# Community Wildfire Safety Program NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**September 27, 2022** 





# **Topics for Discussion**

1 Wildfire Risk and Safety Work in Nevada County

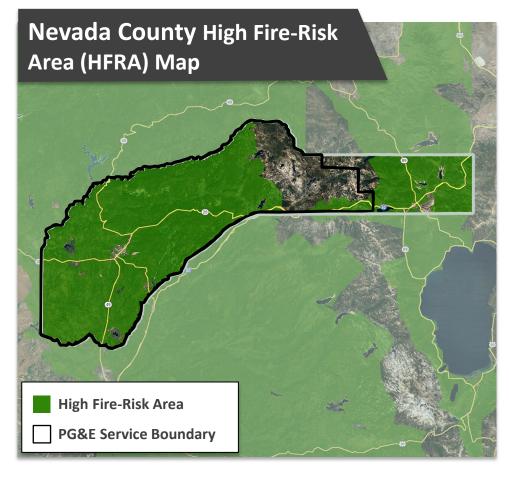
- 2 Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS)
- 3 Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)

4 Customer Resources



# **Identifying Wildfire Risk**

We target wildfire mitigation efforts in the areas and communities at highest risk.



PG&E's High Fire-Risk Area (HFRA) map builds upon the CPUC's map, providing a greater understanding of wildfire risk and where to prioritize work.



# **Key Wildfire Safety Objectives This Year**

# MITIGATE WILDFIRE RISK



# MINIMIZE CUSTOMER IMPACT



# MAXIMIZE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS





# **Overhead System Hardening in Nevada County**

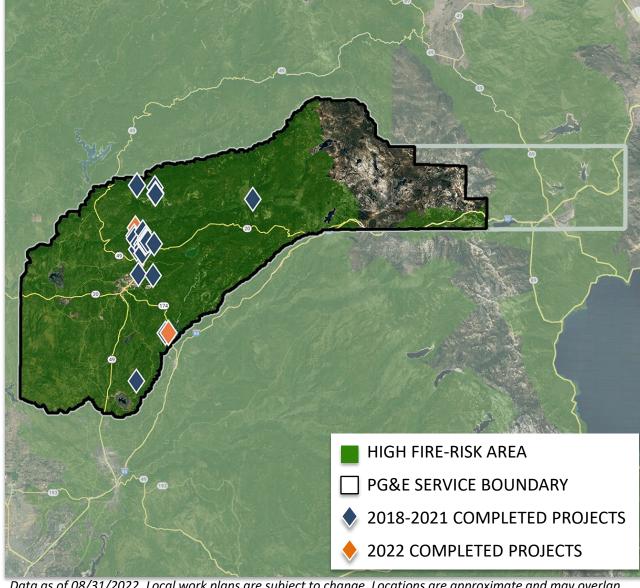
Strengthening the electric system by installing stronger poles and covered powerlines which are more resistant to severe weather and wildfire risk.



52

MILES COMPLETED IN 2022

Customers can find more information on system pge.com/systemhardening hardening at:



Data as of 08/31/2022. Local work plans are subject to change. Locations are approximate and may overlap.

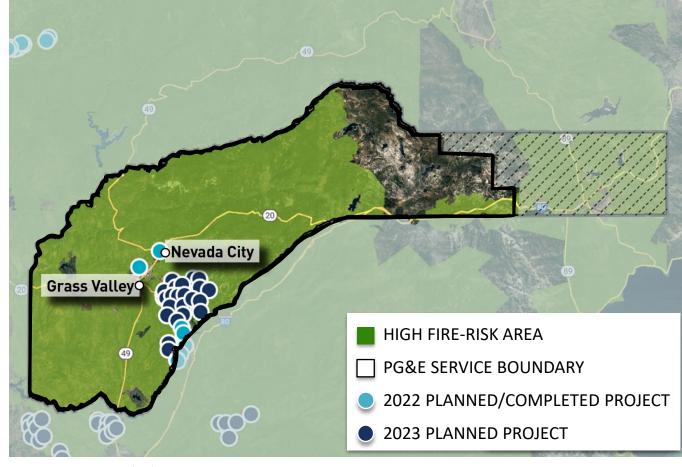


# **Undergrounding in Nevada County**

Strengthening the electric system by undergrounding our powerlines in and near high fire-threat areas.

