

Vegetation Management Update



- Utility Vegetation Program Manager Bill Sanborn
- Dec. 18, 2023

Why we're here today

- High level review of Vegetation Management Program
- Vegetation management shift now with an emphasis on fire mitigation
 - 4-2-1 pruning cycle began in 2020
- The challenges
- Tree program benchmarks



Jarraff machine

- Utilized to side strip tree branches in transmission corridors
- Efficient, single operator, eliminates wear and tear on tree climbers, safer alternative operation



Finished product

- Critical keeping clear line of sight for ground patrols
- Hazard trees identified and cut down
- Ongoing maintenance, annual cycle inspection



Remote transmission line

- Forest health in decline with active insect and disease damage



Tree climber

- Slow process, one tree at a time





Challenges

- Tree appeared green and healthy from the roadside
- Increased inspection criteria

2021-2023 Tree Program Benchmarks

Year of Work Performed	2021	2022	2023
Trees Pruned (distribution)	5200	7000	5250
Tree Removed (distribution)	2800	2950	1750
Tree Removal Rate (distr.)	35%	30%	25%
Average cost per mile on distribution powerlines	\$11,000	\$8,000	\$7,500
Total Cost for Distribution	\$2M	\$2.1M	\$1.8M
Total Cost for Transmission	\$450K	\$350K	\$800K