

USFS Greening Fires Initiative

BRIDGE WILDFIRE WASTE DIVERSION REPORT

PREPARED BY SOPHIA NIELSEN & MOLLY MCGEE WEGENERATIVE LLC WEGENERATIVE@GMAIL.COM 503.883.1353



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WeGenerative LLC Sophia Nielsen wegenerative@gmail.com admin@wegenerative.com 503.883.1353

INCIDENT INFORMATION

Dates of service

Mobilized 9/11/24 Arrived 9/13/24 Demobilized 9/25/24 Report Sent 11/20/24

Incident General Information

Bridge Fire
Angeles National Forest
Bridge ICP Location: 128 South Peckham Rd, Irwindale, CA 91706
Southern California GACC

Native land of the following tribes: Tongva (Gabrieleno)

Management

Dual Command: USFS California team 5 and CalFire

Personnel

Maximum: 1036; Minimum: 565; Average: 786 Headcount data taken from Situation Report

^{*}According to Native-Land.ca, using the addresses of Bridge ICP



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WeGenerative is pleased to present the Waste Diversion Report for the Bridge Wildfire. During our 15 days on the incident implementing waste reduction operations at the ICP, we achieved a 26.4% diversion rate by weight. This is an estimate based on the data we have received to date from the dumpster haulers of confirmed weight receipts. However, we suspect there is a gap in verified waste data based on conflicting information we received from our IMT POC's, the dumpster haulers, the dumpster drivers, and CalFire.

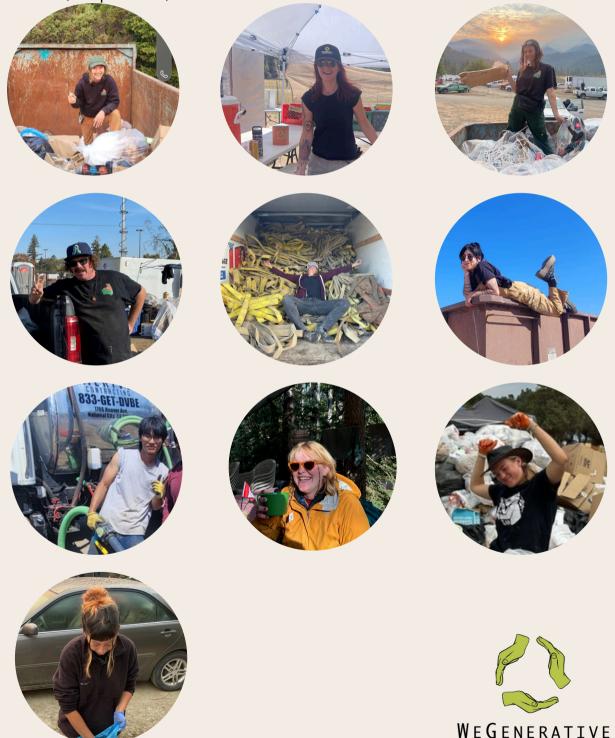
Our approach prioritized community engagement and collaboration. We successfully partnered with local recyclers, farmers, composters, food banks, and on-site personnel, emphasizing the importance of mutual support and positive relations within our team. WeGenerative firmly believes that our team is our most valuable resource, and our focus on positive team morale is instrumental in the success of our operations.

The detailed waste diversion data illustrates our dedication to accurate measurements and calculations. We meticulously weighed and measured materials, deriving diversion data from verified, weighed loads. Noteworthy is our commitment to food donation, contributing to over 13,619 lbs of food scraps benefiting multiple local pig farmers and 2,154 lbs of edible food to the local food bank. Additionally, we monetized recyclables to donate proceeds to the Wild Land Fire Fighter Fund, furthering our commitment to community support.

WeGenerative is grateful for the opportunity to contribute positively to the local community, turning would-be waste into valuable resources and promoting environmental stewardship. Our dedication to waste diversion extends beyond statistics; it represents a commitment to a more sustainable and responsible future.

OUR TEAM

Our team included (listed in order pictured) Sophia Nielsen, Molly "Badger" McCullough, Kelsey Brixon, Josh "Best Day Ever" Chandler, Maya Fahey, Noma Chacon, Raita Sakamoto, Sadie McGee, Heidi Hathorne, Kylie Foldvary, and Emma Brown (not pictured).



DIVERSION SUMMARY

We diverted by weight overall.

