

Unit Strategic Fire Plan Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit



Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	ii
SIGNATURE PAGE	1
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	2
SECTION I: UNIT OVERVIEW	
UNIT DESCRIPTION.....	4
HISTORICAL INFLUENCES OF FIRE PLANNING	4
DEMOGRAPHICS.....	7
UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES.....	18
SECTION II: COLLABORATION	
COMMUNITY / AGENCIES / FIRE SAFE COUNCILS.....	28
SECTION III: VALUES AT RISK	
NEU'S ASSETS AT RISK.....	30
NEU'S COMMUNITIES AT RISK.....	30
FIREWISE COMMUNITIES	31
SECTION IV: PRE FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	
FIRE PREVENTION PROGRAM.....	32
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT	36
SECTION V: PRE FIRE MANAGEMENT TACTICS	
DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS.....	39
APPENDIX A: HIGH PRIORITY PRE FIRE PROJECTS	135
APPENDIX B: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS	138
APPENDIX C: STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION	141
APPENDIX D: IGNITION MANAGEMENT UNIT STATISTICS	145
APPENDIX E: FIRE PLANNER SERVICES PROVIDED	151
APPENDIX F: PAST, ACTIVE AND PLANNED PRE-FIRE PROJECTS	152
APPENDIX G: NEU 2013 SRA FEE PROJECTS.....	158
APPENDIX H: COOPERATOR PROJECTS	159
EXHIBITS: MAPS.....	166
SUPPLEMENT: 2014.....	170

SIGNATURES

Unit Strategic Fire Plan developed for Nevada Yuba Placer Unit

This Plan:

- Was collaboratively developed. Interested parties, Federal, State, City, and County agencies within the Unit have been consulted and are listed in the plan.
- Identifies and prioritizes pre fire and post fire management strategies and tactics meant to reduce the loss of values at risk within the Unit.
- Is intended for use as a planning and assessment tool only. It is the responsibility of those implementing the projects to ensure that all environmental compliance and permitting processes are met as necessary.



5-1-14

Unit Chief
Brad Harris

Date



5-1-14

Pre-Fire Engineer
Karen Villalobos

Date



5-1-14

Vegetation Treatment Program Coordinator
Elsa Hucks

Date

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Summary

The Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit (NEU) Fire Management Plan is a product of the implementation of the State Fire Plan. The State Fire Plan provides an analysis procedure utilizing, in part, computer based geographical information data that is validated by experienced fire managers to assess fire fuel hazards and risks in order to design and implement mitigating activities. The NEU Fire Management Plan provides background information, fuels and fire data, proposed projects, and individual Battalion reports outlining mitigating activities commonly carried out each year. The NEU Fire Management Plan is our local road map to create and maintain defensible landscapes in order to protect those assets vital to the state.

NEU is one of 21 administrative Units within the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. NEU faces many challenges, not the least of which is two of its counties, Placer and Nevada, are two of the fastest growing counties within the state. Many of the people moving to these mid Sierra Nevada rural counties are coming from urban areas such as the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Sacramento. This leads to the urbanization of fire adapted vegetation types and ecosystems.

A big challenge facing NEU is one of education. Most of the new residents and many of the existing ones realize what building houses in the middle of fire adapted ecosystems means. The fire adapted forest types where most of the population exists within NEU are Mixed Conifer, Ponderosa/Shrub, Montane Chaparral, and California Oak Woodlands. Research shows that prior to European settlement, fire return intervals ranged from 2 to 8 years in California Oak Woodlands and 5 to 16 years in the remaining forest types. This equated to low intensity fires at frequent intervals. As of 1900 to 1920, wildfires have been suppressed in these vegetation types. As a result, over the last 80 - 100 years vegetative fuels have increased significantly in tons per acre. Unnaturally high fuel loads have resulted. But, most of the public does not realize this, nor do they understand what this means in terms of fire intensity and their safety. They have come to believe what they see now is “natural.”

Wildfires in these unnatural fuel load conditions are very intense and more difficult to suppress. Overlay the mix of homes and personal property in these areas and suppression is even more difficult. The task at hand is to educate the citizens within these areas as to the dangers of living in these fuels and to induce the public into taking an active role in becoming an informed and appropriate land steward and taking it upon themselves to manage the fuels around their structures. Creating “defensible space” around these structures is the single best thing a resident can accomplish to protect their property. Secondary to the effort of creating the defensible space around their homes is a landowner’s responsibility to apply his or her stewardship responsibility across their entire ownership. The overall effect of each property owner properly managing wildland fuels results in a landscape level fuel reduction and a commensurate reduction in fire intensity. Once this is achieved, the goal of reducing costs and losses to human lives, property and natural resources will be reached.

Priorities and Goals

The State Board of Forestry and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection have drafted a comprehensive update of the 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.

Current Pre-fire Management and Development

Since the implementation of the State Fire Plan in 1996 and its evolution into the current NEU Fire Management Plan, interest by stakeholders has resulted in broad support for community wildfire safety. These groups in cooperation with Cal Fire have taken the lead in promoting fire safe activities. Through these groups and our own personnel, we have initiated and completed a number of fuel reduction projects throughout the Unit. It is likely that one of these projects will help reduce the overall government costs and citizen losses resulting from a costly and damaging fire. We continuously encounter new obstacles in the project implementation stage: agency spending procedures, grant requirements, environmental documentation, etc... However, through the continued effort of our staff and the other stakeholders, fuel reduction and education projects will continue.

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 of 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 (U.S. Census Bureau (2010)), 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 (U.S. Census Bureau (2010)), 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 (U.S. Census Bureau (2010)), 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 and 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 (U.S. Census Bureau (2010)), 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 (U.S. Census Bureau (2010)) , 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 2,992.6 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			Acreage
	2010	2020 Low	2020 High	
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: (U.S. Census Bureau (2010))

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 spread
- 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:

Robbers Fire	2012	(Iowa Hill)	2,635 acres	1 structure
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 landscapes 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)	2 – State Owned Fire Engine 1 – Battalion Chief 1 – Prevention Captain
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

Nevada County

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)	1 – 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.

NEU 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 co-located 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.



NEU 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, CA

Latitude: 39°11'01" Longitude: 120°53'05"

Elevation: 2,826 ft

NWS ID: 041808



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, CA

Latitude: 39°18'13" Longitude: 121°07'02"

Elevation: 1,968 ft

NWS ID: 041809



Lincoln RAWS (LCN) - Placer County

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

Historic data is available from August 1991 forward.

Location: Lincoln, CA

Latitude: 38°52'57" Longitude: 121°16'06"

Elevation: 200 ft

NWS ID: 041907



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

2014/2015 Local Wildland Contracts - Placer County

Rocklin Fire Contract – 622.5 acres
Auburn Fire Contract – 900 acres
Truckee Fire Contract – 7,763 acres

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
Graniteville Volunteer Fire Company

Higgins FPD
Nevada County Consolidated FD
Ophir Hill FPD
Penn Valley FPD
Washington Volunteer FD

YUBA COUNTY

Camptonville FPD
Foothill FPD
Smartsville FPD

Dobbins-Oregon House FPD
Loma Rica-Browns Valley FPD

PLACER COUNTY

Alta Volunteer FPD
Auburn City FD
Colfax City FD
Iowa Hill Fire – Company 31
Cal Fire Amador Contracts

- Station 10 – Auburn
- Station 30 – Colfax
- Station 33 - Alta

Placer County Fire – CAL FIRE Schedule A Contract Stations

- Station 70 – Lincoln
- Station 77 – Sunset
- Station 100 – Dry Creek
- Station 180 – Atwood
- Station 182 – Ophir

Placer County Fire Volunteer Companies

- Company 32 – Dutch Flat
- Company 73 – Fowler
- Company 74 – Thermalands
- Company 75 – Paige
- Company 78 – Sheridan
- Company 100 - Dry Creek

EASTSIDE

Meeks Bay FD (El Dorado County)
Northstar FD
Truckee FPD

North Tahoe FPD
Squaw Valley FD

PLUMAS

La Porte Fire Department

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

SECTION II: COLLABORATION

A: COMMUNITY / AGENCIES / FIRE SAFE COUNCILS

Representatives involved in the development of the Unit Strategic Fire Plan are included in the following table. Their organization and title are indicated below:

TABLE 2 - Plan Development Team:

Organization	Representative (title)
Cal Fire	Unit Forester
Cal Fire	Forest Practice Forester II
Cal Fire	VMP Coordinator
Cal Fire	Forest Practice Inspector
Cal Fire	Forestry Assistance Specialist
Auburn City Fire	Auburn City Fire Chief
Placer County OES	Principle Management Analyst
Placer Fire Alliance	Placer County Fire Mitigation Coordinator
Placer County RCD	Executive Director
Foresthill Fire Dept.	Foresthill Fire Chief
Placer Hills Fire District	Placer Hills Fire District Chief
Northstar Fire Dept.	Fire Chief / Fuels Specialist
North Tahoe FPD	Fuels Specialist
Truckee FPD	Fire Prevention Officer
FSCNC	Executive Director of Fire Safe Council of Nevada County
UC Davis	Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center Director
Yuba County FSC	Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council Facilitator

Fire Safe Councils within the Unit

Placer County

Placer Fire Alliance (<http://www.placerfirealliance.org/>)

Composed of:

Foresthill Fire Safe Council

Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council

Placer Sierra Fire Safe Council

Greater Lincoln Area Fire Safe Council

Placer County CWPP:

2013 Revision with 2014 Project Updates

<http://www.placerfirealliance.org/Documents/PlacerCountyCWPPweb.pdf>

Lake Tahoe CWPP:

Being updated in 2014

<http://www.placerfirealliance.org/Documents/Lake%20Tahoe%20CWPP%202004.pdf>

Northstar Fire CWPP:

Currently updated.

