



INVESTING IN A FIRE ADAPTED MARIN COUNTY

2021-2022 ANNUAL REPORT



SETTING THE STAGE FOR LASTING IMPACT

BACKGROUND: INVESTING IN A FIRE ADAPTED MARIN COUNTY	1
MWPA Members	1
What is Measure C?	1
2021-22 MWPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS	2
Letter from Bruce Goines, Board President	2
Five MWPA Goal Areas	2
2021-22 FISCAL YEAR AT-A-GLANCE	3
Major Milestones	3
YEAR TWO: SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUCCESS	4
Letter from Mark Brown, Executive Officer	4
Developing the Annual Work Plan	4
NOTES FROM THE CITIZENS’ OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (COC)	5
Letter from Lucy Dilworth, COC Chair	5
GOAL 1 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOR FIRE FUEL REDUCTION	6
Setting the Stage to Reduce Fire Fuels	6
Protecting Marin’s Ecological and Cultural Resources	6
2021-22 Fiscal Year: Core Projects	7
Central Marin Zone	8
Southern Marin Zone	8
Vegetation Management for Fire Fuel Reduction	9
San Rafael Zone	10
West Marin Zone	10
Novato Zone	10
GOAL 2 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: DETECTION, ALERT, AND EVACUATION	11
GOAL 3 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION	12
GOAL 4 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: FIRE RESISTANT HOMES	13
Defensible Space (D-Space) Evaluations and Home Hardening	13
GOAL 5 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: GRANT PROGRAMS	15
FY 2021-22 PROJECTED REVENUE ALLOCATION	16
FY 2021-22 REVENUE & EXPENDITURES	17
FY 2021-22 FINANCIAL INFORMATION	18
Measure C Funds by Program Area	18
Core Funding by Goal Area	18
Actual Core Project Expenditures by Zone	19
THE ROAD AHEAD: CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS	20

BACKGROUND: INVESTING IN A FIRE ADAPTED MARIN COUNTY

Vision Statement

Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority communities are informed, prepared, fire adapted, resilient and capable of withstanding a major fire limiting loss of life and major property damage while protecting our rich environmental diversity.

Mission Statement

The Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority leads the development of fire adapted communities using sound scientific, financial, programmatic, ecological practices, vegetation management, community education, evacuation and warning systems with the support of its member and partner agencies.



MWPA MEMBERS

The following 17 agencies are voting members in MWPA:

- Bolinas Fire District
- City of Larkspur
- City of Mill Valley
- City of San Rafael
- County of Marin
- Inverness Public Utility District
- Kentfield Fire Protection District
- Marinwood Community Services District
- Muir Beach Community Services District
- Novato Fire Protection District
- Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District
- Southern Marin Fire Protection District
- Stinson Beach Fire Protection District
- Town of Corte Madera
- Town of Fairfax
- Town of Ross
- Town of San Anselmo

WHAT IS MEASURE C?



Approved by Voters

With 70.8% support of most Marin County voters¹, Measure C was passed in March 2020 to fund proactive, state-of-the-art wildfire prevention and preparedness efforts.

10-Year Parcel Tax Measure C approved a tax to all parcels of real property in Marin County within the defined boundary of the “Member Taxing Entities,” starting in 2020-21 for a period of ten years. The parcel tax levies up to 10¢ per building square foot (\$75 per multifamily unit) for ten years, providing \$20,000,000 annually, with annual inflation adjustments, independent citizen oversight/audits, and low-income senior exemptions.

For Wildfire Prevention The revenues raised by this tax are used solely to plan, finance, implement, manage, own, and operate a multi-jurisdictional agency to prevent and mitigate wildfires in Marin County.

Created the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

A Joint Powers Agreement among 17 member agencies covering most of Marin County created the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA) to coordinate fire prevention activities using Measure C funds.

¹ Excluding the Town of Tiburon and the City of Belvedere.

2021-22 MWPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HIGHLIGHTS

LETTER FROM BRUCE GOINES, BOARD PRESIDENT

It is again my honor to present the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA) 2021-22 Annual Report covering MWPA's second year in operation. In the 2021-22 fiscal year, the board members focused on our core education, evaluation, home hardening, defensible space and evacuation route projects along with expanding the policies, procedures, and programs that will sustain MWPA into the future. These include the adoption of objectives and metrics for the Strategic Plan, an MWPA Code of Conduct, a succession process for the election of MWPA President and Vice President, and board approval to hire critical staff, among a great many other Board actions.

From a project perspective, the 2021-22 year really set the stage for targeted fire fuel reduction in high priority areas. The 38-mile Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break will create a fire buffer along the backyards of 1,700 parcels stretching from eastern Corte Madera to Fairfax, covering 11 of MWPA members jurisdictions. This is a dramatic undertaking that is the most ambitious project of its type in ever attempted in Marin County. This project received a \$3.25 million CAL FIRE grant in June 2022, which will accelerate the project and offset Measure C funds so that they may be spent on other high-priority projects.

Projects like these are only possible because of MWPA's unique Joint Powers Authority (JPA) structure, allowing it to cross jurisdictional boundaries. This is exactly the kind of project that was intended with the formation of the JPA. Additionally, Measure C funds help to create incentive for grants because they can be used as matching funds. This important benefit helps stretch Measure C investments even further.

In addition to our work mentioned above, we are proud of our approval of and commitment to Environmentally Sound Practices in partnership with the Marin environmental Community and our ongoing interactions with our Citizens Oversight Committee.

While there is still much to be done to adapt to wildfire in Marin County, and MWPA has laid out plans, procedures, and projects what will serve the community well into the future.

