UNIT DESCRIPTION

The Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit (NEU) is located in mid-California, along the east side of the state. The Administrative Unit boundary encompasses all of Nevada, Yuba, Placer, Sierra, and Sutter counties and extends from the Sacramento Valley floor over the crest of the Sierra Nevada to the Nevada state line. The total acreage in the Unit is 2,911,086. Of the total acres, approximately 65% is forested land. The balance of acres are divided nearly equally between grass and brush.

Cal Fire has direct responsibility for fire protection within portions of Nevada, Yuba, and Placer counties. Total state responsibility area (SRA) acreage within the unit is approximately 1,200,000 acres. Total direct protection area (DPA) is approximately 875,000 acres, leaving approximately 325,000 acres of state responsibility area serviced by the USFS through local operating agreements.

Historical Influences

There are four major historical influences that continue to impact fire planning in NEU. These influences also reflect ***NEU's Assets at Risk,*** which are referenced in a separate portion of this plan. The first historical influence is the installation of the Transcontinental Railroad (TCRR) circa 1860-1890 which has created a checkerboard of land ownership. The ownership is composed of public and private land, being managed with different objectives, and receiving fire protection by different fire agencies. The second influence is the installation of major hydroelectric infrastructure (HYDRO) circa 1912 to 1966, which has created an extensive ignition source and exposure problem in the Unit. There are three major hydroelectric systems in place, each owned by a different agency in partnership with Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The system provides electricity to over 500,000 homes and businesses in Northern California, and includes a power grid that transects multiple large river drainages. Installation of Interstate 80 (I-80) circa 1950-1960, is the third influence and has provided quick easy access for residents, recreation and commercial traffic. The Interstate has also allowed significant emigration from urban centers to rural communities from 1950-present which has resulted in a rapidly expanding Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) condition. The interstate is not only an ignition source but is also a major route requiring protection in the event of a wildland fire. The fourth and final influence on fire control and fuels management is a shift from agricultural land management to residential / open space. Historically, livestock were grazed over large ownerships throughout the spring, resulting in a reduction of ground fuels. Grazers often used controlled fire as a means to cycle nutrients and eliminate unfavorable forage. Controlled fire also consumed ladder fuels thereby decreasing the intensity and impact from an uncontrolled fire. In the lower elevations, irrigation was used to extend the growing season and provided areas that were less susceptible to burning. Over time, these agricultural uses have changed to a residential and open space use, where homes are built amongst or adjacent to a wildland fire environment. Vegetative fuels require costly mechanical treatment, rather than relying on grazing animals to consume the vegetation. The focus on open spaces has also placed outdoor users deeper into the wildland where ignition can result in a wildland fire.

Each of these influences helped create the current fire problem in the NEU Unit. These influential factors are also clearly linked to ***NEU's Assets at Risk***. Life and property, watershed, open space / recreation, power generation and distribution infrastructure, railroad and highway infrastructure, timber and agricultural values with their related wildlife benefits, and quality of life and ecosystem values that all residents of the Unit benefit from including clean air, clean water

and a safe healthy environment in which to live. Each of the programs implemented by the Unit will act to mitigate the threat from wildfire to these resource values at risk.

Transcontinental Railroad (TCRR) Circa 1860-1890

To incentivize the installation of the TCRR the federal government passed the Pacific Railroad Act of 1862. The Act authorized the Government to grant a 400 foot right of way and ten square miles of land for each mile of track built. The lands were granted not in a 10 mile wide swath, rather in a checkerboard pattern. The intent of the land grant was to allow the railroad to sell the lands to finance the building of the railroad infrastructure. By creating a checkerboard pattern with an equal mix of federal and private lands, the federal lands became more valuable as the private lands were sold off. In modern times, the alternating square mile checkerboard of private and federal lands is a physical and visual remnant of the TCRR installation through NEU.

Over time, the private lands have changed hands and the highest best uses have evolved. Portions have been retained in large industrial timber or agricultural ownerships, other lands being split and developed to become the commercial centers and residential development that has allowed significant population growth. Due to zoning and development restrictions geared toward the retention of open space, and a Mediterranean climate with very fertile soils, the private lands are inherently managed toward a wildland fire environment. Even the smallest (1-5 acres) residential properties, typical of foothill development are left scattered amongst larger undeveloped parcels, often leaving significant wildland fire potential, and a true WUI condition.

The large federal ownerships continue to be managed under a multiple use regime. The three primary federal landholding agencies are the USFS (Tahoe N.F., Plumas N.F., and Eldorado N.F., Tahoe Management Unit), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the Bureau or Reclamation (BOR). Other federal agencies hold lands as well, including the US Air Force (Beale AFB). Portions of SRA within the larger Federal DPA are provided fire protection through a local operating agreement which requires the acreage of SRA to be provided like protection compared to the SRA within the States DPA. Topographic and administrative constraints can lead to significant impacts to private lands where these SRA acres are adjoined by Federal lands.

Currently, Union Pacific Railroad owns and operates the rail system through NEU. Recent information from Union Pacific reveals that the current rail traffic will increase 3 times (45-50 trains per day) over the next year. This increase is due to grinding of tunnels which will allow double stack freight trains a quick route over the Sierra Nevada compared to alternate routes. The increase in rail traffic could cause an increase of ignitions along the rail right of way. UP is currently installing a fuelbreak along the rail to attempt to mitigate the threat from railroad caused fires.

Hydroelectric Infrastructure (HYDRO) Circa 1912 to 1966

Hydroelectric power generation in NEU dates back to the Gold Rush. It was in 1864 when Lester A. Pelton patented his new and improved water wheel which converted pressurized water into mechanical power. This new innovation, which was devised and constructed in Yuba and Nevada Counties, fed the ever increasing demand for energy as communities grew and industry flourished. During the 1890's the first ever water patent specifically for the production of power was sought in Nevada County, effectively birthing Pacific Gas and Electric Company. By the late 1890's much of the water delivery system was converted from mining water delivery to delivery for agricultural uses. The early 1900-1966s were a time of major expansion of water storage, delivery, and power generation that remains today as critical infrastructure.

Nevada, Yuba and Placer counties are now major producers of water and hydroelectric power. Approximately 1,623,000 acre feet of water are stored in 21 reservoirs throughout the region. Of

that amount, 472,000 acre feet are delivered directly for domestic and agricultural uses annually. The total generative capacity of electricity in the region is 703 megawatts (MW) from 16 separate powerhouses, providing 3,014,000 megawatt hours (MWh) per year, a quantity of electricity sufficient to service 502,330 homes.

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA)

The Middle Fork American River Project (MFP) consists of two major storage reservoirs, five smaller regulating reservoirs and diversion pools, and five powerhouses that began operation in 1967. The MFP supplies water for homes, industry, and agriculture within western Placer County and clean renewable energy to the California electric grid.

The Project's major storage reservoirs, French Meadows and Hell Hole, have a combined capacity of 342,583 acre-feet (ac-ft). The Project has a generation capacity of approximately 224 MW and has produced an average of about 1,030,000 MWh per year. The Project includes recreation facilities near its storage reservoirs. In addition, its operations accommodate popular whitewater rafting opportunities in the Middle Fork American River below Oxbow Powerhouse.

Placer County Water Agency (PCWA) owns and operates the MFP. The MFP system is operated under a 50-year license (Project No. 2079), which was issued by the Federal Power Commission, predecessor of the current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). The current license expires on March 1, 2013. PCWA is seeking the renewal of its license to continue operations of the MFP.

