

SECTION V: PRE- FIRE MANAGEMENT TACTICS

DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS



CAL FIRE



SISKIYOU UNIT PREVENTION BUREAU

Overview

The Siskiyou Unit Prevention Bureau covers approximately 1.6 million acres in Siskiyou County. Fuel types within the Unit include timber, brush, oak woodland, grasses, desert sage and juniper stands. Due to the vast size of the County and the diverse landscapes contained within it, the weather in Siskiyou County can vary greatly from one location to the next. However, weather in Siskiyou County can be generally characterized as having hot, dry summers followed by cool, wet winters. Temperatures in the summer can soar above the 100 degree mark and dip below freezing in the winter. Windy conditions are consistently common in several geographical areas of the county. Historically, most of the large fires within the Unit have been wind driven. The mountain ranges and the local weather patterns support a natural mixture for severe electrical storms throughout most of the summer months. Often times these storms are accompanied with strong winds and can have little to no precipitation associated with them.

Historically, lightning has been the number one cause of ignitions within the Unit. Debris Burning is another leading cause of ignitions in the Siskiyou Unit. Careful analysis of the debris burn incidents has concluded that the majority of debris burns are not debris burn escapes, but rather enforcement issues (i.e. burning out of hours, burning on non-burn days). These incidents typically do not require full suppression efforts from responding firefighting resources. Often times, actions taken by firefighting resources have included having the responsible person extinguish the fire. Subsequently, the responsible person was then counseled and educated on the permit requirements of debris burning.

Ranching, recreation, and the timber industry fuel the County economy. The summer months see a large influx of tourists who take advantage of the wide range of outdoor activities in the County. Activities include hiking, fishing, hunting, mountain climbing, white water rafting, mountain biking and camping. At times, these activities result in both authorized and unauthorized fires. In an effort to reduce the total number of negligent fires, the Prevention Bureau takes the lead role in informing, educating, and enforcing forest and fire laws.

Personnel within the Bureau work seamlessly with County Government to ensure public safety building codes are enforced in commercial and residential development. The Bureau vigorously and consistently pursues prompt enforcement of all forest and fire laws and seeks, when appropriate cost recovery for fire suppression. Bureau personnel are active members on the Siskiyou County Arson Team (SCAT) and collaborate with other law enforcement agencies as needed or requested.

Pre-Fire Engineering is another component of the Prevention Bureau. The Prevention Bureau is responsible for ensuring the Fire Plan and statistical data, are properly captured, and reviewed for pre-fire planning

The Bureau works with each Battalion towards accomplishing goals and objectives to reduce the ignition problems throughout the Unit. Mapping in a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) environment is a large component of the Pre-Fire Engineering duties. It is imperative that the Bureau assures that all maps are complete and accurate, and the most current methodologies are being used to capture data.

The Prevention Bureau continues to provide education and information through school programs, out reaches, and one-on-one contact with the public. The Bureau generates press releases and public service announcements on a regular basis, in an effort to inform and educate as many residents as possible. The Bureau actively participates in an inter-agency Fire Prevention Co-op. The cooperative is between local, state and federal agencies and is an ongoing effort to spread fire prevention messages to the communities we serve.

The Prevention Bureau also uses Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) to educate the public by performing clearance inspections around residences, issuing burn permits, campfire permits, power line inspections, and assisting with educational opportunities.

FIRE PREVENTION GOALS

GOAL # 1

Reduce the total number and severity of fires throughout the Unit

- a. Prioritize projects, education, and community involvement in target areas based on analyzed ignition data.
- b. Reduce the total number of illegal debris burning fires through education and enforcement efforts.
- c. Work closely with state, federal, and local governments, to cooperatively reduce ignitions across jurisdictional boundaries.
- d. Actively patrol on high fire danger days and provide education on potential fire hazards, proper fire use, and fire safety.
- e. Actively patrol in areas with high ignitions and vigorously pursue prompt enforcement action of forest and fire laws when necessary.

GOAL # 2

Increase the total number of defensible homes within the Unit.

- a. Educate residents on the proper care, maintenance and benefits of a “defensible space” home.
- b. Analyze data to identify areas with large concentrations of homes that do not meet the defensible space requirements and target these areas for inspections.
- c. Provide training to Siskiyou Unit on PRC 4291 (LE-100) to use as an educational tool with any public contact.

