

Community Resources



The Butte County Resource Conservation District (RCD) is a locally controlled, independent special district that is empowered to conserve natural resources by implementing projects on public and private lands and providing outreach about resource conservation. The Butte County RCD has a variety of grant-funded projects and programs to assist landowners with fire prevention and post fire restoration. They lead the Butte County Prescribed Burn Association, a landowner cooperative where neighbors burn to reduce fire fuel loads, improve wildlife habitat and reduce invasive plant species. The RCD assists property owners with restoration projects by providing technical assistance (design help, background science, and know-how) as well as grant funding to improve natural resources, including reducing fire fuel loads and post-fire projects.

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CAL FIRE in Butte County works with private landowners and community partners (e.g. Fire Safe Council) to conduct vegetation management. There is a variety of hand and mechanical treatments that CAL FIRE implements to reduce hazardous fuels to protect communities, homes and businesses. Current projects underway include prescribed fire, mastication, chipping, cut, stack and burn, dozers lines, dozers with brush rakes and others. These projects are funded in collaboration with landowners and through external grants to improve fire resiliency in the region. The CAL FIRE vegetation management program also meets with private landowners to discuss proactive fuel reduction projects including grazing, mechanical, and hand treatments on strategic properties to reduce the threat of catastrophic fires in the county. They also provide recommendations for commercial timber harvest used to promote forest health and to subsidize the treatment of merchantable materials.

Chief Gus Boston, Battalion Chief, VMP B2119
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The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is under the United States Department of Agriculture and provides technical assistance and cost-share support to eligible landowners to reduce wildfire hazards. NRCS can assist with biomass management through grazing, mechanical, handwork, and prescribed fire. They will not provide funding for permanent exterior fencing, but can assist landowners with temporary fencing, cross-fencing, and livestock water development that can improve the effectiveness of prescribed grazing as a fire fuel load reduction practice. The Butte County Service Center works with farmers, ranchers, forestry landowners, and community groups to implement projects that improve natural resources, agricultural productivity, and reduce the threat of catastrophic fires.

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The Butte County Fire Safe Council provides wildland fire mitigation and recovery services to communities in Butte County. They work to create landscapes that are resistant to the devastating impacts of wildland fires. The Butte County Fire Safe Council is working with the town of Paradise on the use of grazing to control fire fuel loads. They also provide a no-cost chipping service for reducing fire hazards by chipping fallen branches, overgrown brush, and other vegetation across the county. The Fire Safe Council secures grants to conduct other projects across the county to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire through education and on-the-ground projects at residences, small parcels, and large landscapes.

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