Nevada Irrigation District (NID)

Through the early 1900s, many of Nevada County's old reservoir and canal systems built during the California Gold Rush had become under-utilized and were falling into disrepair. Nevada County Community leaders were determined to acquire these invaluable assets, make improvements, and recreate them as the backbone of a new public water system. From 1917-1921, engineering studies were completed, new water rights were negotiated and a local campaign was mounted to build support for this dream of a new irrigation district. On August 15, 1921, NID was officially formed.

In 1962, NID voters supported a $65 million bond issue to construct the Yuba-Bear River Power Project. The major project was completed from 1963-66. The district began producing power in 1966 with the completion of the $65 million Yuba-Bear Power Project. The project included the Chicago Park and Dutch Flat powerhouses. It brought not only power generation capability, but new reservoirs and canal systems and, most importantly created an additional 145,000 acre-feet of water storage. The Rollins Reservoir powerhouse was added in 1980. NID's reservoir system provides a combined 280,380 acre-feet of water. The district has ten dams and seven power plants with a generation capacity of 82.2 MW and produces an average of 375,000 MWh of energy each year.

NID is now pursuing a renewed federal license for operation of the Yuba-Bear Project. The project is operated under an original 50-year federal license granted in 1963 and scheduled to expire in 2013.

Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA)

When bid in 1966, the $180 million Yuba River Development Project was the largest single non federal, non state construction contract of its kind. Today, YCWA owns and operates 4 dams with a storage capacity of roughly 1 million acre-feet of water and associated powerhouses capable of generating approximately 397 MW of energy with an annual productive capacity of

1,609,000 MWh. Additionally, New Bullard's Bar Reservoir provides a multitude of recreational activities. YCWA delivers about 310,000 acre-feet of water to local irrigation districts annually.

Installation of Interstate 80 (I-80) circa 1950-1960

The Lincoln Highway inspired the National Interstate and Defense Highways Act of 1956, which was championed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, influenced by his experiences as a young soldier crossing the country in the 1919 Army Convoy on the Lincoln Highway. Construction of Interstate 80 was authorized by the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956 which was signed into law by President Eisenhower. I-80 is recognized as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Highway and a Blue Star Memorial Highway for its entire length. It was part of the Lincoln Highway from Sacramento to Reno (except in vicinity of Donner Summit). I-80 is also known as the Alan S. Hart Freeway from the Sacramento/Placer County line to the Nevada state line, and the Dutch Flat and Donner Lake Wagon Road from Emigrant Gap to Donner Lake (except in vicinity of Donner Summit).

Interstate 80 is the main travel route from Reno to San Francisco. At speeds of 70 mph, the travel time from Downtown Sacramento to the heart of NEU is under 1 hour, a distance that many consider acceptable for commuting. In turn, the significant population growth that has occurred since 1960 is due in large part to the Interstate. Established population centers such as Roseville, Rocklin, Loomis, Newcastle, Auburn, Colfax and Truckee are connected to the Central Valley by Interstate 80. Freight is of prime importance. It is said that closure of Interstate 80 has an economic impact equal to $1 Million for each minute of closure. Although no statistics could be found to verify this claim, it is well understood that the economic impact of closure justifies one of the most expensive snow removal programs in the entire United States. Closure for any reason is seen as a situation to avoid if possible.

Interstate 80 drops from 7239 feet at Donner Summit to 531 feet at Loomis, an elevation change of 6,708 feet over 67 miles. This steep grade creates significant friction for commercial vehicles travelling downslope towards the Sacramento Valley. During the summer, when temperatures rise and fuels become dry, the potential of a wildfire from hot brakes or vehicles that catch fire due to friction increases. Alternatively, vehicles traveling up slope can overheat resulting in an ignition of roadside vegetation. NEU works diligently to prevent roadside ignitions from becoming major fires. This effort includes significant crew time with NEU Washington Ridge Crews working with federal grant funds, partnering with the Placer County RCD Chipping Program, removing ground and ladder fuels within 30' of the road edge from Auburn to Baxter, a distance of 29 miles.

Demographics

Current Census 2010 data and growth projections are discussed in this section to describe the state of population growth in NEU. Other non-economic factors are described which have a potential to impact the location of population growth as development pressures and available lands push the population further up into the higher elevations of NEU. The summary will describe the methods that NEU will utilize with current programs to address this issue into the future.

Generally, population growth in the region has constantly increased since the 1960's, following a period of post-depression malaise. The proximity to the Sacramento metropolitan area and improvements to highway infrastructure, coupled with decreased costs for developable lands in Nevada, Yuba, and Placer Counties, dictates that growth will continue. In many instances, projections of growth have not met expectations, possibly due to the recent economic downturn, but the population growth rates in the region remain noteworthy compared to other regions of the State.

Nevada County

In 2010, the total population in Nevada County was reported to be 98,764 people, a 7.3% increase over the previous decade. The population was composed primarily of permanent adult residents with 80% of the population over 18 years of age and an 80% home ownership rate. As of 2009, a total of 50,313 housing units were reported. With a land area of 612,870 acres, the population density averages 103 persons per square mile. Higher population densities correlate to the transportation corridors including Highway 49, Highway 174, Highway 20, as well as Highway 89 and Interstate 80 on the eastside of the County. Population density also correlates to the State Responsibility Areas within the County.

In 2006, Nevada County growth projections through 2020 ranged from 20.7% to 38%. Current census data do not bear this statistic with actual growth rates of 7.3% for the period 2000 to 2010. Assuming the range of potential growth through 2020, using the current average rate (7.3%) and the low projected rate (20.7%) from Nevada County sources, the 2020 population in Nevada County will range from 106,000 to 121,000 people. Growth policies within Nevada County are defined in the Nevada County 1995 General Plan as allowing, "…for a moderate growth in the County. A moderate annual growth rate…so that provisions of public services keep pace with new developments." Future long term projections place maximum available growth at a capacity not exceeding 210,000 persons, the maximum estimated "buildout" projection.

Due to the checkerboard matrix of land ownership in Nevada County, portions of SRA within NEU receive fire protection from the USFS.

Yuba County

In 2010, the total population in Yuba County was reported to be 72,155 people, a 19.8% increase over the previous decade. The population was composed primarily of permanent adult residents with 70% of the population over 18 years of age and a 60% home ownership rate. As of 2009, a total of 28,738 housing units were reported. With a land area of 403,641 acres, the population density averages 114 persons per square mile. Higher population densities correlate to city centers and transportation corridors including Highway 20, Highway 99, Highway 65, and Highway 70. Population density correlates with Local Responsibility Areas within the County; however growth continues to extend into the SRA in the eastern portions of the County.

In 2000, Yuba County growth projections through 2020 ranged from 10% to 23%. Current census data tends to agree with these projections with actual growth rates of 19.8% for the period 2000 to 2010. Assuming the range of potential growth through 2020, using the current average rate (19.8%) and the low projected rate (10%) from Yuba County sources, the 2020 population in Yuba County will range from 79,700 to 87,800 people. A unique characteristic of Yuba County that is noteworthy in terms of fire planning is the high percentage of SRA/LRA relative to FRA. The vast majority of land in Yuba County is privately owned. A portion of the County along the eastern border is currently SRA under protection by the USFS. As development pressures push development into the upper reaches of the watershed, more population will be located in the SRA areas of the County, including these SRA areas receiving fire protection from the Federal Government. Also noteworthy is the fact that Marysville City, the largest City in Yuba County receives fire protection services from Cal Fire by contract.