Available by request for Northstar Fire Department

Nevada County

Fire Safe Council of Nevada County (<http://www.areyoufiresafe.com/>)

CWPP is located at:

http://www.areyoufiresafe.com/index.php/download_file/view/365/

Being revised for 2014

Yuba County

Yuba County Fire Safe Council (<http://www.co.yuba.ca.us/firesafe/>)

CWPP Document being developed in 2014. Previously utilized County Hazard Mitigation Plan as CWPP.

Sierra County

Sierra Fire Safe Council (<http://www.scfswc.com/>)

Sierra County Fire Safe Plan (2002)

http://www.scfswc.com/media/PDFs/Sierra_County_2002_Community_Fire_Safe_Plan.pdf

Developing a CWPP in 2014

A: NEU's ASSETS AT RISK

The Unit description contained in this Fire Management Plan provides the background for identifying **NEU's Assets at Risk**. The 2010 California Forest and Rangeland Assessment Priority Landscape discussion also reinforces the subthemes that associate with the assets at risk. Each of NEU's programs is geared to protect or enhance the assets. The following list provides a summary of **NEU's Assets at Risk**:

- Life Safety of Residents
- Fixed Property and Real Estate
- Watershed Values and Water Quality / Quantity
- Power Distribution Infrastructure
- Railroad and Highway Infrastructure
- Timber and Agricultural Values
- Wildlife and Ecosystem
- Clean Air

B: NEU's COMMUNITIES AT RISK

On January 4, 2001, for the purposes of the National Fire Plan, the Department of Interior (DOI) published in the *Federal Register* a "notice of Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Communities within the Vicinity of Federal Lands That Are at High Risk from Wildfire."

After the 2000 fire season Cal Fire, working with the California Fire Alliance, developed a list and associated map of communities at risk from wildfire using 1990 Census and USGS Geographic Names Information System data to identify populated places, and Cal Fire's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) [<http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/>] fuel hazard data.

Listed communities can be found at the following link

http://www.cafirealliance.org/communities_at_risk/communities_at_risk_list

Cal Fire FRAP Communities at Risk Map submitted for National Fire Plan.

http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/webdata/maps/statewide/comrisk_map.pdf

Number of formally listed communities at Risk:

Nevada County: 43
Placer County: 38
Sierra County: 17
Sutter County: 12
Yuba County: 2

C: FIREWISE COMMUNITIES

The national Firewise Communities program is a multi-agency effort designed to reach beyond the fire service by involving homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, and other in the effort to protect people, property, and natural resources from the risk of wildland fire – before a fire starts. Firewise Communities emphasize community responsibility for planning in the design of a safe community as well as effective emergency response, and individual responsibility for safer home construction and design, landscaping, and maintenance. More information can be found at <http://www.firewise.org/>

Firewise Community Designation

Placer County

Alpine Meadows 2007
Walden Woods, Granite Bay 2008
Northstar 2010
Monte Verde, Foresthill – (2013 – In Progress)

Nevada County

Lake Wildwood Association, Penn Valley 2007
Lake of the Pines 2009
Banner Mountain 2010
Mountain Lake Estates, Nevada City 2010
Greater Cement Hill Neighborhood, Nevada City 2012
Greater Alta Sierra 2012

A. Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Fire Prevention Program

NEU's fire prevention program accomplishes Unit fire management goals through implementation of four primary components. These components are law enforcement, engineering, information/education and volunteerism.

Law enforcement includes fire investigation and cause determination, enforcement of California's Forestry and Fire Laws and PRC 4291 inspections throughout the Unit.

Engineering occurs through local building department functions where Cal Fire personnel are assigned to assist in planning fire safe projects.

Information and education occurs through direct contact with the public, partnerships with local boards and councils, communication with professional organizations and employee involvement in the local community.

Volunteerism occurs through support of the Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) program, which uses local volunteers to staff fire lookouts, provide public information and represent CAL FIRE at public events, meet with residents, and correspond with the public with Cal Fire goals in mind. The balance of each of these components allows the prevention program to address statewide, regional and local fire issues.

Annually, NEU's Fire Prevention Bureau evaluates fire cause for all fires that occurred the previous year. The ignition information is made available to the Unit staff in order to assist Battalion staff in local fire prevention efforts and develop ignition management plans.

Engineering and Structure Ignitability

As rural development continues, parcel sizes within the WUI remain large enough to sustain a significant threat of wildfire. NEU contains a mosaic of land use types ranging from rural agriculture and forested parcels, WUI with small clusters of development, and dense development near commercial centers and along main thoroughfares. Commercial and residential structures are present throughout all of these land use types. Also prevalent is pervasive hazardous vegetation typical of the Mediterranean climate with fertile soils. Projections of population growth and a desirable standard of living in the Sierra Nevada foothills dictate that continuing development in NEU's WUI will persist.

Construction types, ignitability of materials and proper engineering are all critical when wildland fires encounter structures. State law establishes certain requirements for building in the WUI that effect structure placement and decrease structure ignitability. Local NEU staff, acting in the capacity of Fire Protection Planners (similar to a county Fire Marshall) are co-located with the county building and planning departments (for Placer and Nevada County). Within Yuba County, these duties are handled by the local Battalion Chief with assistance as needed from Nevada and Placer County fire protection planners.

These fire protection planners evaluate development and fire engineering for new construction, including single residential, commercial, and large scale development.

Strategies include:

- Assist planning to properly locate development with minimum exposure to wildfire.
- Evaluation of construction methods and materials that minimize the potential for structure ignition.
- Reduction of flammable vegetation around structures and along evacuation routes.
- Design appropriate access capacity, including roadway design, turnarounds, fire lanes.

Daily tasks include:

- All civil engineering development plans are reviewed for compliance with state fire code.
- Inspecting construction and development for all fire code enforcement issues.
- Inspection of all commercial, residential care homes and commercial change of occupancy locations.
- Implementation of Title 19 regulations, including fire sprinkler system maintenance, appropriate addressing, and water requirements on new construction.

Examples of inspection services offered and rates (from Placer County, 2013) are included as reference in Appendix E: Fire Planner Services Provided within NEU.

Currently development of pre-plans for commercial buildings are developed and maintained at the responding station. Annual fire code inspections for existing construction are also managed at the station level.

Construction

Fire Hazard Severity Zone Mapping – During the years 2007 through 2008, CAL FIRE updated the existing Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps to coincide with the adoption of the new wildland-urban interface building standards. The updated maps incorporate improved wildland fire behavior science, data sets, and understanding of structure ignition mechanisms during conflagrations. These fire hazard severity zones are used by building officials to determine appropriate construction materials for new buildings in the WUI. The updated zones are also used by property owners to comply with natural hazards disclosure requirements at time of property sale. It is expected that the fire hazard severity zones will be used by local government to also update the safety element of general plans.

Fire Hazard Severity Zone Mapping directly relates to building construction standards. On September 20, 2005, the California Building Standards Commission approved the Office of the State Fire Marshall's emergency regulations amending the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24, Part 2, known as the 2007 California Building Code (CBC). It states that any new construction or additions to structures located in a fire hazard severity zone within State Responsibility Areas (SRA), any Local Area Very-High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, or any Wildland-Urban Interface Area designated by the enforcing agency for which an application for a building permit is submitted on or after January 1, 2008, shall comply with all sections of this chapter.

Within the WUI, intrusion of burning embers into a structure is the primary cause of structure ignition during a wildland fire. Fire prevention planners enforce the strict requirements of the California Building Code Chapter 7A (Under Title 24). The objective of these 7A Standards is to provide a reasonable level of exterior wildfire exposure protection for buildings in the WUI. The 7A Standards are designed to minimize the number of burning embers that enter a building and ignite fires. One important component to 7A requirements is that a 4291 inspection must be passed before a building permit is finalized by the building department.

<http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/pdf/firemarshal/buildingcodechapter7a.pdf>

The Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps and new building standards for each county can be obtained from the Cal Fire website:

http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland.php.

Defensible Space Inspection Program

Proper clearance and treatment of vegetative fuels enhances the protection of structures in the wildland. Public Resource Code 4291 (PRC 4291), establishes mandates for the clearance of vegetative fuels within 100' of all structures in the wildland. NEU defensible space inspectors visit over 5,000 residences each year to verify compliance with PRC 4291. Landowners are provided an inspection document showing whether their structure is in compliance. Non-compliant landowners are provided an opportunity to perform necessary fuel treatment prior to re-inspection. Second and third inspections are performed to determine the need for law enforcement action.

General Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space:

http://www.fire.ca.gov/cdfbofdb/pdfs/4291finalguidelines2_23_06.pdf

Placer County Hazardous Vegetation Abatement Ordinance

CAL FIRE fire protection planners within Placer County are also inspectors for the recently adopted (2008) Placer County Hazardous Vegetation Abatement Ordinance (HVA). The HVA extends the enforceability of PRC 4291 beyond the property line creating a tool that can be applied specifically to unimproved parcels adjacent to improved properties. The ordinance exists only where an extra hazardous condition (as determined by the Fire Warden) exists.

More information on this ordinance is available at:

<http://www.placer.ca.gov/Departments/Fire/HVAO.aspx>

Landscape Level Fuel Modification

A majority of landowners respond to the defensible space inspection program prior to LE action. Generally, a fire safe zone of 100' is familiar to the public and our efforts with the inspection program are continually educating the residents that are unaware. However, in order to accomplish a broader application of fuel treatments beyond the mandated 100' fire safe zone, NEU promotes a stewardship ethic for landowners with property that extends beyond the 100' zone. Landscape level fuel modifications are promoted through cooperative efforts with local government partners, Resource Conservation Districts, Fire Safe Councils, and through efforts of the NEU Resource Management staff providing assistance to landowners throughout the unit.

NEU will continue to assist local government in developing standards, policies, and plans, which will result in a stewardship ethic and landscape level fuel modification.

Information and Education

The information and education programs in the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit focus on promoting fire and life safety messages in the communities we serve. We focus on providing information and education to people of all ages, in public forums and through the media, and displaying and distributing educational material.

Through NEU's Ignition Management Program, high target areas have been identified for specific outreach campaigns. These campaigns may include increased publicity through the media, social media, local channels, school programs, fairs and other public events.

School Programs

NEU personnel, primarily engine companies, participate in school programs throughout the year to provide fire prevention, life safety, and natural resource protection education. It is our goal to target schools that have been identified in areas with high PWF (Playing With Fire) incidents in the unit's Ignition Management Plan.

Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program

Juveniles identified as playing with fire or intentionally starting a fire are referred to NEU's Juvenile Firesetter Intervention Program. The goal of the program is to reduce the number of fires started by juveniles within the communities we serve. The program is designed to assist parents and their children in understanding the dangers of playing with fire, how to prevent repeat incidents and other consequences of firesetting behavior.

Fairs and Public Events

Fairs continue to be an effective method of conveying fire prevention messages to the public. NEU personnel participate in the Nevada County Fair in Grass Valley and the Gold Country Fair in Auburn. We choose one fire prevention message to highlight each year (2010: responsible equipment use). We also encourage local agencies to participate in our booths in order to provide a broader means to promote fire safety.

Fire Information Center

The NEU Fire Information Center is activated for incidents that generate public interest. Volunteers in Prevention staff the phones and give incident information to local residents and the media. The volunteers are trained to provide safety messages and education when appropriate.

Media Outreach

NEU distributes many news releases and informational messages through the media each year. These messages range from responsible equipment, burn permits, current prescribed fire and training burns, changes in equipment use regulations, holiday safety, the opening of fire season and any other topic that may be relevant to the population served by CAL FIRE.

Printed Materials

Printed educational materials are available to the public at every facility and online. Defensible Space Inspectors also distribute these materials during inspections and emphasize their importance. We encourage staff to hand out pertinent materials when writing burn permits or simply answering questions.

B. Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Vegetation Management Program

Fuels Management

Vegetation Management Program

NEU's vegetation management program (VMP) and California Forestry Improvement Program / Proposition 40 (CFIP) program assist private landowners and non-federal agencies in addressing the common problems associated with hazardous flammable vegetation. The VMP goal is to reduce the chance of large, damaging wildfires by reducing fire hazards on wildlands in California. The intent is to encouraging a range of natural resource benefits consistent with environmental protection requirements and landowner objectives. The three broad purposes of the VMP program include:

- Reduction of conflagration fires
- Optimization of soil and water productivity
- Protection and improvement of resource / ecosystem values.

Cal Fire's prescribed burns under the VMP are conducted for many reasons. Most burns have hazard-reduction as a major objective coordinated under the Unit Fire Plan. However, many burns have important secondary objectives that could include:

- Fuel Reduction
- Community Defensible Space
- Range Improvement
- Weed Management
- Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

VMP projects use various techniques to accomplish program goals:

- Broadcast Burning
- Mosaic Burning in Chaparral
- Pile & Burn using Hand Crews
- Chipping and Commercial Biomass

NEU Forest Practice

The primary role of the Forest Practice Program is to enforce California's Forestry and Fire Laws on privately-owned lands in California. These laws are found in the Public Resource Code and the California Forest Practice Rules. Additional rules enacted by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection are also enforced to protect these resources.

NEU Forest Practice Inspectors ensure that private landowners abide by these laws when harvesting trees. Although there are specific exemptions in some cases, compliance with the Forest Practice Act and Board rules apply to all commercial harvesting operations for landowners of small parcels, to ranchers owning hundreds of acres, and large timber companies with thousands of acres.

The Timber Harvesting Plan (THP) is the environmental review documents submitted by landowners to CAL FIRE outlining what timber he or she wants to harvest, how it will be harvested, and the steps that will be taken to prevent damage to the environment. THPs are prepared by Registered Professional Foresters (RPFs) who are licensed to prepare these comprehensive, detailed plans. THPs can range from about 100 pages to more than 500 pages.

NEU Forest Practice Inspectors follow-up on approved THPs with site inspections and can shutdown operations, cite or fine Registered Professional Foresters, Licensed Timber Operators (LTOs), and landowners if illegal operations are found. Under this program, law enforcement and prevention work together to ensure environmental compliance.

Forestry and Landowner Assistance

NEU Foresters administer several state and federal forestry assistance programs as funding is available with the goal of reducing wildland fuel loads and improving the health and productivity of private forest lands. California's Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) and other state and federal programs that NEU Foresters administer, offer cost-share opportunities to assist individual landowners with land management planning, conservation practices to enhance wildlife habitat, and practices to enhance the productivity of the land. The cost share program encourages landowner participation and requires land uses to remain consistent with the goals of the program following implementation.

Other Forestry Duties and Unit Projects

NEU Foresters continue to provide Unit support on various levels including Fire Prevention, Pre-Fire Planning, GIS support, state facility maintenance and construction, hired equipment coordination, environmental regulation and County project review and California Environmental Quality Act compliance.

A: DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS

NEVADA-YUBA-PLACER UNIT (NEU) IGNITION MANAGEMENT PLAN

FIRE PREVENTION

NEU's fire prevention program accomplishes Unit fire management goals through implementation of four primary components. These fire prevention components are information/education, engineering, law enforcement, and volunteerism. Information and education occurs through direct contact with the public, partnerships with local boards and councils, communication with professional organizations and employee involvement in the local community. Engineering occurs through local building department functions where Cal Fire personnel are assigned to assist in developing fire safe projects and planning. Law enforcement includes enforcement of California's Forestry and Fire Laws in the industrial forestry arena to reduce fuel loading and prevent fires as well as the fire investigative arena once structure or wildland fires have occurred and the cause determination is necessary. Volunteerism occurs through support of the Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) program, which uses local volunteers to appear at public events, meet with residents, and correspond with the public with Cal Fire goals in mind. The balance of each of these components allows the prevention program to address statewide, regional and local fire issues.

NEU has found that the most effective method of spreading fire prevention information to educate the public is to make personal "one-on one" contact with the public. It is the Unit's view that the single most effective method to protect personal and real property from wildland fires is for each individual landowner or resident to meet the mandates of Public Resources Code 4291 (defensible space standards). NEU encourages the public to extend hazardous fuel reduction beyond the PRC 4291 mandated defensible zone into the adjacent "Defensible Landscape" zone (area beyond the required 100'). This is the area where landowners can apply stewardship ethic, improve forest health and add to the protection of the property.

IGNITION MANAGEMENT

In order to better address ignition management for the Unit, a more detailed analysis of the fires in each major cause classification was conducted.

1) Control Burning (debris burning) - The number one cause of escaped control burns was lack of clearance followed by wind, and old control burns re-igniting (coming back to life). Unattended control burns also contributed to the totals.

2) Vehicles - This category has been one of the leading causes of fires in the Unit for the past several years. The majority of these fires occurred along the major traffic corridors of Interstate 80, hwy 49 and hwy 20. Brake fires, catalytic converter failure and other maintenance issues remains to be the leading cause of fires caused by vehicles. With the current economic conditions there appears to be less maintenance done on vehicles.

3) Electrical power - Most electrical fires resulted from trees, branches or birds into the power lines. Bird Causes are on the increase.

4) Equipment - Historically, this classification has been one of the top causes of wildfire starts in the Unit. Through continuing displays and education programs (handouts and the 4291 Program), we hope to continue a downward trend. The main cause of equipment fires continues

to be mower fires. These fires were due to mower blades striking rocks and friction belts igniting chaff collected around the belt. Ironically, most of the mower caused fires occurred as a result of residents trying to clear their property for fire safety but they were clearing during the hottest part of the day, usually between the hours of 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM.

5) Miscellaneous causes - This classification includes causes such as spontaneous combustion, fireplace ashes deposited in the wildland, barbequing, cooking fires, and fireworks.