26.5%



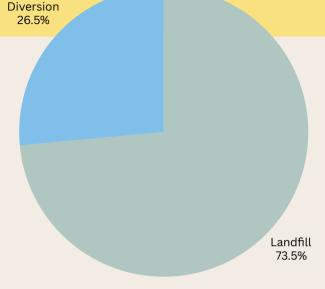
Landfill

71080 lbs

Total diversion:

25,589.1 lbs

The pie chart to the right shows diverted (blue) vs wasted materials, (grey) by percentage of weight.





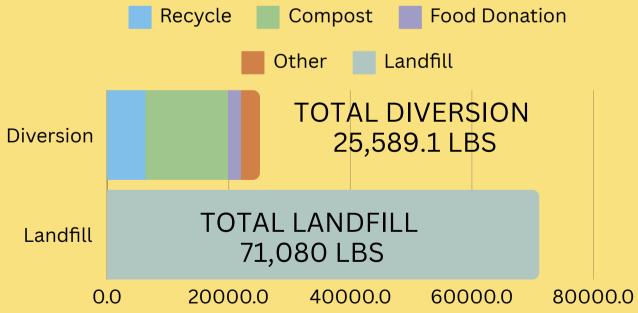
Riata and Bridge gray water contractors retrieve gray water. September 2024.

DIVERSION DATA



The bar chart below shows the diverted materials as compared to the landfilled materials. Both are measured by weight, in pounds. Combined recycled materials made up the greatest weight overall of all diverted materials when considering each diverted stream: recycling, organics, food donation, and special/other materials.

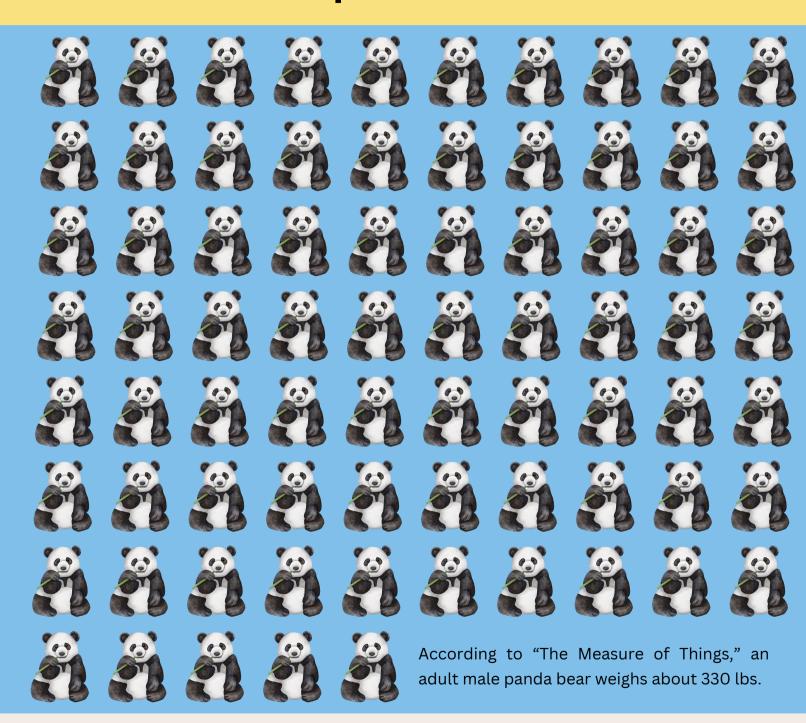
Recycle includes cardboard, paper, plastic bottles, metal cans, scrap metal, and glass.



PICTURE THE IMPACT

It's difficult to imagine what **25,589.1 lbs** of total diversion looks like. Instead, picture this:

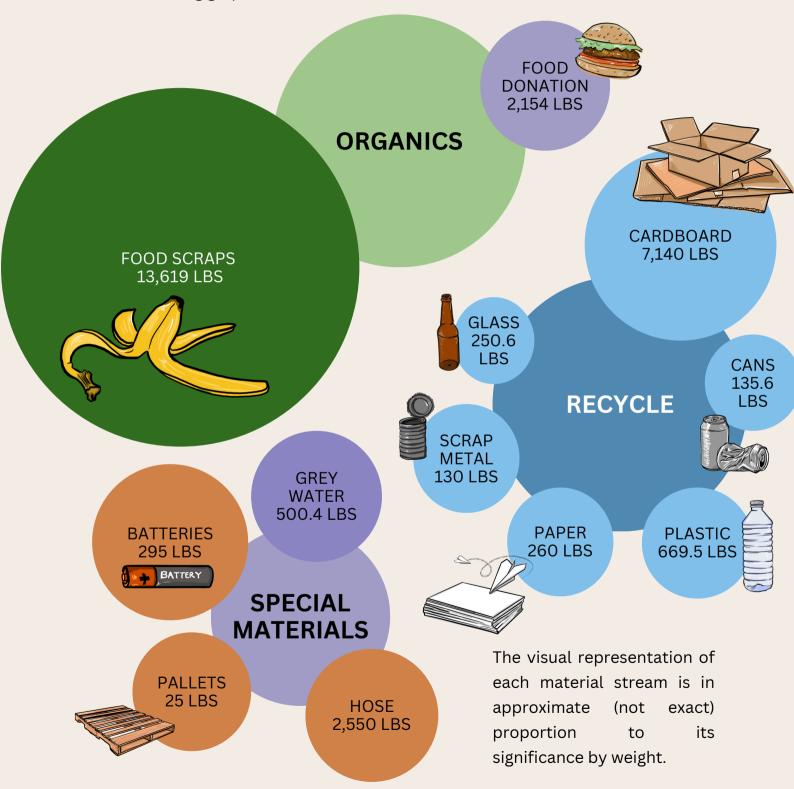
We saved 75 pandas from landfill



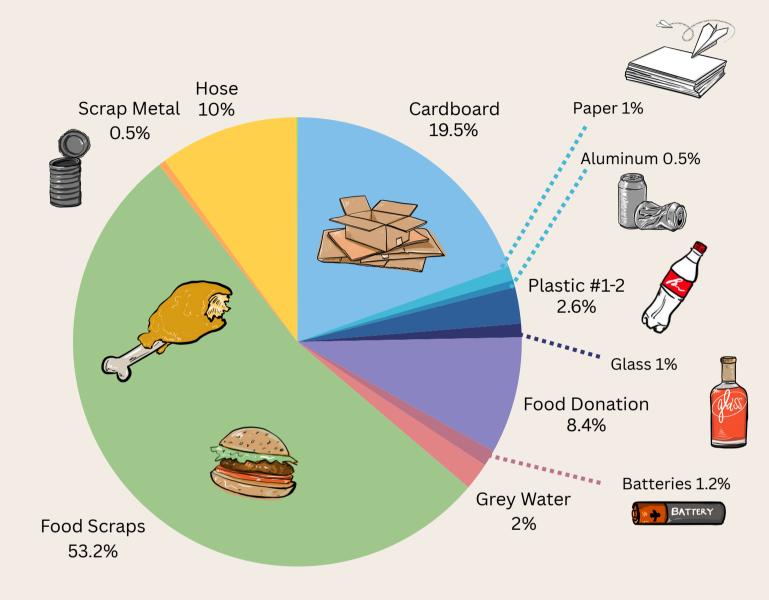
Regardless of whether you picture the resources saved as pounds or pandas, our operation saved a significant weight from landfill.

DIVERTED MATERIALS

The following graphic demonstrates the diverted streams at this wildfire.



DIVERTED MATERIALS



This pie chart shows all diverted materials by percentage of weight. The most significant material diverted (by weight) was food scraps, accounting for 53.2% of diverted material.

DIVERSION DATA METHODS



We meticulously weighed, measured, and calculated material weights while on incident. All of our diversion data is from verified, weighed loads.

Compost/food scrap were individually weighed by the bucket or bin, or at local truck scale, before being donated to local farms.

Cardboard, PET #1, aluminum cans, and recycled material weights were determined using both local truck scales and weigh ticket receipts from recycling facilities.

Photo above: Cardboard weight receipt from Allan Company. 9/21/24.

Food donation weights were weighed by the box by both our team as well as by local food bank.

Batteries were weighed by the bucket, with final weights verified by Battery Recyclers of America upon mass pickup. Other special materials were individually weighed.

