



OFFICE OF ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY
WILDFIRE SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD

**DRAFT 2026–2029 WILDFIRE
MITIGATION PLAN SCHEDULE FOR
PUBLICLY OWNED UTILITIES AND
ELECTRICAL COOPERATIVES**

FEBRUARY 2026

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This revised Wildfire Mitigation Plan Schedule for Publicly Owned Utilities and Electrical Cooperatives changes the years of Lassen Municipal Utility District’s submission deadlines from 2026 to 2027 and 2028 to 2029.

Under Public Utilities Code section 8387, publicly owned utilities and electrical cooperatives are required to submit wildfire mitigation plans to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board “at least once every four years on a schedule determined by the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board.” WSAB adopted the 2026–2029 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Schedule for Publicly Owned Utilities and Electrical Cooperatives at its December 3, 2025, meeting. On February 6, 2026, Lassen Municipal Utility District submitted a letter to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board requesting that the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board move its submission deadlines from 2026 to 2027 and from 2028 to 2029.

Schedule changes impact other utilities as well as WSAB members and staff, and therefore require compelling reasons. Changes that unbalance a schedule can reduce the collaboration time for utilities and the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board and reduce the effectiveness of iteration in developing wildfire mitigation plans.

Lassen Municipal Utility District’s reasoning is compelling. On balance, the benefits of cooperation and cost-effectiveness from the requested schedule change outweigh the impacts on other utilities and WSAB members and staff.



1. INTRODUCTION

Under Public Utilities Code section 8387, publicly owned utilities (POUs) and electrical cooperatives (co-ops) are required to submit wildfire mitigation plans to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board (WSAB) “at least once every four years on a schedule determined by the [WSAB].” WSAB adopted the 2026–2029 Wildfire Mitigation Plan (WMP) Schedule for Publicly Owned Utilities and Electrical Cooperatives (2026–2029 Schedule) at its December 3, 2025, meeting.

2. LASSEN MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT’S REQUEST FOR MODIFICATION

On February 6, 2026, Lassen Municipal Utility District (LMUD) submitted a letter to WSAB requesting that WSAB modify the 2026–2029 Schedule to move its submission deadlines from 2026 to 2027 and from 2028 to 2029.¹ LMUD offered four reasons for its request. It noted that the 2026–2029 Schedule stated that “WSAB may determine a different schedule in the future, responding to input and continuing to balance certainty and flexibility.”² LMUD stated that it “is currently pursuing membership in the Golden State Power Cooperative (GSPC),”³ which intends to facilitate collaboration among members to assist with comprehensive revisions to their WMPs. Under the 2026–2029 Schedule, all four current members of GSPC are required to submit WMPs in 2027, while LMUD is required to submit its WMP in 2026. Amending the schedule to require LMUD to submit its next plan in 2027 would provide opportunities for it to coordinate with GSPC members, with value for collaboration and cost-effectiveness. Finally, LMUD argues for special circumstances: it “was recently awarded a Wildfire Insights and Support for Electric (WISE) Utilities Grant,” allowing it to work with a vendor on risk modeling in 2026 to “better inform” a WMP in 2027.⁴

3. CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHANGING THE SCHEDULE

Schedule changes impact other utilities as well as WSAB members and staff, and therefore require compelling reasons. Any change must balance considerations for all involved. Moreover, granting the first request for a change has the potential to set a precedent. WSAB wrote in the 2026–2029 Schedule that it “weighed multiple considerations: enabling utilities, especially those with less exposure to wildfire risk, to expend resources on priorities other

¹ LMUD Letter.

² 2026–2029 Schedule, page 8.

³ LMUD Letter, page 2.

⁴ LMUD Letter, page 3.

than developing plans; increasing the opportunities for cooperative exchanges between WSAB and utilities; focusing WSAB resources on the highest-impact reviews; and balancing certainty and flexibility.”⁵ WSAB may choose to change or add to these considerations, but they inform the specific impacts in this section and the evaluation in Section 4.