Bruce Goines, 2021-22 Board President

Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

FIVE MWPA GOAL AREAS



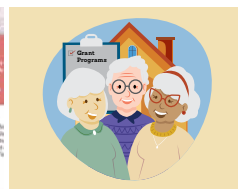
Vegetation Management for Fire Fuel Reduction

Vegetation management and local wildfire prevention mitigation



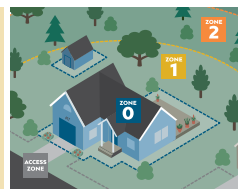
Detection, Alert, and Evacuation

Wildfire detection, alert, and evacuation program improvements



Grant Programs

Grants to assist residents in reducing fire risks



Public Outreach and Education

Public outreach and education about fire prevention, preparedness, and risk reduction



Fire Resistant Homes

Defensible space and home hardening initiatives

2021-22 FISCAL YEAR AT-A-GLANCE

MAJOR MILESTONES

Summer 21	Fall 21	Winter 21-22	Spring 22	Summer 22
<p>July 2021</p> <p>Elected Board President Goines and Vice President Rodoni for 2021-22</p> <p>Board authorized countywide roll-out of Defensible Space Inspection software</p> <p>Aug 2021</p> <p>MWPA staff introduced standard project design features and implementation practices to protect sensitive resources and comply with environmental regulations</p> <p>Board approved invitations to 7 entities for environmental and public land management orgs as at-large/non-voting members to Advisory/Technical Committee</p>	<p>Sept 2021</p> <p>Public campaign launched for Zonehaven evacuation platform</p> <p>Two Grizzly Corps fellows began their 11-month term</p> <p>Objectives and metrics kick-off meeting</p> <p>First episode of Wildfire Watch</p> <p>Oct 2021</p> <p>MWPA website launched</p> <p>Nov 2021</p> <p>First MWPA Annual Report released</p> <p>Prescribed Fire discussion panel</p>	<p>Dec 2022</p> <p>MWPA Grant Programs launched</p> <p>Board adopts Policies to create a process for the Election of President and Vice President</p> <p>Board adopts MWPA Code of Conduct</p> <p>Board adopts Procurement and Purchasing Policy</p> <p>Board adopts Reserve Fund Policy</p> <p>Jan 2022</p> <p>Board adopts MWPA Objectives</p> <p>Board authorizes recruitment of Administrative Analyst and Grant Specialist</p> <p>First F.I.R.E. Foundry training cohort begins</p> <p>Feb 2022</p> <p>Board authorizes recruitment of Vegetation Management Specialist and position descriptions for other positions</p> <p>Web Portal Launch for FY 2022-23 Work Plan Development</p> <p>MWPA Style Guide completed</p>	<p>March 2022</p> <p>First public meeting for the Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project</p> <p>“Adapt” public education campaign launch</p> <p>FireAside online platform operational county-wide</p> <p>April 2022</p> <p>Ops and ATC committees consider 2022-23 Work Plan proposals</p> <p>Board adopts revised Grants Specialist position description and recruitment;</p> <p>Board adopts Wildfire Evacuation/ Ingress/Egress Risk Assessment Professional Services and Software Agreements</p> <p>Board adopts 3% Tax Rate for FY 2022-2023 based on the Consumer Price Index</p> <p>May 2022</p> <p>2022-23 Work Plan and Budget adopted</p> <p>Ember Stomp</p> <p>The Science Behind Vegetation Management webinar</p> <p>MWPA begins managing Chipper Day program and chipping season begins</p>	 <p>June 2022</p> <p>\$3.25 million Cal Fire grant awarded to Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project</p> <p>Board accepts ESP Partnership Best Practices Document</p> <p>Community Wildfire Protection Workshops in 5 Geographic Areas</p> <p>Vegetation Management Specialist begins</p> <p>Fiscal Year Ends</p>
				

YEAR TWO: SETTING THE STAGE FOR SUCCESS

LETTER FROM MARK BROWN, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As the Executive Officer of MWPA, I could not be prouder of the work that has been accomplished over the past year. MWPA is functioning exactly as intended to coordinate across jurisdictional boundaries and provide for a safer and more prepared Marin County. The 2021-22 fiscal year saw the launch of a great many Measure C-funded projects and programs across Marin County. This Annual Report details the progress that has been made in the 2021-22 fiscal year. Highlights include:

Risk Reduction. This past year, 22 high priority vegetation management for fire fuel reduction projects as well as the Southern Marin Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD) network detailed in the 2021-22 Work Plan completed environmental compliance and were approved for implementation. The largest among the projects, the Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break, is the biggest project of its type in Marin County's history.

Empowerment. Educational programs from Fire Safe Marin like the May 28th Ember Stomp Wildfire Preparedness Festival, the Adapt to Wildfire campaign, and the Wildfire Watch TV show empowered residents across the county to take action. The \$500,000 MWPA Grants Program launched in December 2022 providing resources for residents to protect their homes and properties from wildfire. And the FIRE Foundry training program launched to help prepare a new generation of diverse recruits for a sustainable wage career path in the fire service.

Innovation. The Zonehaven evacuation platform, our FireAside Defensible Space and Home Hardening Evaluation platform, and the development of an Evacuation/Ingress/Egress Risk Assessment are bringing innovation and efficiency to Marin's emergency preparedness and risk reduction efforts.

Return on Investment. A \$3.25 million CAL FIRE grant was awarded to the Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project in June 2022, which will accelerate the project and offset Measure C funds so that they may be spent on other high-priority projects.

Ecological Integrity. MWPA is committed to protecting important resources while reducing wildfire risks. We partnered with the Ecologically Sound Practices (ESP) Partnership to produce an extensive Best Practices document. These best practices have been included in an implementation manual with standard project design features and implementation practices to protect sensitive resources and comply with environmental regulations.

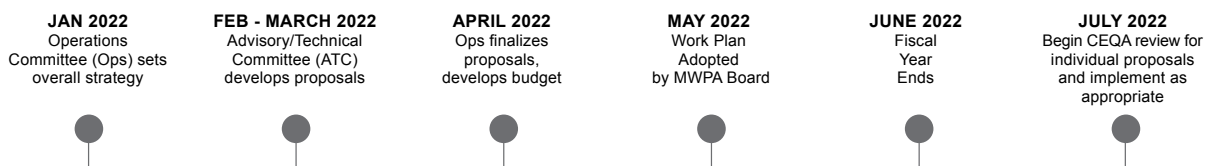
We are not slowing down. Over 124 wildfire prevention and community preparedness proposals totaling approximately \$20 million are included in MWPA's new 2022-23 Work Plan that was approved on May 19, 2022.

Mark Brown, Executive Officer
Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

\$7.18 million

**Amount Spent on Core Wildfire Prevention,
Preparedness and Risk Reduction in 2021-22**

DEVELOPING THE ANNUAL WORK PLAN



NOTES FROM THE CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (COC)

When Marin County residents approved Measure C, one provision was to have an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC). The role of the COC is to review spending by the MWPA and to evaluate the work program to ensure that both are in accordance with what the public voted for.

The COC consists of nine members: one representative from each of the MWPA's five geographical zones, and one representative each from environmental organizations, taxpayer organizations, civic organizations, and fire prevention organizations.

LETTER FROM LUCY DILWORTH, COC CHAIR

In July 2022, the Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) completed its 2020-2021 Annual Report and presented it to the Board of Directors of the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA) for review and acknowledgment. The report examined the first year of MWPA operations to determine if they met the requirements of the Measure C ballot initiative and the Joint Powers Agreement.