Placer County

Placer County is the second fastest growing county in California with a population growth of 40.3 percent since 2000, second only to Riverside County which grew by 41.7%, a margin of just under 1.5%. In 2010, the total population in Placer County was reported to be 348,432

people, a 40.3% increase over the previous decade. The population was composed primarily of permanent adult residents with 76% of the population over 18 years of age and a 74% home ownership rate. As of 2009, a total of 148,518 housing units were reported. With a land area of 898,787 acres, the population density averages 248 persons per square mile. Higher population densities correlate to the transportation corridors including Interstate 80, Highway 65, Highway 49, Highway 193, Highway 174, and Highway 89 on the eastside of the County. Population density also correlates to the State and Local Responsibility Areas within the County.

Based on current economic forecasts, Placer County growth projections through 2020 are expected to be 23%. The 2010 census data shows an actual growth rate of 40.7% for the period 2000 to 2010. Assuming the range of potential growth through 2020, using the current average rate (40.3%) and the projected rate (23%) from Placer County sources, the 2020 population in Placer County will range from 437,000 to 517,000 people. Growth policies within Placer County are geared toward development while preserving open space for maintenance of resource values. Current proposals include instituting the Placer County Conservation Plan (PCCP), a plan that is intended to place 50,000 acres of developable lands in the foothill areas of the County into permanent conservation to ensure the preservation of agriculture, open space and wildlife habitat. As development continues into the future, added pressure will be placed on the upper elevations of Placer County to offset the acres removed from development through implementation of the PCCP. Zoning restrictions on forested lands in Placer County generally restrict development to parcel sizes from 2.3 acres to 80 acres, leaving a large wildland component despite the development. Current conditions in the County are indicative of development in the wildland where larger parcels and open space retention have created a true WUI condition. These practices are expected to continue into the future.

Sierra County

Sierra County is a truly rural County. In 2010, the total population in Sierra County was reported to be 3,240 people, an 8.9% decrease over the previous decade. The population was composed primarily of permanent adult residents with 82% of the population over 18 years of age and a 74% home ownership rate. As of 2009, a total of 2,295 housing units were reported. With a land area of 610,163 acres, the population density averages less than 4 persons per square mile. Population densities correlate nearly exclusively to the transportation corridors including Highway 49, and 89 and also the vast Sierra Valley which has long been a population and economic center with deep roots in agriculture. Population density also correlates to Local Responsibility Areas within the County. SRA acres are exclusively interspersed among Federal lands and are Federal DPA with some LRA around Downieville and in the Sierra Valley.

Based on current economic forecasts, Sierra County growth projections through 2020 are expected to decrease by up to -1%. The 2010 census data shows an actual population shrink rate of 8.9% for the period 2000 to 2010. Assuming the range of potential growth through 2020, using the current average rate (-8.9 %) and the projected rate (-1%) from State sources, the 2020 population in Sierra County will range from 2,952 to 3,208 people. Based on this decrease in growth and the current state of responsibility for fire protection, Sierra County is not expected to be a significant influence on NEU Fire Planning, however, citizens within the County have expressed an interest in CAL FIRE assistance to develop and implement a CWPP for the County. NEU will continue to provide guidance and support to fulfill this need.

Sutter County

Sutter County is a strong agricultural community and is very rural. In 2010, the total population in Sutter County was reported to be 94,737 people, a 20% increase over the previous decade. The population was composed primarily of permanent adult residents with 72% of the population over 18 years of age and a 64% home ownership rate. As of 2009, a total of 33,480 housing units were reported. With a land area of 385,625 acres, the population density

averages less than 157 persons per square mile. Population densities correlate nearly exclusively to the transportation corridors including Highway 20, Highway 70 and 99. Primary population centers include Yuba City, Live Oak, and Sutter; the agricultural areas of the County are easily accessed by an extensive transportation system and therefore the population is scattered throughout the County. Sutter County is comprised nearly entirely of privately owned land, however due to the lack of elements required to be classified as SRA, the entire County is LRA.

Based on current economic forecasts, Sutter County growth projections through 2020 are expected to increase by up to 50%. The 2010 census data shows an actual population growth rate of 20% for the period 2000 to 2010. Assuming the range of potential growth through 2020, using the current average rate (20%) and the projected rate (50%) from County sources, the 2020 population in Sutter County will range from 141,159 to 134,226 people. Based on the current state of responsibility for fire protection, Sutter County is not expected to be a significant influence on NEU Fire Planning. As population and development increases there is a potential that State resources may be requested to assist if a fire exceeds the capability of local resources.

Demographic Summary

NEU's primary service area encompasses 2992.6 square miles and includes Nevada, Yuba, and Placer Counties. Population will continue to increase over the next decade in this area. Population projections range from 622,700 up to 725,800 people by 2020, an increase of 17% to 28% over the 10 year period. SRA areas and LRA areas where NEU has responsibility for fire protection will experience this population growth. Development pressures, economics and political / zoning influences will push growth into SRA areas where development will be scattered within the wildland, creating more occurrences and increased density of Wildland Urban Interface.

Table 1:
Current Population by County, Projection Estimates (Low and High), and Acreage

	Population			
	2010	2020 Low	2020 High	Acreage
Nevada	98,764	106,000	121,000	612,870
Yuba	72,155	79,700	87,800	403,641
Placer	348,432	437,000	517,000	898,787
	519,351	**622,700**	**725,800**	**1,915,298**
Sierra	3,240	2,952	3,208	610,163
Sutter	94,737	134,226	141,159	385,625
	97,977	**137,178**	**144,367**	**995,788**
Total	**617,328**	**759,878**	**870,167**	**2,911,086**

Data Source: 2010 US Census

The balance of NEU is comprised of 1,556 square miles and includes Sutter and Sierra Counties. Population in Sutter County will increase and Sierra County will decrease over the next decade. The influence of this population change is unknown and may yield little effect on NEU's ability to provide fire protection to its responsibility areas.

Physical Description of Environmental Conditions

The physical variability of this portion of California is broad and is a function of geologic and meteorological factors. The elevation range extends from the floor of the Sacramento Valley (<500 ft) to the high points along the crest of the Sierra Nevada (>9000 ft). Topographic influences and aspect coupled with the elevation changes provide NEU with some of the most

diverse landscapes in the State. The Mediterranean climate provides sufficient precipitation and growing season and the highly productive soils sustain significant plant growth. Annually, and over time, the total biomass production is significant.

The agricultural grassland of the Sacramento Valley and the oak woodlands of the foothills are dominated by grass fuels. The density of grassland fuel is largely dependant on the quantity and timing of annual rainfall. Grass fuels are an annually critical fire concern. Fires in these potentially dense, light flashy fuels commonly result in rapid rates of spread and normally consume a large number of acres.

The oak woodlands include a significant mixed brush component on east and south facing slopes. The oak woodlands at the lower elevations develop into montane hardwood-conifer. The primary dividing element is elevation change. Areas above 1200' elevation typically sustain forest cover; areas below typically sustain oak woodlands with brush and grass. Topographic influences and soil variations provide a mosaic where cover types are mixed and extend beyond the typical elevation dividing line. Locations above 3000' transition to sierra mixed conifer. Annual biomass production from these timber fuel types is impressive ranging from 40 to 50 ft3/ac/year. Much of this volume occurs in the form of light fuels, needles and bark. Fuel loading of available fuels is largely a function of winter storm and pest damage. Fuels reach critical moisture levels under normal weather conditions and any ignition can result in large, costly and damaging fires. Above 5500' elevation timber types transition to true fir and sub-alpine conifer where environmental factors generally limit biomass production. Juniper and sage brush types dominate the higher elevations and eastside rain-shadow lying east of the crest

Weather and Topography

The topography within NEU changes drastically from the flat lands of the Sacramento Valley below the 500' elevation to the steep upper slopes of the Sierra Nevada above 7,000'. The landscape aspect trend is generally west facing but interior and lateral slopes are common in all direction. Flat lands of the valley give way to rolling hills that eventually become steep inner-gorge in mid to higher elevation watersheds.

