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Fact Sheet

California Wildfires Myth vs. Fact IV

The work being done on the Camp Fire recovery is enormous. It is also very complicated since devastation on this scale has never before happened in the State of California. These complications, in turn, create misconceptions that are sometimes spread via social and news media making it difficult to separate myth from fact. In an effort to set the record straight and minimize survivors' confusion and frustration, FEMA is issuing this weekly report to address the most prominent falsehoods.

MYTH: FEMA and Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) are working together to handle tree removal in Butte County.

- **FACT:** FEMA is not working with PG&E on its tree removal mission.
FACT: FEMA has no authority to give PG&E approval, guidance, direction or authorization in how it executes its tree removal mission.
- **FACT:** FEMA is not funding any of PG&E's tree removal mission.

MYTH: FEMA doesn't allow pets in trailers.

- **FACT:** FEMA allows two domesticated **indoor** pets per household.
- **FACT:** Preference is not shown or given to one survivor over another.
 - All survivors/tenants are asked to follow the same regulations if staying in FEMA housing.
- **FACT:** FEMA considers what is best for the entire housing community over the appeal of an individual, family and/or small group.
- **FACT:** Pets must be leashed when outside the unit and may not be left unattended.
- **FACT:** Outdoor pet kennels, pens, cages or crates are not permitted.
- **FACT:** Animals that display vicious or dangerous behavior are not allowed.

MYTH: FEMA provides 18 months of guaranteed housing for survivors.

- **FACT:** FEMA temporary housing is available only to eligible disaster survivors.
- **FACT:** FEMA's program for temporary housing may provide assistance up to 18 months.
 - However, the program requires survivors to recertify their eligibility for temporary direct housing assistance every 30 days and to demonstrate progress towards a permanent housing solution; therefore, the license for housing survivors is on a month-to-month basis.
- **FACT:** FEMA aims to be a good steward of taxpayer dollars by requiring applicants to demonstrate they have a continuing need for temporary housing assistance.

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All FEMA disaster assistance will be provided without discrimination on the grounds of race, color, sex (including sexual harassment), religion, national origin, age, disability, limited English proficiency, economic status, or retaliation. If you believe your civil rights are being violated, call 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585(TTY/TDD).

FEMA's mission: Helping people before, during, and after disasters.