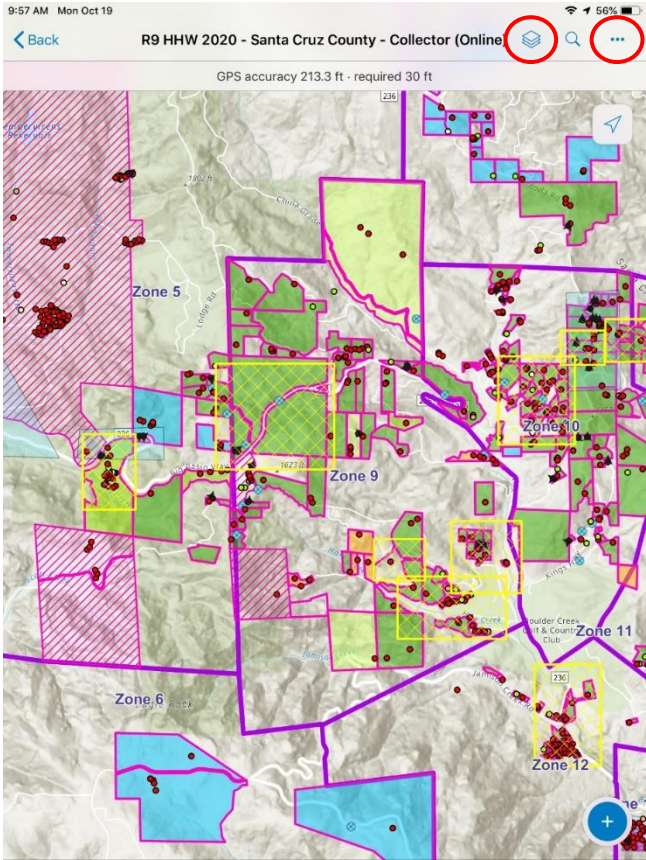
## Steps to Phase 1 Complete

- ▶ Recon team assesses parcels
  - ▶ Adds Hazards to Collector
- ▶ HHW team assesses parcels
  - ▶ Document all collected HHW in Survey123
  - ▶ If no issues, leaves sign for resident saying HHW removal is complete
- ▶ QC team assesses any issues
- ▶ Phase 1 Complete



# Collector Overview

- CalFire Structure Locations
- Parcel Universe
- Operational Assessment Status
- Updated every 15 minutes



**Legend**

**Drone Imagery Available**

**Parcel Shift Arrows**

**CalFire DINS (Damage)**

- Destroyed (>50%)
- Major (26-50%)
- Minor (10-25%)
- Affected (1-9%)
- Inaccessible

**Major Parcel Shifts**

**Santa Cruz Permission Denied 2**

**Santa Cruz Parcel Universe**

- yes
- yes
- yes-review

**Santa Cruz Reference Parcels (off...**

**Operational Assessment Status (1...**

- Recon Assessment Required
- Assessment Needed - Revis...
- No Access - Follow-up Requ...
- HHW Assessment Needed
- Phase I Complete - Data QC...
- Phase I Complete - Spatial...
- Phase I Complete

