

2025 Wildfire County Coordinator Grant Program – Overview & Update

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Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Objectives

The Wildfire County Coordinator Program seeks to:

- **Educate**
- **Encourage**
- **Develop**

county-wide community collaboration and coordination among wildfire mitigation groups.



County Coordinator Cohort with California Fire Safe Council Staff at the November 2025 County Coordinator Workshop (Sacramento, CA)

Photo Credit: CAL FIRE Communications

County Coordinator Roles & Responsibilities

County Coordinator R&Rs reflect the unique needs of their county:



Develop New Groups
(FSCs & Firewise
Communities)

Write Grants to Support
County-wide Mitigation
Efforts

Host Mitigation Group
Meetings
and Forums

Develop Networks &
Resource-Sharing
Modules for Local
Groups

Support Local
Outreach Events,
Meetings,
and Workshops

Collect Data & Support
Mapping Efforts

Assist with
Development of
CWPPs

Develop Outreach Tools
for Local
Mitigation Groups

Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Features

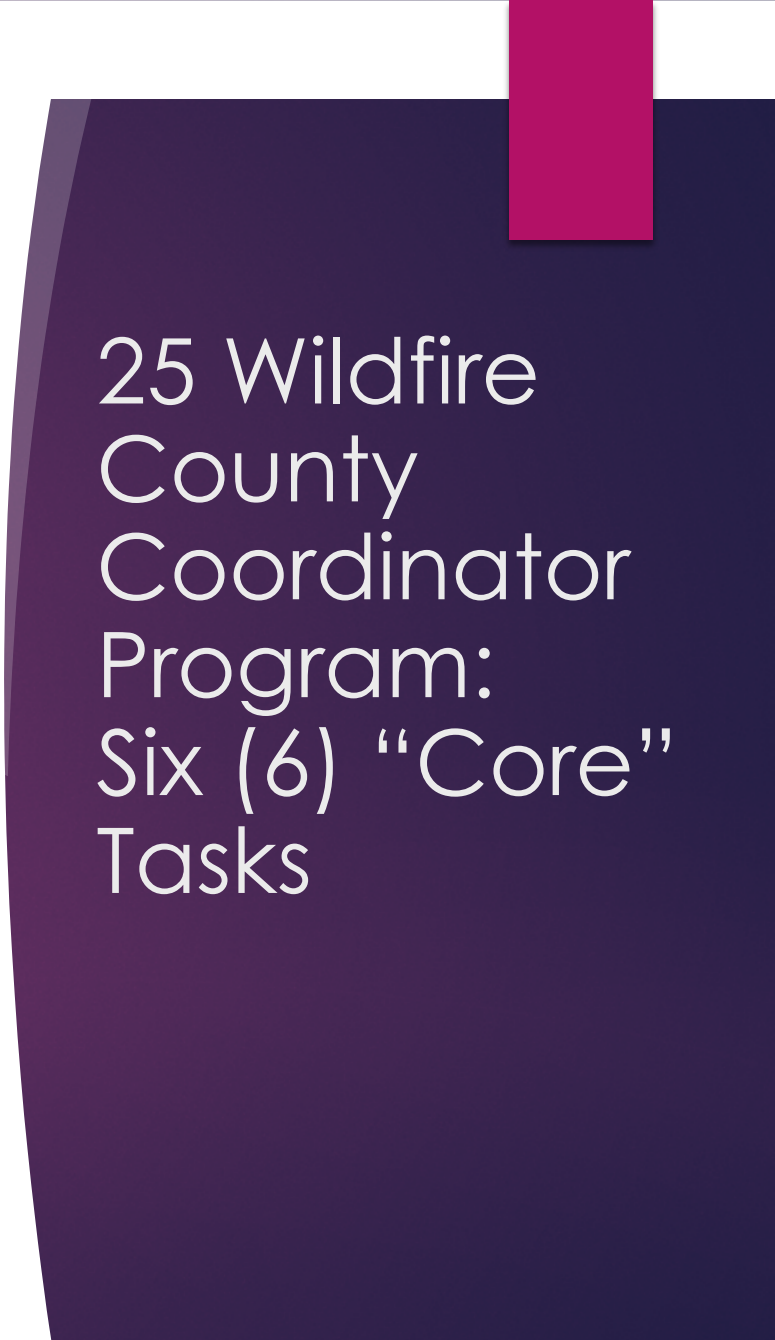
In 2025/26 the program funded 48 of California's 58 counties to:

- Hire a County Coordinator
- Establish critical local capacity

GOAL: plan and implement wildfire resilience strategies on the ground.