6) Playing with Fire - Several juveniles were caught and went through either a Juvenile Fire Setter Class and others were sent to the Juvenile Justice System and sentenced to probation.

7) Undetermined - Continued hard work and dedication of the Unit's Fire Prevention Staff and the company officers who conduct thorough origin and cause investigations aid in the declining number in this cause class. Thorough origin and cause investigations also assist in determining fire patterns which may be reduced by public education and or enforcement.

8) Arson - The continued working relationships between all fire and law enforcement agencies is high priority for the Unit.

9) Lightning - Not much can be done to prevent or alter this category.

10) Smoking - The majority of these fires were carelessly discarded cigarettes along our roadways. However, several bark and planter box fires were directly attributed to smoking.

11) Illegal campfires and campfire escapes - Public education and campfire permit requirements help to keep the number of fires from the category low.

12) Railroad - The Unit has a major east/west rail line operated by Union Pacific railroad, yearly fire prevention meeting's along with work site inspection, work to reduce the fires started by the railroad.

Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 10

Battalion Description

The Dry Creek Battalion covers an area of approximately 75,675 acres with a population of approximately 7,000 residents. The Battalion is located almost entirely in the LRA, however there is a component of SRA in the Granite Bay area, which is primarily encompassed in the South Placer Fire District. Fuel types range from grassland typical of an oak savannah with denser drainages to a dense live oak component containing brush. The land is primarily flat with some rolling hills. The area is populated with rural residential properties varying in size from 5-100 acres with some larger ownerships remaining. Located amongst these rural residential parcels are pockets of densely populated subdivisions where parcel size and spacing between homes is more indicative of rural development. The make-up of development and fuel types creates a true WUI problem. The Battalion lies adjacent to multiple cities and population centers. Elements from these populated areas have caused some ignition problems related to burning abandoned vehicles, fireworks discharge, and carelessness.

Agency cooperators include South Placer Fire District, Dry Creek Fire Advisory Committee, Placer County Fire Alliance, Western Placer Municipal Advisory Committee, Roseville City Fire, Rocklin Fire, Sac Metro Fire Department.

Statistics

Below is the breakdown of Responsibility Area and Direction Protection Area for Battalion 2310.

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 5,196	LRA 59,130	SRA 11,350
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 0	Local 59,070	State 16,594

Battalion Fire History and Occurrence

A vast majority of fires within the Battalion occur as roadside starts. These fires are classified as arson, equipment, vehicle, smoking, or are undetermined as to specific ignition source. A majority of these fires are contained at less than 20 acres. Large costly and damaging fires are not a regular occurrence in the Battalion, although structure damage does occur. In order to mitigate the hazard from roadside starts, a fence line disc program is managed by Battalion staff to provide a first line of defense. It is not uncommon, however, to have 300+ acre fires that require state resources to assist with mitigation.

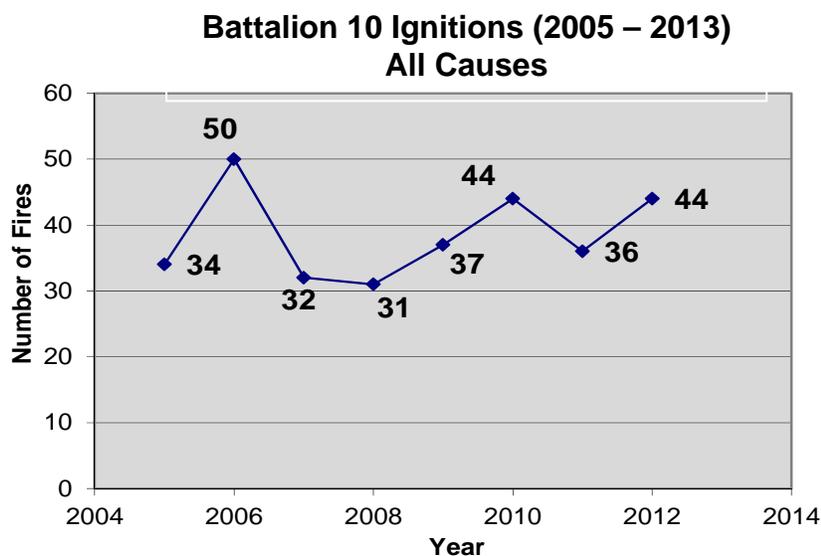
Arson fires account for approximately 40% of the fires in the Battalion. These fires are intentionally set fires with a determined cause. Arson fires are the most difficult to reduce due to their nefarious nature. The Unit's Prevention Bureau Chief is charged with investigations and pursuit of arson as felonious activity. The Cal Fire Battalion Chief responsible for Battalion 10 is a Cal Fire Peace Officer and has been very active with Law Enforcement activities in the Battalion. When needed, the Unit Prevention Bureau assists with cause determination if a trending fire problem is observed. In order to address the arson problem, the Battalion will continue a high profile prevention program.

Fires with an undetermined cause account for 17% of fires in the Battalion. These fires are the most difficult to reduce due to their difficulty in assessing the cause. The Unit Prevention Bureau assists Battalion staff with cause determination if a fire problem persists with no apparent cause. Over time, causes are determined and the appropriate mitigations are applied.

Equipment caused fires account for 19% of fires in the Battalion. Much of the weed abatement occurring in the Battalion, including mowing and disking, involves the use of equipment. Also, construction and other land management activities often require the use of equipment. This equipment use takes place in the wildland areas where vegetative fuels are available and susceptible to burning.

The statistics show that escaped debris burns account for 19% of wildfires in the Battalion. The residents realize that the fuel treatments near their residences must be done and often delay burning until the final weeks prior to burn bans being instituted. The result is a greater number of burn piles being burned later in the season, when control of the fires is more difficult due to weather and fuel conditions. Public education at the time of burn permit issuance is used to reduce the number of escapes.

The balance of the fires is split between various factors which are considered normal accidental fires. Power line fires account for 5% and vehicle related causes account for 5%. State and Federal law requires the treatment of fuels within certain distances of regulated power distribution infrastructure.



Mitigation Strategies

1. Public Education:

Public education continues to be a priority within Battalion 10 to reduce the number of fire starts. The action plan for public contact and education is as follows:

A. Burn Permit Administration

Approximately 19% of the total fire incidents in the battalion are identified as escape debris burns. This indicates there is a need to educate the public on proper debris

burning techniques. One effect may be that residents are new to the community and are unaware of the proper methods and timing for debris burning.

LE-62s (Residential Burn Permit – Burn Pile) will be issued at CAL FIRE /Placer County Fire Station 100. The local pollution control district determines burn hours. Pre-inspections will be provided on a requested or as needed basis. A copy of the permit will be filed at Station 100. With each permit written, a Placer County Air Pollution Control District's Residential Open Burning informational sheet will be included. SRA areas of Battalion 10 within the South Placer Fire District have accepted burn permit administration with guidance by Cal Fire.

LE-5 (California Inter-Agency Burning Permit) and LE-7 (Project Type Burning Permit) are issued on SRA lands after an inspection by an authorized employee of CAL FIRE. These project burn permits are typically used to dispose of larger piles of material and typically require an inspection by CAL FIRE prior to authorization to burn.

B. Public Education Forums

Battalion staff remains involved in numerous public education programs. Many programs are cooperative efforts with other fire agencies. The Placer County Fair is an example of agency cooperation that provides information and education to the public. This venue provides a receptive and captive audience.

Ongoing events throughout the year:

- Business Fire Safety programs / Fire Extinguisher Training
- School Programs
- Fire Prevention Signage
- Station 100 Message Board
- Placer County Fair
- Parades
- Community Barbeques and Pancake Breakfasts

C. Fire Prevention:

News Releases - CAL FIRE will continue to utilize a local radio station, the local newspaper, as well as local Homeowner's Associations and Fire Safe Councils to educate the public on fire safe issues.

1. Equipment Use Information - In addition CAL FIRE will work with local equipment rental yards and dealers with prevention material and to ensure compliance with spark arrestor laws. The focus will be trying to mitigate the rising occurrence of equipment caused ignitions.
2. Fire Safe Programs - The Placer County Fire Planner will continue to provide building plan fire and life safety reviews for PRC 4290 and uniform fire code regulations.

D. Defensible Space Inspections:

Placer County Code 9.32.150 and PRC 4291 inspections serve a dual purpose. One is as a vegetation management motivator. The other is as a public education tool. The Battalion 10 goal will be to target areas within the Battalion that have a

significant wildland fire threat and inspect homes using the PRC 4291 program in the SRA and enforcing the local ordinance in the LRA. Station 100 personnel will concentrate on the Central Ave., Vineyard Rd. PFE Rd. and Walerga Rd. South Brewer Road from West Sunset to Baseline. A five-year cycle through the significant wildland fire threat area will provide education and prevention information to the affected homeowners. Inspection of power lines will occur during the defensible space inspections. Staff will advise the battalion chief of a violation, the battalion chief will conduct the last inspection and determine if enforcement is necessary and if so issue a citation.

E. Law Enforcement

Battalion Chief, B2310, is a peace officer. The Battalion Chief enforces forest and fire laws within the battalion. Law enforcement duties include citation issuance for negligently caused fires and participation with felonious investigations. In 2013, an arson case was filed and will be adjudicated in 2014.

