

2025 Wildfire Outlook

Nevada County

Board of Supervisor's Meeting
May 13, 2025



**NEVADA
COUNTY**
CALIFORNIA





Alex Keeble-Toll, Director, Emergency Services



Brian Estes, Chief, CAL FIRE Nevada Yuba Placer Unit



Jim Hudson, Deputy Chief, CAL FIRE Nevada Yuba Placer Unit

Getting Nevada County Ready

2024

- 138 Outreach Events
- 123 Events Focused on Planning and Preparedness
- Over **5,000** Community Members Engaged

Meeting people where they are at...



2025 Planning & Preparedness

Prepared For an Emergency?



Register for Emergency Alerts



Know Your Zone



Make and Share Your Plan



Prepare a Go-Bag

Learn More at  ReadyNevadaCounty.org



Office of Emergency
Services

OES@NevadaCountyca.gov
530-265-1515

How Do You Stay Prepared for
Emergency Events?



NEVADA
COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

Office of Emergency
Services



County-Wide Mailer

Ready Nevada County

Get Ready, Plan Ahead, and Remain Aware

GET READY



SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

Sign up for CodeRED to receive critical updates during an emergency.

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/EmergencyAlerts

KNOW YOUR ZONE

Know your evacuation zone. During a wildfire, law enforcement may issue evacuation warnings or orders by zone.

Find your zone at: Protect.Genasys.com

EVACUATION ROUTES

Identify and familiarize yourself with your evacuation routes. Download, save, and print Evacuation Zone Maps:

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/EvacuationZones

GO-BAGS

Assemble Go-Bags for yourself and your household. Include enough supplies to last at least three days, such as prescriptions, medications, and copies of important documents.

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/GoBags

PREPARE PETS & ANIMALS

Have a plan for evacuating pets and animals. Make sure they have fitted collars with identification. Store vaccination records and proof of ownership in your Go-Bag.

NevadaCountyCA.gov/HEART

FIND YOUR FIVE

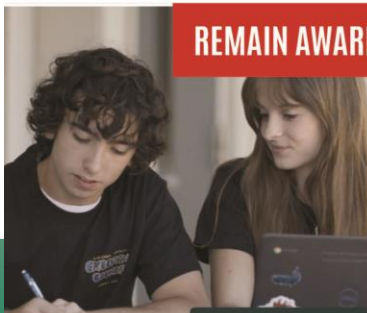
Identify five people who will become your trusted allies and plan for communication during an emergency.

Use the template at: ReadyNevadaCounty.org/FindYourFive

PLAN AHEAD



REMAIN AWARE



STAY ALERT

Understand Red Flag Warnings and take precautions when warnings have been issued.

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/RedFlagWarning

STAY INFORMED

Be vigilant and monitor local media to stay informed of current situations. Only share vetted information from trusted sources.

Use the list of local media at: ReadyNevadaCounty.org/Informed

HELP YOUR NEIGHBORS

During an emergency your neighbors can be your greatest resource. Be ready to ask for help or lend a hand. We are all in this together.

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/CommunityResources

For more information, visit:

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/Handbook



NEVADA COUNTY
County of Nevada
950 Main Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

PRIST 8TD
AUTO
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SACRAMENTO, CA
PERMIT NO. 1142

Create a Defensible Home and Property

HARDEN YOUR HOME

Take steps to make your home resistant to wildfire. Store firewood and flammable materials at least 30 feet from structures, upgrade your vents, and clean your gutters.

Learn more at: fire.ca.gov/home-hardening

CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE

Create a five-foot ember-resistant zone around structures. Maintain defensible space of 100 feet from each side of your structure. Keep your private driveway and road free of hazardous vegetation.

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/DefensibleSpace



Free Community Green Waste Events

NEVADA COUNTY GREEN WASTE PROGRAM

For more information on free Community Green Waste Events and other year-round options available to Nevada County Residents visit: ReadyNevadaCounty.org/GreenWaste

For more information, visit:

ReadyNevadaCounty.org/Handbook



Office of Emergency Services
530-265-1515
OES@NevadaCountyCA.gov
ReadyNevadaCounty.org

Free Community Green Waste



FREE EAST COUNTY GREEN WASTE EVENTS

SATURDAY, JUNE 28 & FRIDAY, JULY 11

**Truckee Rodeo Grounds Parking Lot,
10695 Brockway Road, Truckee, CA**

This is an opportunity to dispose of natural loose yard waste material such as limbs, branches, pinecones, brush and garden waste and it must not contain any bagged items. Tree trunks and branches should not exceed 4 feet in length or 18 inches in diameter.