The Committee spent months gathering the information for the report because the records needed for our review were scattered among the MWPA's 17 member agencies and reporting policies were not yet in place. This disarray was understandable as the start-up MWPA was both implementing its first work plan and building itself from the ground up. Moving forward, the COC expects that the information needed for review will be collected by staff.

Overall, the report is very positive about the new agency. Nonetheless, the COC makes 14 recommendations, many of which suggest procedures to help keep spending within the rules.

For example, one financial recommendation is that each member agency establish an accounting system to track expenditure of Measure C funds by project and to segregate unspent MWPA monies in a reserve fund.

In another example, a work plan recommendation suggests that a senior official of each member agency certify that its new projects provide a "higher level of service" and are not supplanting projects the agency would be doing without MWPA funding. Currently this acknowledgment happens by checking a box but formal certification by a senior official would provide greater accountability.

Another example concerns transparency. It recommends the presentation of regular reports from each member agency to the Board of Directors and Operations Committee to explain the agency's use of MWPA funds. These reports might show actual costs expended on each project compared to estimated costs, the project's completion or not, and the reasons for any changes or delays.

In addition to its Annual Report, the COC has recently issued a report on the MWPA's 2020-2021 Financial Audit. The Audit was completed some months after the close of the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The COC's Annual Report and its subsequent Audit Report are available on the MWPA's website.

Lucy Dilworth, Committee Chair

MWPA Citizens' Oversight Committee
Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

GOAL 1 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOR FIRE FUEL REDUCTION

Through programs and funding, MWPA and its member agencies' ecologically sustainable vegetation management programs are designed and will be implemented to reduce hazards and achieve measurable fuel reduction as outlined in the Marin County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) and will provide funding for specific local wildfire mitigation projects within each member's service area.

Vegetation management activities within a given area are determined by risk, proximity to homes and evacuation routes, topography, vegetation type, presence of sensitive resources, and many other factors, and are informed by the best available science as well as community needs. Member agencies work with MWPA to finalize project design and complete environmental compliance.

SETTING THE STAGE TO REDUCE FIRE FUELS

When a vegetation management project for fire fuels reduction is prioritized in MWPA's annual Work Plan, that's just the first step. The next step is to complete an environmental review process under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), or, if federally owned land is involved, review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Some projects require additional permitting from the respective jurisdictional agency. This can take months to years to complete, depending on the scope of the project.

One of MWPA's biggest strengths in FY 2021-22 was its ability to coordinate across jurisdictional boundaries to facilitate environmental compliance for the Core Projects outlined in the 2020-21 Work Plan. MWPA "Core" projects are larger, cross-jurisdictional projects. MWPA completed CEQA review for 23 Core fire risk reduction projects during the FY 2021-2022 which means that member agencies can now begin implementation. This coordination includes developing the scope of projects, building GIS layers for mapping, conducting environmental analysis and cultural screening, reaching out to project partners, conducting site visits, and preparing detailed project documentation.

Projects like these aim to reduce wildfire hazards, slow the spread of fire, and provide safer emergency evacuation for residents and access for emergency services.

PROTECTING MARIN'S ECOLOGICAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

This year, MWPA developed Project Design and Implementation Features, a list of standard measures applicable to all MWPA projects to avoid impacts. These are based in large part on California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Environmental Impact Report (EIR) measures and provide the necessary protections for the endangered northern spotted owl, migratory birds, sensitive plant species, cultural resources, and other resources.

Additionally, MWPA partnered with the Ecologically Sound Practices (ESP) Partnership to produce an extensive Best Practices document, which was accepted by the MWPA Board in June 2022. The ESP Partnership is a collaboration of fire agencies and environmental organizations working to assist MWPA in delivering its work in an environmentally sound manner.



Anna's Hummingbird

Photo: shutterstock.com

2021-22 FISCAL YEAR: CORE PROJECTS

These projects completed environmental compliance and were approved for implementation by MWPA Board

Board Approval	Program or Project Name	Acres Treated	Miles of Roadway	Miles of Fire Roads
June 16, 2021	Prescribed Herbivory on San Rafael Open Space	120		
July 15, 2021	West Marin Zone Evacuation Route Core Project		24.7	
July 15, 2021	Central Marin Zone Evacuation Route Core Project		100	
July 15, 2021	San Rafael Zone Evacuation Route Core Project		80	
July 15, 2021	All Zones Curbside Chipper Program			
Aug 19, 2021	San Rafael Zone Fire Roads: Vegetation Removal and Enhancements Project			12
Aug 19, 2021	San Rafael Zone South San Pedro Mountain Fuel Reduction Project	42		
Sept 16, 2021	Southern Marin Zone L.R.A.D Emergency Notification Network			
Sept 16, 2021	Novato Zone Marin Valley Goat Grazing Evacuation Project	63		
Oct 21, 2021	Novato Zone Black Point Evacuation Routes Project		11	
Oct 21, 2021	Novato Zone Roadside Evacuation Routes		64	
Oct 21, 2021	San Rafael Zone Open Space Management Project	78		
Oct 21, 2021	San Rafael Zone North Lucas Valley Fuel Reduction Project	24		
Nov 18, 2021	Novato Zone Bahia HOA Defensible Space Project	39		
Nov 18, 2021	Southern Marin Zone Ridgecrest Fuel Reduction Project	74		
Dec 16, 2021	Southern Marin Zone Mill Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project	39.2		
March 17, 2022	San Rafael Zone Terra Linda/Sleepy Hollow Divide Fire Fuel Reduction Project	12.7		
March 17, 2022	San Rafael Zone South San Rafael Hill Fuel Reduction Project	5.4		
April 21, 2022	San Rafael Zone West San Pedro Fuel Reduction Project	2.5		
April 21, 2022	Southern Marin Zone Tamalpais Valley / Homestead Fuel Break Project	28		
June 16, 2022	Novato Zone HOA Defensible Space and City of Novato Open Space Project (listed as 2 projects in 2021-22 Work Plan)	284.6		
June 16, 2022	Central Marin Zone Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project	1,810		
Totals	22 projects completed environmental compliance and were approved by MWPA Board	2,622.4	279.7	12

GOAL 1 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOR FIRE FUEL REDUCTION

CENTRAL MARIN ZONE

The biggest vegetation management highlight in the Central Marin zone is the 1,810 acre, 38-mile Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project (GRVSFB) which will create and maintain a continuous reduced-fuel and forest-health-restoration zone around the communities in Central Marin. Planning and environmental compliance for the project took up the bulk of the fiscal year, resulting in a 518-page California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP) Project-Specific Analysis (PSA) and Addendum released in May 2022.