- 2. Vegetation Management:** The vegetation management programs are directed at reducing the potential of a large fire and reducing the damage from a large fire.

A. Hazard Reduction Programs

Battalion personnel manage a fence line disc project to provide a first line defense if an ignition occurs and to prevent roadside ignitions. The program is a voluntary effort by residents with their own equipment to assist in protecting their properties. Battalion staff endeavors to educate residents on the value of disking along fence lines and encourage their participation.

B. Doyle Ranch Fuels Reduction

The Doyle Ranch Subdivision is located in Western Placer County south of Baseline Road and West of Walegra Road. The subdivision is bordered by wildland on three sides. The project area is approximately 15 acres and consists of mature oak trees of various species, standing dead snag trees and various saplings. The predominant carrier of fire within the area is grass, downed woody material ladder fuels.

Beyond the project area are wildlands consisting of grass and oak woodlands, bordered by major road systems that are associated with some of the highest rates of wildfire in the county. This project involves using controlled fire to reduce the downed woody fuels and reduce the ladder fuels resulting in a grass only fuel type.

C. Placer County Common Areas Fuel Reduction

The Battalion has worked closely with homeowners associations and Placer County to address fuel load problems on public lands throughout the Dry Creek Community. After several years of planning and educating, Placer County has initiated numerous fuel reduction projects with help from Battalion staff. Treatments currently focus on chipping along riparian areas. Also included in this program is implementing common gate locking mechanisms that assist fire department personnel with emergency access to wildlands.

High Priority Target Areas

- Areas near Baseline, Dyer, Watt and Palladay.
- Central Ave.
- Vineyard Rd.
- PFE Rd.
- Walerga Rd.
- South Brewer Road from West Sunset to Baseline
- Areas of medium to light density housing where backyards have little clearances

Battalion 10 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Educational Programs

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Battalion Disc Line Project	O	Continuous	Fuel reduction, Weed abatement	varies
Doyle Ranch Fuels Reduction	A	TBD	Fuel reduction	15
Placer County Common Areas Fuels Reduction	A		Fuel reduction	100

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

4th of July flier - 2007 was the busiest year for fireworks violations. In 2008 the area was flooded with 4th of July “no fireworks” fliers. The 4th of July, 2008 resulted in no fireworks calls in the Battalion.

Disc Line program- Given 90% of Battalion 10 ignitions are along the roadside, parcels 5 acres + were sent letters requesting they disc an 8-10 ft band along the road. This program has dramatically decreased the number of ignitions.

In 2013, 140 parcel owners were contacted to participate with the goal of protecting 10,000 acres of wildland. 43 property owners participated and created fire breaks. 31 property owners were exempt. The return contacts showed a 53% participation rate. In the Dry Creek area, there were 13 roadside fires where disking occurred. 3 fires occurred along properties that did not disk, with a final acreage of 7 acres. 10 fires occurred on properties where disking occurred resulting in a total of 1 acre burned.

Action Plan:

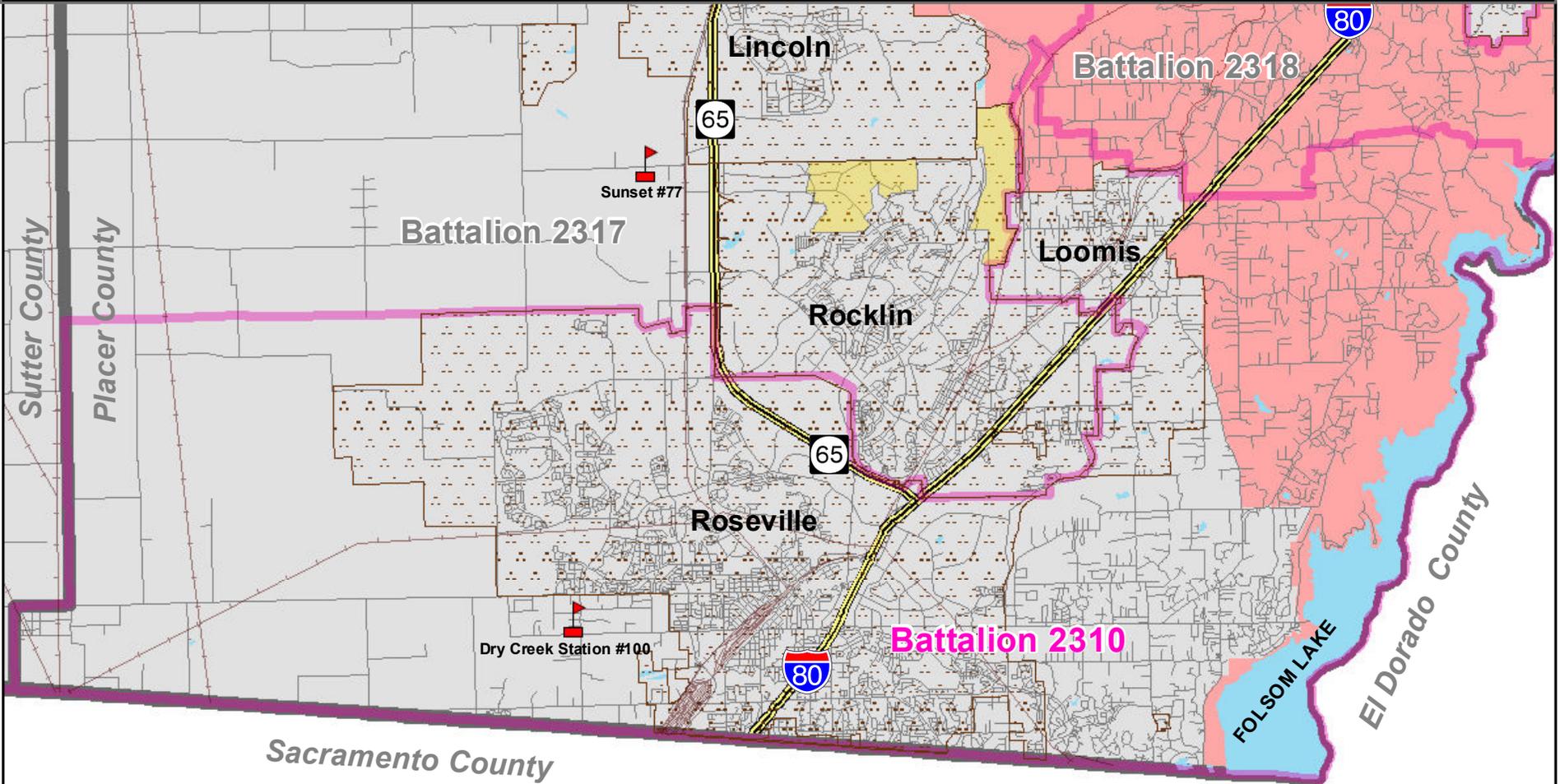
- Continue promoting the disc program with more press releases and public education.
- Continue working with local law enforcement to arrest arsonists.
- Continue to focus on prevention surveillance and reduce the number of arson events.
- Investigate discing around towers to reduce the number of bird strike caused fires along power lines.

- Continue to focus on compiling and developing structural / commercial pre-plans.
- Work to improve database of historical fire perimeters.
- Continue public education regarding fireworks laws in the Battalion
- Continue high standard of LE-66 compilation.



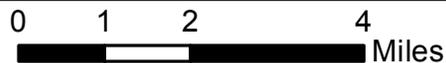
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 10 - Administrative Boundaries



	Railroad		County	DPA PROVIDER	
	Incorporated Cities		Highways		CAL FIRE
	Battalion		County Roads		Local Wildland Contract
	Fire Station		Rivers		Local Government

