

DAMAGE SURVEY SUMMARY REPORT

DISASTER CA24-5

JULY 2024 GOLD COMPLEX and PARK FIRES

BUTTE, PLUMAS, and TEHAMA COUNTIES

COMMENCING JULY 22, 2024

Prepared by:
California Department of Transportation
Division of Budgets
Federal Resources Office

Introduction

This Damage Survey Summary Report (DSSR) has been prepared for submission to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in response to statewide wildfire events impacting Butte, Plumas, and Tehama Counties, which began on July 22, 2024.

According to FHWA's Emergency Relief Manual (May 2013), the purpose of this DSSR is to "summarize the damage assessment and provide information and documentation for the FHWA Division Administrator to make a finding that a natural disaster or catastrophic failure has occurred within the intent of 23 U.S.C. 125." The DSSR also "provides the Division Administrator with a basis to make a finding that the disaster is eligible for funding under the FHWA ER program."

Damage Description

Beginning on July 22, 2024, the Gold Complex Fire began burning in Plumas County, and on July 24, 2024, the Park Fire began burning in Butte County and spread into Tehama County, resulting in multiple fires collectively known as the Gold Complex and Park Fires, which spread rapidly due to dry fuels, winds, high temperatures, and continued critical fire weather conditions, impacting Butte, Plumas, and Tehama Counties. The Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County and the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties will be tracked individually, and each is required to meet the Federal ER threshold. The fires have caused extensive damage to critical infrastructures and roadside facilities.

A Governor's Proclamation was executed on July 26, 2024, for the Gold Complex fires in Plumas County and the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. The Gold Complex and Park Fires are included in the Disaster Survey Summary Report.

The Damage Assessment Form (DAF) due date for this disaster is October 31, 2024. Given the anticipated timeframe of a corresponding Finding of Eligibility and the necessary work to complete damage assessment, it is anticipated that additional time will be needed. A Damage Assessment Form time extension to December 31, 2024, will be requested as part of the Emergency Relief application.

Damage Estimate

To date, the preliminary estimated cost to repair or reconstruct the damage to federal-aid highways in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 125 for the Park Fire fires is 4.78 million for State damages and \$5.64 million for Emergency Relief-eligible Local damages, and for the Gold Complex fires, there are no State or Local damages reported at this time and tracked individually.

In accordance with 23 CFR 668.105(j), the minimum \$700,000 threshold for event eligibility will be applied to each individual fire event identified under this Disaster.

Additional fire damages are expected to supplement this initial ER Application Letter requesting eligibility for ER funding through the DAF approval process. As state and local agencies assess damages, additional counties may need to be added to this Disaster via Supplemental ER Applications. Additional fires associated with this disaster event will be submitted under separate cover through a Supplemental ER Application Letter to determine eligibility for ER funding, if required.

Additional Information

The following attached information describes the statewide wildfire damage in additional detail:

- Governor's Proclamations (Gold Complex and Park Fires – executed on July 26, 2024)
- State damage estimates (to date)
- FIRE incident information and sampling of news articles
- Pictures of reported damage

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GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS on July 22, 2024, the Gold Complex Fire began burning in Plumas County, and has since burned more than 3,000 acres, prompting evacuation orders for thousands, and threatening homes, structures, critical infrastructure, and transmission lines; and

WHEREAS on July 24, 2024, the Park Fire began burning in Butte County and spread into Tehama County, and has since burned more than a hundred thousand acres; and

WHEREAS the Park Fire has destroyed over a hundred homes and prompted evacuation orders for thousands, and continues to threaten homes, structures, critical infrastructure, transportation, communication sites, and transmission lines; and

WHEREAS continued high temperatures throughout the day and night, dry conditions, and strong winds have increased the intensity and spread of the Gold Complex and Park Fires, causing imminent threat to life, with a Red Flag Warning in effect in Plumas, Butte, and Tehama Counties; and

WHEREAS state agencies, including my Office of Emergency Services and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, have been coordinating with and supporting emergency operations and fire and law enforcement resources in response to the Gold Complex and Park Fires; and