Changing even a small number of WMP submission deadlines would challenge the Board’s considerations. The 2026–2029 Schedule balanced utility submissions with 19 or 20 per year, including 14 each year by utilities with overhead facilities in the High Fire Threat District. Changing one WMP submission deadline from one year to the following year would have a small impact on other utilities and should be manageable for WSAB Members and staff. However, changing the submission schedule for additional utilities would increasingly unbalance the schedule. A greater imbalance would decrease the time per utility for WSAB collaboration in years with more utility submissions. It would also be challenging for Board members and staff to manage large swings in workload.

Setting a precedent that could reduce the frequency of WMP submission is a second concern. WSAB wrote in the 2026–2029 Schedule, “The schedule requires more frequent (once every two years) WMPs for the 28 POUs and co-ops with overhead facilities in the HFTD. This reduces the reporting burden for utilities from annual submissions, freeing up resources for other priorities, while maintaining iterative revision and improvement.... Iteration in planning is an essential part of the WMP process. WSAB encourages and expects each submitted WMP to build on the previous submission and demonstrate growing maturity. Each WMP should report on the progress of initiatives planned in the previous WMP and state clear goals for future years.”⁶ Schedule changes could decrease the number of WMPs a utility develops, to the detriment of the iterative process.

The timing of a change also affects the balance of “certainty and flexibility.” A change early in the process, before planning for the “early collaborative exchanges” is underway, is easier to accommodate than one that is later in the process.

4. EVALUATION OF LMUD REQUEST

As noted in Section 2, LMUD’s reasoning had four parts: WSAB stated that changes could be made to the schedule; LMUD’s plans to join GSPC could provide benefits to collaboration; LMUD’s plans to join GSPC could provide benefits to cost-effectiveness; and LMUD received a grant for technical assistance and LMUD would like to prioritize working with its vendor in 2026.

While the first argument is recognition that WSAB can change the submission schedule, it is not a compelling reason in and of itself. The second, third, and fourth arguments are compelling and aligned with the stated goals of the 2026–2029 schedule: “to maximize the

⁵ 2026–2029 Schedule, pages 4–5.

⁶ 2026–2029 Schedule, pages 5–6.

effectiveness of POU and co-op WMP development and to maximize the effectiveness of WSAB’s advice and recommendations in reducing wildfire risk from POUs and co-ops.”⁷

The limited circumstances in LMUD’s fourth argument are what make the reason compelling. LMUD states, “we would like to prioritize working with our vendor during 2026 to better inform our WMP amendments...”⁸ The compelling argument in this case is not that an LMUD WMP will be “better inform[ed]” with additional time. If utilities are continually improving, then extending that argument would imply that additional time would always result in better plans. Such an argument is not compelling: it would undermine the iterative model and open the door for trivial requests. The compelling reason here is that, given finite resources, LMUD would prioritize the limited opportunity to take advantage of technical assistance.

Changing the schedule as LMUD requests would have a minor negative impact on other utilities and on WSAB members and staff. The change would reduce the time available for WSAB’s collaboration with other utilities and would shift a measurable amount of work for Board members and staff from 2026 to 2027. These are mitigated to some extent by the fact that this is the first request: the first schedule change would have the least impact, and further changes would have larger impacts.

If LMUD’s deadlines do not change again, then the total number of WMPs it submits will be unaffected by a one-year change in deadline over the course of the 2026–2029 Schedule. LMUD made its request to WSAB in February 2026, before WSAB members and staff had done significant work on early collaborative exchanges and its scheduled 2026 submission.

The LMUD request provides a compelling reason for the schedule change. On balance, the benefits of cooperation and cost-effectiveness from the requested schedule change outweigh the impacts on other utilities and WSAB members and staff. Section 5 includes a schedule moving LMUD’s submission deadlines from 2026 to 2027, and 2028 to 2029.