For more information visit:


READYNEVADACOUNTY.ORG/GREENWASTE

TRUCKEEFIRE.ORG/GREENWASTE



WESTERN NEVADA COUNTY 2025 GREEN WASTE EVENTS

WHEN

 **APRIL 28, MAY 5, MAY 12, MAY 19
AND MAY 26 (MEMORIAL DAY)
9 A.M. - 3 P.M.**

WHAT

This is an opportunity for Nevada County residents to remove hazardous vegetation and prepare their properties ahead of fire season. Funded by Nevada County and planned in partnership with WM of Nevada County, CAL FIRE, City of Grass Valley, City of Nevada City, Nevada County Consolidated Fire District and Nevada County Department of Public Works. Residents can dispose of landscape trimmings, including leaves, grass clippings, shrubs, untreated wood, flowers, logs and branches up to 4 feet in length and up to 18 inches in diameter.

WHERE

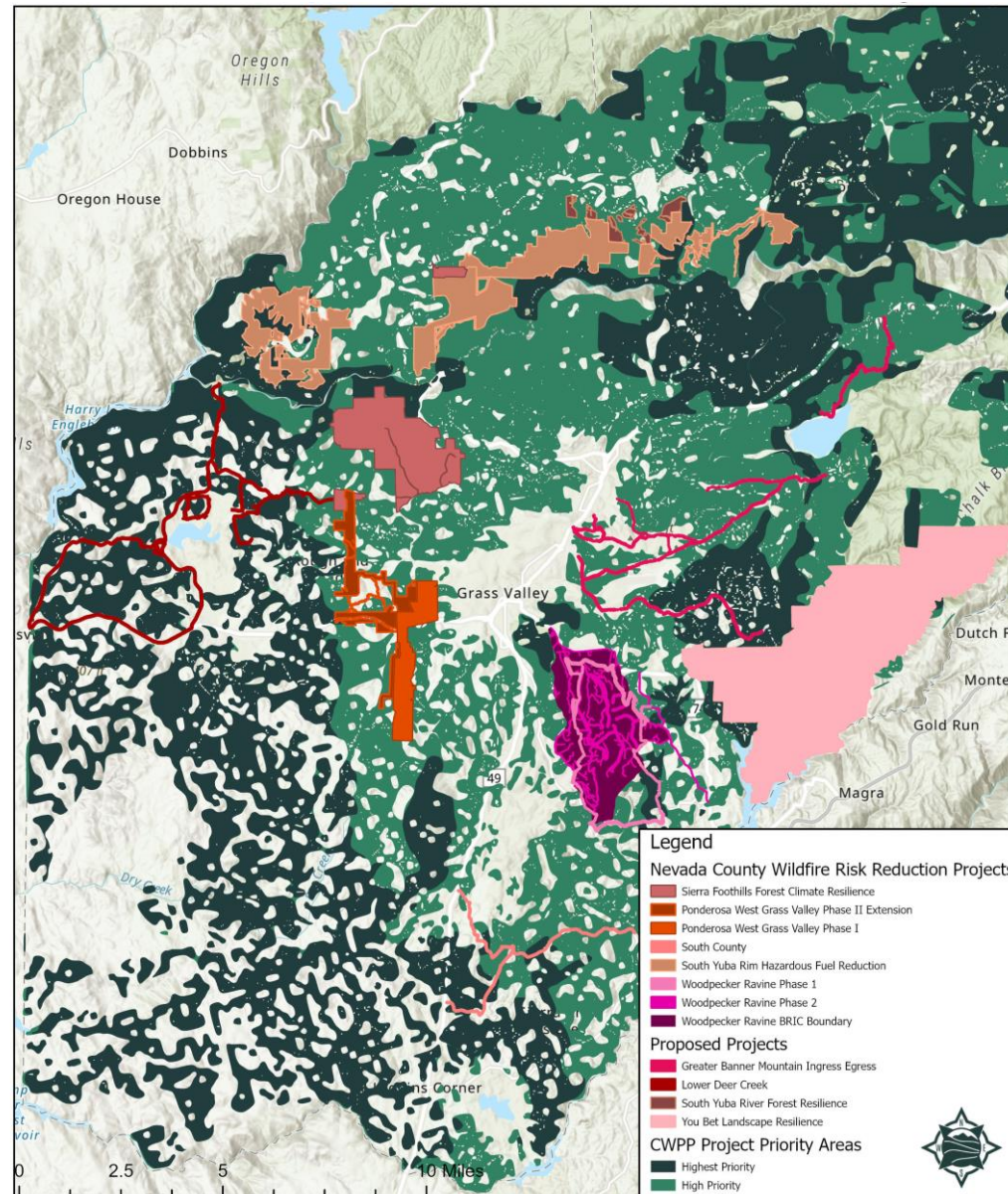
WM of Nevada County, McCourtney Road
Transfer Station
14741 Wolf Mountain Road, Grass Valley.