Predominant weather patterns in NEU are characterized by hot dry summers and mild to cool winters. The precipitation in lower elevations is generally in the form of rain with accumulations approximating 17 to 20 inches annually. Higher elevations commonly receive annual snow accumulations of 10 to 20 feet. Predominate winds are southwest but commonly becomes north to northeast following weather systems.

Annually fire weather conditions become critical in late July through October. Red Flag warnings are common throughout the summer and largely attributed to low relative humidities and high north winds. An average summer day is 85-95 degrees, winds southwest 0-7 with RH of 20-25 percent. Under these common conditions the ignition potential and likelihood of a fire growing into a significant event is high.

Fire History

Cal Fire strives to extinguish 95% of all wildland fires at 10 acres or less. For those few fires that exceed 10 acres, costs of suppression and value losses grow exponentially.

The Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit's (Schedule B - State) resources are allocated throughout the 3-county area in a way that is expected to keep State Responsibility (SRA) wildland fires small, providing maximum protection for life, property, and the environment.

Fire history for the last decade (2000's) show that most "failures", that is fires that are greater than 10 acres, occur on brush and grass covered lands west of Highway 49 – and to a much

lesser extent – in the Truckee and Tahoe basins. Factors that contribute to these failures include:

- Limited State & Local resources – long response times
- High incidence of arson and negligent acts
- Fires that burn for a longer period of time before being detected / reported.
- Fires in fuel types that support a more rapid rate of spresd
- Multiple jurisdictions from different dispatching facilities (PSAP's)
- Longer aircraft flight times.

The fire-threat is significant along the 20-49-80 corridor, and there are many factors that contribute to a high success rate in containing wildfires:

- Quick detection – Many people, cell phones, lookout towers…
- Numerous State & Local fire suppression resources
- A single dispatch center (Grass Valley ECC) for most agencies
- Rapid response & turn-around times for air resources (tankers)

It must be reinforced, however, that a wildfire occurring on a severe fire weather day (hot, dry and windy) will spread with such speed and intensity, that even the most prompt response from emergency resources and most aggressive fire control tactics may be ineffective. There are many local examples of this type of fire – here are some recent ones:

49 Fire	2009	(Auburn)	343 acres	64 structures
Gladding	2008	(Lincoln)	1,090 acres	4 structures
Williams	1999	(Dobbins)	5,837 acres	91 structures
Pendola	1997	(Dobbins)	11,725 acres	76 structures
Trauner	1994	(Rough & Ready)	536 acres	12 structures
Fawn	1992	(Ophir)	350 acres	13 structures
49er	1988	(Lake Wildwood)	36,343 acres	200 structures

Historic fire perimeter data for the Nevada Yuba Placer Unit can be downloaded from the following location:

http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/data/frapgisdata/download.asp?rec=fire

Priority Landscapes

2010 California Forest and Rangeland Assessment

Public Resource Code 4789 requires Cal Fire to periodically assess California's forest and rangeland resources. Cal Fire's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) completes this assessment. The analysis is designed to identify key issues and define the status and trends effecting California forestlands and resources. The 2010 assessment identifies priority land-scapes and associated forest and rangeland impacts. These priority landscapes are developed based on three primary themes and related subthemes. The three general themes of the recent assessment are:

1- Conserve working forest and range landscapes.
2- Protect forests and rangelands from harm.
3- Enhance public benefits from trees, forests and rangelands.

These themes are followed by eleven subthemes that provide more detail for a priority landscape rating. Strategies to help mitigate these issues are developed by the Unit in

consideration of existing programs and projects. The 2010 assessment identifies the following priority landscapes in NEU:

Population Growth and Development Impacts

This priority landscape is identified due to high ecosystem value and the potential for those ecosystems to be impacted by development. Annual grasslands, Montane Hardwoods, Blue Oak Woodlands and Montane Hardwood-Conifer are some of the habitat types at risk identified under this priority landscape in NEU.

Strategies to offset impacts from growth and development include local planning, land acquisition, zoning policies and policies to promote in-filling of existing developed areas. Current proposals include the adoption of the Placer County Conservation Plan, a plan that will place 50 thousand acres of developable land below 1000' elevation into permanent conservation. Adoption of such plans does minimize impacts to these acres, but other acres in other portions of the Unit would presumably receive the pressure from development to replace the demand on the conserved acres.

Sustainable Working Forests and Rangelands

This priority landscape includes land with timber volume and forest biomass having economic values that are threatened by wildfire and forest pests. Rangeland productivity combined with wildfire threat develops the rangeland risk reduction priority landscape.

Within the boundaries of NEU, in those areas bearing commercial timber, estimates of current standing volume range from 2.4 to 3 Billion Board Feet, with a value from $960 Million to $1.2 Billion. Strategies to reduce identified threats and promote working forests and rangelands include Cal Fire's existing resource management programs designed to reduce fuels, protect water quality and promote landowner stewardship. In NEU, rangelands are considered in two forms. Grassland range is typically in the lower elevations and incorporates dry land and irrigated land grazing and includes cattle, sheep, goats, horses and other livestock. Open-range cattle grazing can be defined as cattle and goats relying upon wild forage as feed. Control of herd size will affect the quantity of forage consumed and thereby impacts the available fuel loading, also with potentially negative impacts to soil and water quality. Following fire, feed quality and quantity has a short term negative impact and long term positive impact. Nutrient cycling and decrease of undesirable species is a positive benefit. Open range grazing increases as desirable forage germinates and grows with less competition from canopy cover. The ultimate goal is to maintain the viability of livestock grazing on all available cover types to provide biological fuel loading control and provide for economic stimulus from agriculture. Use of controlled fire will be utilized to achieve this goal.

Wildfire Threats to Ecosystem Health and Community Safety

The priority landscape for preventing wildfire threats to maintain ecosystem health is based on unique ecosystems that have a high threat of damage that result from future fire. Managing these ecosystems requires understanding the natural fire regimes that once formed the ecological stability of the ecosystems and determining actions that best mimic or restore these natural processes.

The priority landscape for restoring wildfire impacted areas to maintain ecosystem health includes restoring fire damaged lands recently burned in wildfires, especially where entire ecosystems are damaged. Activities are designed to facilitate the restoration of key ecosystem functions and components.

The priority landscape for preventing wildfire threats for community safety combines areas of high wildfire threat with areas of human infrastructure. Areas of high risk are provided focus for planning and mitigation.

Strategies to reduce threats to ecosystem health and community safety involve collaborative planning due to the large number of individual landowners and post fire ecological rehabilitation tactics. Past efforts have included Burned Area Rehabilitation techniques, cooperative efforts with soil and conservation organizations, and forestry assistance to landowners with burned lands. Individual homeowner vegetation management can have a large impact to reducing threats within these landscapes. Public education specific to PRC 4291 compliance and treatment techniques, inspiring a landscape level fuel modification and land stewardship ethic, and public service forestry are mechanisms that will assist in protection of these priority landscapes.

