

**Public Advocates Office Data Request**  
**No. CalAdvocates-BVES-2023WMP-11**  
**Proceeding: 2023-2025 Wildfire Mitigation Plans**

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## **DATA REQUEST**

The following questions relate to your 2023-2025 WMP submission.

### **Question 1**

Per Table 5 of BVES's quarterly data report for quarter 1 of 2023, BVES experienced 10 wire down events in 2022. For each of these 10 wire down events, please provide the following:

- a) The date,
- b) The maximum wind speed observed locally on that day,
- c) The National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) rating on that day.

Response a), b) & c):

Refer to Excel document named "CalAdvocates11Outages" and the sheet named "Wire Down Events".

### **Question 2**

Per Table 5 of BVES's quarterly data report for quarter 1 of 2023, BVES experienced 19 outages associated with vegetation contact in 2022. For each of these 19 outages, please provide the following:

- a) The date,
- b) The maximum wind speed observed locally on that day,
- c) The National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) rating on that day.

Response a), b) & c):

Refer to Excel document named "CalAdvocates11Outages" and the sheet named "Vegetation Contact".

### **Question 3**

Page 147 of BVES's 2023-2025 WMP states, "Level 1 findings are reported immediately to the Field Operations Supervisor who will direct corrective action as soon as possible to resolve the issue or reduce its severity to Level 2 so that more time is available to perform permanent corrective action."

- a) Please describe the conditions under which the severity of a level 1 finding could be reduced to level 2.

Response:

BVES evaluates all level 1 findings to determine the best process for resolving the issue. BVES prefers to fully resolve the problem; however, BVES will consider a solution that quickly reduces the finding to level 2. As an example, if BVES could not immediately replace a split crossarm. BVES would reduce from level 1 to level 2 by installing through bolt(s) through the split crossarm and tighten it.

- b) Does BVES require specific actions to be taken prior to reducing the severity of a level 1 finding to level 2?

Response:

Yes.

c) If the answer to part (b) is yes, please describe such actions.

Response:

BVES inspects level 1 findings and works with Field Operations to determine if reducing the finding to level 2 is the best option. BVES then develops a plan to remediate the issue found. Field Crews complete the work required to reduce the severity to level 2.

d) If the answer to part (b) is no, please explain why not.

Response:

N/A

e) In 2022, how many times did BVES reduce the severity of a level 1 finding to level 2?

Response:

In 2022, BVES did not have any instances where the severity of a level 1 finding was reduced to a level 2. BVES only had 3 level 1 findings in 2022, all were completely remediated.

f) For each instance in part (e), please provide the following: i. Date the issue was originally discovered, ii. Description of the issue, iii. Actions BVES took to make the issue safe prior to reducing the severity to level 2.

Response:

N/A

#### **Question 4**

Table 8-7 on page 160 of BVES's 2023-2025 WMP lists the following activities that are audited under BVES's QA/QC program: covered conductor installation, tree attachment removal program, grid design and maintenance.

a) Please list the specific WMP activities that will be audited in 2023 under the "grid design and maintenance" category.

Response:

BVES will randomly select 20 work orders from any of the grid design and maintenance projects. The QC could be performed on any program from GD\_1 through GD\_19.

b) Please provide a definition for the sample size of "20 inspections per year" listed in Table 8-7 for "grid design and maintenance." For example, does this mean BVES will perform 20 audits per year of grid design and maintenance activities, or that BVES will audit 20 asset detailed asset inspections per year, or something else?

Response:

BVES will randomly select 20 work orders from any of the grid design and maintenance projects. The work orders will vary in the amount of equipment to be inspected, depending on the type of work and location.

c) Please explain why BVES selected a sample size of “20 inspections per year” for “grid design and maintenance.”

Response:

BVES selected 20 inspections per year as a starting point for this project. The number of inspections may change in future years depending on the results of 2023 inspections.

**Question 5**

Table 8-7 on page 160 of BVES’s 2023-2025 WMP lists the following activities that are audited under BVES’s QA/QC program: covered conductor installation, tree attachment removal program, grid design and maintenance.

- a) For each “grid design and maintenance” activity identified in your response to part (a) of the previous question, please describe the actions BVES will take to improve pass rates if pass rates fall below 99% (the target pass rate per Table 8-7).
- b) For covered conductor installation, please describe the actions BVES will take to improve pass rates if pass rates fall below 99% (the target pass rate per Table 8-7).
- c) For the attachment removal program, please describe the actions BVES will take to improve pass rates if pass rates fall below 99% (the target pass rate per Table 8-7).

Response a), b) & c):

If the pass rate of any program falls below 99%, then the quality issues found will be addressed through training and documented as lessons learned. Also, additional audits will be added for that specific program based on the severity of the audit findings and the potential additional wildfire risk.

**Question 6**

Please describe the specific actions BVES will take in 2023 to audit the quality and completeness of its asset inspections for each of the following inspection types:

- a) Detailed inspection program (initiative GD\_25),
- b) Patrol inspection program (initiative GD\_26),
- c) UAV HD photography/videography (GD\_28),
- d) 3rd party ground patrol (initiative GD\_30).

Response a), b), c), & d):

Every quarter BVES personnel cross-checks inspection types that BVES conducts, to help identify trends and possible errors that may have been found. Another way BVES utilizes cross-checks is by helping BVES crews gather more information about potential findings. When an error is found, the violation is reclassified to the appropriate level.

**Question 7**

Please describe how BVES will record the results of the activities described in your response to:

- a) Question 6, part (a),
- b) Question 6, part (b),
- c) Question 6, part (c),
- d) Question 6, part (d).

Response: a), b), c) & d):

BVES does not formally document cross-checks that are conducted and does not have any records of cross-checks.

**Question 8**

Appendix H to BVES's 2023-2025 WMP includes BVES's Asset & Inspection Quality Management Plan, updated December 28, 2021. This document does not appear to describe how BVES performs quality control or quality assurance on asset inspections (e.g., detailed and patrol inspections).

a) If this document does describe how BVES performs and records quality control or quality assurance on asset inspections, please provide the relevant page numbers.

Response:

Section 6. Quality Management and the associated table on page 5 through 8 of Appendix H (BVES Asset & Inspection Quality Management Plan), specifies the QA process. In addition, Appendix A on page 15 of the BVES Asset & Inspection Quality Management Plan provides a QA Process Flow Chart.

b) If this document does not describe how BVES performs and records quality control or quality assurance on asset inspections, does BVES plan to update the document to include these details? If so, please provide the approximate date this document will be updated.

Response:

N/A

**END OF REQUEST**