PLEASE NOTE

The following are not allowed: food waste, dirt, rock, sod, palm fronds, blackberry, poison oak, stumps, scotch broom, concrete, asphalt, plastic bags, animal waste, palm tree branches, yucca plants, ice plants (succulents), cactus, painted wood, treated wood (including railroad ties and utility poles), construction debris, and any metal fencing, wire, or metal materials. All participants must provide a valid ID with an address within Nevada County or proof of residency. All commercial vehicles are prohibited and licensed landscape vehicles are limited to one trip per day and single axle trailers.



Strategic Mitigation Projects



Collaborative Materials



GO-BAG CHECKLIST

Assemble a Go-Bag for You and Your Family



What Do I Need in My Go-Bag?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3-day supply of food | <input type="checkbox"/> Eye protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 gallons of water per person | <input type="checkbox"/> N95 mask |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Map with evacuation routes | <input type="checkbox"/> Spare keys for your house & car |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assistive and medical devices | <input type="checkbox"/> Credit cards, cash, or checks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Batteries and chargers | <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlight or headlamp |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battery powered or hand-crank radio | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanitation supplies & personal hygiene products |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change of clothing | <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Closed toe shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of important documents |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription glasses/contacts | <input type="checkbox"/> Photos of family members |



GO-BAG CHECKLIST

Assemble a Go-Bag for Pets and Animals



What Do My Pets Need in Their Go-Bag?

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Identification information | Proof of ownership |
| Veterinary contact information | Prescriptions & medications |
| Pet carrier for each pet | Two-week supply of food & water |
| Non-spill food & water bowls | Pet first aid kit |
| Litter box and litter | Plastic waste bags |
| Disinfectants | Leashes, collars, and harnesses |
| Current photo | Copies of vaccinations & medical records |
| Care & feeding instructions | Blankets, toys, and treats |

Leaning into Partnerships





CAL FIRE UPDATE 2025

BRIAN ESTES – FIRE CHIEF

JIM HUDSON – DEPUTY CHIEF

NEVADA YUBA PLACER UNIT



A Year Round Fire Season in California



- ▶ We average 8,000 wildland fires annually
- ▶ In 2025, already, we have experienced 1,083 wildland fires
- ▶ 16,251 structures have been destroyed this year
- ▶ More than **10 million gallons** of retardant dropped in the last three years

2024 Impacts in NEU



- ▶ **427** wildland Fires in Unit (+)
- ▶ **1,256** Acres Burned across Unit (-)
- ▶ 5 yr average is **2,587 acres**
- ▶ Multiple arson investigations ongoing across Unit
- ▶ **CAL FIRE has maintained our goal of contained 95% of our fires at 10 acres or less**