WHEREAS in response to a request from my Office of Emergency Services the Federal Emergency Management Agency approved a Fire Management Assistance Grant to assist with the mitigation, management, and control of the Park Fire; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County and the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the Gold Complex and Park Fires, by reason of their magnitude, are beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authorities are inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the Gold Complex and Park Fires; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the Gold Complex and Park Fires.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist in Plumas County due to the Gold Complex Fire and in Butte and Tehama Counties due to the Park Fire.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
2. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance to local governments, if appropriate, under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, Title 19, section 2900 et seq.
3. As necessary to assist local governments and for the protection of public health and the environment, state agencies shall enter into contracts to arrange for the procurement of materials, goods, and services necessary to quickly assist with the response to and recovery from the impacts of the Gold Complex and Park Fires. Applicable provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code, including but not limited to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements, are suspended to the extent necessary to address the effects of the Gold Complex and Park Fires.
4. The California National Guard may be mobilized under Military and Veterans Code section 146 to support disaster response and relief efforts, as directed by the Office of Emergency Services, and to coordinate with all relevant state agencies and state and local emergency responders and law enforcement within the impacted areas. Sections 147 and 188 of the Military and Veterans Code are applicable during the period of participation in this mission, exempting the California Military Department from applicable procurement rules for specified emergency purchases, and those rules are hereby suspended.
5. The provisions of Unemployment Insurance Code section 1253 imposing a one-week waiting period for unemployment insurance applicants are suspended as to all applicants who are unemployed as a direct result of the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties and apply for unemployment insurance benefits during the time period beginning July 24, 2024, and ending on the close of business on January 24, 2025, in Butte and Tehama Counties and who are otherwise eligible for unemployment insurance benefits.
6. Vehicle Code sections 9265(a), 9867, 14901, 14902, and 15255.2, requiring the imposition of fees, are suspended with regard to any request for replacement of an identification card, driver's license card,

vehicle registration certificate, or certificate of title, or registration stickers, by any individual who loses such records as a result of the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. Such records shall be replaced without charge.

7. The provisions of Vehicle Code sections 4602 and 5902, requiring the timely registration or transfer of title, are suspended with regard to any registration or transfer of title by any individual who is unable to comply with those requirements as a result of the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. The time covered by this suspension shall not be included in calculating any late penalty pursuant to Vehicle Code section 9554.
8. Health and Safety Code sections 103525.5 and 103625, and Penal Code section 14251, requiring the imposition of fees, are suspended with regard to any request for copies of certificates of birth, death, marriage, and dissolution of marriage records, by any individual who loses such records as a result of the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. Such copies shall be provided without charge.
9. In order to ensure hospitals, clinics, and other health facilities remain open, the Director of the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) may waive any of the licensing requirements of chapters 1, 2, 8, and 8.5 of division 2 of the Health and Safety Code and accompanying regulations with respect to any hospital, clinic, other health facility, home health agency, or hospice agency identified in Health and Safety Code sections 1200, 1250, 1727, or 1746 that is impacted by the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County or the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. Any waiver shall include alternative measures that, under the circumstances, will allow the facilities to remain open while protecting public health and safety. Any health facilities or agencies being granted a waiver shall be established and operated in accordance with their disaster and mass casualty plan or emergency preparedness plan. Any waivers granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be posted on the CDPH website and shall be in effect only so long as necessary to address the direct impacts of the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County or the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties.
10. In order to directly respond to the needs of impacted adult and senior care facilities, child care facilities, children's residential facilities, resource family homes, home care organizations, and other similar care facilities and care providers within the State Department of Social Services' (CDSS) jurisdiction, the Director of CDSS may waive any provisions of the Family Code, Health and Safety Code, or Welfare and Institutions Code, and accompanying regulations or written directives, with respect to the use, licensing, certification, registration or approval of care providers, facilities or homes within CDSS jurisdiction set forth in the California Community Care Facilities Act (Health and Safety Code section 1500 et seq.), Child Care Provider Registration (Health and Safety Code section 1596.60 et seq.), the California Child Day Care Facilities Act (Health and Safety Code section 1596.70 et seq.), Residential Care Facilities for Persons With Chronic Life-Threatening Illness (Health and Safety Code section 1568.01 et seq.), the California Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly Act (Health and Safety Code section 1569 et seq.), Medical Foster Homes for Veterans (Health and Safety Code section 1568.21 et seq.), Continuing Care Contracts (Health and Safety Code section 1770 et seq.), the Home Care Services Consumer Protection Act (Health and Safety Code section

1796.10 et seq.), and the Resource Family Approval Program (Welfare and Institutions Code section 16519.5 et seq.). Any waivers granted pursuant to this paragraph shall be posted on the CDSS website and shall be in effect only so long as necessary to address the direct impacts of the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County or the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties.