- d. When necessary pursue enforcement actions to gain “defensible space” compliance.
- e. Collaborate with county and local governments and Fire Safe Councils to identify and prioritize projects that will increase a community’s defense in the event of wildfire.

GOAL # 3

Reduce the total number of undetermined fires within the Unit.

- a. Provide further training and education to field personnel in proper origin and cause investigation.
- b. Analyze investigation reports from the field for accuracy and completeness.
- c. Provide direction to field personnel on proper reporting techniques.

GOAL # 4

Enhance education and training for Bureau personnel

- a. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Juvenile Fire Setter Program.
- b. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Field Training Officer (FTO).
- c. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Public Information.
- d. Provide Bureau personnel with training in Fire Arms Instruction.
- e. Provide Bureau personnel with advanced training in GIS.
- f. Provide Bureau personnel with advanced training in Fire Investigation.



CAL FIRE

Siskiyou Training Battalion



The Siskiyou Unit Training Bureau provides on-going training, education and certification to all CAL FIRE personnel assigned to the Siskiyou Unit. The Training Bureau also provides training and education support for several local government volunteer fire departments throughout Siskiyou County. The Siskiyou Unit Training Bureau is currently State funded for one Battalion Chief.

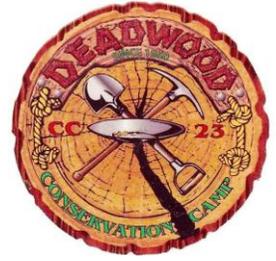
The first priority of the Siskiyou Training Bureau is to provide the overall safety of permanent, seasonal and volunteer personnel through proper training. Training is conducted through instructional programs that target operational efficiency with emphasis on safe operating procedures in all aspects of fire and emergency operations. All training is focused on providing and maintaining the highest quality emergency services at both fire and medical responses to the citizens of California. Instructional programs target operational efficiency with emphasis on safety and cost effectiveness in all aspects of fire and emergency operations. The Siskiyou Unit requires all employees to spend at least 15 percent of their time in training. This training can range from informal routine station training to formal web-based or classroom environment training. The Siskiyou Unit has implemented an on-line training program (Target Safety) which has streamlined the delivery of emergency operational training. All training is based on defined, measurable objectives and delivered in the most effective and cost efficient manner.

The Siskiyou Unit is heavily involved with cooperative relationships, which include involvement with the College of the Siskiyou's (COS) Fire Program and training grounds. This cooperation leads to outstanding opportunities that allow quality and cost efficient professional training using one of the best fire training facilities on the West Coast. The Siskiyou Unit, in cooperation with the Klamath National Forest, Shasta-Trinity National Forest and many local government fire departments, conducts a two-day multi-agency drill (Siskiyou County Interagency Hall Drills) each July to provide annual re-certification for wildland fire training for the Siskiyou County fire services. Local, State and Federal wildland firefighters who participate in the drill are able to improve their skills, as well as, create cooperative working relationships in an interagency environment.



CAL FIRE

Deadwood Camp



Deadwood Camp is a 90 man, four- fire crew camp located in Siskiyou County approximately five miles outside of the City of Fort Jones. Opened in 1962, Deadwood is operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The fire crews work on grade projects five days a week all year round. These projects include many fuel reduction projects for Fire Safe Councils, municipalities, schools, county government, state government agencies and federal government agencies. Acres treated vary by project and stakeholder needs and desires. As recognized by the fire plan, inmate labor for fuel reduction projects provides good training for fire-fighting crews and defensible space around valuable assets and infrastructure at a reasonable cost to the taxpayer. In addition to the fire crews Deadwood Camp has a well-equipped cabinet shop, metal shop and automotive repair shop.



CAL FIRE

Scott Valley Battalion



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Scott Valley Battalion (Battalion 1) is staffed by a Battalion Chief (Battalion 2611), Fort Jones Station is staffed with: 2 Fire Captains, 2 Fire Apparatus Engineers, 1 Heavy Fire Equipment Operator assigned year around. During the summer months, an LT Fire Apparatus Engineer and approximately 10 to 14 seasonal firefighters complete the peak summer staffing. Duzel Rock Lookout and Quartz Hill Lookout are located in the Battalion. Lookouts will be staffed during high fire danger or when severe lightning storms are predicted.

