



# 2025 Wildfire County Coordinator Grant Program : Overview & Update

Anne-Marie Parkinson

Santa Barbara County Fire Safe Council –  
Executive Director

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# Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Objectives

The Wildfire County Coordinator Program seeks to educate, encourage, and develop county-wide community collaboration and coordination among wildfire mitigation groups.



*County Coordinator Cohort with California Fire Safe Council Staff at the November 2025 County Coordinator Workshop (Sacramento, CA)*

*Photo Credit: CAL FIRE Communications*

# Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Background

## 2025 funding built on previous grant-funded work in 2021 and 2022:

- 2021 County Coordinator Pilot Program (\$6.0M):
  - Program **established** in 24 counties in Northern California.
- 2022 County Coordinator Program (\$13.8M):
  - Program **expanded** to the rest of the state in 52 out of 58 counties. Award \$175,000
  - SB Supervisors **awarded SBCFSC** as the County Coordinators.
- 2025 County Coordinator Program (\$11.0M):
  - Program **continued** in 2025/26 with 48 of the 58 counties. Award \$151,000.
- 2025 County Coordinator Program (\$9.5M):
  - Program **renewed** for 2026/27. Award \$151,000.

# CFSC 2026-2030 Strategic Plan (\*NEW\*)

## CFSC and CalFire's Goals:

- Serve as a facilitator that translates **state-level priorities** into tangible, community-led, and **locally** driven actions
- **Unified strategic direction** between state agencies (e.g., CalFire, CNRA) and counties
- Support **local prioritization** because they recognize all counties are unique

# Wildfire County Coordinator Program: Six (6) “Core” Tasks

Integrate with local **CAL FIRE** units and develop shared, locally appropriate resources.

Contribute to the CFSC **GIS** Networking Portal

Attend CAL FIRE **Defensible Space Assessor Training**

Host a **CWPP Toolkit** training

Assess likelihood of creating a **Countywide CWPP**

Present to BOS to keep county **leadership informed of program** impact and keep the County Coordinator tied into the county’s priorities and plans

# Wildfire County Coordinator Program: SBCFSC Additional Tasks

Create a public  
**Mitigations Map**

Create a public  
**Resources Guide**

Establish a  
Technical Advisory  
Committee (**TAC**)

Participate in  
**committees** that  
advance wildfire  
resilience



**Wildfire  
Resilience  
Collaborative**  
Santa Barbara County

# WILDFIRE RESILIENCE COLLABORATIVE (WRC)



**OUR PHILOSOPHY & FRAMEWORK**  
Holistic approach to wildfire resilience through landscape, built environment, and community programming

# Technical Advisory Committee

*Goal: Collaborative, professional, effective, and consistent delivery of programs, projects, and activities contributing to and addressing gaps in wildfire resilience in Santa Barbara County.*

Co-Chair



Co-Chair



Community Environmental Council



Cultural & Ecological Preservation & Education



COUNTY of SANTA BARBARA  
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

UC SANTA BARBARA  
Wildfire Resilience Initiative



Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

# 2025 SB County Coordinator Program: Local Impact

- Connected with 118 wildfire mitigation groups
- Education/outreach to > 4,000 people in Santa Barbara
- 38 new Firewise communities
  - 71 total communities
  - 10,800 homes
  - 23,900 residents
- Wildfire Resilience Collaborative (WRC)
  - May symposium kickoff
  - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- Coordinating a Santa Ynez Valley CWPP
- Grant writing:
  - Written: 6 grants worth \$3.3 million
  - Awarded: 3 grants for \$2.8 million

# Preliminary 2026/2027 County Coordinator Activities

- Continue to support and refine the **Mitigations Map**
- Support countywide collaboration through the **Wildfire Resilience Collaborative** and **Technical Advisory Committee** and maintain the **Regional Priority Plan**
- Prioritization software / process
- **Grant writing** for wildfire resilience projects for County, city, federal, and local organization's
- Align state priorities with **local plans and our wildfire resilience framework**: *County Hazard Plan, County and City of Santa Barbara Climate Adaptation Plan, Long-Range Plan, County Fire Unit Fire Plan, CWPPs, etc.*



Thank You!

[Aparkinson@sbfiresafecouncil.org](mailto:Aparkinson@sbfiresafecouncil.org)

[CAFireSafeCouncil.org/wildfire-county-coordinator-program](https://CAFireSafeCouncil.org/wildfire-county-coordinator-program)