Forest Pests and Other Threats to Ecosystem Health and Community Safety

The priority landscape for restoring forest pest impacted areas to maintain ecosystem health identifies areas where restoration activities are going to have the greatest impact of forest pest impacted ecosystems. In NEU the Sierra Mixed Conifer, Eastside Pine, Red Fir and White Fir are the habitat types with the most priority acres. These forest types correspond to the highest timber value and best use as timber production.

The priority landscape for restoring forest pest impacted communities for public safety identifies tree mortality coincident with human infrastructure. Restoration activities and hazard tree removal are a necessity in these areas.

The priority landscape for preventing forest pest outbreaks to maintain ecosystem health identifies ecosystems most at risk from tree mortality potentially caused by future pest outbreaks.

The priority landscape for preventing forest pest outbreaks for community safety identifies communities most at risk for damage from future outbreaks. In NEU Truckee is one of the largest communities identified as a priority for forest pest prevention activities.

Strategies to reduce forest pest impacts and other threats to ecosystem health and community safety utilize a variety of forest management tools. These tools are available to land managers and public agencies and address forest pest damage to ecosystem health. These tools include 1) Education and outreach regarding impacts from forest pest killed trees, 2) Early detection and monitoring of forest conditions and pest activity, 3) Forestry assistance programs, grant funded programs geared toward pest management and privately funded forest management activities, and 4) State and federal forest policies and declared Zones of Infestation.

Water Quality and Quantity Protection and Enhancement

The priority landscape for water supply identifies areas where high value water supply coincides with high threat. These areas are then targeted for stewardship projects that protect and promote water supply. The annual snowpack in the Sierra Nevada is a major water supply to the state. Forested watersheds in NEU supporting this snowpack are high priority areas. All of the water that drains from the Unit is used in some form as irrigation, power generation, domestic supply, recreation, or wildlife habitat. This is among the highest of value resources targeted for protection.

The priority landscape for water quality involves high value water assets in watershed that support a broad range of beneficial uses and threats to water quality. Lake Tahoe is one of the highest priority watersheds in the region.

Strategies to protect water quality and quantity include programs designed to promote land stewardship and improve water use. Involvement in FERC relicensing, fire prevention, promotion of grant programs aimed at water quality protections and review of CEQA documents with Cal Fire objectives in mind are aimed at protecting these priority landscapes.

Urban Forestry for Energy Conservation and Air Quality

The priority landscape for urban forestry tree planting involves dense populations with considerable air pollution which also represent urban heat sinks. Tree planting in these areas can reduce energy consumption due to cooling and filter air pollutants.

The priority landscape for urban forestry maintenance identifies dense populations of people and trees, with many days over 90 degrees and poor air quality. Protecting the existing trees in these areas will provide a public benefit.

Strategies to protect urban forestry for energy conservation and air quality involve various program designed to create and maintain sustainable urban forests. Common urban forestry tools involve expansion/ reforestation, maintenance/management and public outreach and support.

Planning for and Reducing Wildfire Risks to Communities

The priority landscape for community wildfire planning identifies where wildfire threat coincided with human infrastructure such as houses, transmission lines and major roads. The priority landscape was summarized to identify priority communities. The analysis then examined which priority communities are currently covered by a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Current strategies involve the recruitment of groups that desire to create new CWPP's and encouraging the updating of existing plans. Cooperation with Fire Safe Councils, Conservation Groups and agencies with wildfire prevention in mind will aid in protecting this priority landscape. The Unit is currently involved in development of two new CWPP's, Lincoln area and Truckee Area.

Emerging Markets for Forest and Rangeland Products and Services

The priority landscape for biomass energy-ecosystem health was developed based on existing and proposed biomass facilities and the potential for those facilities to support fuel reduction and restoration projects that will promote forest and ecosystem health.

Strategies for emerging markets for forest and rangeland products are largely geared toward biomass facilities and fuel reduction projects designed to improve ecosystem health. Strategies also involve carbon sequestration.

Plant, Wildlife, and Fish habitat Protection, Conservation and Enhancement

The priority landscape for wildfire threat to areas protected for habitat involves fire threat and the potential for impacts on protected habitat. Lands managed by public agencies dominate this priority landscape

Strategies to protect plants, wildlife and fish habitat include purchasing of land and conservation easements, development planning, zoning, habitat mitigation banking, habitat restoration, and policies, regulations and funding that support these efforts.

Green Infrastructure for Connecting People to the Natural Environment

The priority landscape for conserving green infrastructure (development threat) emphasizes green infrastructure that serves larger communities and faces significant development threat, to characterize the overall magnitude of the threat by county and bioregion. In NEU the significant threat is in the foothill areas.

The priority landscape for managing green infrastructure (wildfire/forest pest threat) identifies that emphasize green infrastructure that serves larger communities or has recreation value, and faces significant threat from wildfire or forest pests (insects and disease). Management tools include fuels reduction projects, prescribed fire and thinning.

Strategies for protecting green infrastructure for connecting people to the environment involve establishing reserves, developing conservation easements, community planning and fuels reduction/vegetation management projects.

Climate Change: Threats and Opportunities

The Priority Landscape for Threats from Wildfire, Insects and Disease and Development involves locations where high value forest carbon assets coincide with wildfire, insects and disease. The expected loss from wildfire, insects and disease is much more extensive than loss from development.

The priority landscape for threats to forest carbon from development involves locations where high value forest carbon assets coincide with high risks of development that threaten the sustainability of carbon sequestration. In the Sierra Foothills oak woodlands are a primary threat of development.

Strategies to preserve and enhance forest carbon management involve policy development that increases carbon sequestration where possible, promote actions that reduce losses from wildfire, increase forest health and discourage or mitigate land use conversion from forest and watershed uses to other non compatible uses.

NEU Priorities and Goals

The State Board of Forestry and the Cal Fire have drafted a comprehensive update of the State Fire Plan for wildland fire protection in California. NEU has reviewed the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan (State) goals in order to develop and incorporate those goals into the Unit Fire Management Plan. The NEU priorities provide the foundation upon which our local goals and objects are built. The NEU priorities and Goals are as follows:

Priorities:

1. To Reduce the Risks to Citizens and emergency responders from Wildland Fire.
2. Develop a “land stewardship” ethic in the residents of the Unit

Goals:

1. Demonstrate methods that individuals and the community can use to properly manage their lands to improve forest health, and reduce the ignitability of structures in the Wildland Urban Interface.

2. Raise citizen and stakeholder awareness of fire risks and enlist their help and participation in risk reduction.

3. Assist local government in developing standards, policies, and plans, which will result in local, and landscape level fuel modifications.

4. Implement local and landscape level projects and programs that decrease fire risk and increase the potential for success on initial attack.

UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES

NEU Facilities

NEU Headquarters is located along Interstate 80 near Auburn. At peak season, the Unit staffs 26 fire stations, an air attack base, a conservation camp with 5 year-round hand crews, fire-prevention bureau, a pre-fire planning office with fully integrated GIS resource mapping capabilities, and 7 Registered Professional Foresters skilled in forest management and CEQA compliance. NEU also maintains three bulldozer / transport combinations, a road grader, front-loader and dump truck with numerous operators skilled in all aspects of equipment operations from bulldozer firefighting operations to road repair.

Facilities are spread from Marysville, in the valley grasslands of Yuba County, through the Gold Country of Placer and Nevada Counties, eastward to Truckee and the Tahoe Basin. The Unit also provides various levels of fire protection service through cooperative agreements with three counties and six fire districts.