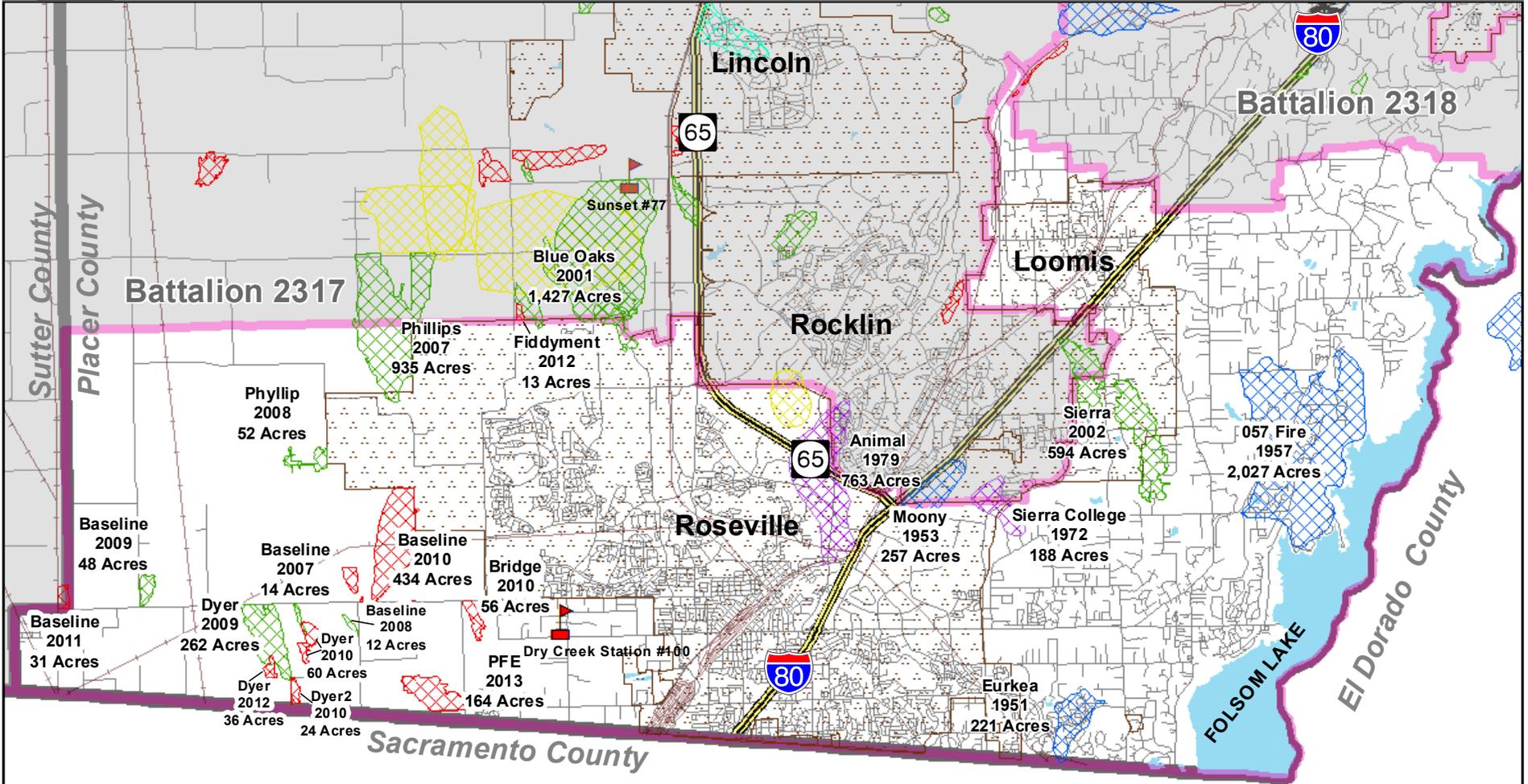
1 in = 2 miles



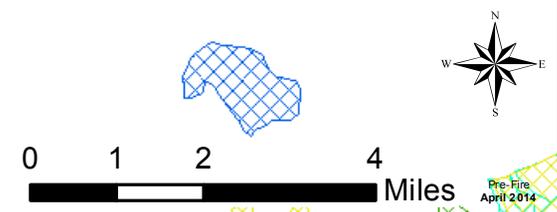


NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 10 - Fire History

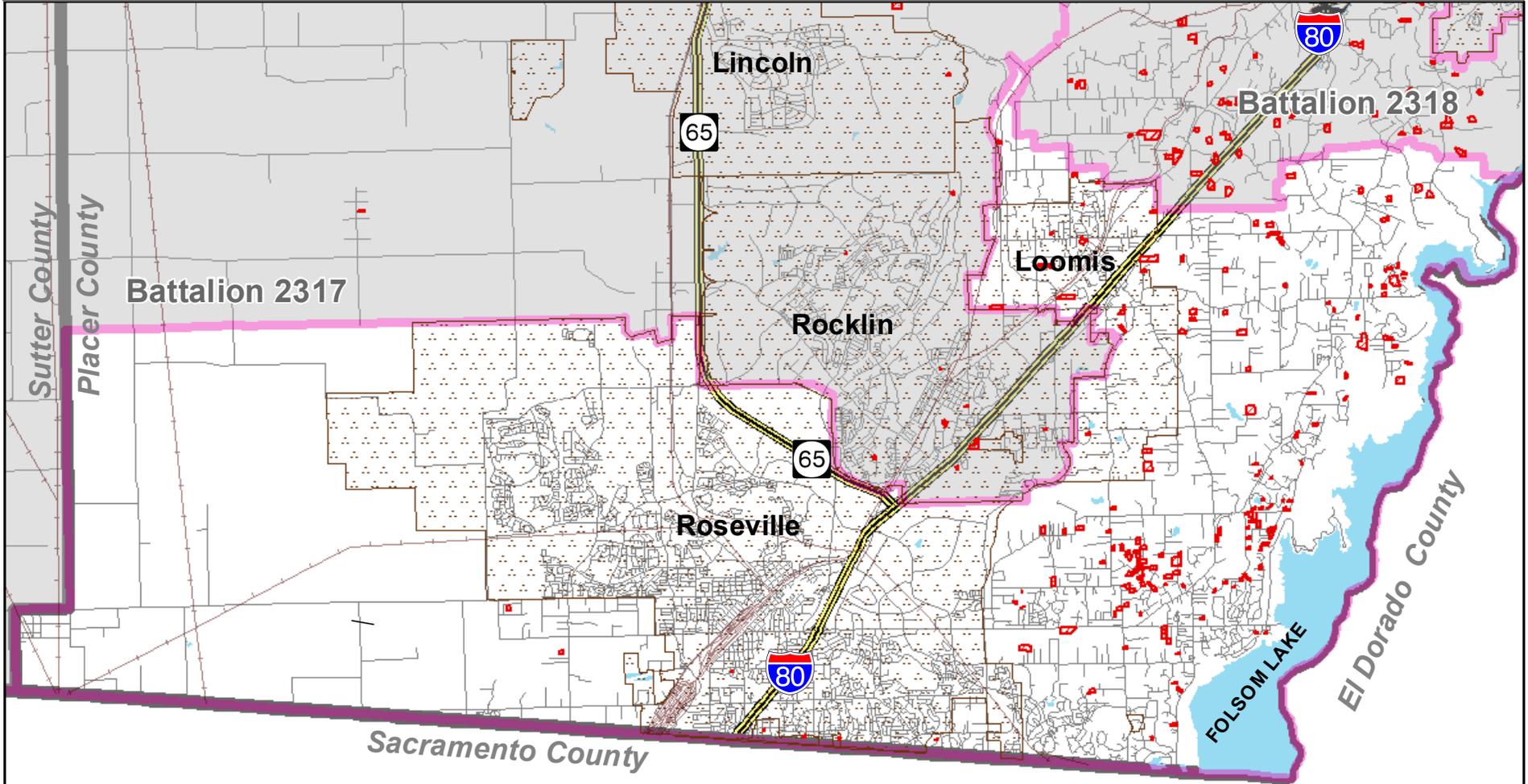


	Railroad		County		1950 - 1959
	Incorporated Cities		Highways		1960 - 1969
	Battalion		County Roads		1970 - 1979
	Fire Station		Rivers		1980 - 1989
					1990 - 1999
					2000 - 2009
					2010 - 2013





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 10 - CalMapper Projects



-  Treatment Areas
-  Battalion Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Incorporated Cities



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 11

Battalion Description

The Foresthill and Auburn Battalion cover an area 345,581 acres in size within Placer County along Foresthill Divide Road and Interstate 80. The area is densely populated and interlaced with an extensive road system. The elevation ranges from 510 feet in the drainage of the American River Canyon to 3,800 feet around Foresthill. The North Fork American River and Middle Fork American River form two distinct drainage systems with steep inner gorges and often dense heavy fuels. The fuels within the Battalion vary as widely as the elevations, spanning an area that contains blue oak woodland where annual grasses and oaks are mixed with brush and landscape plantings to the prime timber bearing soils of the Foresthill Divide which are covered with large pine and fir timber typical of the Sierra Nevada mixed conifer zone. In between these fuel types is a range of chaparral, conifer / oak forest, and grass meadows, all containing light flashy fuels and mixed with residential development.

The population centers are Auburn and Foresthill, surrounded by a densely scattered urban interface where parcels range from a half to 20 acres in size, much of which is developed with commercial, residential, and heavy industrial infrastructure. This mix creates a true WUI problem where even the smallest fires with the most prompt emergency response can have a catastrophic result and result in burned structures.

Cooperators include Auburn Fire, Bureau of Reclamation, CA State Parks, Placer Hills Fire District, CAL TRANS, Foresthill Fire Department, Placer Fire Alliance, Placer County RCD, Placer County Land Trust, and USFS.