MATERIAL TOTALS

Commodity Type	Amount (Pounds)
Cardboard	5,000
Plastic #1	669.5
Paper	260
Aluminum	135.6
Glass	250.6
Scrap Metal	130
Food Scrap	13,619
Food Donation	2,154

Commodity Type	Amount (Pounds)
Batteries	295
Pallets	25
Grey Water	500.4
Hose	2,550



RECYCLING LOCATIONS

Name	Commodity Type	Location	Dates
Allan Company	Cardboard, Bottles and Cans (CRV)	Baldwin Park, CA	9/19/2024, 9/20/2024, 9/21/2024, 9/23/2024, 9/24/2024
HG Recycling	Bottles (CRV)	Los Angeles, CA	9/21/2024, 9/24/2024, 9/25/2024
Shepherd's Pantry	Non-Perishables	Irwindale, CA	9/24/2024, 9/25/2024
Los Angeles Zoo	Fire Hose	Los Angeles, CA	9/24/24
Susanville Elementary	Fire Hose	Susanville, CA	9/25/24
Richie	Fire Hose	Whitmore, CA	9/25/24

RECYCLING LOCATIONS

Name	Commodity Type	Location	Dates
TAWA Compost	Food Scrap	Los Angeles, CA	9/18/2024, 9/202024, 9/25/2024
American Organics	Dry Compost	Victorville, CA	9/24/2024
Shepard's Pantry	Food Donation	Los Angeles, CA	9/24/24, 9/25/24
Bridge Fire Grey Water Contractors	Grey Water	N/A	9/17/2024
Battery Recyclers of America	Batteries	National Battery Recyling Company	9/25/24









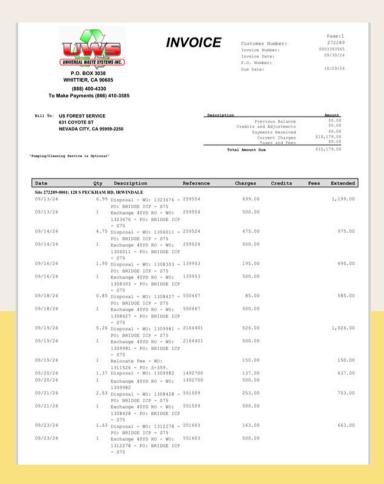
WASTE LOCATIONS

Commodity Location Name **Dates** Type Los Angeles, 9/13/24, 9/14/24, 9/16/24, Landfill CA 9/18/24, 9/19/24, 9/20/24 Universal Disposal Inc. 9/21/24, 9/23/24, 9/24/24, Actual weights Hauled from 9/26/24 used Bridge ICP



WASTE WEIGHT RECEIPTS





Our dumpster hauler at Bridge fire was Universal Waste Systems (UWS). As a dual-command incident, both the USFS and CalFire ordered dumpsters. We received conflicting information from UWS and our government POC's as to whether the data records of dumpster weights we received from them is complete and accounts for both the CalFire-ordered and USFS-ordered rolloffs.

The conflicting information we received from dumpster drivers, the receipts, and our POC's created an overall lack of clarity on the dumpster data from this incident. Our POC's share this sense of a lack of clarity.

688.00 bas
625.00 Ou
735.00 EP
723.00 the
rec
w Site 272289-0001: \$10,179.00 thi
Total New Charges: \$18,179.00 we
10,179.00 thi
We

We have calculated our diversion based on the receipts shared with us. Our estimated landfill totals based on EPA metric conversions resembles the weight receipts data that we received, giving us confidence that this is a reasonable total landfill weight.

2.50 Disposal - WO: 1312279 - 10043732 PO: 5-359. 1 Exchange 40VD NO - WO: 10043732 1312279 - PO: 5-359. 1.88 Disposal - WO: 1312280 - 1493253 PO: BRIDGE ICP - 875 1 Exchange 40VD NO - WO: 1493253 1312280 - PO: BRIDGE ICP - 879

- 375 1.25 Disposal - WO: 1312281 - 552435 PO: 8-359.

No: 3-359, No: 31228
No: 3-359, No: 52435
No: 313228 - PO: 3-399, S: 52435
No: 81206 - PO: 3-399, S: 52435
No: 81206 - PO: 1317781 - 53357
No: 3137281 - PO: 81206
No: 3137781 - PO: 881206
10P - 875
No: 3-137781 - PO: 1317782 - 1493795
No: 5-559, No: 5-559,

Final Removal 40YD RO - 1493795 WO: 1317782 - PO: 5-359. 250.00

475,00

188.00

125.00

500.00

235.00

500.00

223,00

500.00

09/23/24

09/23/24

09/24/24

09/24/24

09/26/24

09/26/24

09/26/24

09/26/24

Site 272289-0002: 701 N SANTA ANITA AVE, ARCADIA

RECYCLING RECEIPTS

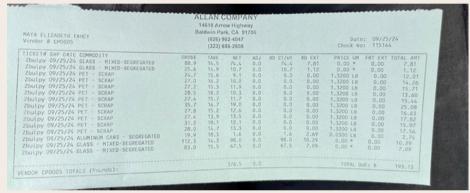
Click this link to access a Google folder with daily diversion photos, weights, and receipts for the Bridge Fire.