In the Scott Valley Battalion, the Scott Valley Volunteer Fire Protection District, the Etna City Volunteer Fire Department, Fort Jones Volunteer Fire Department, and the United States Forest Service (USFS) support the emergency response with Automatic Aid and Mutual Aid Agreements. It is inevitable that despite the highly effective wildland fire protection system, some fires will continue to escape control efforts under extreme weather conditions, or when resource availability is limited due to significant fire activity. As a result, a collaboration of efforts is necessary to create homes and communities that can withstand such fires.

The Scott Valley Battalion consists of approximately 387,000 acres of State Direct Protection Area (DPA). Most of the State Responsibility Area (SRA) is located in the hills surrounding the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) on the valley floor of the Scott Valley. Approximately 56,000 acres of CAL FIRE'S DPA are federal lands of the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Located throughout the Battalion there are a significant number of residences within the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). This situation creates a complex WUI problem that requires attention and mitigation to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfires. The area of Fort Jones, Etna, Greenview, Quartz Valley, and Callahan support the most populated areas of the Battalion. State Highway 3 runs through the middle of the Battalion with moderate traffic during the daylight hours. Vegetation types range from grass, brush, to timber. Timber makes up approximately 85% of the Battalion vegetation type. Approximately 15% of the vegetation type is comprised of brush fields and annual grasses. Historically large fires have occurred throughout the Battalion, however in recent years the fire sizes have been relatively small in comparison. The conditions and potential have increased in recent years for a large fire to occur as a result of decreased level of timber harvesting, and an increased number of individuals moving into the WUI.

The weather patterns in the Battalion throughout the spring and summer months consist of warm and dry days with a moderate to strong afternoon breeze. During the nighttime hours the temperature usually drops with some relative humidity recovery.

The topography of the Battalion includes portions of the lush, agricultural lands of the Scott Valley floor and extends upward into the timberland of the steep and rugged mountains. The mountain ranges and the local weather patterns support a natural mixture for severe electrical storms throughout most of the summer months. Often times these storms are accompanied with strong winds and can have little to no precipitation associated with them.

The Scott Valley Battalion is fortunate to have several productive Fire Safe Councils which consist of the Lower Scott River FSC, French Creek FSC, Quartz Valley Area FSC, Rattlesnake Creek FSC, and the Scott Bar FSC. Over the past several years these Councils have evolved into a vital part of the hazard mitigation, and emergency response planning within the Battalion. Collectively these Fires Safe Councils have projected and completed several million dollars worth of fuels modifications projects reducing the fire threat in some of our target areas surrounding the foothills of the Scott Valley (See the attached spreadsheet of projected and completed projects within the Battalion).

FIRE PREVENTION GOALS

GOAL # 1

Reduce the total fires in the Battalion.

- a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways.
- b. Provide public training through one-on-one public contact.
- c. Educate the public with news releases and radio messages.
- d. Train with local fire departments and fire agencies to achieve common goals.
- e. Participate in local events for educational purposes.
- f. Increase the total number and effectiveness of defensible space inspections, and promote an increasing level of compliance with defensible space laws (PRC4291).
- g. Increase the total number of power line inspections and promote increasing level of compliance with power line laws and regulations (PRC4293).
- h. Analyze trends in fire cause and focus prevention and education efforts to modify behavior and effect change.

GOAL # 2

Minimize fire size and reduce overall damage and costs associated with wildfires.

- a. Support and assist Fire Safe Councils in identifying, obtaining and executing fuel modification projects throughout the Battalion.
- b. Work with landowners to maintain access roads into remote fire prone areas.
- c. Interact with local timber operators, timberland owners, and resource management staff to identify active timber operations, in an effort to educate and reduce the fire threat from their operations.
- d. Support the availability and utilization of CAL FIRE hand crews and other CAL FIRE resources for fuel management activities including ongoing maintenance of existing fuels modification projects.

GOAL # 3

Identify high hazard areas and plan for defending assets at risk.