11. Adequate state staffing during this emergency is necessary for all state agencies and departments with an assigned response and/or recovery role. Consistent with applicable federal law, work hour limitations for retired annuitants, permanent and intermittent personnel, and state management and senior supervisors, are suspended. Furthermore, reinstatement and work hour limitations in Government Code sections 21220, 21224(a), and 7522.56(b), (d), (f), and (g), and the time limitations in Government Code section 19888.1 and California Code of Regulations, title 2, sections 300-303 are suspended. All other restrictions must be adhered to for retired annuitants. The Director of the California Department of Human Resources must be notified of any individual employed in state government pursuant to these suspensions. The suspension of statutes identified in this Paragraph shall also apply to local governments, as applicable, to ensure adequate staffing to appropriately respond to the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County or the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. Local governmental agencies shall notify the California Public Employees' Retirement System of any individual employed by an agency pursuant to this Paragraph.
12. The limitation for the period of employment for State Personnel Board emergency appointments, as provided in Government Code section 19888.1, is suspended for positions required for emergency response and/or recovery operations related to the Gold Complex Fire in Plumas County or the Park Fire in Butte and Tehama Counties. The requirements and period of employment for such appointments will be determined by the Office of Emergency Services, but shall not extend beyond the termination date of the State of Emergency.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have
hereunto set my hand and caused
the Great Seal of the State of
California to be affixed this 26th day
of July 2024.



Handwritten signature of Gavin Newsom in blue ink.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of Shirley Weber in blue ink.

SHIRLEY WEBER, PH.D.
Secretary of State

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STATE
DAMAGE ESTIMATES

State Damage Estimate CA24-5: Park Fire

Park Fire- Caltrans Preliminary Major Damage Assessment REPORT (PMDAR)															
Count	District	Date of Incident	Event Name	DO (Y/N)	EA #	Verbal Approval Date	Reporting Code(s)	Main Damages	Work Description	County	Route	Begin PM	End PM Prefix	End PM	TOTAL COST TO DATE
1	2	7/24/2024	Park Fire	Y	1K900	7/29/2024		MBGR and signs	Remove hazard trees (approx. 100) and repair damaged parts of HWY 36 and traffic control	VAR	VAR	VAR		VAR	\$ 3,530,000
2	3	7/24/2024	Park Fire	Y		8/16/2024		Trees, pavement, signs, guardrail	Hazardous tree/debris removal, pavement repair, replace damaged R/W fencing/guardrail and signs, install catch basins and debris racks, repair/regrade ditches, erosion control, traffic control, and incidental work	BUT	32	17.45		37.75	\$ 1,250,000

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SAMPLING OF NEWS ARTICLES

Highway 32 closure starts Thursday for Park Fire Repairs

www.actionnewsnow.com; **By: Kelli Saam**, Sep 12, 2024

CHICO, Calif. - Starting Thursday, parts of Highway 32 will be closed for emergency clean-up after the Park Fire. The work is happening near the Butte-Tehama County line to 2 miles northeast of the county line.



The closures will happen several times a day and continue through September into early October. The work will be done between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. except on Sundays.



Caltrans District 2

The closures allow crews to work on removing trees and replacing guard rails burned by the Park Fire.

Park Fire 34% contained; National Guard respond to help California firefighters.

by KRCR Staff, Fri, August 2nd 2024 at 10:43 AM

NORTHSTATE, Calif. — The Park Fire continues to burn steadily as it reaches 401,740 acres at 34% containment, according to Cal Fire Monday morning.



One hundred National Guard personnel arrived in the Northstate this weekend and will be deployed to mop up areas Sunday, which will allow other fire fighting crews to be sent to more complex areas of the fire. More than 6,000 personnel are assigned to the Park Fire with additional out-of-state resources including help from Texas, Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. The Park Fire is the largest fire currently burning in the United States as of Saturday and it's the fourth largest wildfire in California's history.

In their latest update, Cal Fire said 640 structures have been destroyed in the Park Fire, with another 52 structures damaged.

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PHOTOGRAPHS



03-BUT-32 – Park Fire -typical Damages
Park Fires Butte/Tehama Counties



03-BUT-32 – Park Fire -typical Damages

Park Fires Butte/Tehama Counties