Total investment in each county for the County Coordinator position is \$151,500 for 14 months.

TASK #	ACTIVITY
1	Develop a plan
2	CFSC GIS Networking Portal.
3	Defensible Space Assessor Training.
4	county-level training on the CWPP Toolkit
5	Develop a preliminary plan for CWPP
6	Present to BOS



25 Wildfire
County
Coordinator
Program:
Six (6) “Core”
Tasks

25 Wildfire County Coordinator Program: “Core” Task #1

► Together we have created strategic public engagement framework that:

- Leads to enhanced coordination and communication
- Among agencies and organizations, with objectives, increased community awareness, acceptance, and action in
- Addressing wildfire readiness needs, sustained, publicly accessible resources

- *Develop a plan, in concert with CAL FIRE unit or contracted entity, to integrate the County Coordinators with their local CAL FIRE units and develop shared, locally appropriate resources.*

25 Wildfire County Coordinator Program: “Core” Task #2

- ▶ GIS Analyst Todd Bullock and Project Manager Drew Barnhart are collaborating to identify the most effective ways to contribute to the California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) GIS Networking Portal.
- ▶ The portal will serve as a one-stop resource, providing information on local county Firewise and Fire Safe Council locations and contacts.
- ▶ This effort will improve access to accurate, county-specific wildfire preparedness information

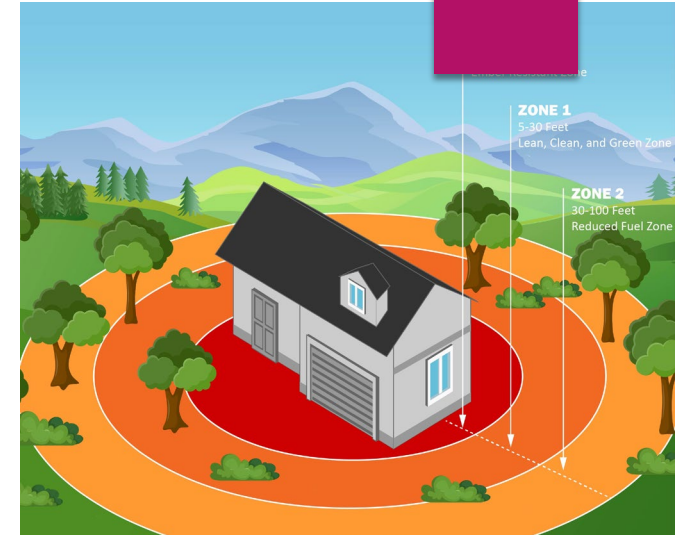
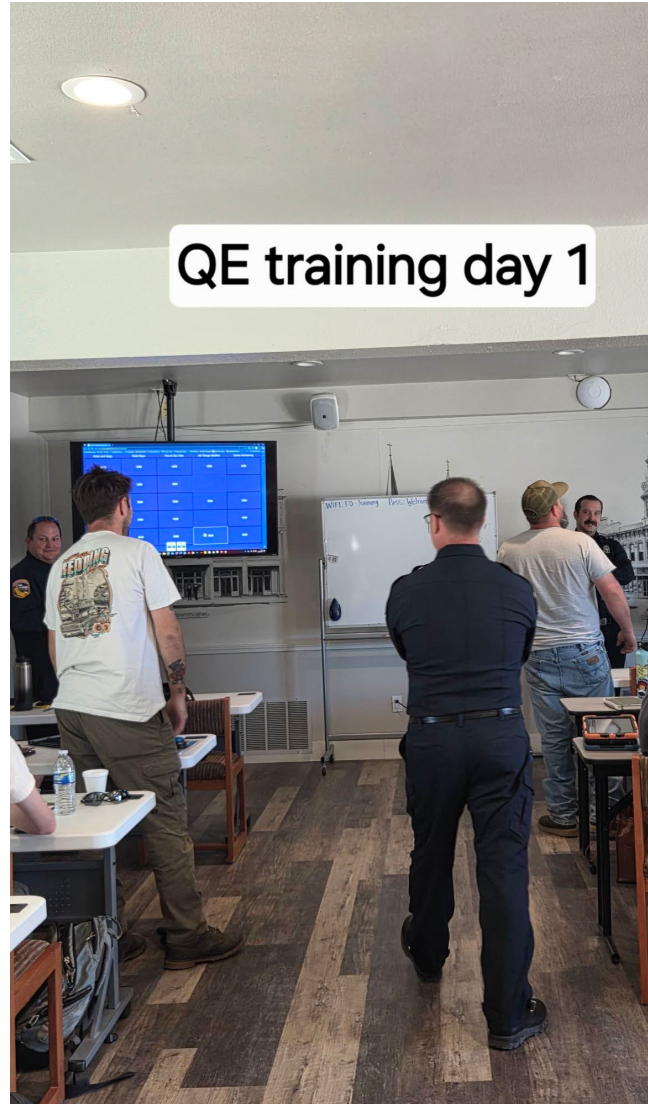
- *Continue to contribute to the CFSC GIS Networking Portal.*