Resources are dispatched and managed through the Grass Valley Emergency Command Center, which is co-located with the Grass Valley Air Attack Base. Peak season air resources include one fixed wing air attack and two air tankers.

Cal Fire NEU supports the use of four lookouts located on State lands in Nevada, Yuba, and Placer Counties and one lookout on contract with the USFS. The lookouts remain the backbone of Cal Fire's wildland fire detection system. Fixed lookouts are generally staffed in areas of high risk and high fire danger where reliable local reporting is not available.

The following is a list of NEU's facilities, equipment, and overhead personnel locations (listed by county):

Placer County

Auburn Headquarters:	3 – Battalion Chiefs (Training, Prevention, Admin) 1 – Fire Equipment Manager 1 - Heavy Equipment Mechanic (Schedule B) 1 – Heavy Equipment Mechanic (Placer County) 1 – Unit Service Center 3 - Foresters
Auburn (Station10)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines 1 - Battalion Chief 1 – Bulldozer / Transport 2 - Heavy Fire Equipment Operators
Foresthill (Station 11)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines
Dry Creek (Station 100)	1 – Type II Schedule A Engine 1 – Battalion Chief
Atwood (Station 180)	1 – Schedule A Type III Engine 2 – Type II Schedule A Engines 1 – Type I Schedule A Engine 1 – Schedule A Water Tender

Ophir (Station 182)	1 – Type II Schedule A Engine
Colfax (Station 30)	1 – State Owned Fire Engine 1 – Battalion Chief
Alta (Station 33)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines
Truckee (Station 50)	3 - State Owned Fire Engine 1 - Battalion Chief 1 - Forester
Carnelian Bay (Station 55)	1 – State Owned Fire Engine
Lincoln (Station 70)	1 – Type II Schedule A Engine
Sunset (Station 77)	1 – Type III Schedule A Engine 1 – Type II Schedule A Engine 1 – Type I Schedule A Engine 1 – Battalion Chief
Fowler (Station 73)	Placer County Volunteers 1 – Water Tender 1 – Type III Engine 1 – Type I Engine
Thermolands (Station 74)	Placer County Volunteers 1 – Type III Engine 1 – Type I Engine 1 – Water Tender
Paige (Station 75)	Placer County Volunteers 1 – Water Tender 1 – Type III Engine
Sheridan (Station 78)	Placer County Volunteers 1 – Water Tender

<u>Nevada County</u>

Grass Valley	1 - Interagency Emergency Command Center 1 - Air Attack Base 2 – Battalion Chiefs 2 – Type 3 Air Tankers 1 – Air Tactical Platform
Nevada City (Station 20)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines 1 – Battalion Chief 3 – Foresters (2 Area + Unit Forester) 1 – Bulldozer / Transport 2 – Heavy Fire Equipment Operators
Columbia Hill (Station 42)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines

Higgins Corner (Station 21)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines 1 – Type III Schedule A Engine 1 – Type II Schedule A Engine
Smartsville (Station 40)	2 – State owned fire engines 1 – Battalion Chief
Washington Ridge CC	5 – Inmate Crews 1 – Division Chief (Northern)

Yuba County

Marysville (Station 95)	1 – Battalion Chief
Dobbins (Station 60)	2 – State Owned Fire Engines 1 – Bulldozer / Transport 1 – Heavy Fire Equipment Operator
Loma Rica (Station 61)	1 – State Owned Fire Engine 1 – Battalion Chief

Washington Ridge Conservation Camp

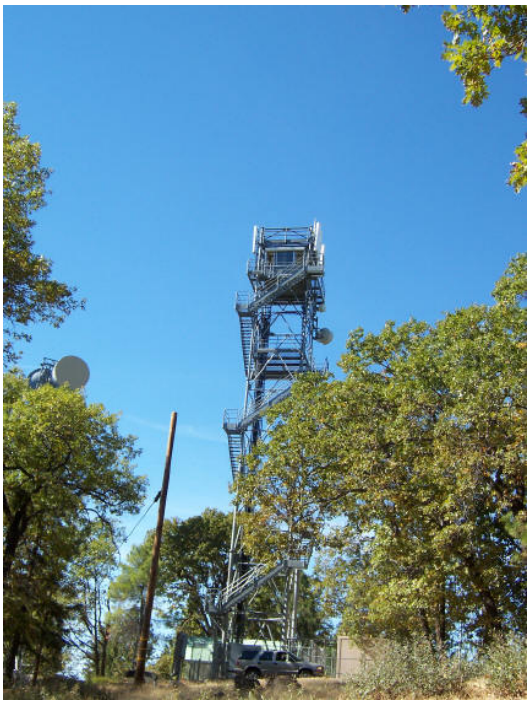
Washington Ridge (WAR) is a cooperative program with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Through these cooperative efforts, Cal Fire NEU is able to house approximately 100 inmates that form 5 crews available to respond to all types of emergencies including wildfires, floods, search and rescue and earthquakes. When not responding to emergencies, the crews are busy with conservation and community service work projects for state, federal, and local government agencies. Hazardous vegetation abatement, forest management and controlled burning are regular activities WAR crews are engaged in.

Fire Weather

NEU maintains and monitors three NFDRS (National Fire Danger Rating System) RAWS stations. These include Lincoln, Secret Town and Reader Ranch. Data posts hourly to allow calculation of fire weather indices and determine staffing levels. Monthly fuel sampling at multiple locations throughout the Unit, coupled with weather observations provide for fire behavior analysis and preparation for increased fire activity.

Forest Fire Lookouts

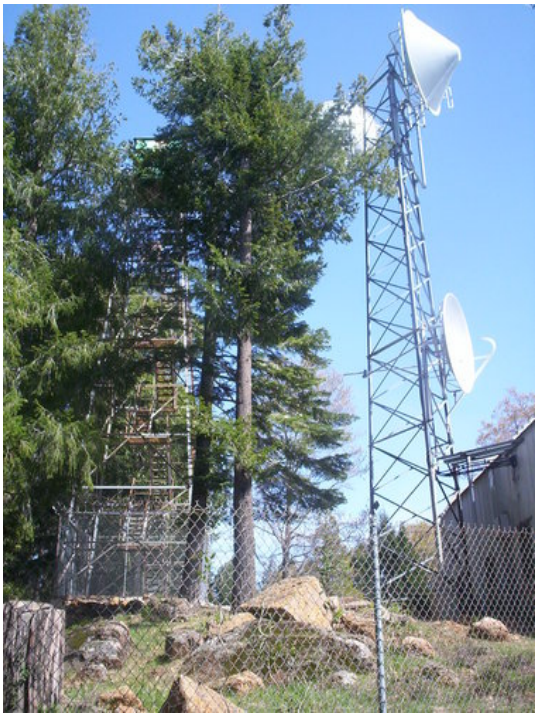
Mt Howell Lookout (Placer County)



Mount Howell is located two miles south of Colfax above Interstate 80 and along the Union Pacific Railroad. The lookout was initially constructed in 1930 and has been reconstructed several times. The Lookout is unstaffed unless significant fire weather is projected. Areas serviced by Mount Howell Lookout are visible from other lookouts in the Unit and numerous residents and travelers provide reports of fires in the area. The lookout provides for other communications and maintenance of the lookout is expected to continue.

http://www.mounthowelllookout.org/

Banner Mountain Lookout (Nevada County)



Banner Mountain Lookout is located four miles east of Nevada City near Scott's Flat Reservoir. The Lookout was built in 1926 and is located amongst an extensive community of mountain homes. The lookout is staffed annually through fire season by volunteer staff. The lookout site collocated with various other communication facilities.