The first meeting to introduce the public to the project occurred on March 10, 2022. The project also received a \$3.25 million CAL FIRE grant in June 2022, which will accelerate the project and offset Measure C funds so that they may be spent on other high-priority projects. The GRVSFB project is now in the implementation phase, with the bulk of the treatment expected in 2022-2026 and maintenance thereafter.

Additionally, 100 miles of roads have been prioritized for roadside vegetation treatment to improve evacuation and ingress/egress. The Central Marin Zone Evacuation Route Core Project completed environmental compliance under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and was approved by the MWPA Board in July 2021. Vegetation management treatment along roadsides was able to be completed in many areas of Central Marin.



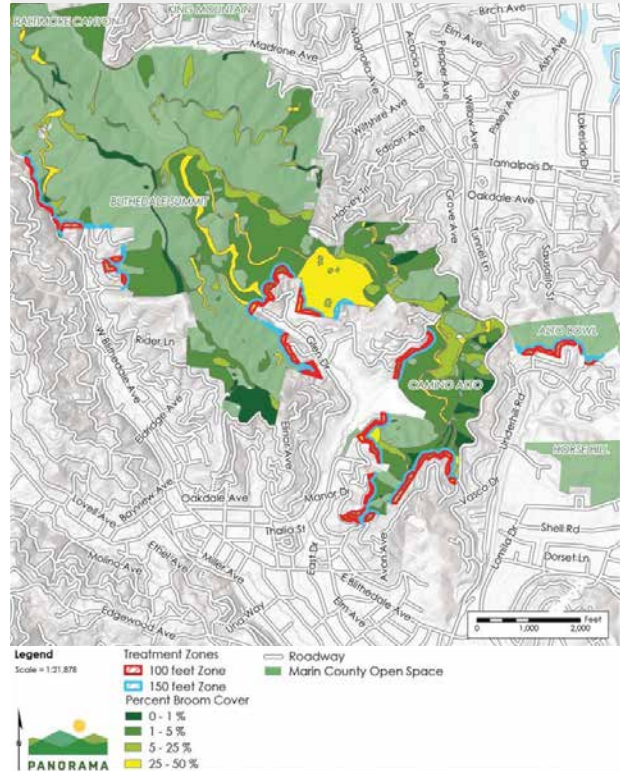
Evacuation Route Clearing in Greenbrae:
Before and After

SOUTHERN MARIN ZONE

In the Southern Marin zone, the Mill Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project and the Ridgecrest Fuel Reduction Project at the top of Mount Tamalpais both completed environmental compliance under CEQA and implementation began for the Mill Valley project in the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Planning and collaboration with the National Park Service continued for the Tamalpais Valley/ Homestead Fuel Break Project and the Highway 1 Evacuation Corridor Project in the Muir Beach area, both of which were on hold pending federal action because the projects proposed fuel reduction on National Park Service lands.

Additionally, scopes of work were being developed for many areas in Southern Marin including in Sausalito, Ring Mountain, and Marin City.



Map of Mill Valley Shaded Fuel Break Project
vegetation management treatment areas and areas
of broom cover

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOR FIRE FUEL REDUCTION

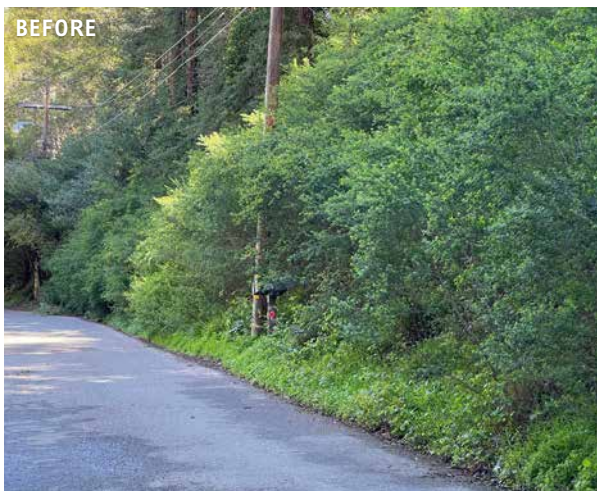
Before and After Examples in the Central Marin Zone



Greater Ross Valley Shaded Fuel Break: Before and After



Shaded Fuel Break in Corte Madera: Before and After



Shaded Fuel Break in Larkspur: Before and After

GOAL 1 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT FOR FIRE FUEL REDUCTION

SAN RAFAEL ZONE

In the FY 2021-22, 9 projects in the San Rafael zone completed environmental compliance under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and began implementation. Over 13 miles of roadside vegetation and 5.5 miles of vegetation along fire roads were treated in the San Rafael zone during the year. Additionally, over 80 acres of shaded fuel break in San Rafael and 15 acres of shaded fuel break in Marinwood received treatment for fire fuel reduction. The shaded fuel break work directly impacts approximately 700 homes within 100 feet of the fuel break. Goats also chomped through over 100 acres in San Rafael and Marinwood in 2021-22, with another 150 acres in progress.



NOVATO ZONE

Five projects in the Novato zone completed environmental compliance under CEQA and began implementation in FY 2021-22. Areas receiving vegetation management treatment for fire fuel reduction in the Novato zone include: 284.6 acres of treatment at the boundary of private lands, HOA-owned open space areas, and City of Novato-owned open space areas; 64 miles of roadside treatment along primary or secondary evacuation routes in the Novato; 11 miles of roadside treatment in the Blackpoint neighborhood; 39 acres of treatment between open space and residential structures within the Bahia HOA and Bahia Drive; and 63 acres of goat grazing in the Marin Valley Mobile Home Park.



WEST MARIN ZONE

Much of the West Marin zone is under the jurisdiction of coastal and public land management agencies and the 2021-22 fiscal year involved working closely with these agencies to put the processes, environmental compliance, and permits in place for future vegetation management project implementation. For example, much of the West Marin Evacuation Route Project was on hold, pending a permit application under the Coastal Act and the Local Coastal Program (LCP), a planning document developed by the Marin County Community Development Agency. Implementation has begun for portions of the project area outside of the coastal zone. Areas subject to Coastal Act compliance have been completed and implementation will begin as early as fall 2022 in these locations.