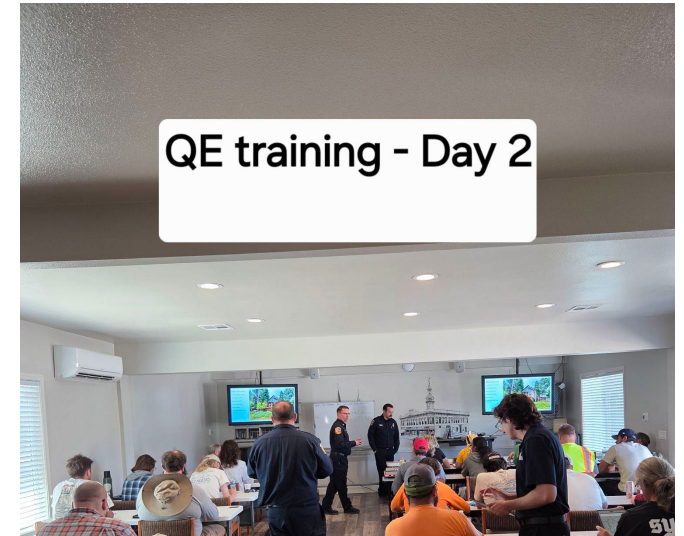
25 Wildfire County Coordinator Program: “Core” Task #3

- Attend at least one (1) Qualified Entities/Defensible Space Assessor Training hosted by CAL FIRE.