- PLANNED/COMPLETED <1
  IN 2022
- UNDERGROUNDING MILES PLANNED IN 2023

Customers can find more information about our undergrounding efforts by visiting: <a href="mailto:pge.com/undergrounding">pge.com/undergrounding</a>



Note: Data is as of 09/01/2022. Planned miles reflect undergrounding projects that are in any stage of the planning process. Planned miles exceed annual targets, and mileage in your community may increase or decrease due to access, weather, permitting or other constraints. If planned work is not completed during the year originally identified it will continue through planning/construction phases during subsequent years.



# **Enhanced Vegetation Management in Nevada County**

Addressing vegetation that poses a higher potential for wildfire risk in high fire-threat areas.

MILES COMPLETED THROUGH 2021

244

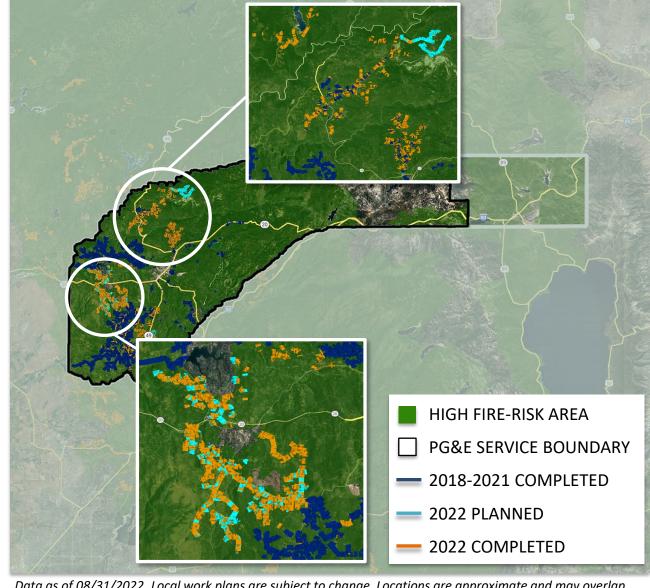
MILES PLANNED IN 2022

309

MILES COMPLETED IN 2022

95

Customers can find more information about our vegetation management work by visiting: pge.com/evm



Data as of 08/31/2022. Local work plans are subject to change. Locations are approximate and may overlap.



# **Sectionalizing Devices in Nevada County**

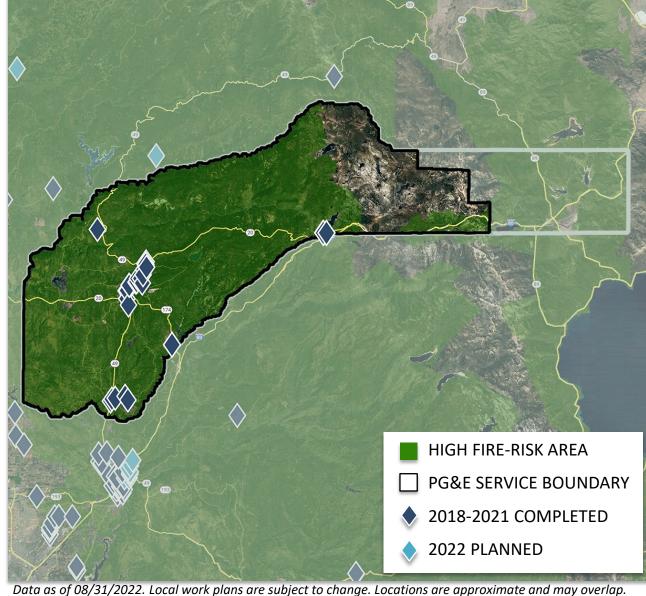
Separating the grid into smaller sections and limiting the number of customers impacted by Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).



