

Case Study: Wildfire Fuels Reduction Projects

The Big Picture

One of the primary challenges for executing fuel-reduction projects is keeping everyone involved well-informed. From planners to environmental consultants, vendors to grant writers, the list of stakeholders for these projects is extensive. The Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA) needed a tool that could easily display, collect, and share project locations, extents, and progress.

"CalTopo Teams is the most important collaboration tool we have, allowing us to share data across numerous stakeholders and reducing the potential for error or cost overages."

Michael St.John, Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority

CalTopo Teams In Use: The Specifics

First, the MWPA starts with **importing** a data set that shows an approved project boundary, and any sensitive ecological or archaeological areas. Then they augment the map by **drawing** additional markers and polygons to call out project boundaries.

Slope angle shading allows evaluation of potential erosion locations. CalTopo's **parcel data layer** gives them access to parcel ownership information, a crucial tool for identifying contacts to get Right to Enter permits.

When staff are ready to walk the site, the **Caltopo Mobile app** is used to ensure they are within the approved boundaries, **record tracks** to a shared map, and **mark** final designated work areas both on the ground and on the map.

Once permits are in place and a vendor selected for the work, the vendors can view the same CalTopo map to **identify georeferenced areas** to code their invoices post work completion, allowing tracking of billing and assessing costs per acre for the work.



The Bottom Line

MWPA uses CalTopo Teams to help plan, execute, and track progress for large scale fuel-reduction projects. The collaborative aspect of the program means that all those involved are never left out of the conversation, with access to spatial data right at their fingertips.

CalTopo team accounts for your agency start at \$2,000/year.
To learn more visit caltopo.com/teams or contact info@caltopo.com.

