

CAL FIRE transitions out of peak summer staffing

November 27, 2023



Recent rains and cooler temperatures across the region have lowered the threat of wildfires allowing CAL FIRE's Humboldt – Del Norte Unit to transition out of peak summer staffing November 13. Unit Chief Kurt McCray is also lifting the requirement for CAL FIRE burn permits in the Humboldt – Del Norte Unit on November 13.

This applies to residents within the State Responsibility Areas (SRA) of Humboldt, Del Norte, and western Trinity Counties. An appropriate air quality permit from the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD) is always required.

CAL FIRE will continue to maintain staffing to meet any potential threat, as well as maintaining the ability to strategically move resources to areas that remain at a higher threat level. CAL FIRE will also continue to monitor weather conditions closely and still has the ability to increase staffing should weather conditions change or if there is a need to support wildfires or other emergencies in other areas of the state.

To date, CAL FIRE and firefighters from many local agencies responded to over 6,545 wildfires within the State Responsibility Area that burned nearly 319,070 acres. In the Humboldt – Del Norte Unit, CAL FIRE responded to 160 wildfires that burned 272 acres. During the cooler winter months, CAL FIRE will continue

to actively focus efforts on fire prevention and fuels treatment activities as guided by the State's Strategic Fire Plan and localized Unit fire plans.

These will be done through public education, prescribed burns and various types of fuel reduction. These activities are aimed at reducing the impacts of large, damaging wildfires and improving public safety and overall forest health. Residents are urged to still take precautions outdoors in order to prevent sparking a wildfire.

A leading cause of wildfires this time of year is from escaped landscape debris burning. Before you burn, ensure it is a permissive burn day by contacting the NCUAQMD and then make sure you have any and all required burn permits. During burning, make sure that piles of landscape debris are no larger than permitted, provide a 10 foot clearance down to bare mineral soil around the burn pile and ensure that a responsible adult is in attendance at all times with a water source and a shovel.

For more ways to burn safely visit www.ReadyForWildfire.org.