**DEVICES COMPLETED** THROUGH 2021

28

Additional Sectionalizing Devices are adjacent to Nevada County and can potentially provide support during an outage





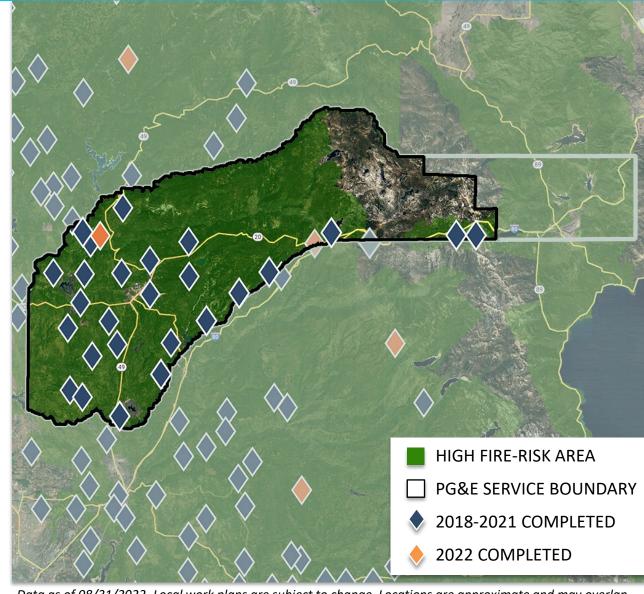
## **Weather Stations in Nevada County**

Improving our weather forecasting capabilities and allowing us to better predict and respond to severe weather threats.

- STATIONS COMPLETED THROUGH 2021
- STATIONS COMPLETED IN 2022

**Additional Weather Stations** are adjacent to Nevada County and can support weather forecasting capabilities

Customers can find more information about weather stations at: <a href="mailto:pge.com/weather">pge.com/weather</a>



Data as of 08/31/2022. Local work plans are subject to change. Locations are approximate and may overlap.



## **High-Definition Cameras in Nevada County**

Enhancing our ability to monitor and respond to wildfires in our service area.





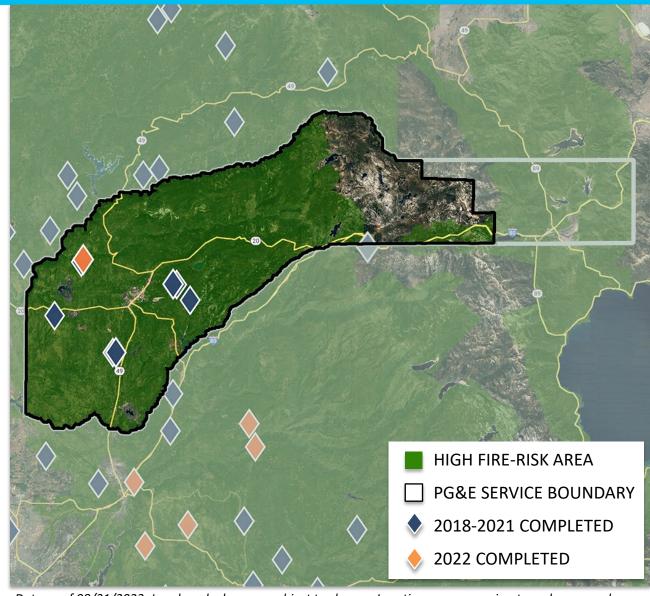
**Additional Hi-Definition Cameras** are adjacent to Nevada County and can support weather monitoring.

Our cameras are part of the ALERTWildfire system used by fire managers at the Bureau of Land Management, the U.S. Forest Service, CAL FIRE and local fire departments in four states.