- a. Open and maintain existing roads that lead into high fire prone areas.
- b. Preplan with collaborators to produce evacuation and safe refuge areas within the Battalion.
- c. Facilitate activities with individuals and organizations, as appropriate, to assist individual property owners in complying with fire safe regulations.
- d. Provide a direct community presence in high fire prone areas. Articulate and promote the concept of land use planning to homeowners and landowners, as it relates to fire risk and living within the WUI.

List of Stakeholders

- Residents within the Battalion
- Property owners within the Battalion
- Various Fire Safe Councils
- Timber Owners
 - Fruit Growers Supply Company
 - Timber Products
 - Jeld-Wen
 - TimberVest
 - Roseburg
- Siskiyou County Fire Departments
 - Scott Valley FPD
 - Etna FD
 - Fort Jones FD
 - Happy Camp FD
 - Seiad Valley Fire Company
 - Klamath River Fire Company
 - Salmon River Fire Company
 - CAL FIRE
 - USFS Fire
- City of Etna
- City of Fort Jones
- Town of Greenview
- Town of Callahan
- CAL-TRANS Highway 3
- Pacific Power & Light (PacifiCorp)
- Siskiyou County Road Department

Pre-Fire Management Solutions

General description of the agreed on target areas:

Key points of the local fire problem – Extremely large area (387,000 acres), one CAL FIRE Station in the Battalion, Inaccessible terrain, and/or long travel times, High occurrence of lightning activity and lightning caused fires.

General description of the desired future condition:

Continue to improve and maintain existing fuel breaks. Concentrate on the fuel breaks which are located in close proximity to communities and residences. Work towards modifying fuel breaks to completely envelope these areas.

Maintain and reclaim forest roads that access areas prone to high lightning activity. Maintain and repair bridges, culverts, and water crossings.

Maintain water storage tanks originally constructed for fire use. Assess the need for water sources in other areas of the Battalion where water is scarce.

Refer to the Siskiyou Unit's Fire Plan for a detailed list of pre fire projects within Battalion 1.



CAL FIRE

Shasta Valley Battalion



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Shasta Valley Battalion is centrally located in the northern part of Siskiyou County with the north end bordering the State of Oregon and the Units Battalions 1 to the west and 3 to the south. The east and west borders the Klamath National Forest (KNF) with several thousand acres of State Responsibility Area (SRA) extending into the KNF DPA. The Battalion is approximately 484,018 acres; 376,598 acres designated as SRA and 53,420 acres designated as Local Responsibility Area (LRA). It is comprised of the Siskiyou Unit Headquarters Station which houses two fire engines (E2664 & E2669) and one dozer (D2640), the Hornbrook Forest Fire Station which houses two fire engines (E2666 & E2668), and Paradise Craggy Lookout. Hornbrook Forest Fire Station is committed to year round fire protection due to a contract with Siskiyou County as part of the Amador Plan. Both stations are open year round for fire permit issuance and other public services. Paradise Craggy Lookout is only staffed with emergency workers during high fire danger days as well as during and after lightning storms.

Fuel types consist of grass, brush and timber that cover flat, rolling hills, and mountainous terrain. Much of the timberlands are fueled with medium to heavy slash from past logging operations. Interstate 5 and Highways 3, 96, 99, 263, as well as the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP) railroad line run through the center of the Battalion. There are several major electrical transmission lines running north-south through the Battalion. The Battalion has a significant wildland urban interface (WUI) problem with many houses dispersed amongst the wildland areas. Due to the significant WUI problem, the lack of immediate water sources, and long travel times, much of the prevention efforts have been focused on reducing the potential for large fire losses by public education and enforcement of the California Public Resource Code Section 4291, which requires up to one hundred feet of fuel reduction/clearance around structures.

The weather patterns in the Battalion throughout the spring and summer months consist of warm and dry days with moderate to strong afternoon winds. The Shasta Valley is very prone to steady strong north winds in the summer and very strong south wind in the winter months. During the nighttime hours the temperature usually drops with some relative humidity recovery.

Although the wildland fire statistics do not display fires on local response area (LRA) land, in past years LRA has hosted many of the Battalion's largest fires that have threatened to burn state responsibility areas (SRA). Many of these fires were found to have the same causes as the SRA fires.

The Siskiyou Unit is active in local community outreach programs, such as food / toy drives, school programs, Fire Prevention Week programs and public safety messages. Several fire prevention signs are displayed throughout the battalion along major roadways in support of these programs.

