

Vegetation Management Program Annual Audit 2022

2022 Was another great year for Bear Valley Electric Services' Vegetation Management Program. A large focus was on removing hazardous trees, finishing up caltrans trims and community outreach.

BVES' has continued to significantly reduce the contact of vegetation with bare conductors by going above and beyond the clearance required by the States General Order 95. On this path I can see bear valley electric working its way down to a shorter cycle allowing for more time to take care of off cycle hazards.

Kintone inspections have helped BVES immensely. By having a second set of eyes in the field, BVES is not only ensuring accountability but also making sure that mistakes in the field get corrected in a timely manner. Effectively documenting these discrepancies helps identify what areas BVES needs to focus on, and helps calculate and maintain current, quarterly and annual goals.

BVES' alertness, drive, ability to work together and desire to stay ahead of the curve have made the VM program useful and successful. BVES has also done a good job utilizing their annually collected off cycle data to make the area of big bear a safer place, by marking things such as Major Woody Stems and Hazard trees.

BVES' open mind to suggestion, innovation and ability to face problems head on, have made a healthy working environment. Constantly looking to achieve more, correcting issues as they are brought to attention is why I have no current changes to recommend, but am confident that when the moment arrives BVES' will not only be ready but excited to face the challenge for the better of the VM program.

BVES is also making a huge effort to be resourceful and reach out to the community, it is their goal to become part of Tree Line USA and they are on the right path. BVES vegetation management team is always looking for ways to better and beef up the program for a long and sustainable future.

VM Line Clearance

1. Is the VM program effective at ensuring vegetation meets required clearance specifications?

Yes

2. Is the VM program on track with the programmed schedule?

Yes

3. Is the VM program effective in reducing contact with bare wire conductors?

Yes

4. Are any changes to the VM clearance standards delineated in section 3 necessary?

Not at this time

5. Is the VM clearance contractor(s) executing work in accordance with the VM contract(s)?

Yes

6. Are changes to the VM Contract Scope of Work needed?

No

Inspections

1. Are VM inspections being conducted Company's effective Wildfire Mitigation Plan?

Yes

2. Are the results of VM inspections being documented, tracked, and resolved upon in a timely manner in accordance with GO-95 Rule 18?

Yes

3. For each type of inspection performed, assess whether or not the inspection is effective and useful to assisting in achieving VM program objectives?

Yes

4. Should additional inspections be performed?

Not at this time

5. Is the scheduling of inspections appropriate or should the schedule be modified?

Yes

VM QC Checks

1. Are VM QC Checks being performed in accordance with the requirements of this policy and procedure (Section 5.3)?

Yes

2. Are personnel performing VM QC Checks sufficiently knowledgeable and qualified to perform the checks?

Yes

3. Are VM QC Checks documented?

Yes

4. Are discrepancies identified in VM QC checks being tracked and resolved in a timely manner in accordance with GO-95 Rule 18?

Yes

5. Are VM QC Checks effective at identifying vegetation clearance issues?

Yes

6.. Should modifications to Appendix B VM QC Check Instructions be made?

VM Quarterly Reports

1. Are the VM Quarterly Reports being conducted per Section 4.1.24?

Yes

2. Are the VM Quarterly Reports useful in providing management an assessment of the VM program?

Yes

3. Should changes be made to the content and/or periodicity of the VM Quarterly Reports

VM Program

1. Overall, were the Company's VM Program objectives achieved?

yes

2. Are changes recommended to the VM Program Policy and Procedures?

No

3. Are changes in the Company's execution of its VM Program warranted?

Yes

Audit Conducted By Area Forester Shane Smith