Data and images are publicly available at:



pge.com/weather



Data as of 08/31/2022. Local work plans are subject to change. Locations are approximate and may overlap.

# **Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings**





# **Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings (EPSS) A Technology To Prevent Wildfires**

#### **How It Works**

PG&E powerlines have equipment that allows power to automatically turn off within one-tenth of a second if there is a wildfire risk, like a tree branch or other object striking the line.

# Why We Do It

Quickly and automatically shutting off power when a hazard is detected can help stop wildfires before they have a chance to start.

# **Preventing Wildfires**

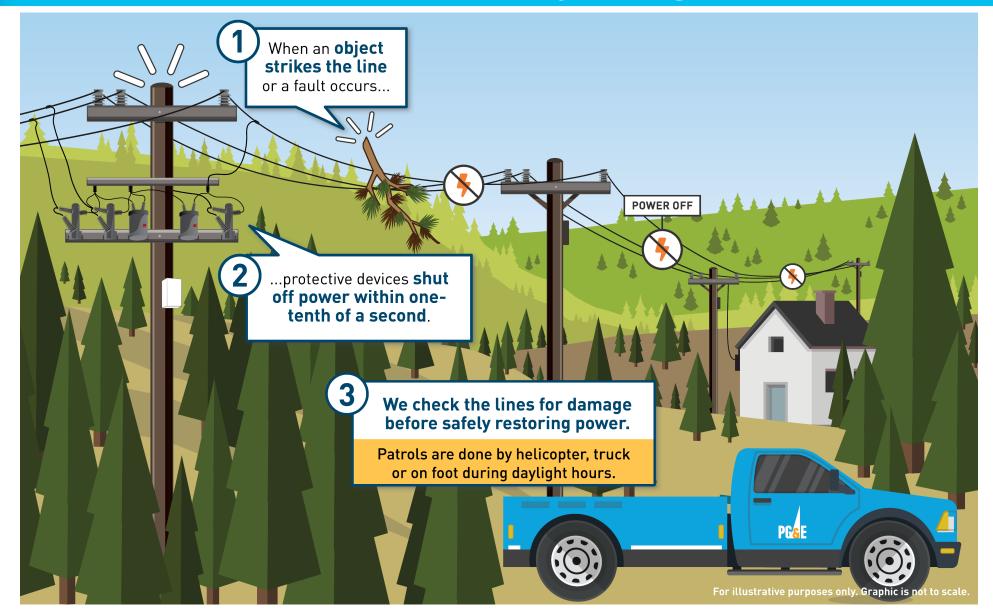
80% decrease in CPUC-reportable ignitions in 2021 on EPSS-enabled circuits.

compared to the prior 3-year average as of 7/31/22.





# What Are Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings?



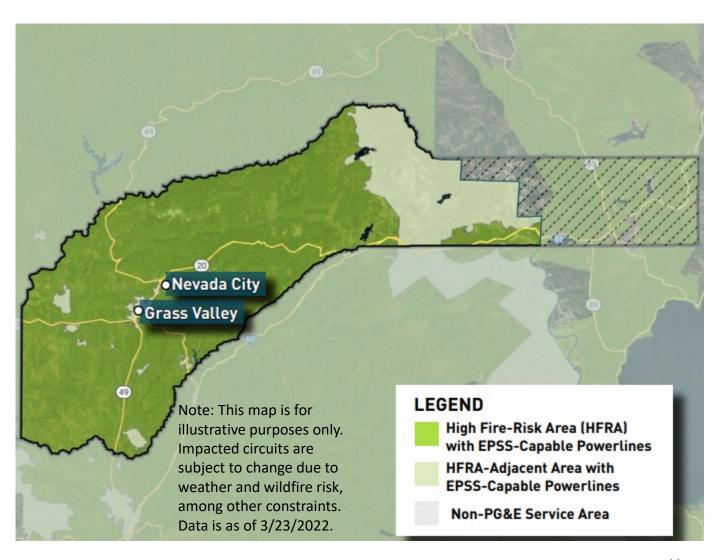


## **Wildfire Prevention in Nevada County**

#### **How Are We Reducing Impacts?**

- Providing more accurate notifications
- Reducing the number of outages
- Expanding customer resource eligibility
- Adding partnerships with community-based organizations
- Supporting customers through food resource partnerships with Meals on Wheels and local food banks

