Watershed Wildfire

Incident Report

July 5, 2022

Outline

- **Watershed Overview**

- **Wildfire Incident**

- **Wildfire Response**

- **Lessons Learned**

- **Enhancements**

After forest restoration treatment along Lakeview Fire Rd.

Equipment Inventory

District's equipment supports initial attack, patrol and Marin County Fire's response.

Rangers' Trucks:

- 2 – Type 6 (200 gal) & 1000 ft of hose
- 3 – Type 7 (100 gal) & 400 ft of hose

District Equipment

- Type I Tactical Water Tender (2,200 gal)
- Type 3 Wildland Engine (500 gal)
- Boat with portable pumps
- Dozer (Fire Rated)
- Over 5,000 ft of wildland fire hose
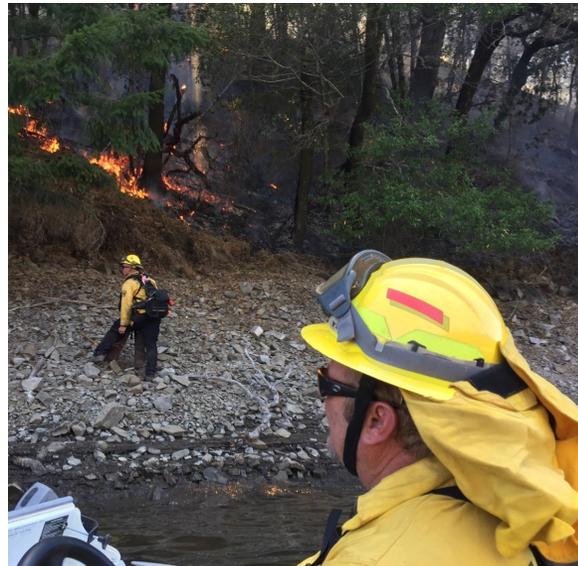
Watershed Staff

Wildland Firefighter 2 or Higher Certifications

- Rangers
  - 6 Fulltime
    - 1 Ranger position currently in recruitment
  - 1 Seasonal

- Watershed Maintenance
  - 7 Fulltime

- Natural Resources
  - 2 Fulltime

- 1 Contract Sherriff
 (not a certified wildland fire fighter)

In-house Training and Annual Qualifications

Watershed Vegetation Management in FY 2022

Watershed forest restoration and vegetation management work completed to date:

- 282 acres of Fuelbreak maintenance work completed to date

- 146 acres of forest restoration and fuel reduction work completed

- 524 acres of broom management work completed

- 218 acres of priority weed management work completed to date

Legend:
- 2021 Vegetation Management Work Areas
- 2020 Vegetation Management Work Areas
- 2022-2026 Forest Health Work Areas
- MMWD Watershed
- Other Public Lands
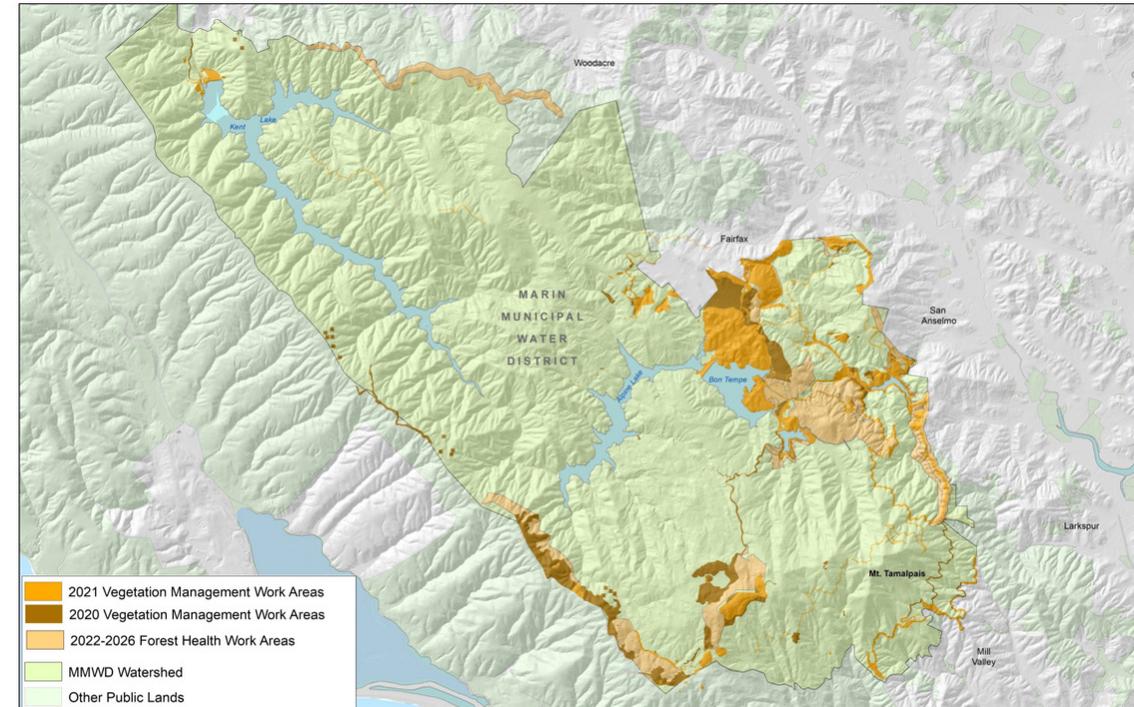
Alert Wildfire Camera Network