Existing Prevention Sign Locations:

- Copco Road near railroad tracks.
- Ager-Beswick Road at Omega Road.
- Ager Road at Yreka-Ager Road.
- Highway A-12 at Mt. Shasta Vista.
- Old Hwy. 99 south of Yreka near South Yreka F.D. (Also visible from Interstate 5)
- Hwy. A-12 east of Grenada.
- Hwy. 263 north of Yreka

**SHASTA VALLEY BATTALION
FIRE PREVENTION GOALS**

Goal #1

Reduce the total number of fires in the Battalion.

- a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways.
- b. Educate children utilizing school programs.
- c. Public education through public contact and participation in local events.
- d. Public education through news releases.
- e. Public education during burn permits issuance on proper and legal burning techniques.

Goal # 2

Reduce the impact of large, damaging fires in the Battalion.

- a. Educate and enforce on proper clearances around structures, per PRC 4291.
- b. California Public Resources Code Section 4291 using the LE-100 inspection program.
- c. Support County and Battalion Fire Safe Councils.
- d. Assist with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects.
- e. Support the California Public Resources Code Section 4290 program, which applies to new construction, to develop safer exit and egress to structures by establishing road and address standards, develop water supplies for emergency use, and delineate setbacks for fuel break / greenbelt development.

Goal # 3

Reduce the number of campfire escapes.

- a. Educate the Public using media and public contact.
- b. Post signs in all campgrounds

List of Stakeholders

- Residents within the Battalion
- Property owners within the Battalion
- Timber Owners
 - Roseburg Forest Products
 - Timber Products
 - Fruit Growers Supply Company
- U.S. Forest Service, Klamath National Forest
- BLM Medford
- BLM Redding
- County of Siskiyou
- CAL-TRANS: Highways 3,96,263, and Interstate 5
- Pacific Power & Light (PacifiCorp)
- Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP)
- Fire Safe Councils
 - Fire Safe Council of Siskiyou County
 - Copco/Bogus
 - Yreka Area Fire Safe Council
 - Guys Gulch Working Group
 - Shamrock Working Group
 - Greenhorn Working Group
 - Rolling Hills Working Group
 - Hawkinsville Working Group
 - Yreka Working Group
 - Black Mountain Fire Safe Council
- Siskiyou County Fire Departments with or bordering with the Shasta Valley Battalion
 - Hilt Fire Hose Company
 - Hornbrook Fire Department
 - Copco Fire Department
 - Mayten Fire Department
 - Yreka Fire Department
 - South Yreka Fire Department
 - Montague Fire Department
 - Grenada Fire Department
 - Klamath River Fire Hose Company
 - Klamath National Forest
 - Black Mt. Fire Department
 - Oregon Department of Forestry
- Cities and Communities within the Shasta Valley Battalion
 - City of Yreka
 - City of Montague
 - Town of Grenada
 - Town of Hornbrook
 - Community of Klamath River Country Estates
 - Community of Copco
 - Community of Klamath River
 - Community of Big Springs
 - Community of Little Shasta
 - Community of Hilt
 - Community of Colestine

Pre-Fire Management Solutions

General description of the desired future condition:

Resume the fire prevention messages with signs, school programs, news releases, meetings and local events, maintaining a positive presence within the community through the use of these programs.

Continue to improve and maintain existing fuel breaks. Concentrate on the fuel breaks which are located in close proximity to communities and residences. Work towards modifying fuel breaks to completely envelope these areas for protection as well as a means of egress and ingress.

Maintain and reclaim forest roads that access areas prone to high lightning activity. Clear and repair roads and water crossings.

Assess the need for water sources in areas of the Battalion where water is scarce.

Refer to the Siskiyou Unit's Fire Plan for a detailed list of pre-fire projects within Shasta Valley Battalion.