Vegetation management projects that have been completed, are currently underway, or are ready to implement include:

2,622
acres of shaded fuel breaks
and prescribed herbivory

280
miles of roadside
evacuation route improvements

12
miles of fire roads maintained

GOAL 2 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: DETECTION, ALERT, AND EVACUATION

Through programs, funding, and partnering with its member agencies and local law enforcement, MWPA will implement state-of-the-art wildfire detection, warning, and alert systems, and develop and maintain a county-wide network of safe evacuation routes and temporary refuge areas for residents during evacuations to reduce loss of life and property during a catastrophic wildfire event.



Zonehaven Evacuation Platform Zonehaven is a web-based evacuation mapping tool that helps county agencies, residents, and businesses be better prepared for evacuations or emergencies. A three-year subscription to the Zonehaven platform has been funded by Measure C funds as well as by the Town of Tiburon. In the FY 2020-21, the operations team focused on populating the evacuation platform. In 2021-22, Zonehaven was added to the County of Marin’s emergency portal and a public education campaign called “Know Your Zone” was launched in September 2021. The campaign included a PSA video that encouraged residents to sign up for Alert Marin and to become familiar with the Zonehaven platform.

Long Range Acoustic Device (LRAD) emergency alert systems LRADs can project both siren and voice recordings to alert and inform community members during a large-scale disaster. Southern Marin is approaching an LRAD system in phases. The 2021-22 MWPA Work Plan approved funding for 2 of 5 LRAD sites in Southern Marin. In the fall of 2021, MWPA completed the environmental review for this project and LRADs were subsequently installed in Tamalpais Valley and Strawberry. The 2022-23 MWPA Work Plan proposes up to 3 additional sites in Southern Marin for a total of 11-12 LRAD sites by the end of 2022. More LRAD sites are planned in other zones.

Evacuation/Ingress/Egress Risk Assessment

This project includes the development of a set of risk factors and dynamic models of wildfire spread, communications processes, and transportation networks to simulate wildfire evacuation in Marin County. Based on these risk factors and models, an evacuation planning software application will be developed to simulate the effect of different risks as they would impact each road and roadway within the jurisdictions served by the MPWA member agencies.

A Request for Proposal for an Wildfire Evacuation/ Ingress/Egress Risk Assessment was released in the fall of 2021 and, after significant vetting and project revisions, Professional Services and Software Agreements with Sonoma Technology were approved by the MWPA Board in April 2022.

GOAL 3 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

MWPA will work with partners to deliver specific, actionable, measurable and verifiable information and assistance to encourage members of the public to do their part in creating ecologically sustainable fire adapted communities, to reduce fire-related risks, and to minimize the impact of disaster events.



Fire Safe Marin (FSM) was the primary MWPA public outreach and education partner in FY 2021-22, interacting with approximately 759,000 touchpoints throughout the year. FSM produced and delivered exceptional outreach and education in support of wildfire preparedness and risk reduction efforts. Highlights include:

Ember Stomp On May 28, 2022, FSM successfully hosted the first-ever wildfire prevention festival in Marin County, which was attended by over 2,000 people and over 46 participating organizations showcasing that everyone has a role to play in community preparedness.

Wildfire Watch TV FSM produced 6 episodes of Wildfire Watch TV, a series dedicated to wildfire safety. As of August 2022, Wildfire Watch and associated videos have been viewed over 20,000 times on the FSM Youtube Channel with more viewers tuning in through weekly broadcasts on Marin TV, Comcast Channels 30 and 26.

Adapting to Wildfire public service campaign

This campaign focused on resident motivations for living in and protecting Marin, creating a social norm around adaptation to inspire action. In 2021-22, FSM developed 9 ads that appeared in print and digital advertising delivering 500,000 impressions, and amplified by community partners. In addition, an Adapt to Wildfire short video received a 2022 Telly Award for excellence in video and television.

Firewise Site Support FSM provided resources and support to Marin's 78 Firewise sites, representing 55,000 households—the largest Firewise county-wide participation in the country.

New Audiences FSM collaborated with a wide variety of partners to expand audience reach in 2021-22. This included: landscaper trainings with the California Landscape Contractors Association–North Coast Chapter; partnering with the Marin Center for Independent Living to meet the needs of the Access and Functional Needs community; expanding Spanish bilingual materials and consulting with organizations in Spanish-speaking communities; partnering with schools; and creating safety guidelines and tips for manufactured and mobile home owners.

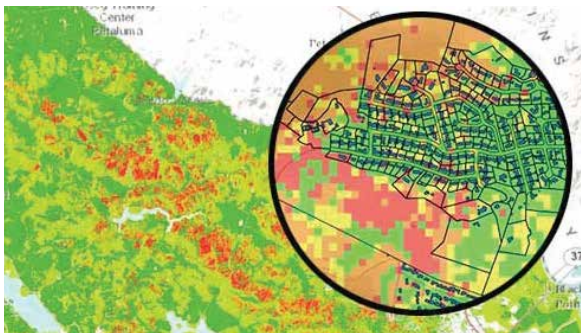
Other Partners In FY21-22, MWPA also supported the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Marin Master Gardeners in expanding their Fire-Smart Landscape education programs and funded a Regional Emergency Preparedness Coordinator to facilitate resident preparedness for wildfire disasters and evacuation. Additionally, MWPA supported outreach programs for some member agencies.

759,000
points of contact (aka “touchpoints”)
by Fire Safe Marin in FY 2021–22

GOAL 4 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: FIRE RESISTANT HOMES

MWPA and its member agencies will provide funding and technical resources to conduct defensible space structure and landscape evaluations to help owners/stewards of homes and other structures achieve effective defensible space and home hardening. The evaluations will support applicable fire and building codes and offer resources for understanding home hardening and defensible space concepts, and MWPA will provide follow up assistance as needed to apply these efforts to create fire adapted communities.

DEFENSIBLE SPACE (D-SPACE) EVALUATIONS AND HOME HARDENING



The Marin Community Wildfire Protection Plan emphasizes the importance of individual homes in preventing community-wide disaster. This “House Out” approach means being prepared to evacuate, hardening homes, and creating defensible space.

Creating defensible space and hardening homes are some of the best ways to help protect homes and communities from wildfire, and state law requires it. 20% of Measure C funds are allocated to Defensible Space Evaluations and Home Hardening efforts annually. The goal is to evaluate one third of Marin homes within member jurisdictions every year, resulting in each home being assessed by a trained professional every 3 years.

Per the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreements, the 17 MWPA agencies have the option to opt into one of three inspection approaches;



- (i) MWPA shared seasonal defensible space inspector program,
- (ii) provide a locally

controlled D-Space/Home Hardening Evaluation program, or (iii) establish a hybrid model. Agencies opting to maintain local control will receive their proportionate amount of the 20% total budgeted amount for defensible space and home hardening.