www.alertwildfire.org
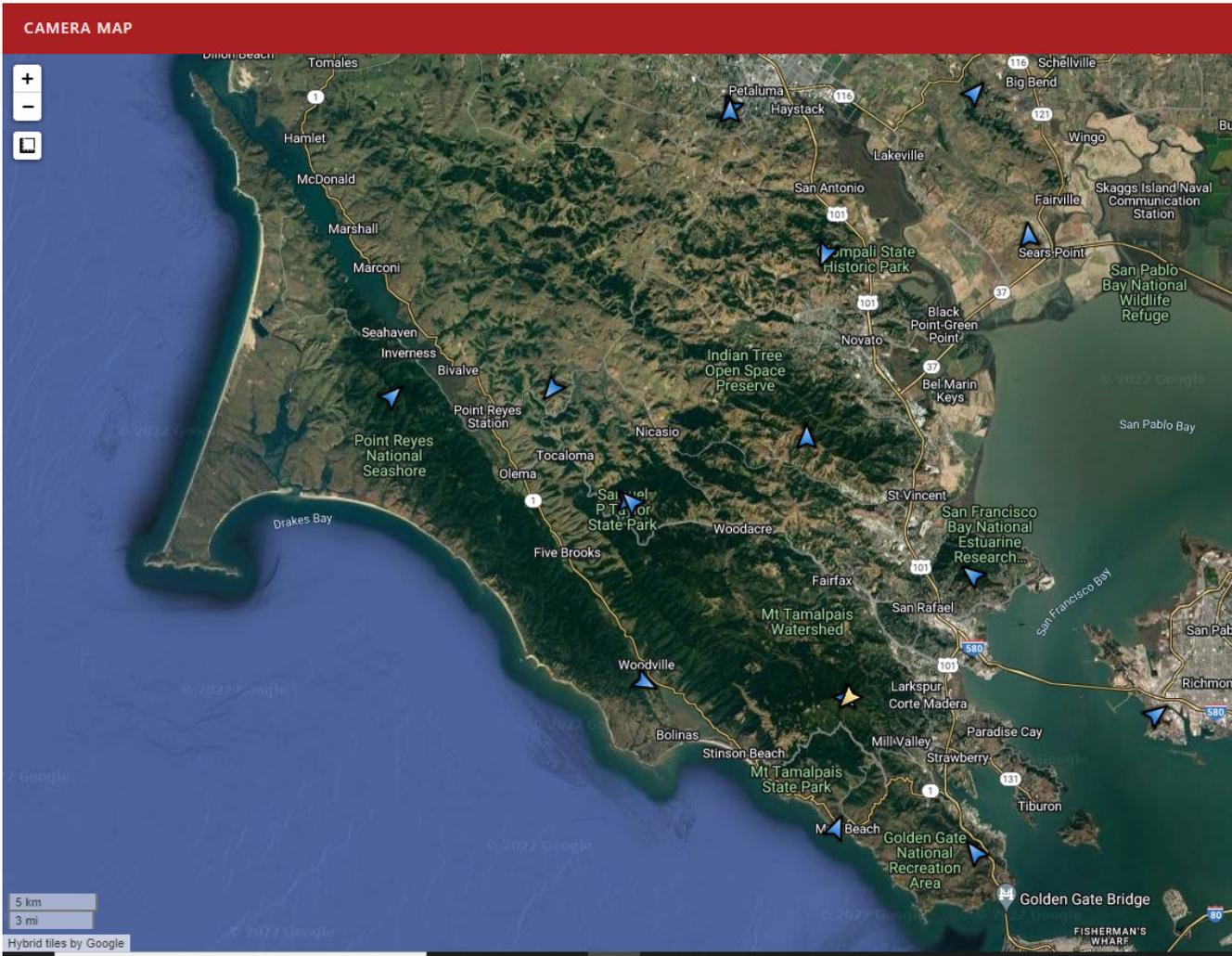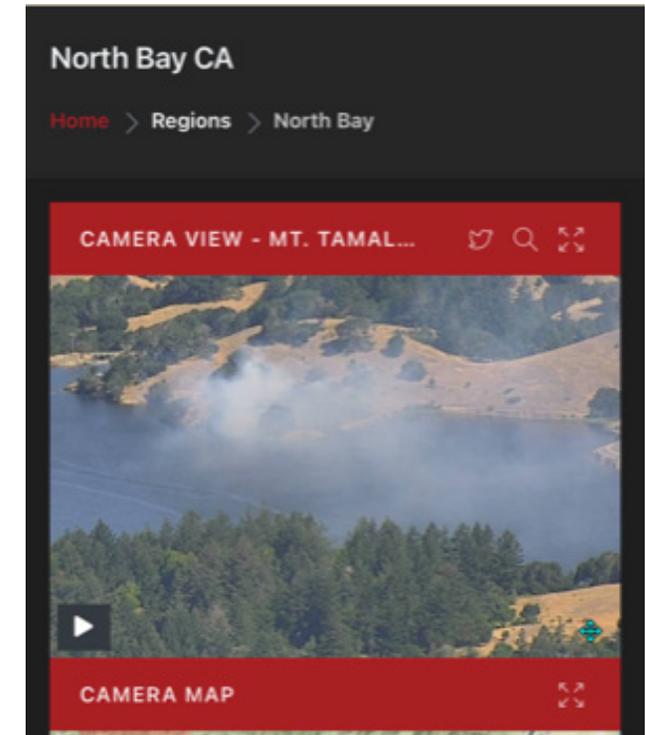
County Fire Lookout