Grass Valley ECC - 2024

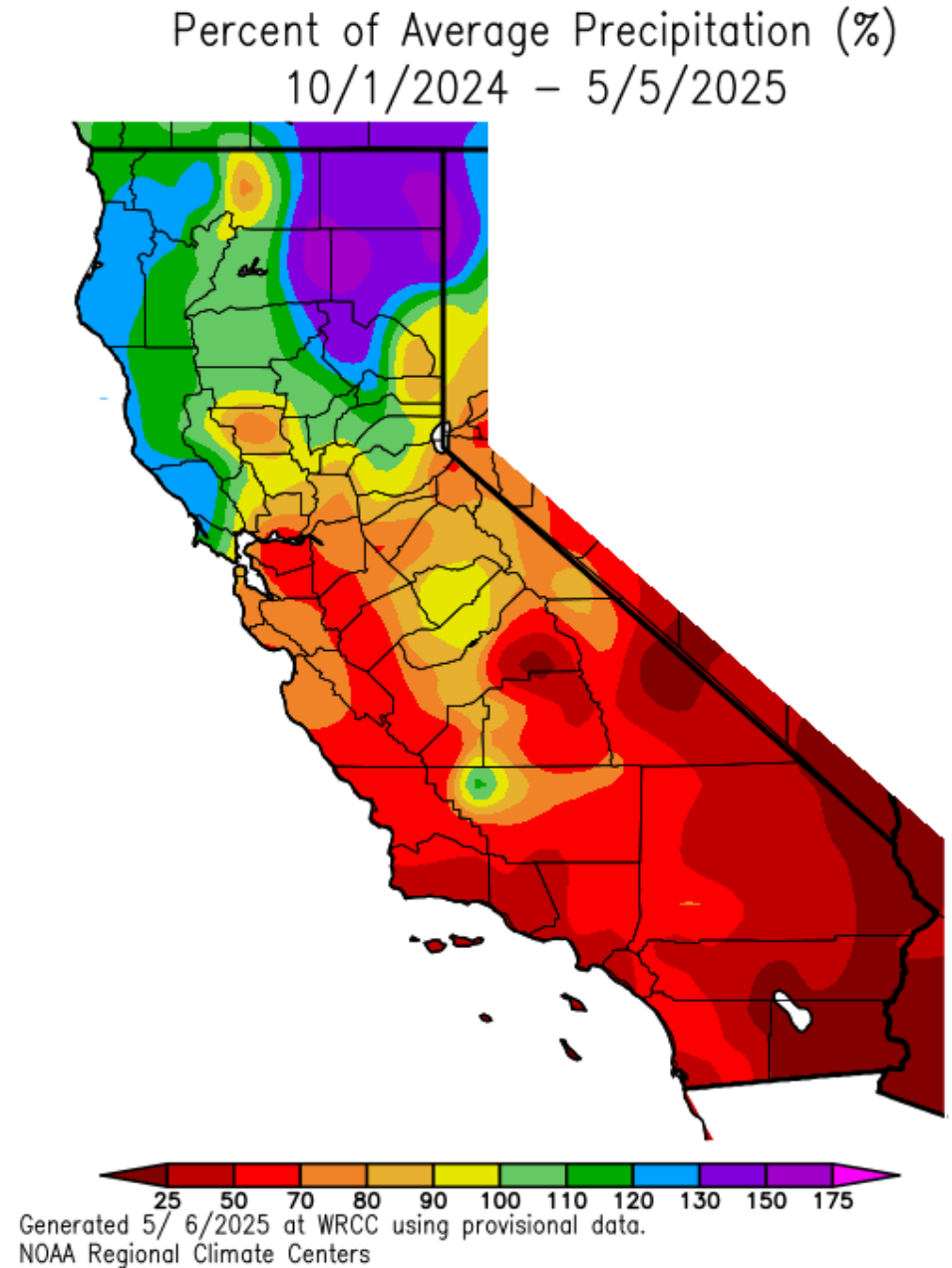


- ▶ Grass Valley ECC dispatched over **39,000** 9-11 calls in 2024. This generated over **73,000** responses
- ▶ Average of **152** 9-11 calls per day
- ▶ The GVECC dispatches for more than **30 fire and EMS agencies** across the region
- ▶ Statewide, CAL FIRE dispatches and responds to over **600,000 calls for service annually**