With the approval of the work plan, agencies immediately began implementing or expanding their existing Defensible Space and Home Hardening programs.

For FY21-22, the Defensible Space and Home Hardening programs were established as follows:

1. Novato Fire Protection District
2. City of San Rafael and Marinwood CSD
3. Bolinas Fire District, City of Larkspur, County of Marin Fire, Muir Beach CSD, Inverness Fire District, Kentfield Fire District, Sleepy Hollow Fire District, Stinson Beach Fire District, Town of Corte Madera, Town of Fairfax, Town of Ross, and Town of San Anselmo
4. City of Mill Valley and Southern Marin Fire District

33,829

**Defensible Space Evaluations
in FY 2021-22**

4,149

**hours of 1:1
community engagement**

GOAL 4 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: FIRE RESISTANT HOMES



Chipper Day The Chipper Day program is a free curbside pickup service allowing for two rounds of pickups for all Marin County communities that fall within MWPA's jurisdiction. In FY 2021-22, there were 3,410 completed pickups with an average of 4 cubic yards per pickup. The total volume removed was 13,892 cubic yards of vegetation. An after-pickup survey indicated that 92% of respondents rated their overall experience as a 5 (highest rating). Additionally, 90% responded "Yes" when asked if the free chipping program caused them to remove the vegetation that may otherwise have gone unattended. In FY21-22, the Chipper Day program changed management from Fire Safe Marin to MWPA.

The 2021 introduction of coordination between the Defensible Space evaluation and Chipper Day online systems also led to an increase in Chipper Day reservations. The ability of Chipper Day software to manage and track reservations, plan the most efficient routes, and allow crews to input pile size estimates along with pile photographs was invaluable to the success of the 2021 and 2022 seasons.

Fire Aside Online Platform In FY 2021-22, a pilot Defensible Space and Home Hardening Evaluation and reporting program was operated in Central and West Marin. This program was expanded county-wide starting in January 2022. After a Defensible Space and Home Hardening Evaluation is conducted, residents receive a personalized online home evaluation report that integrates with

the MWPA Grant and Chipper Day programs as well as other resources to help residents address wildfire risks found during the evaluation. 89% of residents stated the report helped them identify what vegetation to remove for fire safety.

Personalized evaluation reports delivered electronically also provides the ability for residents to submit resolutions to issues identified during the inspection. These submissions are taken into the system directly and allow inspection oversight teams to evaluate and determine the effectiveness of these changes from their browsers without heading back into the field. The electronic review capability represents a significant savings over field-based re-inspection.

Moreover, the level of participation in the online submission process proves that evaluations do, in fact, lead to individual action that creates safer communities. It's important to note that over 73% of items resolved by residents were in Zone 0 or at the structure itself. This shows that efforts to educate home owners about how and where to prioritize their efforts and resources are also effective.

Direct Assistance Some member agencies created programs to directly assist residents in creating defensible space and hardening homes. For example, San Rafael's Wildfire Mitigation Specialists provided direct assistance to 165 homeowners in their jurisdiction and in Central Marin, there were 328 voluntary abatements.

GOAL 5 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: GRANT PROGRAMS

MWPA will operate local grant programs to assist residents (first focusing on those with Access and Functional Needs, aid to seniors and/or for financially disadvantaged) in reducing fire risks.



Photo: Central Marin Fire Department

MWPA launched a \$500,000 grant program in December 2021 to allow Marin residents to obtain funding for expenses related to the creation of defensible space and home hardening on their properties.

In FY 2021-22, the program was structured so that \$250,000 would be allotted to Defensible Space grants awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis to residents with Access and Functional Needs (AFN) in amounts between \$100 (minimum) to \$1,000 (maximum) per year. An additional \$250,000 was allotted to Home Hardening grants to be awarded on a first-come, first-serve basis in amounts between \$100 (minimum) to \$500 (maximum) per year with a 50% match from the applicant.

In FY 2021-22, MWPA funded 20 applications for home hardening and 103 applications for defensible space totaling \$105,387 in grant funding.

Almost 100 grant applications were initiated during or after extensive outreach and tabling during the Ember Stomp wildfire prevention festival on

May 28, 2022 near the end of the fiscal year, highlighting this as a successful strategy to promote the grants program in the future.

Moving forward, in FY 22-23, remaining funds from FY 21-22 will be rolled over, the grant program will be extended to all residents and the Home Hardening grant maximum will be increased to \$5,000.

Local Grant Programs A number of member agencies provided a Measure C-funded local grant program to residents within their jurisdiction. For example, from July 2020-May 2022, the Novato Fire Protection District distributed \$1.487 million in matching grants. San Rafael issued over \$85,000 in grants to over 170 applicants. A full listing of member agency local grant programs is available at firesafemarin.org.

123

**MWPA Grant Applications
Funded in FY 2021-22**

FY 2021-22 PROJECTED REVENUE ALLOCATION

The MWPA Joint Powers Agreement signed by the 17 member agencies requires that 80% of the “Core” budget for cross-jurisdictional projects is spent in the geographic region (referred to as “Ops Areas”) from which the revenue is generated over a five (5) year average. The estimated revenue generation for each Ops Area in FY 2021-22 is detailed in the table below.

This table outlines the expected overall revenue for the MWPA, revenue generation from each geographic region (minus 10% for MWPA administration) and expected funding for Defensible Space (D-Space) and Local Wildfire Prevention Mitigation for each member agency. Note that this projection may differ from budgeted and actual numbers on the following page due to the number of low-income senior parcel tax exemptions received in a given year.

As the table shows, approximately \$10.6 MM has been allocated for Core Funding and \$3.9 MM each for D-space and Local Wildfire Prevention Mitigation.