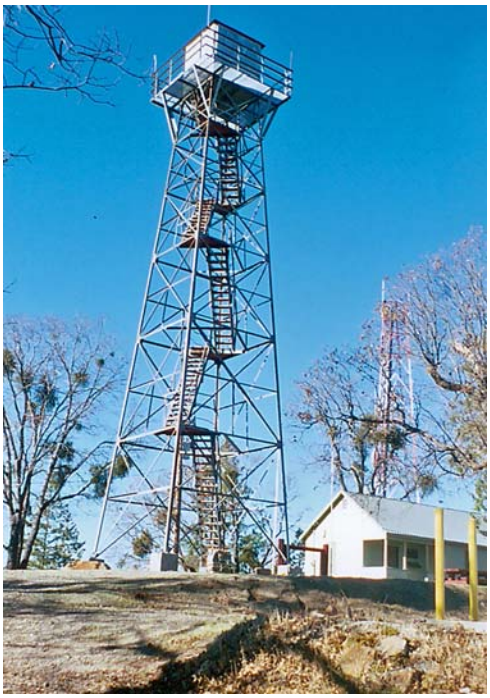
Wolf Mountain Lookout (Nevada County)

Wolf Mountain is a broad, flat north tending ridge located in Nevada County west of Wolf Creek. The lookout was built in 1981 and is staffed annually with volunteers during fire season. Ponderosa pine, digger pine, black oak and brush predominate. The site has radio and microwave facilities.

http://www.wolfmountainlookout.org/

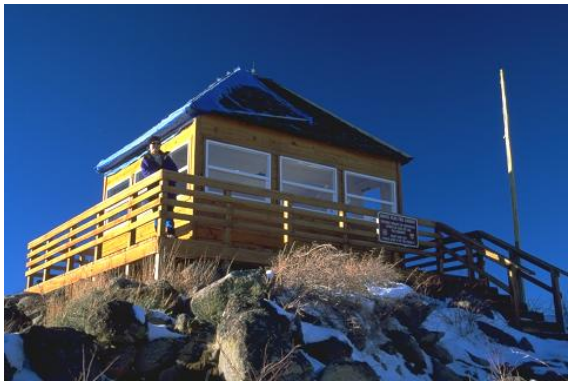
Oregon Peak Lookout (Yuba County)

Oregon Peak Lookout is located two miles north east of Dobbins. The lookout was built in 1935 and was completely constructed with CCC labor. The lookout provides a panoramic view of the Sacramento Valley, points south towards the heart of NEU, and the Sierra Buttes in Sierra County. The lookout is staffed annually during fire season with volunteers.



Martis Peak Lookout (Placer County)

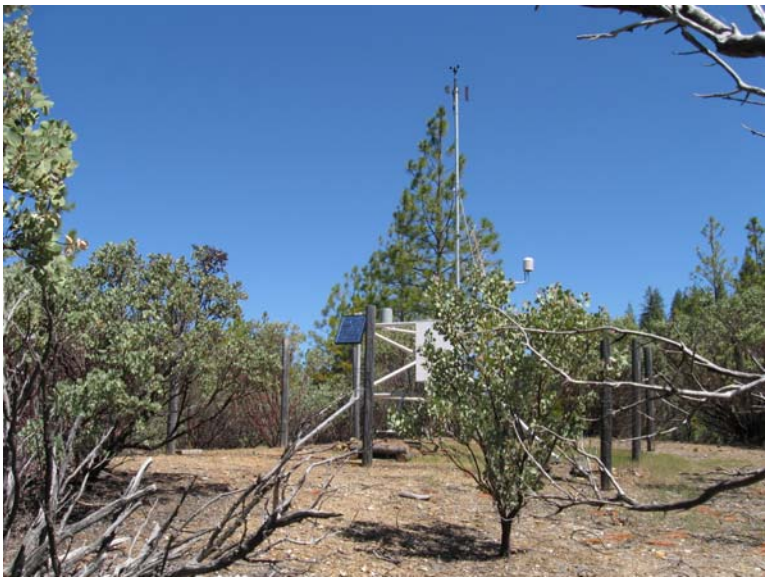
Martis Peak Lookout is located 8 miles east of Truckee near the Nevada State Line. The lookout is staffed by Cal Fire through an agreement with the lookout owner, the USFS. The lookout was built in 1935 and is staffed annually during fire season.



Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS)

Secret Town RAWS (SRT) - Placer County
http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryF?SRT

Historic data is available from May 1992 forward.

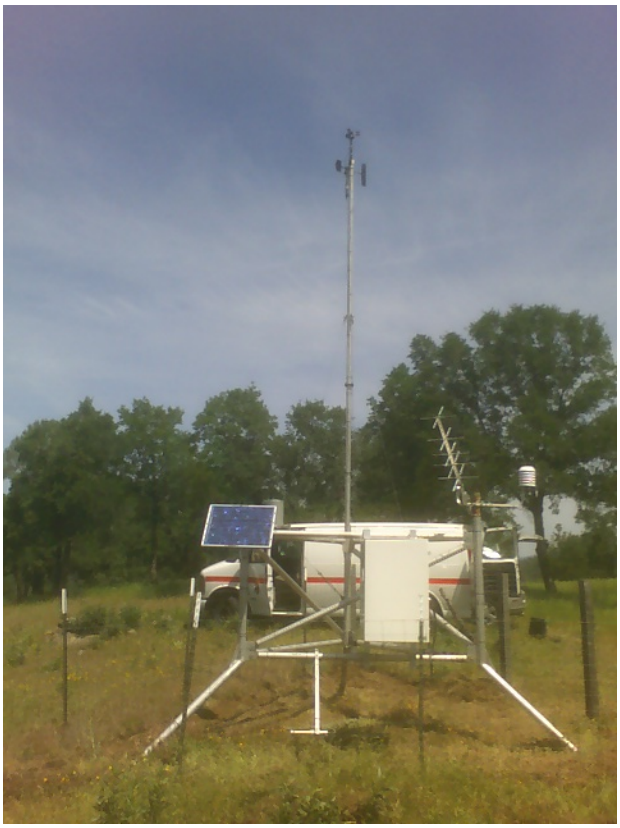


Location	Secret Town California		
Latitude	39° 11' 01"	**NESS ID**	CA21815A
Longitude	120° 53' 05"	**NWS ID**	041808
Elevation	2826 ft.	**Agency**	S&PF

Reader Ranch RAWS (RDH) - Nevada County

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryF?RDH

Historic data is available from September 2002 forward.