CAL FIRE

BUTTE VALLEY/ WEED BATTALION



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Butte Valley-Weed Battalion (Battalion 3) is a compilation of two state fire stations and one Administrative Captain assigned to the Weed City Fire Station. The staffing for the Battalion is as follows: a Battalion Chief (Battalion 2613), *Weed Station*: Two permanent Fire Captains, two permanent Fire Apparatus Engineers and one Limited Term (LT) Fire Apparatus Engineer. Approximately 10 to 14 seasonal firefighters complete the peak summer staffing. The Fire Apparatus assigned to Weed, are as follows E2663 (Model # 14) and E2676 (Model # 15). *Macdoel Station*: is staffed during fire season, with two Fire Captains and one Limited Term Relief Fire Captain. Approximately five to nine seasonal firefighters complete the station summer staffing. The fire engine at the Macdoel station is Engine 2660 (Model #34). *Weed City*: 1 Administrative Fire Captain (Captain 1201).

There are approximately 364,000 acres of Direct Protection Area in the Battalion. The fuel types range from timber to junipers to desert sage. Most areas are arid with minimal surface water available for firefighting. There are many areas with poor access due to volcanic geographic features. Most of the vegetation cover needs windy and dry conditions to burn intensely. The weather presents this condition many days throughout the year.

Most of the residents are in the cities of Weed, Dorris, Tulelake, and the communities of Macdoel, Gazelle, Lake Shastina, Hammond Ranch, and the Carrick Subdivision located northeast of Weed. Interstate 5 and State Highway 97 run through the Battalion with heavy traffic during most times of the day. The Union Pacific (UP) Railroad has tracks through the Weed area and through the Butte Valley. The Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad (CORP) has tracks from Weed heading North through the Shasta Valley. There are several sets of major electrical transmission lines that run north - south through the Battalion.

FIRE PREVENTION GOALS

GOAL # 1

To reduce the total fires in the Battalion:

- a. Advertise fire prevention messages with fire prevention signs along major roadways.
- b. LE-100 Inspections.
- c. Educate children utilizing school programs.
- d. Public education through public contact and Fire Safe Council outreach.
- e. Participation in local events.
- f. News releases.

GOAL # 2

Reduce the impact of a large fire in the Battalion:

- a. LE-100 inspections.
- b. Fire Safe training to home-owner groups and other community groups.
- c. Assist with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects.
- d. Obtain funding to perform or contract the work done for fuels projects.
- e. Support the PRC 4290 and 4291 Program.
- f. Support Fire Safe Councils.
- g. Improve and develop water storage for fire suppression.

GOAL # 3

Instill Fire Prevention Goals and State Regulations to local Government Fire Depts.

- a. Jointly train and help local government fire departments.
- b. Assist in prevention, planning and protection to local government.
- c. Assist with media handouts and information material

List of Stakeholders

- Residents within the Battalion
- Property owners within the Battalion
- Timber owners
 - Roseburg Forest Products
 - Sierra Pacific Industry
 - Hearst Corporation
 - Hancock/Olympic Forests
 - Timber Products
 - U.S. Forest Service, Klamath National Forest
 - U.S. Forest Service, Shasta-Trinity National Forest
 - BLM
 - Siskiyou County

- Siskiyou County Fire Departments (Auto/Mutual Aid Agreements)
 - Weed FD
 - Lake Shastina CSD
 - Gazelle FD
 - Butte Valley FD
 - Dorris FD
 - Hammond Ranch FC
 - Mount Shasta Vista FC
 - Pleasant Valley FC
 - Tulelake FD
 - Tennant CSD
 - USFS (KNF and SHF)
 - CAL FIRE
 - Oregon Department of Forestry
- Cities and Communities
 - City of Weed
 - City of Dorris
 - City of Tulelake
 - College of the Siskiyous
 - Town of Gazelle
 - Town of Macdoel
 - Town of Tennant
 - Town of Edgewood
 - Mount Shasta Vista Subdivision
 - Carrick Addition Subdivision
 - Pleasant Valley Subdivision
 - Lake Shastina CSD
 - Hammond Ranch
- Additional Cooperators
 - CAL-TRANS
 - California Department of Fish and Game
 - Pacific Power & Light (Pacific Corp)
 - Siskiyou County
 - Union Pacific Railroad (UP)
 - Lake Shastina CSD/ Rancho Hills Subdivision
 - Boyd Farms
 - Shasta Valley Farms
 - Lassen Canyon Nursery
 - Red Rock Ranch
 - Sierra Pacific Ranches
 - Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation

PRE-FIRE MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

Key points of the local fire problem: Extremely large area (364,000 acres), only two CAL FIRE stations in the Battalion, inaccessible terrain and/or long travel times. High occurrence of lightning activity and lightning caused fires. Area is subject to high winds creating fast moving fires with long range spotting potential.