%	Agency	Projected Revenue	Ops Area	Revenue %	Core Minus Admin*	D-Space 20%	Local 20%
5.29%	City of Larkspur	\$1,041,443				\$208,289	\$208,289
3.36%	Kentfield Fire District	\$662,503				\$132,501	\$132,501
1.15%	Sleepy Hollow Fire District	\$227,224				\$45,445	\$45,445
4.16%	Town of Corte Madera	\$818,649				\$163,730	\$163,730
2.49%	Town of Fairfax	\$490,183				\$98,037	\$98,037
1.38%	Town of Ross	\$270,824				\$54,165	\$54,165
4.65%	Town of San Anselmo	\$915,777	Central Marin	22.43%	\$2,385,105.53	\$183,155	\$183,155
0.61%	Bolinas Fire District	\$119,529				\$23,906	\$23,906
8.29%	County of Marin Fire*	\$1,632,405				\$326,481	\$326,481
0.52%	Inverness Fire District	\$101,676				\$20,335	\$20,335
0.68%	Stinson Beach Fire District	\$133,722	West Marin	5.97%	\$635,314.10	\$26,744	\$26,744
24.54%	Novato Fire District	\$4,833,323	Novato	24.17%	\$2,570,535.81	\$966,665	\$966,665
23.63%	City of San Rafael	\$4,653,581				\$930,716	\$930,716
1.67%	Marinwood CSD	\$328,228	San Rafael	28.89%	\$3,072,613.55	\$65,646	\$65,646
6.03%	City of Mill Valley	\$1,187,728				\$237,546	\$237,546
0.15%	Muir Beach CSD	\$30,351				\$6,070	\$6,070
11.42%	Southern Marin Fire District	\$2,248,673	Southern Marin	18.54%	\$1,971,477.09	\$449,735	\$449,735
Total		\$19,695,819		100%	\$10,635,046.08	\$3,939,164	\$3,939,164

*The agency-projected revenue totals within an Ops Areas do not add up directly to the total Core funding for that Ops Areas. The Marin County Fire Department has revenue generation in all five of the Ops Areas. A tax levy analysis has been used to determine the actual revenue for each Ops Area, which is denoted in the “Core minus Admin” column of the table.

FY 2021-22 REVENUE & EXPENDITURES

This table summarizes actual versus budgeted expenditures of the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA) for the 2021-22 fiscal year ending June 30. MWPA spent 78% of anticipated budget

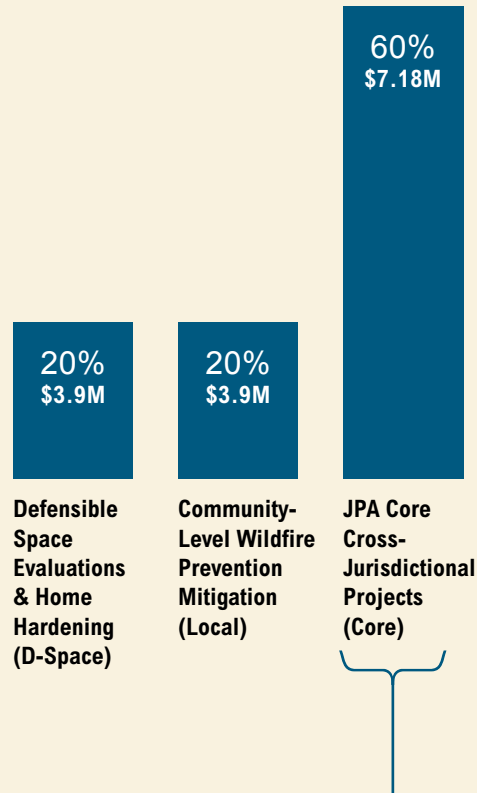
due to the number of ready projects. Some projects were on hold pending environmental compliance, needed permits, and surveys of sensitive resources.

REVENUE	Actual Through June 30, 2022	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of budget
Measure C	19,888,614	19,325,698	198,614	101%
County Interest	8,264	3,500	4,764	236%
Prior Years' Fund Balance	0	972,455	(972,455)	0%
TOTAL REVENUE	19,896,878	20,665,955	(769,077)	96%

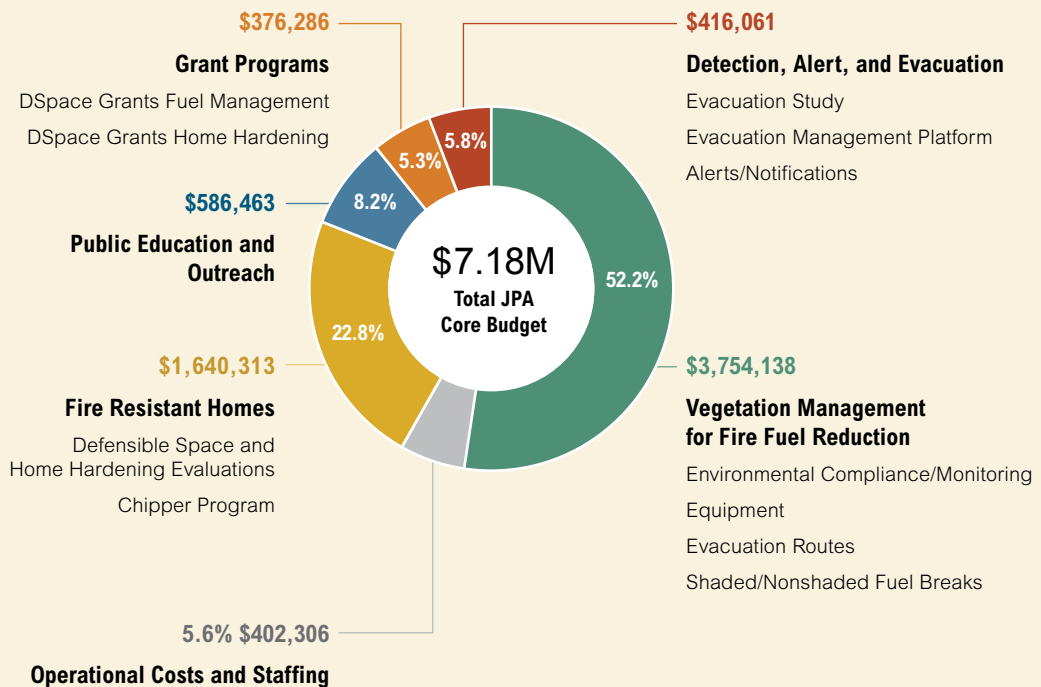
EXPENDITURES	Actual Through June 30, 2022	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of budget
Core Program: Cross-Jurisdictional				
Environmental Compliance/Monitoring	103,463	106,643	-3,180	97%
Evacuation Study	94,671	916,371	-821,700	10%
Evacuation Mgmt Platform	72,075	75,000	-2,925	96%
Operational Costs	360,165	514,381	-154,216	70%
Core Projects				
Alerts/Notifications	249,315	310,416	-61,101	80%
Chipper Days	1,079,408	1,522,120	-442,712	71%
DSpace Evaluations	560,905	893,576	-332,671	63%
DSpace Grants Fuel Mgmt	147,054	250,000	-102,946	59%
DSpace Grants Home Hardening	229,232	610,000	-380,768	38%
Equipment	160,000	160,000	0	100%
Evacuation Routes	1,809,619	2,271,257	-461,638	80%
Public Education	586,463	701,720	-115,257	84%
Shaded/Nonshaded Fuel Breaks	1,681,056	3,012,280	-1,331,224	56%
Staffing	42,141	160,061	-117,920	26%
Total Core Projects	6,545,194	9,891,430	-3,346,236	66%
Total Core Program	7,175,568	11,503,825	-4,328,257	62%
Defensible Space Program				
Defensible Space Agency Payments	3,898,168	3,859,240	38,928	101%
Defensible Space Abatement Program	0	78,760	-78,760	0%
Total Defensible Space Program	3,898,168	3,938,000	-39,832	99%
Local Wildfire Mitigation Program				
Defensible Space Agency Payments	3,898,168	3,859,240	38,928	101%
Defensible Space Abatement Program	0	78,760	-78,760	0%
Total Local Wildfire Mitigation Program	3,898,168	3,938,000	-39,832	99%
Administrative Costs				
Financial & Administrative Services	104,190	104,137	53	100%
Legal Services	218,780	180,000	38,780	122%
Personnel	389,785	450,000	-60,215	87%
Services & Supplies	166,884	297,263	-130,379	56%
Professional Services	112,985	150,000	-37,015	75%
Total Administrative Costs	992,624	1,181,400	-188,776	84%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	16,044,083	20,561,225	-4,517,142	78%
NET EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)	3,852,795	104,730		