**Operational Zones**

**Layers**

**MAP LAYERS**

**Drone Imagery Available**

**Parcel Shift Arrows**

**Photo Observations**

**CalFire DINS (Damage)**

**Recon\_Hazard\_Quick\_Capture**

**Road\_Hazard\_Quick\_Capture**

**Santa Cruz Septic History (centroid of parcel)**

**Major Parcel Shifts**

**Santa Cruz Permission Denied 2**

**Santa Cruz Parcel Universe**

**Santa Cruz Reference Parcels (offline)**

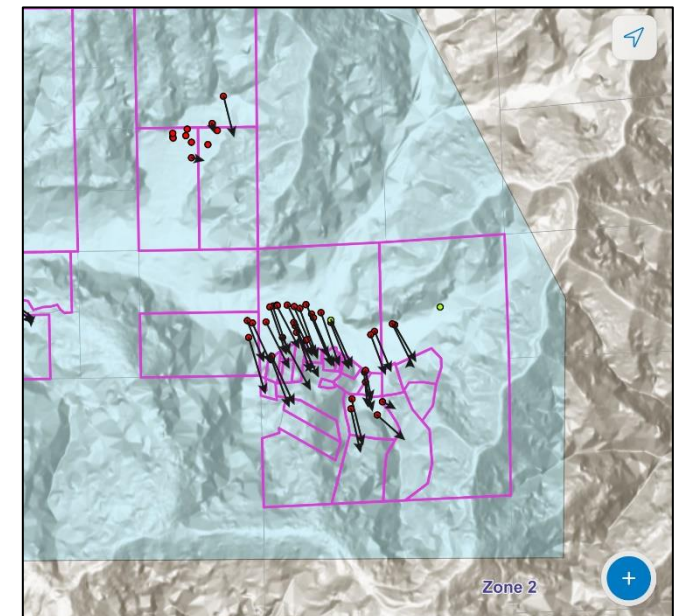
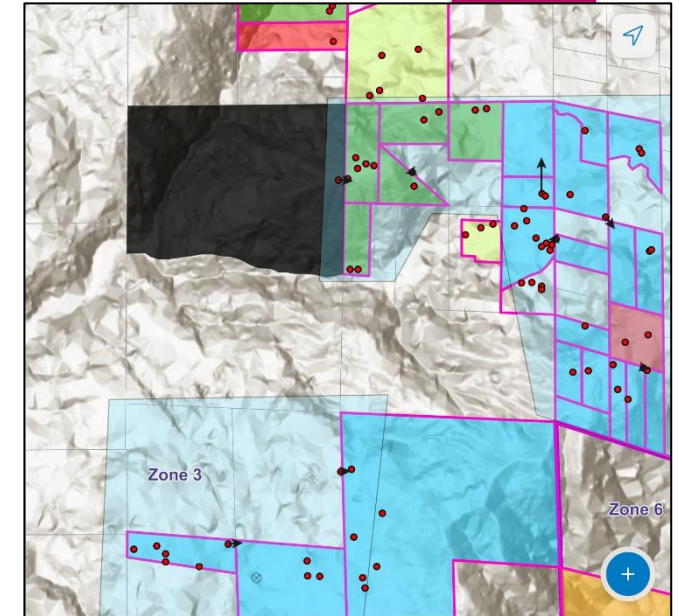
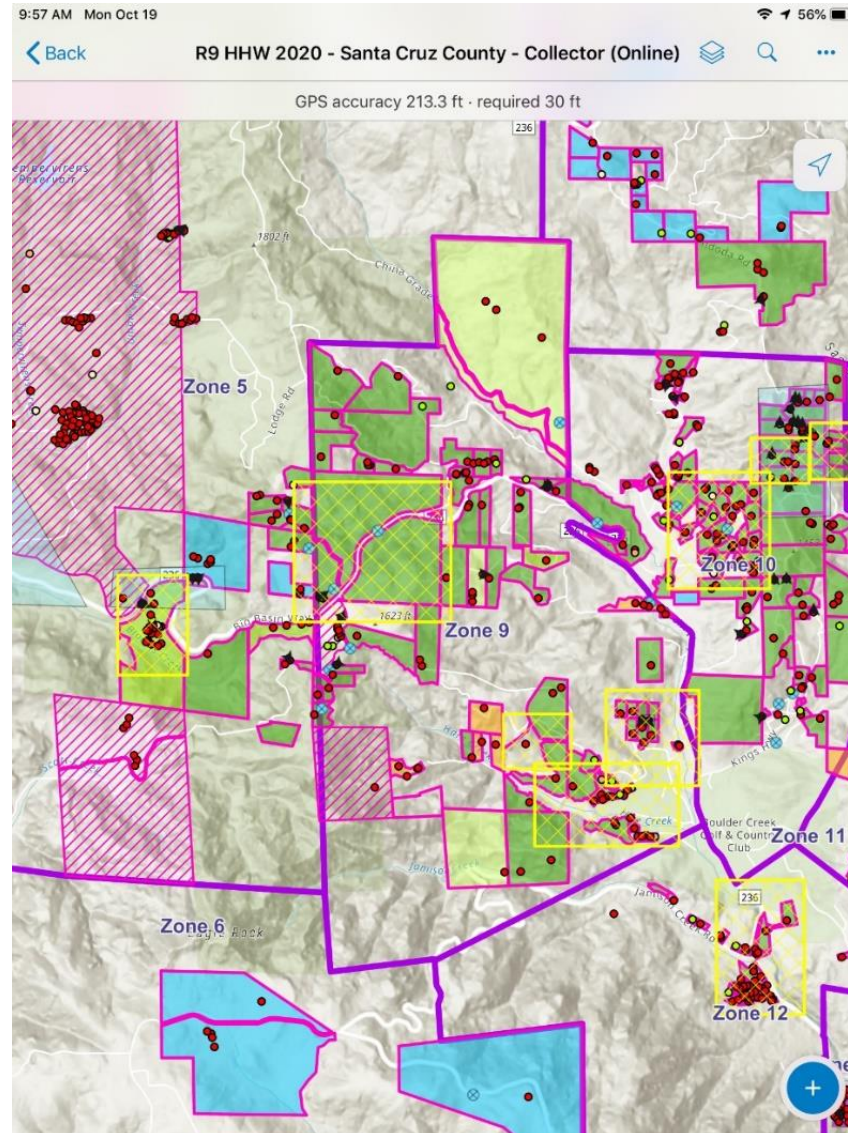
**Operational Assessment Status (15min)**

**Operational Zones**



# Specialty Layers

- Drone Imagery
- Permission Denied
- Parcel Shifts







# STORYMAP



COLLECTION

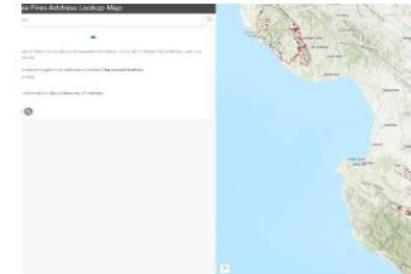
## 2020 California Fires

This StoryMap Collection is a landing page that contains the overview StoryMap, Address and Parcel Lookup Tool, and StoryMaps for all counties included in EPA's 2020 California Fires Response.