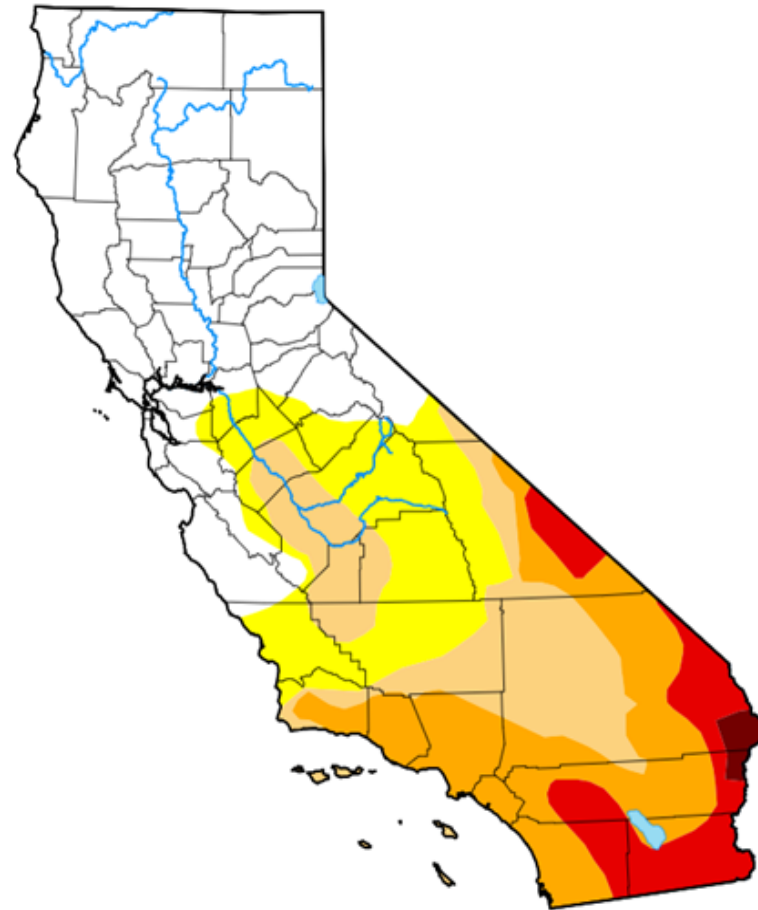
2025 Forecast

The “Water Year”
measuring
precipitation begins
in October of each
year.

Since 10/1/24, The
Nevada Yuba Placer
Unit is ranging from
90% to 110% of
average Precipitation



As of May 1, 2025,
Northern
California
contains no
drought. Southern
California faces
locations with
persistent
drought.



Map released: Thurs. May 1, 2025

Data valid: April 29, 2025 at 8 a.m. EDT

Intensity

- None
- D0 (Abnormally Dry)
- D1 (Moderate Drought)
- D2 (Severe Drought)
- D3 (Extreme Drought)
- D4 (Exceptional Drought)
- No Data

Authors

United States and Puerto Rico Author(s):