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2311

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 254,025	LRA 4,152		SRA 96,404
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 292,547	Local Wildland Contract 893	Local 3,333	State 57,808

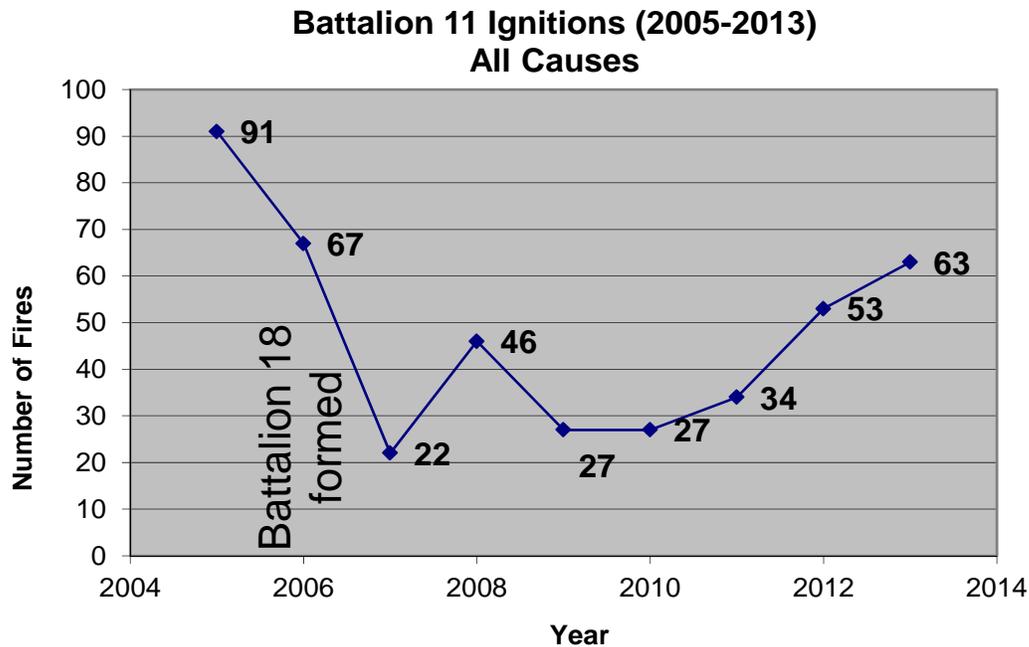
Battalion Fire History and Occurrence

Historically, large fires are known to occur within and adjacent to the Battalion. Notable in terms of size are the Volcano Fire (1960 – 44,386 acres), Roadside #51 (1964 – 3,545 acres), Ralston Fire (2006 – 8,300 acres), and American River Complex (2008 - 19,580 acres). Each of these fires consumed significant SRA acreage within the Federal DPA. Other significant fires include the Auburn Fire (1961 – 672 acres) and Mammoth Fire (2009 - 643 acres).

Equipment and vehicle caused fires are combined in this discussion and rank as the highest cause (44%) of wildfire in the Battalion. Construction and land management activities often require the use of equipment. This equipment use takes place in the wildland areas where vegetative fuels are available and susceptible to burning. Portions of Interstate 80 within the Battalion lie in an area where commercial vehicle traffic often encounters problems as a result of the long downhill run off of Donner Summit. During fire season, as temperatures and vehicle traffic increases on Interstate 80, vehicles with overheating brakes can become an ignition source for roadside vegetation. Conversely, overheating and friction can affect vehicles climbing grades within the Battalion causing vehicles to ignite. Exclusive of Interstate 80, many

of the roads in the Battalion are rural roads with vegetation growing very close to the road edge, or on the road surface. The exposure of these fuels to hot exhaust, exhaust discharge, or flame impingement from fires originating within the vehicle is a problem typical of the rural community.

Arson and undetermined fires are considered equally and account for 30% of the fires in the Battalion. These fires are intentionally set fire or fires which the ignition could not be determined due to various factors. These fires are the most difficult to reduce due to their nefarious nature and difficulty in assessing. The Unit's prevention program is charged with investigation and pursuit of arson as felonious activity. The Unit prevention also assists Battalion staff with cause determination if a fire problem persists with no apparent cause. The result is, over time, a reduction in arson fires and determination of cause on undetermined fires allowing fire prevention education to address the actual cause. The balance of the fires is split between various causes which are considered normal accidental fires.



Mitigation Strategies

1. Public Education:

Battalion 11 will work to reduce fire ignitions damage by actively participating in public education programs, fuel reduction programs, and homeowner education programs. These efforts will center in the communities of Auburn, Foresthill, Newcastle, and Christian Valley. The components are as follows:

A. Burn Permit Administration

Only 11% of the total fire incidents in the battalion were identified as escape debris burns. Due to this success, there is always a need to educate the public on proper debris burning techniques. There is also a potential that new residents are unaware of the proper methods and timing for debris burning. Therefore, an effective program of issuing burn permits is critical to prevention of wildland fires.

LE-62s (Residential Burn Permit – Burn Pile) will be issued by authorized CAL FIRE personnel and cooperators. Headquarter staff, station staff, and VIP staff will administer dooryard burn permits to the public. Issuing points will be CAL FIRE

Stations 10 and 11 and Placer County Fire Stations. The process will ensure that homeowners can easily acquire a permit. Burn hours will be determined by CAL FIRE outside the city limits and the individual cities within their boundaries. The emphasis will be placed on the terms of the permit, the responsibilities of the permit holder, and alternative methods of vegetation disposal.

LE-5 (California Inter-Agency Burning Permit) and LE-7 (Project Type Burning Permit) are issued on SRA lands after an inspection by an authorized employee of CAL FIRE or USFS. These project burn permits are typically used to dispose of larger piles of material.

B. Public Education Forums

CAL FIRE staff is involved in numerous public education programs. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs. Ongoing events throughout the year include:

- Meadow Vista Pioneer Day Parade
- Foresthill Fourth of July Parade
- Auburn Fourth of July Parade
- Auburn Air fest: Attend and assist fire prevention staff with static display during the Air Fest.
- Gold Country Fair: Construct and staff the fair booth display.
- Fire Prevention week open house: Conduct open house tours of the CAL FIRE / Placer County Fire Facility, Auburn Headquarters.
- Fireworks Patrols: With use of engines, paid staff, and VIP's conduct high visibility neighborhood patrols.
- Battalion wide fuel reduction and VMP's

C. PRC 4291 inspection:

PRC 4291 inspections serve a dual purpose. One is as a vegetation management motivator. The other is as a public education tool. Inspections will occur in the general vicinity of Auburn and Newcastle as well as the Christian Valley area. Correspondence with landowners will include information on reducing equipment use and debris fire ignitions.

2. Vegetation Management: The vegetation management programs are directed at reducing the potential of a large fire and reducing the damage from a large fire.

A. Chipper Program / Residential Fuel Treatment

The Battalion receives great benefit from working with the Placer County Chipping program. The program provides chipping services to landowners to abate hazardous

vegetation with reduced costs to the landowner and fewer opportunities of an escaped control burn with the added benefit of reduced impacts to air quality. The Battalion encourages landowners to keep their properties free from flammable vegetation through support of the local Fire Safe and Resource Conservation District fuel reduction efforts.

B. Installation and Maintenance of Roads and Fuel Breaks

The Battalion will continue to support the acquisition of project funds and cooperators that will achieve the installation and maintenance of roads and fuel breaks within the Battalion. The following roads and fuel breaks are deemed critical to provide fire equipment access and reduce the potential of a large costly and damaging fire which may originate in the American River Canyon:

- 1) New Auburn Foresthill Road to Clipper Gap Fuel Break, North Fork American West Rim
- 2) New Drivers Flat to Long Point Fuel Break, North Fork American East Rim
- 3) Existing McKeon-Ponderosa Fuel Break Improvement and Maintenance
- 4) Existing Lower Lake Clementine Fuel Break, North Fork American, East Rim
- 5) Existing Auburn to Robie Point Fuel Break Maintenance, North Fork American, West Rim
- 6) Maintenance of Stagecoach Road below the City of Auburn
- 7) Maintenance of Lower Lake Clementine River Access Road

C. VMP Projects

The purpose of these projects is to eliminate the potential for a large and damaging wildfire by eliminating the fuel, with fire, in a controlled fashion. The current VMP schedule includes the Foresthill Bridge VMP which has traditionally been instituted under agreement with the US Bureau of Reclamation and Placer County for fire prevention purposes. The project involves burning of the site prior to July 4th each year to eliminate the risk of an intentionally set fire.

High Priority Target Areas

- Foresthill,
- Todd Valley
- Populated areas along canyon rim
- LRA areas during red flag warnings

Battalion 11 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education Programs

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Foresthill Bridge VMP	O	2013	Prescribed Fire	67
I-80 Highway Chipping	C	2013	Fuel Treatment	70
Placer County Chipper	O	N/A	Fuel Treatment	
Shockley Trails	M	2011	Shaded Fuel Break	
PG&E North Auburn VMP	P	2015	Prescribed Fire	TBD

