



## A Message from the State Fire Marshal Chief Daniel Berlant January 2026



Welcome to the January 2026 edition of the CAL FIRE - Office of the State Fire Marshal Newsletter!

As California begins the new year, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) continues to lead with innovation, education, and public safety initiatives that reflect its mission to protect people, property, and natural resources.

### **2025 Accomplishments**

In 2025, OSFM raised the bar for fire prevention and community safety across California.

Here's how we turned action into impact:

- Hardened 92 homes & added 500 Firewise communities (1,481 total!)
- Completed 326,000 defensible space inspections (+27K from last year)
- Executed 922 fuel reduction projects, treating 179,000 acres
- Delivered 1.23M hours of fire training through 3,355 courses
- 82 grants awarded for local fire prevention projects totaling \$62 million
- Achieved a 100% federal pipeline safety score

This is just a small snapshot of the accomplishments the Team achieved this past year and underscores the hard work that occurs each and every day to meet our mission.

### **Community Risk Reduction Week**

Observed each January, CRR Week focuses on proactive strategies to reduce fire and life safety risks before emergencies occur. OSFM is advancing this effort by sharing data-driven prevention tools that help local agencies identify hazards, prioritize resources, and implement effective mitigation measures. In this quarter's newsletter we have some helpful tips and resources focused on CRR.

### **2026**

As we look ahead to 2026, our Team remains laser focused on not only meeting our responsibilities, but in tackling the 114 key initiatives and projects across our 7 Divisions. The entire Team met earlier this month to ensure alignment in our direction. From prevention strategies to professional development, CAL FIRE - OSFM continues to lead with purpose and preparedness. Thank you for being part of California's fire-resilient future— and as always, have a fire-safe day!

Daniel Berlant  
California State Fire Marshal