#### Enhanced Powerline Safety Settings in Nevada County





# **What Customers Can Expect**

# When are outages most likely to occur?

- When elevated fire risk is present.
- Most likely from May to November.

#### How will customers be notified?

- Through automated calls, texts or emails about when to expect the power back.
- Since outages happen automatically, we are unable to provide advance notification.



# **Public Safety Power Shutoff**

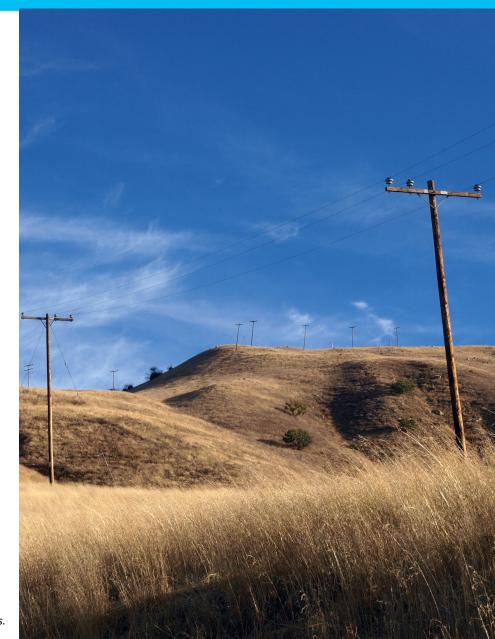




# What is a Public Safety Power Shutoff?

High winds and dangerous conditions can cause branches to contact powerlines.
This could damage our equipment and cause a wildfire.

To prevent such fires, we may need to turn off power as a last resort.





### What Conditions Could Lead to a PSPS?











We carefully review a combination of these factors when deciding if power must be turned off for safety



### **Community Resource Centers in Nevada County**

During PSPS outages, we open Community Resources Centers (CRCs) where customers can access resources and up-to-date information.

**CRC Locations in Nevada County** 

CITY	SITE	ADDRESS	ТҮРЕ
Alta Sierra / Lake of the Pines	Magnolia Intermediate School	22431 Kingston Ln	Indoor
Nevada City	Madelyn Helling Library	980 Helling Way	Indoor
North San Juan	NSJ Community Center	29190 CA-49	Indoor
Penn Valley	Ready Springs Elementary School	10862 Spenceville Road	Indoor
Grass Valley	Peace Lutheran Church	828 W. Main Street	Outdoor
Grass Valley	Sierra College Grass Valley	250 Sierra College Drive	Outdoor
Lake of the Pines	Crossroads Church	10050 Wolf Rd	Outdoor
Nevada City	Nevada City Elks Lodge	518 State Highway 49	Outdoor
Nevada City	Sierra Family Medical Clinic	15301 Tyler Foote Rd	Outdoor
Nevada City	Sierra Presbyterian Church	175 Ridge Rd	Outdoor
Penn Valley	Penn Valley Community Church	11739 Spenceville Road	Outdoor
Grass Valley	Grass Valley Veterans Memorial Building	255 S Auburn St	Indoor - In Progress

For more information and where to find a CRC location in your area leading up to and during a PSPS outage, visit pge.com/crc

#### **COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS**

To keep our customers and communities safe, all CRCs reflect appropriate COVID-19 health considerations\* and state and county guidelines.