BRIDGE 2024 RECYCLING DOCUMENTATION: PHOTOS AND RECEIPTS:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BoHOQQi5LHROuEt8hnKp9eOtsLjY_ETz?usp=sharing

Examples







Photos from left, clockwise:

Shepherd's Pantry nonperishable food donation receipt, 1644 lbs. 9/24/24.

Allan Company glass, PET #1, aluminum cans recycling receipt. 9/25/24.

#1 PET recycling weight ticket/receipt from HG Recycling. 9/25/24.

BRIDGE FIRE: ICP



Raita laying on cardboard at back of house recycling staging area. September 2024.

Bridge Fire was in Irwindale, CA.

It was under the dual command of CalFire and the USFS. Unlike many ICP's, the Bridge Fire ICP was in an urban location. This presents both challenges and opportunities for our team. Challenges in terms of security in an urban Los Angeles environment, for CRV materials and equipment. Opportunity in the proximity of recycling and compost resources.

RECYCLE CENTER



Photos from left clockwise, (September 2024):

Heidi working at meal compost station.

Triple bin set at Bridge ICP recycle center.

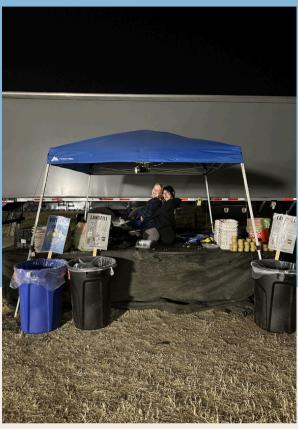
Heidi sorting trash at Bridge ICP recycle center.





PROGRAM IN ACTION







Photos from top left, clockwise (September 2024):

Noma carrying a bag of cans at BOH recycle center. Sadie and Noma posing at the meal compost station. Raita Lon top of dumpster.

Maya loading cardboard into the truck to be hauled to recycle facility.



PROGRAM IN ACTION





From top left, clockwise (September 2024):

Raita standing on top of back of house landfill dumpster.

Noma and Raita working at dinner compost station.

Maya laying box truck full of discarded fire hose.



PROGRAM BENEFITS

Benefits of implementing waste reduction at this wildfire included:

Giving back to local soil. We donated edible food and food scraps on a daily basis. On average, we donated 907.9 lbs food a day to local compost facilities.

Food Sorted, Saved, and Donated to Food Banks. We donated over 2,154 lbs of edible food to Shepard's Pantry.

Recycling Proceeds Donated to NonProfits. Our sorted recyclables were monetized for donation to charity. Charity options were presented to logistics teams based on our engagement with the community and selected by the Logistics Chief. We donated \$1,359.97 to the Wildland Fire Fighter Fund.

Reducing liquid trapped in landfill. It is estimated that 1% of the world's fresh water supply is trapped in water bottles with their caps on, sealed in landfills. We always empty the liquid out of water bottles and other containers while we sort waste. We partnered with a grey water contractor on site to recycle 500.4 bs of grey water.

Turning would-be waste into resources. On the Bridge fire we collected 295 lbs of batteries which were responsibly recycled by Battery Recyclers of America.



SUPPORTING LOCAL SOIL



September, 2024

We are grateful to have worked with a total of two compost facilities: American Organics and TAWA Compost. Over the course of our time on incident, we donated an average of

907.9 LBS OF FOOD COMPOSTED PER DAY

FOOD DONATIONS FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY

We focus on food donation as the most valuable resource to save from waste and contribute positively to the local community. We partnered daily with the caterers and the Reefer team at each ICP, and sorted through individual leftovers and lunches to achieve large volumes of daily food donation. We donated food to the local food bank Shepard's Pantry.

2,154 LBS OF FOOD DONATED



143.6 LBS FOOD DONATED A DAY

RECYCLING FOR CHARITY

We sorted, transported, and monetized recycling including plastic bottles, aluminum cans, and scrap metal for donation to local charity. In total, recycling became

\$1,359.97 DONATED

towards the Wildland Firefighter Fund. The Fund supports the family of fallen firefighters.