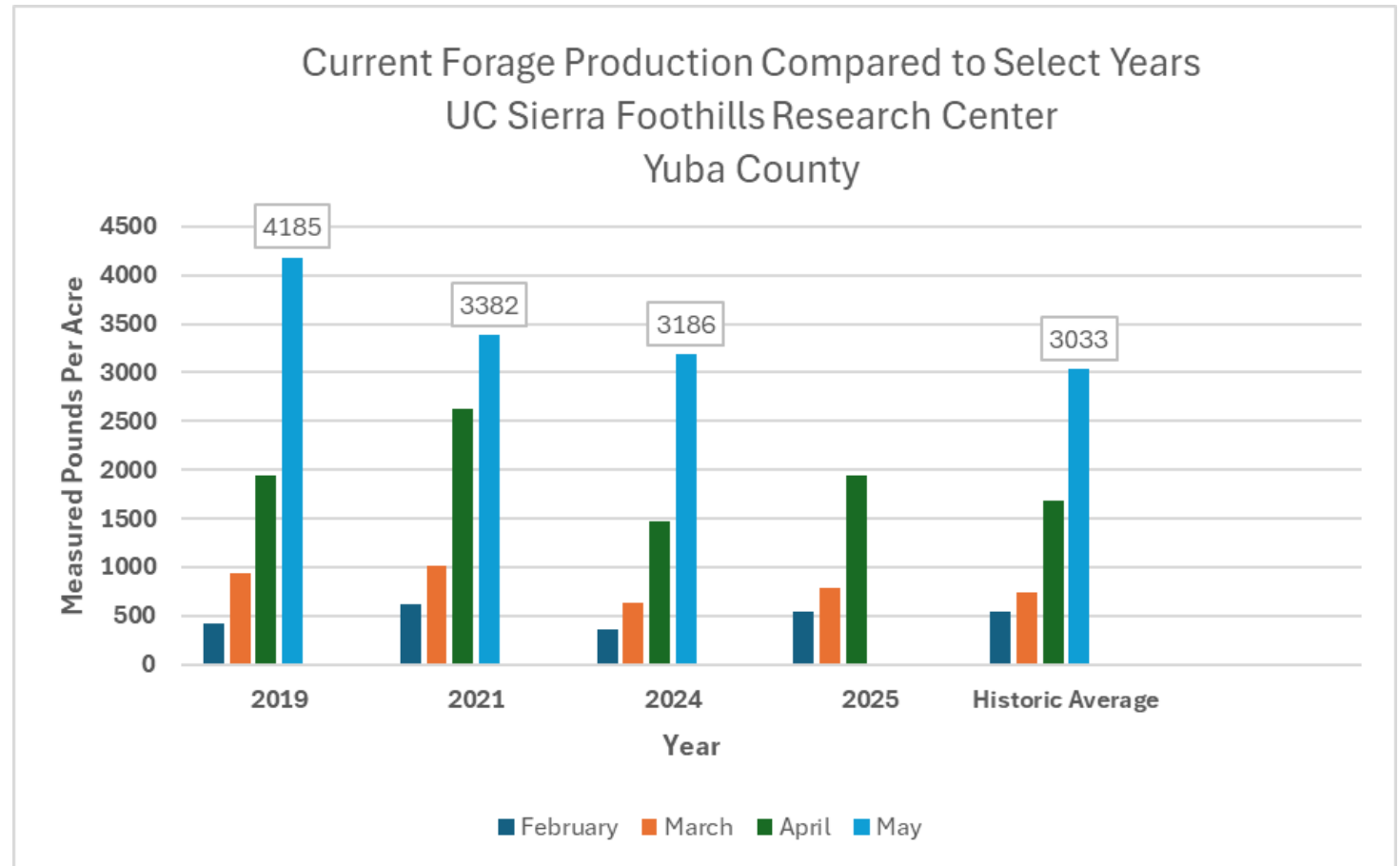
[Richard Tinker](#), NOAA/NWS/NCEP/CPC

Pacific Islands and Virgin Islands Author(s):

[Lindsay Johnson](#), National Drought Mitigation Center

2025 Fine Fuel Loading is generally at average levels.

- Forage production in pounds per acre correlates to fine fuel loading in foothill grasslands.
- Precipitation in May will dictate the final peak loading.
- Grass loading is presently tracking with historic average.



State of CAL FIRE



- ▶ **Budget Forecast is stable**
- ▶ **Aviation Program is on track for implementation of C-130s and S-70i Blackhawks**
- ▶ **Investments in working with PBAs and local NGO for Prescribed Fire**
- ▶ **Investments in emerging technologies and intelligence gathering programs**
- ▶ **Forecasted hiring to implement reduced shift pattern**

Operational Update for NEU



- ▶ Peak Staffing has been increased to 9 months
- ▶ *Year round Staffing at Truckee, Nevada City, and Smartsville Fire Stations*
- ▶ Historical cooperative agreement with Higgins FPD
- ▶ Implementation of 66 / 56 hr work week by 2029

Operational Update for NEU



- ▶ **NEU Peak Staffing**
 - *22 Frontline Engines 3-0 Staffed*
 - *7 Hand Crews*
 - *4 Dozers*
 - *Fixed Wing and UAS Operations*
- ▶ **Type II Helicopter** at Auburn HQ
- ▶ **Type I Helicopter** at Truckee Airport
- ▶ **Addition of Central Division**

Pre Fire Efforts in 2025



- ▶ **Emigrant Gap State Demonstration Forest**
- ▶ **Continued Fuels Reduction efforts based on IMPs and Strategic Fire Plan in Nevada County**

Priorities in 2025



- ▶ AI driven Camera system with detection capabilities and UAS technology
- ▶ Continued collaboration with NVCO Sheriffs Office and OES to ensure support, planning, and response to disasters
- ▶ Investment in pre fire operations and fuels reduction focus
- ▶ **Continued commitment to immediate and aggressive initial attack on all new wildland fires**

Thank You for your Continued Support and Partnership



**NEVADA
COUNTY**
CALIFORNIA



Questions