- Facial coverings are required
- Physical distancing and limits on the number of visitors at any time are required
- Temperature checks are administered before entry into indoor facilities
- Surfaces are regularly sanitized

<sup>\*</sup>Currently being revised to align with recent announcements for state and county guidelines.



# **Community Based Organization (CBO) Partnerships**

We are providing targeted resources and support through our partnerships with community-based organizations.

1 Meals on Wheels

Gold Country Community Services

2 Food Banks

- Food Bank of Nevada County
- Placer Food Bank

We are partnering with

3

community-based organizations in your hometown



# **Customer Resources**





# **Customer Resources and Support for PSPS Outages and EPSS**

#### **Portable Battery Program**

Supporting eligible customers with fully subsidized portable battery solutions.

pge.com/pspsresources



#### **Generator and Battery Rebate Program**

Rebates for eligible customers to purchase a qualifying generator or battery.

pge.com/backuppower

# California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

Providing qualifying customers with hotel stays, food stipends and more.



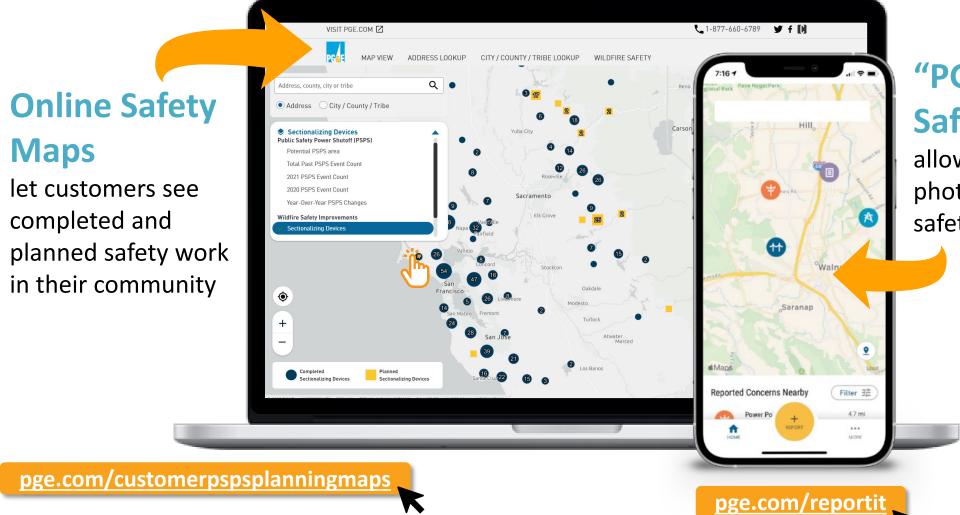
#### Partnership with 211

24-7 free and confidential support and resources via calls or texts to 211.





#### **Personalized Information for Our Customers**



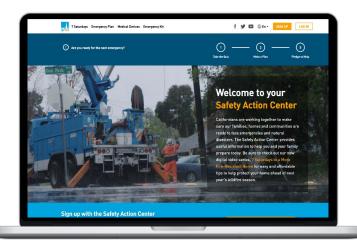
# "PG&E Report It" **Safety App**

allows customers to submit photos of non-emergency safety concerns



## **More Information and Tools For Customers to Prepare**

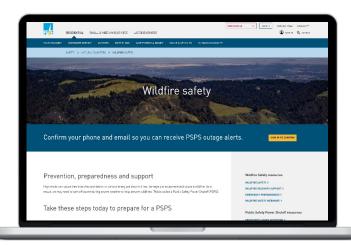
#### **Safety Action Center**



Prepare for wildfire season

safetyactioncenter.pge.com

### **Wildfire Safety**



Wildfire prevention efforts

pge.com/wildfiresafety

#### **Safety for Kids**



Teach kids emergency safety

kidsemergencysafety.com

#### **Dedicated wildfire safety contacts**

Hotline: 1-866-743-6589 | Email: wildfiresafety@pge.com

# **Thank You**