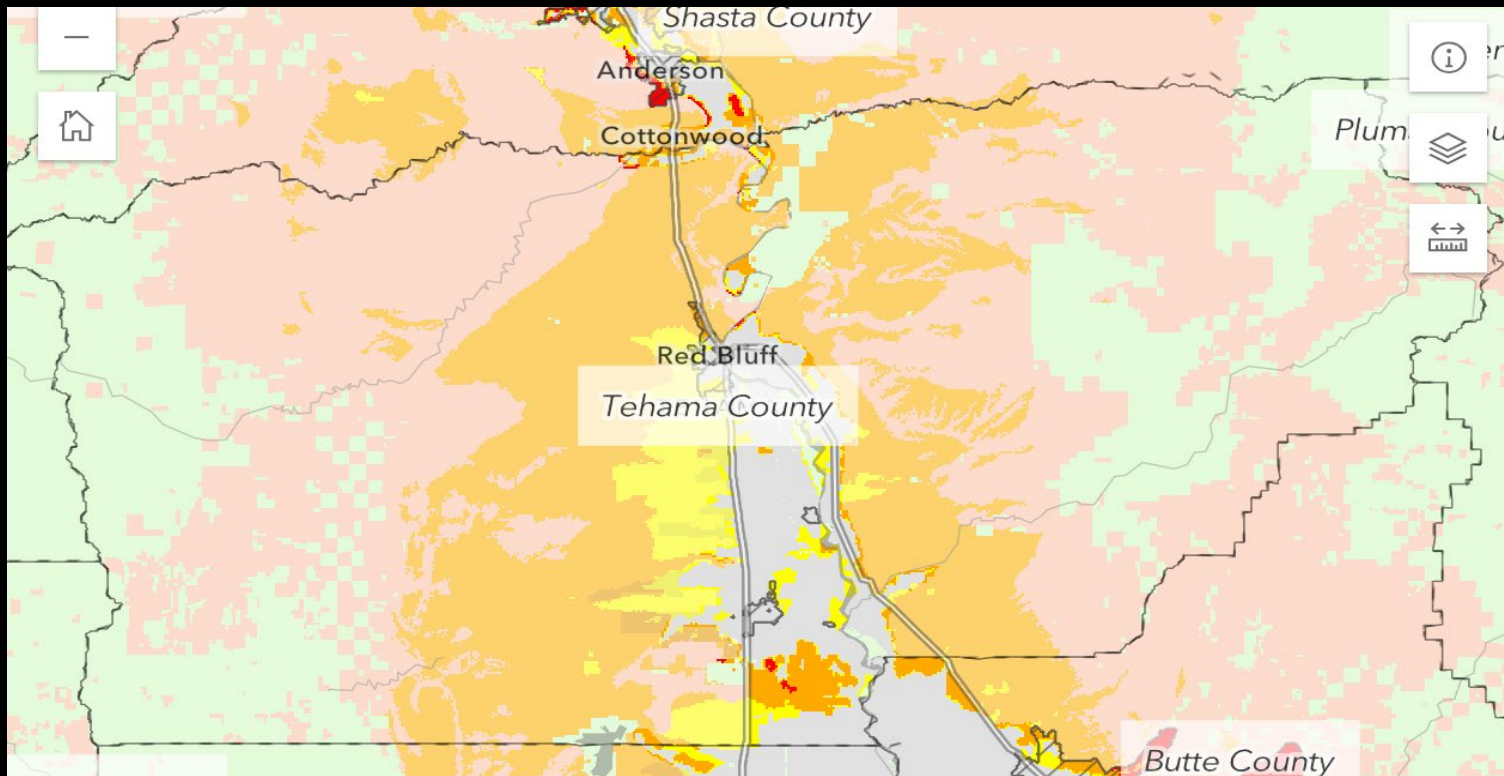
QE training day 1



QE training - Day 2



25 Wildfire County Coordinator Program: “Core” Task #4



****In progress****

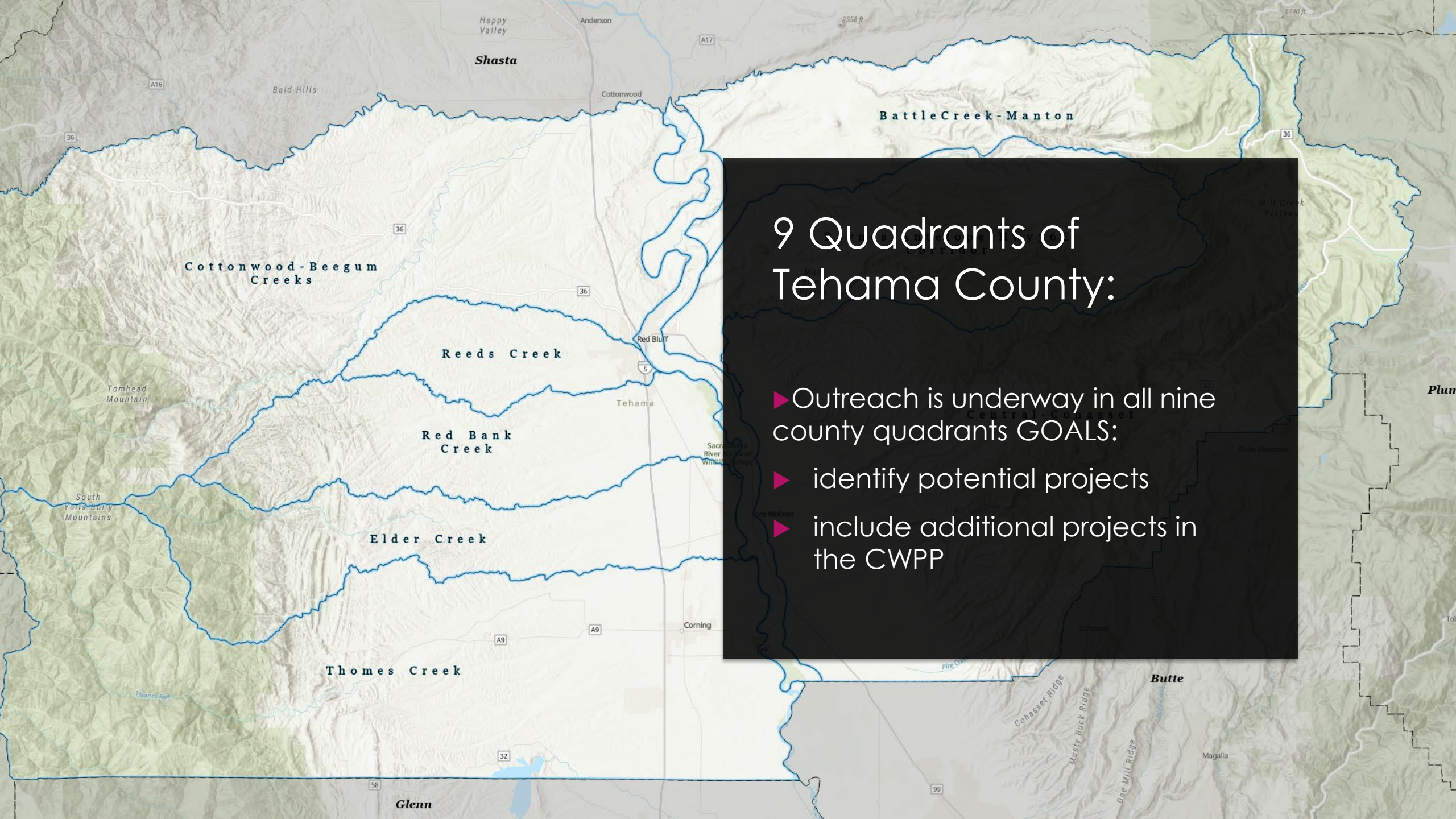
- Host one (1) county-level training on the CWPP toolkit for stakeholders to encourage its use and adoption.

25 Wildfire County Coordinator Program: “Core” Task #5

Progress with CWPP:

- Engaging with county's nine planning quadrants
 - identifying priorities
 - Developing targeted fire prevention projects
- *Develop a preliminary plan evaluating steps/actions needed to initiate a county-level CWPP, using best practices as outlined in the CWPP toolkit, and submit a report to CFSC based on findings.*





9 Quadrants of Tehama County:

► Outreach is underway in all nine county quadrants GOALS:

- identify potential projects
- include additional projects in the CWPP

25 Wildfire County Coordinator Program: “Core” Task #6

Presenting Today ☺

- *Present project scope of work, deliverables, and impact to the county's Board of Supervisors to ensure that county leadership is informed of program impact and can effectively keep the County Coordinator tied into the county's priorities and plans.*

25 Wildfire County Coordinator
Program:
“Core” Task #7 (Added task)

Develop a Home
Hardening program
based on the preliminary
work completed during
the previous Co. Coord
funding cycle.

Note: In the new funding
cycle for 2026-2027 the
CFSC made Developing a
Home Hardening Program
a deliverable



- ▶ Home Hardening Deliverable
 - ▶ To establish a framework for launching a Home Hardening program in Tehama County.
 - ▶ Completed 10 Home Hardening Assessments.
- ▶ The photos show our team actively conducting these assessments, which took place in Lake California in collaboration with Lake California Firewise USA member Leonard Betts.



Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Background

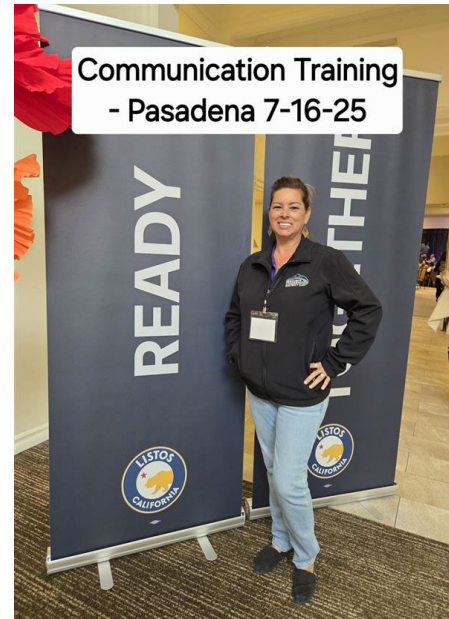
2025 funding built on previous grant-funded work:

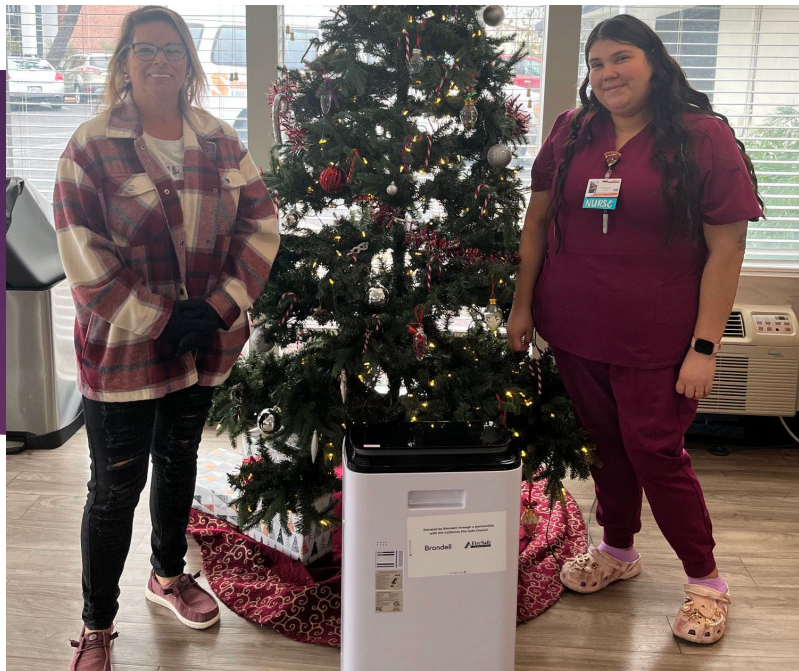
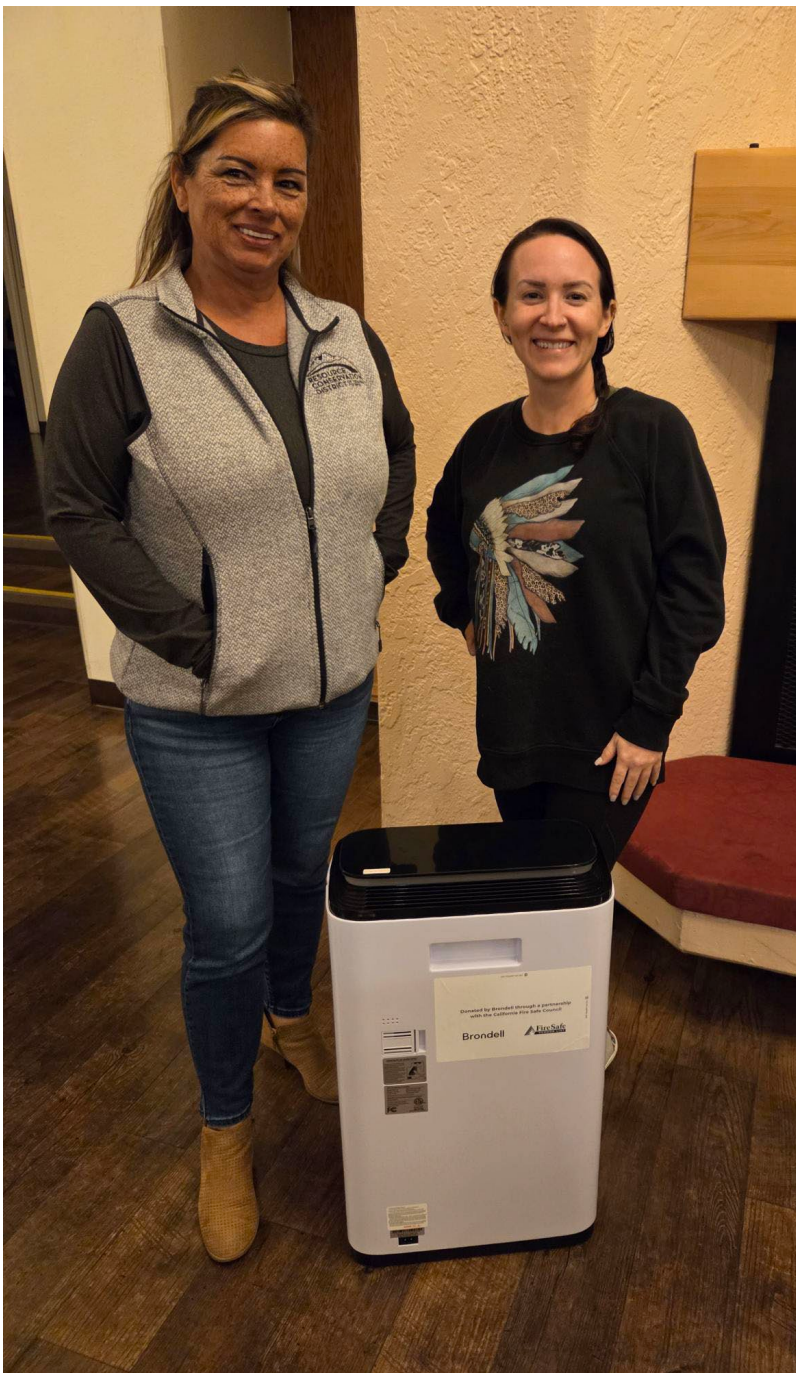
- 2021 County Coordinator Pilot Program (\$6.0M):
 - Established in 2021
 - County Coordinators - 24 counties in Northern California.
- 2022 County Coordinator Program (\$13.8M):
 - Expanded in 2022 to the rest of the state
 - Funded County Coordinators in 52 out of 58 California counties.
- 2025 County Coordinator Program (\$11.0M):
 - New subawards to 48 of the 58 California counties!

Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Impact (Local)

RCD and Wildfire County Coordinator @ Apple Festival Manton CA







Numbers & Metrics

Tehama County Wildfire County Coordinator:

Number of people reached as a result of County Coordinator Funds: 710

Number of grants written under the County Coordinator Funding: 12

Number of grants received because of County Coordinator Funding: 6

Total of dollars received by those approved grants: \$2,056,428

Those monies will be spent in Tehama County helping our community with Wildfire Prevention Activities!!

CFSC 2026-2030 Strategic Plan (*NEW*)

CFSC's Goal:

- state-level priorities -> community-led actions
- Ensure that every county has the structure and resources in place to make meaningful progress on wildfire resilience

Strategic Plan Pillar 1:
Bolstering County Frameworks for Wildfire
Resilience

Wildfire
County
Coordinator
Program



Wildfire County Coordinator Program 3.0: State of California Direct Program Appropriation

With the support of Governor Newsom and the California State Legislature, the 2025-26 budget provided \$9.5 million for the Wildfire County Coordinator Program.

The program will continue:

- **Operationalizing California's Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan at the county level**
- **Accelerating home hardening, defensible space implementation, and public education**
- **Standardizing data collection**
- **Improving public safety, community insurability, and wildfire preparedness**



California Allocates \$9.5M for Wildfire County Coordinator Program

The allocation establishes critical local capacity in 47 counties to implement wildfire resilience strategies on the ground.