FY 2021-22 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

MEASURE C FUNDS BY PROGRAM AREA

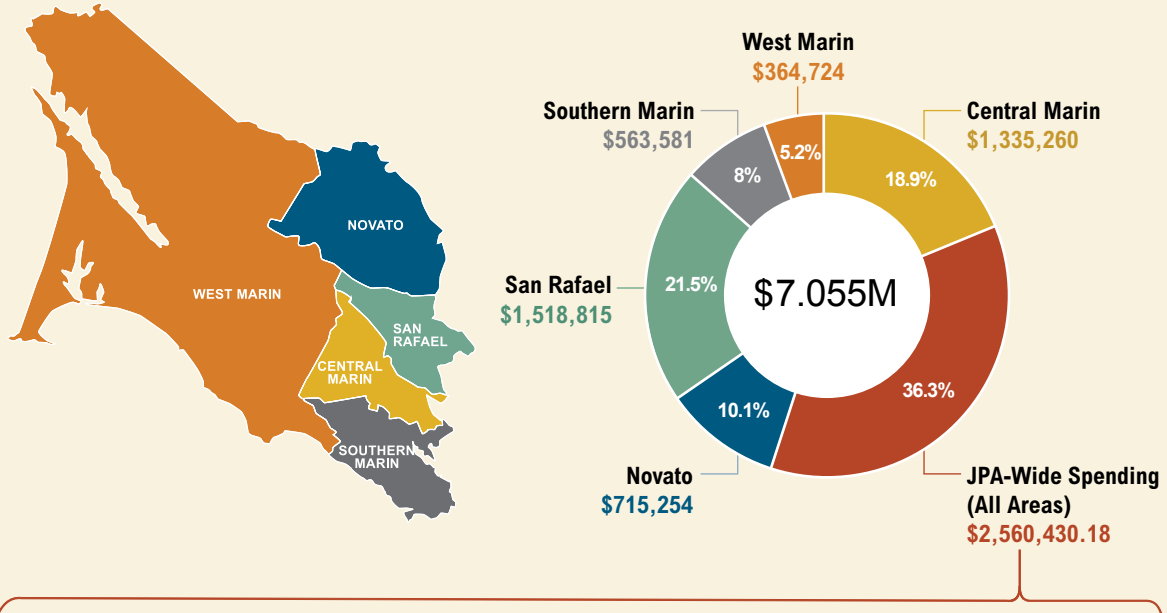


CORE FUNDING BY GOAL AREA



FY 2021-22 FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ACTUAL CORE PROJECT EXPENDITURES BY ZONE



JPA-WIDE PROJECTS SPENDING	Central Marin	West Marin	Novato	San Rafael	Southern Marin	Total
Alerts/Notifications	39,671.59	10,532.28	42,655.73	50,379.41	32,298.99	175,538.00
Operational Costs	81,397.29	21,609.90	87,520.10	103,367.36	66,270.36	360,165.00
Environmental Compliance	23,382.64	6,207.78	25,141.51	29,693.88	19,037.19	103,463.00
Chipper Days	225,403.27	145,040.32	166,957.46	188,874.64	218,097.55	944,373.24
Dspace Evaluations	65,101.79	17,283.66	69,998.82	82,673.51	53,003.22	288,061.00
Dspace Grants Fuel Mgmt	52,994.00	8,940.24	0.00	20,390.00	14,000.00	96,324.24
Dspace Grants Home Hardening	3,522.43	1,041.27	0.00	500.00	5,000.00	10,063.70
Public Education	129,757.90	34,449.00	139,518.45	164,781.05	105,643.60	574,150.00
Staffing	1,873.99	497.52	2,014.96	2,379.80	1,525.73	8,292.00
TOTAL JPA-WIDE PROJECTS	623,104.89	245,601.97	533,807.03	643,039.64	514,876.65	2,560,430.18
JPA-WIDE PROJECTS BY %	24.34%	10%	20.85%	25.11%	20.11%	100.00%

THE ROAD AHEAD: CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS

While the 2021-22 fiscal year set the stage for success, there is plenty left to accomplish. Over 124 wildfire prevention and community preparedness proposals totaling approximately \$20 million are included in MWPA's new 2022-23 Work Plan.

The Work Plan proposals include:

- Over \$4.5 million for 23 county-wide projects;
- \$2 million for 20 projects in Novato;
- \$2 million for 21 projects in San Rafael;
- \$1.8 million for 22 projects in Central Marin;
- \$1.44 million for 23 projects in Southern Marin;
- \$827,000 for 15 projects in Western Marin;
- \$4 million toward home hardening and defensible space evaluations; and
- \$4 million for local community-level wildfire mitigation within member agency jurisdictions

These projects will treat 83 miles of fuel breaks in Ross Valley and Novato, maintain extensive open space areas and current fuel breaks, expand the MWPA grant program by an additional \$250,000, invest in a model for analyzing evacuation routes, and expand acoustic warning systems for evacuation and notifications.

With continued Measure C investment, Marin County is truly becoming a fire adapted community and leading the way for others to follow.