General description of the future condition:

Continue to improve and maintain existing fuel breaks and fuels modification projects. Concentrate on fuel breaks and fuels modification projects that are located in close proximity to communities and residences. Work towards expanding fuel breaks and fuels modification projects to completely envelop high-risk areas.

Maintain and reclaim forest roads that access areas prone to lightning activity.

Maintain water storage tanks originally constructed for fire use. Assess the need for water sources in the Battalion where water is scarce.

Priorities:

1. Lake Shastina Subdivision
2. The Greater Weed Area
3. Mount Shasta Vista and Juniper Valley Subdivisions
4. The Greater Butte Valley Area



CAL FIRE

McCloud Battalion



Executive Summary:

Battalion 4 is located in Southern Siskiyou County and parts of northern Shasta County. Total acreage in the Battalion is 267,855 acres. Two fire stations are maintained in Battalion 4. The McCloud Station is a year round station located on Squaw Valley Road in McCloud. The Pondosa Station is a seasonal station located on Highway 89, four miles from the old logging mill town Pondosa. Pondosa Station is also responsible for the maintenance and operations of Siskiyou Bear Lookout located on Bear Mountain. During fire season both stations are equipped with two fire engines. McCloud Station operates E2662 (model #14) and E2659 (model #34) and Pondosa Station operates E2661 (model #34) and E2667 (model #14).

A Battalion Chief (B2614), three Fire Captains (FC) and four Fire Apparatus Engineers (FAE), staff battalion 4. During the summer months the staffing is augmented by seasonal employees including one FC, two LT FAE and up to twenty-eight seasonal Firefighters.

The State Responsibility Area (SRA) within Battalion 4 is made up of both private and federal lands, almost entirely timber. The Fire Hazard Ranking for Battalion 4 is High and Very High. Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) challenges exist within Battalion 4 around the communities of Dunsmuir, Mt. Shasta and McCloud. Of particular concern are the rural areas on the east side of Mt. Shasta City, and in Mount Shasta Forest and Wilderness Estate subdivisions to the east of McCloud. Within the past year, Battalion 4 has added 33,000 acres to its Direct Protection Area (DPA) through a land swap with the United States Forest Service, which now incorporates the areas of concern into Battalion 4 response area.

Fire Prevention Goals

GOAL #1

Prevent loss of life and property within the Battalion.

- Actively seek opportunities to provide fire safety information to the public.
- Continue participation in programs that are already established.
- LE-100 inspections.
- Update maps on water source and fuel breaks.

GOAL #2

Prevent human caused fires by providing homeowners and stakeholders with information about safe burning practices and current burn regulations.

- All employees will be well versed in current burn policies.
- Collect all fire plans from timber companies, ensure employees are familiar with locations of logging operations and access.
- Public education through public contact.
- Distribute Wildfire Safety brochure.

GOAL #3

Reduce the impact of large fires in the Battalion.

- Maintain Siskiyou Bear Lookout for staffing during lightning and high fire danger days.
- Assist and participate with fuel reduction programs and fuel break projects.
- Assist in maintaining the vast road system in the Battalion.

Support and assist the Fire Safe Council both Mt. Shasta and McCloud.

List of Stakeholders

- Residents
- Property Owners
- Timber Companies
 - Hancock Forest Management
 - Hearst Corporation
 - Campbell Timberland Management
 - Bascom Realty
 - Roseburg Forest Products
 - Sierra Pacific Industry
 - W.M. Beatty and Associates

- USFS Shasta Trinity National Forest
- BLM
- Siskiyou County
- McCloud Zone of Increased Benefit (ZIB)
- Mt. Shasta Forest Property Owners Association
- McCloud River Railroad
- Willow Creek Ranch
- City of Dunsmuir
- City of Mt. Shasta
- Town of McCloud
- Fire Departments
 - McCloud Community Service District
 - Mt. Shasta City Fire Department
 - Mt. Shasta Fire Protection District
 - Dunsmuir Fire Department
 - Mt. Shasta Forest Volunteers