At this incident, we are happy to have been located proximate to CRV redemption centers, allowing us to efficiently and regularly recycle aluminum cans and plastic #1 bottles for California redemption value towards the fund.

SPECIAL MATERIALS

Special materials require special considerations, processes, and outlets. They include pallets, batteries, cooking oil, scrap metal, and fire hose.

We are excited about our continued partnership for used fire hose donation with the Los Angeles Zoo Enrichment Program. The hose will be repurposed into enrichment materials for zoo wildlife, which could include toys for tigers and hanging hammocks for monkeys.







Photos from left, clockwise (September 2024):

Discarded fire hose dropped off at the LA Zoo.

Compostable plates staged at Bridge ICP.

Sorted scrap metal before being recycled at Allan Company.

GREENHOUSE GAS EQUIVALENCES:

The Impact of Saving Food From the Landfill

On the Bridge fire we saved 13,619 lbs of food from the landfill, this includes both the edible food we donated to local food banks and food scraps we donated to farmers. It's hard to picture what it looks like to save 13,619 lbs of food from being landfilled, let alone the 51,752.2 lbs of methane emissions* consequently prevented from entering the atmosphere and negatively contributing to the greenhouse gas effect.

Instead, picture this:

From the food waste we saved alone...

(not including any of the emissions saved from recycling efforts of other materials)

We sequestered the same amount of carbon as:

696 acres of US forests in a year

We saved the greenhouse gas emissions equivalent of

NOT driving a car 1,673,811 miles



*a single pound of food waste that is not landfilled is estimated to save 3.8 lbs of methane emissions according to the Food and Agriculture Organization. Emissions equivalencies above are calculated using the EPA Emissions Equivalence Calculator.

LESSONS LEARNED

The following are our team's lessons learned.

Challenges

- Due to the policies in place regarding inmate kitchen labor, we were not able to work alongside catering staff as we are accustomed.
- The catering had particularly long meal hours.
- Throughout a single meal, there would be frequent changes of food packaging for hot meals, challenging our compost staff to adapt throughout a single meal.
- It was difficult to securely stage monetizable recyclables out in the open in a park in the city of Los Angeles.
- We were not able to have a cardboard dumpster.

Successful Strategies

- Breaking down and hauling cardboard off site as frequently as possible, with a recycling facility just 5 minutes down the road.
- Creating a larger compost station to better receive large and bulky meal packaging
- Our compost connection had their own compostable plastic bags that could break down in their particular system, allowing us to efficiently dump loads without having to de-bag materials.

Safety Best Practices

- Rinsing glass bottles in water when needed to avoid bees
- Because the meal line stretched across the road we used to access our plate scrape station at catering, we would keep constant communication between our driver and our compost station about when were the safest times for picking up materials.



Thank You

SPECIAL THANKS TO

FACL Gordon for always being available and helpful to us

FACL Travis for advocating for us

David with TAWA Compost for supporting our project and working so closely with us

Reece with American Organics

Skylar with Shepherds Pantry

Los Angeles County Lifeguards

ATTACHMENTS NOT ELSEWHERE INCLUDED

Attachments in the following pages are those that do not appear elsewhere in this proposal.

They include:

- Daily Diversion Log
- Performance evaluations



DAILY DIVERSION LOG

Bridge Dive	ersion Data I	Daily Log													
	Cardboard	Plastic #1	Plastic #2	Mixed Paper	Aluminum	Tin Cans	Non-Perishable Food Donation	Perishable Food Donation	Glass	Cooking Oil	Batteries	Pallets	Compost	Grey Water	Other
Date	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight	Weight
9/12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9/13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9/14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1559	0	0
9/15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9/16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C
9/17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500.4	0
9/18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4740	0	C
9/19	0	186.8		0	57	0	0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0	C
9/20	650		0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2140	0	C
9/21	3670	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	C
9/22		0	-	0	-	0	0	0	0	-		0	0	0	(
9/23	0	0	0	260	0	0	0	0	0	-		0	2920	0	C
9/24	680	88.4		0		0		0	0	-	-	0	1500	0	1000
9/25	0	313.3		0	1.6	0	510	0	250.6	0		25	760	0	130
9/26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	1550
9/27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C
9/28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	C
9/29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	_	0	0	0	0	0
9/30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10/2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	5000	669.5	0	260	135.6	0	2154	0	250.6	0	295	25	13619	500.4	2680
Total Divert	ted Weight														25589.1
Landfill We	ight														71080
Diversion F	Rate													0.2	647081642



The Bridge Fire Daily Diversion Log tracks the daily weight (in pounds) of materials diverted from the landfill during the Bridge Fire. This log provides a clear overview of our recycling efforts, including a breakdown of various materials. The 'Other' category includes items such as fire hoses, electronic waste (E-Waste), and donated goods.



PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Standard Contractor Performance Report

Highlighted blocks are required to be co	mpleted.	
Evaluation Type: Interim Final	X (check one)	
Evaluating Organization: IMT-5 BCMG	Reporting Period: From 9/2	10 to Present
Contracting Office: USDA Forrest Service	Contract Number: 1202SB22T0025/P00003	Order Number (Resource Order/Incident #): S-96
Contractor Name: WeGenerative LLC	Contractor Address:77 Ave	nue of the Giants unit #14
DUNS:	City: Phillipsville	State: CA
Additional or Alternate Contractor Name: UEI: HW75AUARBNB3	Zip/Postal Code: 95559	Country: USA
TIN: Industrial Code (NAICS):	Commodity Code:	Contract Type:Service
Contract Award Date:	Contract Expiration Date:	Contract Value:
Requirement Description (Equipment Type): Red	cycling crew	

Ratings

Summarize contractor performance and check the number which corresponds to the rating for each rating category (*See attached Rating Guidelines*).

Quality of Product or Service (How did the Contractor perform, document any noncompliance or performance issues)

 perjormance nos	1100/				
_0=Unsatisfactory	1=Poor	2=Fair	X 3=Good	X 4=Excellent	5=Outstanding

Government Comments for Quality of Product or Service (2000 characters maximum): They did provide a high quality product and were adept at optimizing good returns on the service they provide. WeGenerative provide a high quality product and was able to overcome some logistical challenges having to do with locations and other vendors slowness of providing invoices that they are dependent on for documentation of reduction of waste weights that are recycled.

Timeliness of Performance (Did the Contractor arrive when expected, demob timely; and perform the work in a timely manner)

_0=Unsatisfactory _1=Poor _2=Fair X_3=Good _4=Excellent _5=Outstanding

Government Comments for Timeliness of Performance (2000 characters maximum): They did a good job in cleanliness of the living/work areas of the ICP with their recycle stations.

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

nts for Bus	iness Rela	ntions ((2000 charac	ters maximum):	
	Additio	onal I	nfo		
sonnel					
Principal 1	Investigate	or (<i>O</i> w	ner's Name).	: Sophia Nielsen	
		-			
	uore, uesern	oe nom	ang retations.	, min government	
		•			
t ioh work	ing with c	amn m	nanagers Sh	e works very hard t	o mee
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on					
committed	l to custon	ner sat	tisfaction?	X Yes	
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nd the selec	ction of th	is firm	again?	_X_Yes _	No
	nt on Cont): (If applic signment) on (Equipm nt on Cont onship with g t job work of the contr	Principal Investigate nt on Contractor Ma): (If applicable, descri- signment) on (Equipment Opera nt on Contractor Ke onship with government in t job working with ca of the contract and is	Principal Investigator (Ownt on Contractor Manager): (If applicable, describe worksignment) on (Equipment Operator's Nont on Contractor Key Personship with government represent job working with camp mof the contract and is creation	Principal Investigator (Owner's Name): nt on Contractor Manager/Principal In): (If applicable, describe working relationship signment) on (Equipment Operator's Name): Kelsey nt on Contractor Key Person (2000 chain signship with government representatives for this t job working with camp managers. Sho of the contract and is creative in solving	Principal Investigator (Owner's Name): Sophia Nielsen int on Contractor Manager/Principal Investigator (2000): (If applicable, describe working relationship with government esignment) on (Equipment Operator's Name): Kelsey Brixon int on Contractor Key Person (2000 characters maximum): onship with government representatives for this assignment) t job working with camp managers. She works very hard to of the contract and is creative in solving various problems to

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Admin Info

Project Officer/COTR (Individual completing the evaluation)

Name: Gordon Stark

Phone: 209-480-6511

Fax:

E-mail Address: gordon.stark@usda.gov



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