[Get started](#)



1 2020 California Fires



2 2020 California Fires Address and Parcel Lookup



3 Butte County



4 Fresno County



5 Madera County

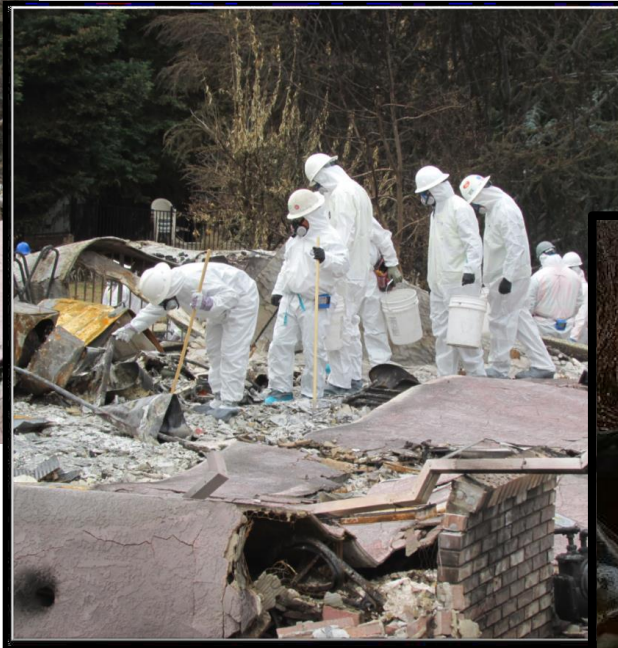


6 Monterey County





# Assessment, Removal, Decontamination















# Types of Household Hazardous Waste







# Signs mark completed properties







# UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLES







## VIRTUAL

- ESF10 Coordinator
- Planning
  - Resources
  - Situation Unit
- Logistics
- Finance
- Community Involvement

## FIELD

- Incident Commander
- Operations
- Safety/Medical
- Data (hybrid)
- Liaison (hybrid)
- PIO (hybrid)



Activity

Chat

Teams

Calendar

Calls

Files

...

Apps

Help

Teams

Your teams

R9 Emergency Response

2020 California Fires

General

0.0 REOC

0.1 Senior Leadership (RIC)

0.2 Meeting Schedule

0.3 Final Documents

1.1 Safety Officer KLP

1.2 Public Information Officer K...

1.3 Liaison Officer KLP

1.4 Data Support Coordinator ...

10.0 Hotwash

2.0 Operations Section Chief KLP

3.0 Planning Section

4.0 Finance Section Chief KLP

5.0 Logistics Section Chief KLP

Join or create a team

Search

Environmental Protection ...

Meet

Orientation Video - EPA R9 Virtual ICP

156 views · 1 like · 0 comments

3.0 Planning Section

2020 California Fires

General

0.0 REOC

0.1 Senior Leadership (RIC)

0.2 Meeting Schedule

0.3 Final Documents

1.0 Incident Commander KLP

1.1 Safety Officer KLP

1.2 Public Information Officer KLP

1.3 Liaison Officer KLP

1.4 Data Support Coordinator KLP

3.0 Planning Section

7.0 213RR - Resource Requests

8.0 GIS Resources

9.0 RSC Coordinator and R9 IMT

6 hidden channels

R9-SFD93

R9 Emergency Response

USEPA ESF10

LA ERO

Loesel, Matthew 7:12 AM

Yes, we are going to work on getting those metrics on the Story map as well.

Reply

Mitschele, Becky 9/18 8:17 AM

Let's meet every morning at 8:15 am and then this is line to use during the day.

Planning Line/Huddle

Occurs every work day (Mon-Fri) @8:15 AM

22 replies from Rebecca and Jocelyn

Meeting ended: 40m 20s

Reply

Henry, Karen 8:52 AM Edited

It's IAP day - whoo hoo! submit your specific deliverable to the IAP submission folder (OP\_8) pinned on the Planning Channel by 14:00.

Reply

Pease, Amanda 10:37 AM

Henry, Karen; Chavez, Luke; McDowell, Justin - FYI, I uploaded an updated 207 for the next org chart into the RESL Working Folder/207 folder. There are a couple notes for you all on formatting and exact timing of the change. Please let me know if you have any questions for me (and copy anyone else as appropriate). 204's/215 are in progress!

Chavez, Luke 10:39 AM

Thanks Amanda. We'll go take a look and let you know what questions of clarification we might have.

Reply

Join or create a team

4:50 / 8:52

1x



# QUESTIONS?