Pine Grove Camp Escapes The Chopping Block

It appears the Pine Grove Camp has escaped the chopping block. Tomorrow the state Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review will hold a special budget hearing, dealing with Spending and The Division of Juvenile Justice Realignment. The Governor’s budget proposed to transfer the Division of Juvenile Justice to a newly created independent department within the Health and Human Services Agency on July 1st. That approach was intended to align the rehabilitative mission of the state’s juvenile justice system with the state’s Health and Human Services Agency. The unprecedented fiscal impact of COVID-19 resulted in the withdrawal of this proposal. One of the finial items on the committee’s agenda tomorrow, includes a provision with language to keep the Pine Grove Youth Conservation Camp. The recommendation, expected to be approved by the committee, will keep the facility open through, “a state-local partnership or other arrangement.” During the fire season, Pine Grove crews are involved in wildland fire suppression throughout the state of California, performing thousands of hours of fire suppression services for the people of California.