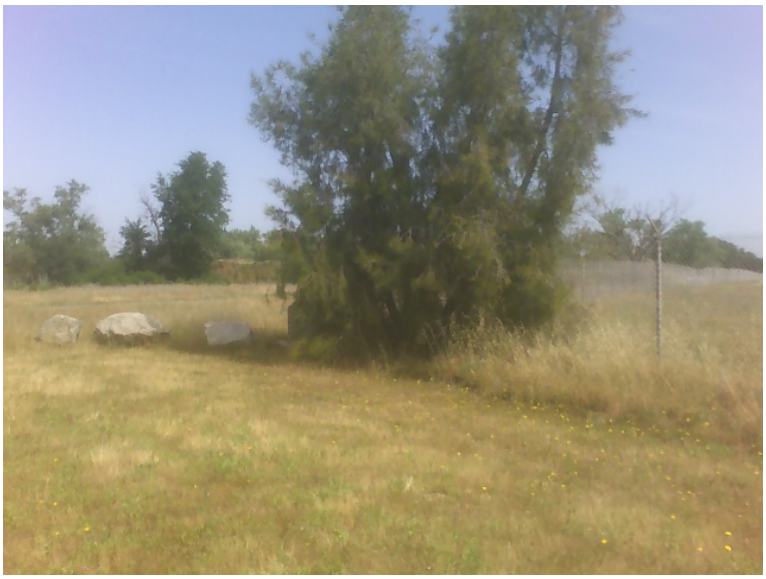


Location	Reader Ranch California		
Latitude	39° 18' 13"	**NESS ID**	CA2171DE
Longitude	121° 07' 02"	**NWS ID**	041809
Elevation	1968 ft.	**Agency**	S&PF

Lincoln RAWS (LCN) - Placer County

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryF?LCN

Historic data is available from August 1991 forward.



Location	Lincoln California		
Latitude	38° 52' 57"	**NESS ID**	CA21922C
Longitude	121° 16' 06"	**NWS ID**	041907
Elevation	200 ft.	**Agency**	S&PF

The Unit also accesses data from Stampede (USFS-SPL) to represent East Side conditions:

Historic data is available from July 1991 forward.

http://cdec.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryF?SPL

Local Agreements and Contracts

Cooperative Fire Protection

The Cal Fire Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit provides various emergency services to local cities, counties and districts. These cooperative agreements range from full service fire protection services to dispatch only agreements.

In Nevada County, CAL FIRE dispatches for all local fire departments and districts in the county including Nevada County Consolidated Fire District, Grass Valley City Fire Department and Penn Valley Fire Protection District, as well as Sierra Nevada Ambulance. In the Lake of the Pines area, the Higgins Fire Protection District contracts with CAL FIRE to provide 24-hour year-round fire protection services (known as an Amador Contract). The County of Nevada also contracts with CAL FIRE for a Fire Captain to serve as the county's Fire Planner.

In Yuba County, CAL FIRE is contracted to provide year-round fire protection (known as an Amador Contract) to the communities of Loma Rica and Browns Valley. In the City of Marysville, CAL FIRE is contracted to run the Marysville Fire Department, under a full fire protection agreement (known as Schedule A).

In Placer County, CAL FIRE has a full fire protection agreement (known as Schedule A) with the Placer County Fire Department. Placer County Fire has 5 stations staffed by CAL FIRE firefighters and another 5 stations staffed by volunteers. The areas served by the CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire Department include North Auburn, Ophir, Dutch Flat, unincorporated Lincoln, Dry Creek, Sheridan, and Camp Far West. In addition, CAL FIRE provides year-round fire protection (Amador Contract) to the communities of Auburn (Bowman), Colfax and Alta. CAL FIRE provides dispatch only services for several local fire departments and districts in Placer County including Auburn City Fire Department, Truckee Fire Protection District, North Tahoe Fire Protection District, as well as CalSTAR Air Ambulance in Auburn.

Automatic Aid Agreements

No formal automatic aid Schedule B agreements are in place in NEU. However, there are unofficial agreements in place and formal agreements in place for Schedule A and Schedule C.

Unofficial Agreements:

CAL FIRE Station 40 to all Smartsville Fire calls (summer only)
CAL FIRE Station 40 to Penn Valley incidents west of Melody Rd (summer only)
CAL FIRE Station 42 to all North San Juan calls (summer only)
CAL FIRE Station 60 to all Dobbins Fire calls (summer only)

SRA incidents will recommend the closes CAL FIRE or USGS engine(s). The Tahoe National Forest (TNF) and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) will recommend the closest NEU engine(s). For the TNF, NEU stations are included in the response run order in the USFS's WildCAD. For the LTBMU, recommendation is based on the dynamic dispatching / closest resource capability within Altaris CAD.

In order for NEU to meet the objective of keeping 95% of all wildland fires to 10 acres or less (as defined by Cal Fire), the application of closest resource concept is critical. This process allows the nearest fire suppression resource to respond to the scene of a wildland fire and begin suppression activities without focusing on responsibility areas or jurisdiction. The co-location of

the CAL FIRE ECC with the USFS dispatch, and local government dispatch responsibilities being a Grass Valley ECC function assists in the application of closest resource concept.

Schedule A Agreements

CAL FIRE / Marysville Fire & Butte County Fire
CAL FIRE / Marysville Fire & Loma Rica / Browns Valley CSD (CAL FIRE Station 61)
CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire & Colfax City Fire
CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire & Higgins Fire
CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire & Pleasant Grove Fire
CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire & Roseville Fire
CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire & Sac Metro Fire
CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire & Wheatland Fire Authority

Note: Placer County fire agencies have a Chief's agreement on file, agreeing that the closest resource will be dispatched to an emergency. As a result, CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire response plans look at all Placer County agencies as a closest resource to an incident. This is used in lieu of an auto aid agreement.

> Example: A high dispatch vegetation fire in 77's response area may recommend an engine from Lincoln City, Roseville City and Rocklin City, whereas a structure fire in Station 182's area may recommend an engine and/or water tender from Newcastle, Penryn and Loomis. This is also seen in the North Auburn area, between Station 10/180 and Auburn City.

Schedule C Agreements

Loma Rica / Browns Valley CSD (CAL FIRE Station 61) & Butte County Fire
Loma Rica / Browns Valley CSD (CAL FIRE Station 61) & Smartsville Fire
Higgins Fire (CAL FIRE Station 21) & Nevada County Consolidated Fire
Higgins Fire (CAL FIRE Station 21) & Placer Hills Fire

Local Wildland Contracts - Placer County

Rocklin Fire Contract – 1,327 acres
Auburn Fire Contract – 900 acres
Truckee Fire Contract – 10,285 aces

Mutual Threat Zones

Mutual aid may also be provided to areas determined to be within a mutual threat zone, wherein any fire is judged to be a threat to agencies having a common boundary. Mutual threat zones will be delineated on maps maintained by both agencies. Mutual threat zones will exist primarily along SRA-LRA boundaries. Normally a negotiated automatic response is made into a mutual threat zone, thereby reducing duplication. NEU is currently developing a number of mutual threat zones within the unit.

Dispatch Agreements

NEVADA COUNTY

Grass Valley FD
Nevada City FD
North San Juan FPD
Peardale Chicago Park FPD
Rough and Ready FPD
Higgins FPD
Nevada County Consolidated FD
Ophir Hill FPD
Penn Valley FPD
Washington FD

YUBA COUNTY

Camptonville FPD
Foothill FPD
Smartsville FPD
Dobbins-Oregon House FPD
Loma Rica-Browns Valley FPD
La Porte FD (Plumas County)

PLACER COUNTY

Alta FPD
Colfax City FD
Auburn City FD
Placer County Fire

EASTSIDE

Meeks Bay FD (El Dorado County)
Northstar FD
Truckee FPD
North Tahoe FD
Squaw Valley FD

ADDITIONAL CONTRACTS / SERVICES

Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital Ambulance Service
California Shock/Trauma Air Rescue (CALSTAR) - Auburn Base
Sierra Sacramento Valley EMS Agency - Air Ambulance Coordination Center
CAL EMA Region IV - Fire and Rescue Branch
Emergency Medical Dispatch - Pre-arrival instructions for Yuba County agencies not dispatched by GVECC