5. SCHEDULE

Table 1 displays the schedule for utility submissions for 2026–2029, sorted by the period for early collaborative exchanges and then alphabetically.

⁷ 2026–2029 Schedule, page 4.

⁸ LMUD Letter, page 3.

Table 1. Schedule for Publicly Owned Utility and Electrical Cooperative Wildfire Mitigation Plan Submissions, 2026–2029

Early Collaborative Exchanges	Final WMP due date	Utilities
March 2–May 22, 2026	October 2, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Biggs • City of Gridley • Healdsburg Electric Department • Lodi Electric Utility • Pittsburg Power Company • Redding Electric Utility • Roseville Electric Utility • City of Shasta Lake • Ukiah Electric Utility • Valley Electric Association
March 30–June 19, 2026	October 2, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modesto Irrigation District • Northern California Power Agency • Silicon Valley Power • Turlock Irrigation District
April 27–July 17, 2026	October 2, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District • Los Angeles Department of Water and Power • City of Palo Alto • San Francisco Public Utilities Commission • Truckee Donner Public Utility District
March 1–May 21, 2027	October 1, 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azusa Light and Water • City of Banning Electric Utility • Burbank Water and Power • Colton Electric Utility • City of Corona • Glendale Water and Power • Imperial Irrigation District • City of Needles • Pasadena Water and Power • Rancho Cucamonga Municipal Utility

Early Collaborative Exchanges	Final WMP due date	Utilities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorville Municipal Utility
March 29–June 18, 2027	October 1, 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaheim Public Utilities • Anza Electric Cooperative • City of Lompoc • Surprise Valley Electrification Corporation • Riverside Public Utilities Department
April 26–July 16, 2027	October 1, 2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lassen Municipal Utility District • Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative • Sacramento Municipal Utility District • Transmission Agency of Northern California • Trinity Public Utility District
March 6–May 26, 2028	October 6, 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healdsburg Electric Department • Eastside Power Authority • Lathrop Irrigation District • Merced Irrigation District • Moreno Valley Utility • Power and Water Resource Pooling Authority • Redding Electric Utility • City of Shasta Lake • Ukiah Electric Utility
April 3–June 23, 2028	October 6, 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modesto Irrigation District • Northern California Power Agency • Silicon Valley Power • Turlock Irrigation District
May 1–July 21, 2028	October 6, 2028	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District • Los Angeles Department of Water and Power • City of Palo Alto

Early Collaborative Exchanges	Final WMP due date	Utilities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Francisco Public Utilities Commission • Truckee Donner Public Utility District
March 5–May 25, 2029	October 5, 2029	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alameda Municipal Power • Cerritos Electric Utility • City of Banning Electric Utility • Burbank Water and Power • Colton Electric Utility • Glendale Water and Power • Industry Public Utilities • Port of Oakland • Pasadena Water and Power • Port of Stockton • Vernon Public Utility
April 2–June 22, 2029	October 5, 2029	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anaheim Public Utilities • Anza Electric Cooperative • City of Lompoc • Surprise Valley Electrification Corporation • Riverside Public Utilities Department
April 30–July 20, 2029	October 5, 2029	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lassen Municipal Utility District • Plumas-Sierra Rural Electric Cooperative • Sacramento Municipal Utility District • Transmission Agency of Northern California • Trinity Public Utility District

6. REFERENCES

Table 2. References

Citation	Reference
2026–2029 Schedule	Wildfire Safety Advisory Board, 2026–2029 Wildfire Mitigation Plan Schedule for Publicly Owned Utilities and Electrical Cooperatives, Published December 2026 , URL:(https://energysafety.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12//schedule-for-pou-and-co-op-wmp-submissions-working-version-approved-dec-2025.pdf)
LMUD Letter	Nick Dominguez, General Manager, Lassen Municipal Utility District, Letter to Wildfire Safety Advisory Board , February 6, 2026, URL:(https://efiling.energysafety.ca.gov/eFiling/Getfile.aspx?fileid=60228&shareable=true/)



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