- Marin County Fire Manages **East Peak of Mt. Tam** and the Dickson Lookout at Mt. Barnabe at Samuel P. Taylor State Park.

- Operated by Volunteer Support
  - Currently a waitlist for new volunteers

- Season May-October

- Service Hours 9:00am-7:00pm

- Required training and minimum number of annual shifts

- Sign up here to volunteer

https://www.marincounty.org/depts/fr/join-us

www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/jul/03/wildfire-lookout-california-mt-tamalpais

Lake Fire Response

➢ Rangers notified by visitor of smoke (**9:45 am**)

➢ Rangers and Watershed Maintenance responded with Type III Engine and hiked in to site with hand tools

➢ Rangers connected with injured watershed visitor for medical aid and medical transport

➢ Rangers and Watershed Maintenance mobilized boat and portable water pumps to Bon Tempe Lake

➢ Watershed staff closed Sky Oaks Watershed entrance and directed fire responders

➢ County Fire Mobilized 67 firefighters

➢ Watershed staff evacuated school group to Sky Oaks Ranger Station

➢ Air support arrived and was quickly called off

➢ Fire completely contained (**10:43 am**) and mop-up completed by (**Noon**)

West Peak Fire Response 2021

➢ Ignition source was visitor car fire

➢ Throckmorton Fire first on scene

➢ Rangers Type 7 engine response

➢ Watershed Maintenance with Water Tender Type I response

➢ Air attack utilized two aircraft to control spread

➢ Previously treated defensible space zone influenced behavior of fire and slowed spread towards communication infrastructure

➢ Water resupply occurred via spring feed tank at Rock Springs. No fire hydrants above Throckmorton

➢ Visitors held at East Peak until the fire was contained

Lessons Learned

- Hard closure of Sky Oaks entrance to reduce community members entering the active fire area.

- Pro-active forest restoration and fuel reduction work provides tactical advantage for first responders and influences fire behavior.

- Rangers are critical for initial attack, but have other roles once County Fire takes over incident command.

- Watershed closures and evacuations clears the area for first responders.

- Water supply is critical to response either from hydrants, water tenders, lakes/streams or spring feed tanks.

Operational Enhancements

- Increase acreage for BFFIP implementation

- Higher pressure (300PSI) mobile water pumps for lake response

- Water tender (model year 2005) could be upgraded and could include a potable water tank

- Kiosk signage regarding emergency response and evacuation

- Enhance watershed spring tanks (8 sites of which 2 require repairs) and/or fire hydrants

- Ranger full time staff and/or seasonal kiosk staff

- Investigate options for cell phone boosters where possible