

LIZZ PORTER and her family LIVED IN their HOME FOR JUST A YEAR BEFORE THE RIVER FIRE TORE THROUGH HER PLACER COUNTY COMMUNITY OF COLFAX.

Lizz Porter (River Fire Survivor): “We bought this property because it felt like home the second, we stepped foot onto it.”

DETERMINED TO REBUILD, LIZZ ENTERS 2022 WITH A NEW SENSE OF HOPE AFTER SEEING HOW QUICKLY STATE-MANAGED CREWS CLEARED THE BURNED REMNANTS OF HER HOME.

IN 2021, THE RIVER FIRE WAS ONE OF MANY LARGE-SCALE WILDFIRES THAT BURNED THROUGH MORE THAN A DOZEN CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES – DESTROYING 1,600 HOMES AND NEARLY 3 MILLION ACRES TO DATE.

DOUG THORLEY IS AMONG THE MORE THAN 1,500 WILDFIRE SURVIVORS WHO SIGNED UP TO HAVE STATE-MANAGED CREWS CLEAR THEIR PROPERTY AT NO OUT-OF-POCKET COST.

Doug Thorley (River Fire Survivor): “I’ve been here for 25. And our daughters grew up here.”

DRAWING ON THE EXPERIENCE OF MORE THAN 20,000 WILDFIRE CLEANUPS SINCE 2007, STATE-MANAGED CREWS – IN COORDINATION WITH LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL PARTNERS - BEGAN 2021 RECOVERY EFFORTS 2 MONTHS AFTER THE FIRES - MORE QUICKLY AND EFFICIENTLY THAN EVER BEFORE.

Doug Thorley: “You know, easier than I expected, really. There was this decision-making process about, do we hire someone privately and pay more or do we wait for FEMA and California?”

AS OF THIS MONTH HALF OF PROPERTIES ENROLLED IN THE GOVERNMENT FUNDED PROGRAM - ARE ALREADY CLEAR OF BURNED METAL, CONCRETE, ASH AND DEBRIS.

Douglas Thorley: “This has been really good and I actually didn’t think this would happen much before Thanksgiving, and so we are definitely ahead of that curve.

Lizz Porter: Everybody that I’ve talked to has been great and really helpful.

WITH BULK DEBRIS REMOVAL SET TO WRAP UP IN THE COMING MONTHS, STATE MANAGED CREWS WILL COMPLETE FINAL STEPS TO SUPPORT WILDFIRE SURVIVORS TO REBUILD THEIR LIVES, THEIR HOMES AND THEIR COMMUNITIES.