



2022 MLEA WILDLAND FIRE PROTECTION PLAN COMPLIANCE REPORT

Presented and approved at the September 21, 2022 MLEA Board of Directors Meeting

INTRODUCTION

Consistent with Utah Code § 54-24-203(4) and §54-24-203(2), Moon Lake Electric Cooperative Association (MLEA) submits its first annual Wildland Fire Protection Plan (WFPP) compliance report to the MLEA Board of Directors (Board) which provides the following information:

1. Expenses incurred in the past calendar year to implement the WFPP approved at the June 2020 MLEA Board Meeting.
2. Details of completed plan implementation items undertaken in the past year in compliance with the WFPP plan as approved at the June 2020 MLEA Board Meeting.
3. Plan implementation (completed and scheduled) for high-risk areas for MLEA and the strategies for those outstanding locations.
4. Changes incorporated into the WFPP plan during the previous year and the reason for the changes.

MLEA staff and personnel are pleased with the work undertaken this past year to mitigate risks associated with wildfires. Staff has gone over the annual requirements, reviewed all sections of the WFPP, and discussed high-risk areas and strategies for these locations (see summary section below). Staff will continue to analyze best practices and other measures to further protect its system and implement the WFPP as approved by the Board in June 2020. Staff will also provide the Board an additional compliance report in 2023, and an updated WFPP plan in 2023 according to §54-24-203(4) and §54-24-203(3) of state code.

➤ SUMMARIES

PLAN EXPENSES

In 2022, MLEA incurred costs of approximately \$483,560 to administer the WFPP. These costs include personnel, materials, equipment, and other items necessary to meet the requirements and projects of the plan. As a not-for-profit cooperative, MLEA is sensitive to expenses incurred by its members, but feel confident these investments will help make the system stronger and lessen the risk of fire.

COMPLETED PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The following work items were completed in the past year according to the plan.



1. All High-risk areas have been patrolled by drone or ground inspection for possible issues and maintenance was preformed where needed.
2. Maintenance was performed on all high-risk areas as well as other distribution lines.
 1. Bells, crossarms & poles have been replaced.
 2. Vegetation in these lines have been trimmed or removed.
 3. Rights of way have also been sprayed to prevent & minimize future growth.
3. The WFPP allows crews to engage a recloser once during an outage, and if it locks out then crews will patrol the line. In an operations meeting this year, MLEA's Line Superintendent and Safety Coordinator stated that due to drought conditions, MLEA has noticed a higher fire risk in some areas of the system. In these higher risk areas, patrolling of the line is required before closing reclosers. These areas are identified on Appendix B of the MLEA WFPP.
4. Due to line and pole inspections, approximately 300 poles have been replaced in 2022.

PLAN IMPLEMENTATION IN HIGH-RISK AREAS

(see Appendix B map descriptions)

- 1) Hanna/Tabiona Area
 - a) Continued to remove or trim trees in Mt. Tabby springs area & along the Duchesne River by Duchesne crews.
- 2) Current Creek
 - a) Line crews inspected & trimmed trees where needed.
 - b) The line along Hwy 40 in the Fruitland area has been inspected.
- 3) Utahn
 - a) This high-risk area was inspected in fall 2021.
- 4) Strawberry Pinnacles
 - a) Inspections & vegetation management on Feeder 2 / Rabbit Gulch have been completed.
- 5) Ft. Duchesne / Whiterocks / Randlett
 - a) Vegetation management including tree trimming was completed in a joint project with the Ute Tribe during their annual spring clean-up.
- 6) Flaming Gorge
 - a) Inspections were completed fall of 2021.
 - b) 4-pole structure was replaced on the Dutch John side of the Green River.

CHANGES TO WFPP

At this time, no changes or modifications to the plan approved in June 2020 are needed.

CONCLUSION

MLEA will continue to work according to the WFPP plan. Additional reviews will take place at the end of 2022 and will be included in next year's annual compliance report.