



COUNTY OF SONOMA

575 ADMINISTRATION
DRIVE, ROOM 102A
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

SUMMARY REPORT

Agenda Date: 6/6/2023

To: Board of Supervisors, County of Sonoma
Department or Agency Name(s): Emergency Management
Staff Name and Phone Number: Jeffrey DuVall / (707) 565-1152
Vote Requirement: Informational Only
Supervisorial District(s): All Districts

Title:

Wildfire Preparedness Update

Recommended Action:

Informational item on:

1. An overview of potential fire season predictions for the Sonoma County Operational Area.
2. Review the County's wildfire preparedness capabilities.
3. Current actions by the County's fire agencies and the Department of Emergency Management in addition to public outreach campaigns.

Executive Summary:

The wildfire preparedness update will be an information-sharing and discussion opportunity designed to enhance the ability of the County to respond to a major wildfire. During the workshop, staff will provide information and discuss the upcoming fire season, Fire Operational Area readiness, volunteer fire companies staffing, Department of Emergency Management's preparedness efforts, and response and recovery efforts, along with regional collaboration efforts underway with local city governments, Special Districts, Tribal Nations, neighboring counties, and state agencies such as California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), and California Department of Social Services (CDSS).

Discussion:

In the last four years, Sonoma County has experienced 14 locally proclaimed disasters ranging from wildfires, floods, drought, and power shut-off events. As Sonoma County starts to come into the summer and soon fall season, the potential for large wildfires returns to the surface.

Since 2019 your Department of Emergency Management has worked to build a very robust alert & warning program and develop a comprehensive inventory of emergency supporting annexes (Earthquake, Care & Shelter, Alert & Warning) to our emergency operations plan. In working with the Sheriff's Office to develop a countywide evacuation map and continue to support and foster community preparedness efforts.

For today's presentation, Chief Ben Nicholls, Division Chief of Sonoma County Operations for Cal Fire's Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit, will provide an overview of the potential fire season and efforts underway by CalFire.

Chief Mark Heine, Fire Chief for Sonoma County Fire District, who serves as the Sonoma County Operational Area Coordinator for the fire service, will provide an overview of preparedness efforts underway by the County's fire protection districts and departments.

Jeffrey DuVall, Interim Director for the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), will provide an overview of efforts underway for countywide preparedness, County staff Disaster Service Worker Training, pre-season coordination with other counties, a review of our alert and warning platforms, and an overview of DEM's response role in a wildfire event.

Strategic Plan:

N/A

Racial Equity:

Was this item identified as an opportunity to apply the Racial Equity Toolkit?

No

Prior Board Actions:

July 9, 2019: The Board conducted a Wildfire Hazard Overview Disaster Preparedness Workshop.

April 16, 2019: The Board conducted a second disaster workshop focusing on the earthquake hazard.

January 15, 2019: The Board conducted its first disaster workshop addressing the hazards posed by winter storms and flooding.

June 11, 2018: The Board adopted the October 2017 Complex Fires Emergency Operations Center After Action Report, which recommended the Board conduct quarterly disaster preparedness updates at its meetings.

FISCAL SUMMARY

Expenditures	FY 22-23 Adopted	FY23-24 Projected	FY 24-25 Projected
Budgeted Expenses			
Additional Appropriation Requested			
Total Expenditures			
Funding Sources			
General Fund/WA GF			
State/Federal			
Fees/Other			
Use of Fund Balance			
Contingencies			
Total Sources			

Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:

None.

Staffing Impacts:			
Position Title (Payroll Classification)	Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)	Additions (Number)	Deletions (Number)

Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):

None.

Attachments:

Presentation

Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:

None.