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

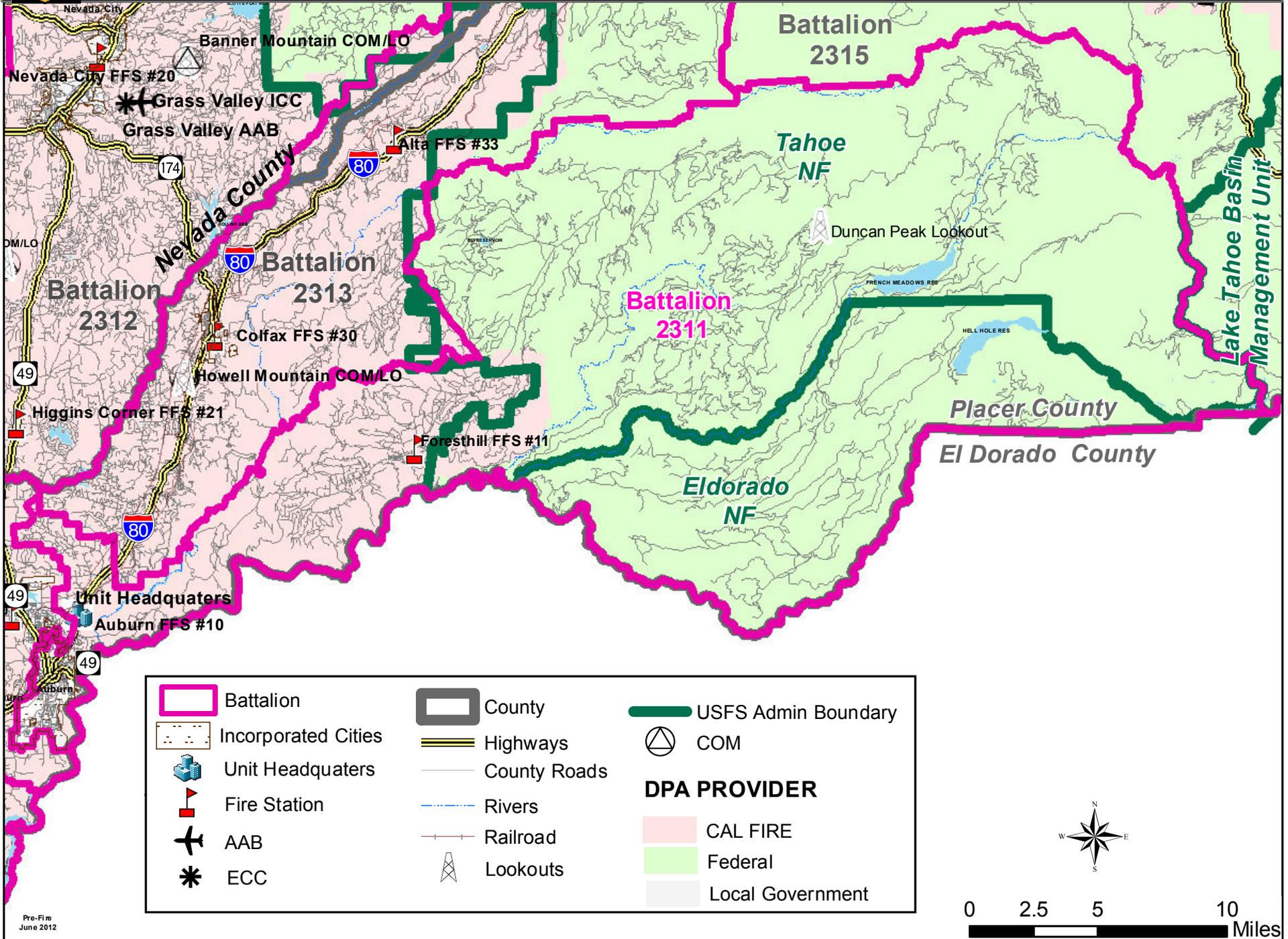
2013 Action Plan

- The Battalion will continue to implement the public education forums identified in the plan.
- The Battalion will work with Caltrans to reduce ignitions while mowing.
- The Battalion will encourage and support vegetation management programs within the Unit, plus roadside chipping and community chipping programs provided by agency cooperators.
- The Battalion will continue to implement a defensible space enforcement program in conjunction with the Unit Prevention Bureau and encourage landowners to remove hazardous vegetation adjacent to their structures.
- The Battalion will continue to maintain an excellent working relationship with various community fire agencies, public service groups, and Fire Safe Councils. This will ensure a rapid and effective response in order to protect the members of the community the Battalion serves.
- The Battalion will be working with PG&E to implement a VMP project on their lands within Battalion 11. This will consist of fuel reduction prescribed fire and development of a shaded fuel break.
- The Battalion will continue to work with Staff from the Auburn State Recreation Area to inform the public on Fire Danger and to work with State Park Staff to maintain and improve the fire road system within their recreation area.
- The Battalion will continue to work with Auburn City Fire Department shaded fuel break projects within Auburn City limits.
- The Battalion will work on a WUI pre-plan for populated areas along the canyon rim.



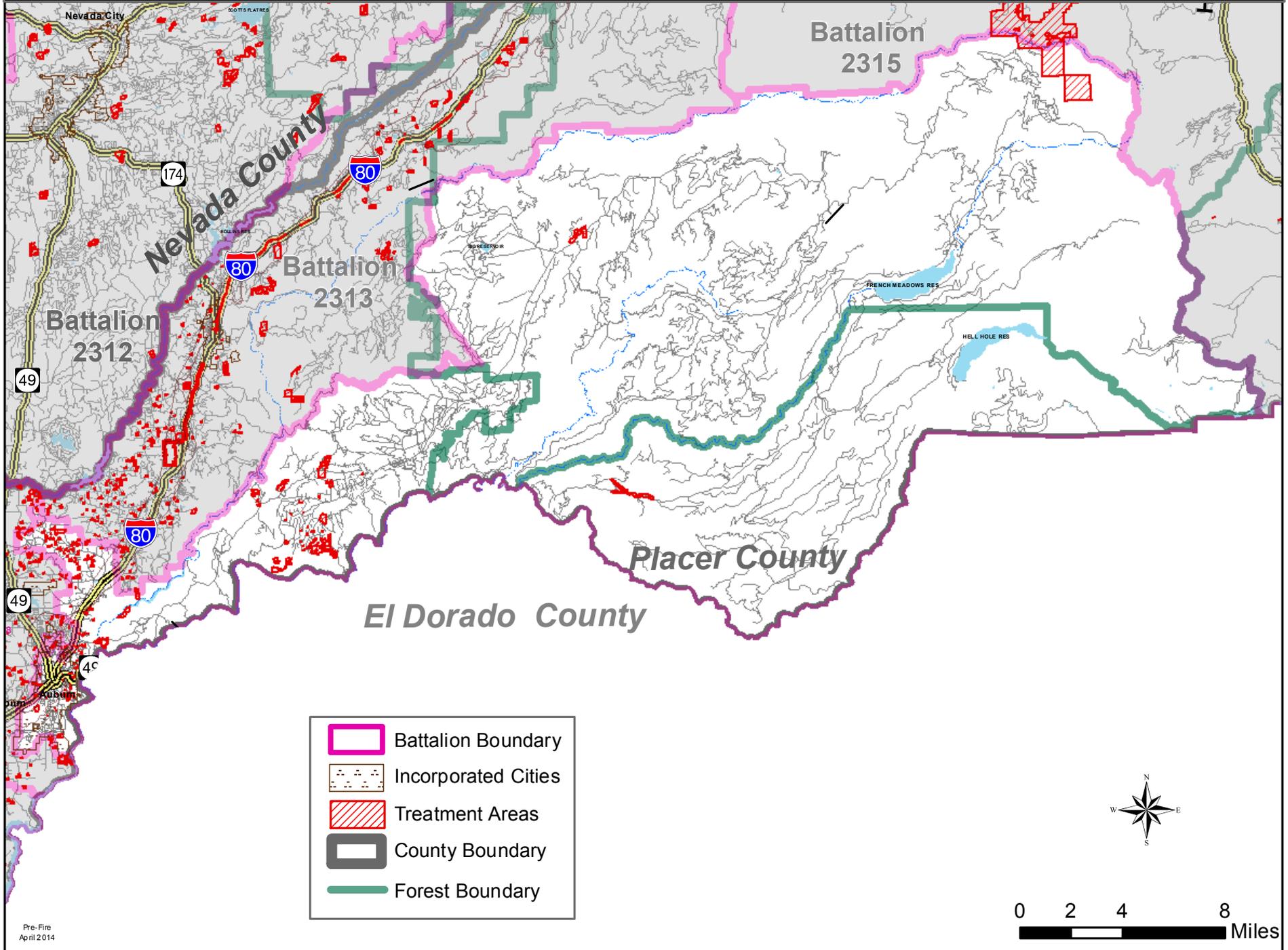
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 11 - Administrative Boundaries





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 11 - CalMapper Projects



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 12

Battalion Description

Battalion 12 covers approximately 209,657 acres of Nevada County. It is occupied by an estimated 71,000 people living in roughly 24,000 residential structures. Fuel types range from oak woodland to timber, and the topography ranges from rolling hills to mountains. The battalion has a significant wildland urban interface (WUI) problem.

Because of the significant urban interface problem, much of the fire prevention effort has been spent on reducing the potential for large damaging fires. This has been accomplished through the efforts of a seasonal fire prevention inspector who last year conducted PRC 4291 inspections on 2,772 residents within the battalion, along with a schedule 'A' Fire Protection Planner whose focus has been placed on land use review, concentrating on fuel modification, adequate access and egress and water storage for fire protection. Cal Fire is also involved with the Nevada County Fire Safe Council which oversees the Nevada County chipping program.

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2312

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 31,420	LRA 4,549	SRA 173,688
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 37,945	Local 4,541	State 167,175

Battalion Fire History and Occurrence

The statistics show that escaped debris burns are the primary cause of wildfire in the Battalion. Residents realize that the fuel treatments near their residences must be done and often delay burning until the final weeks prior to burn bans being instituted. The result is a greater number of burn piles being burned later in the season, when control of the fires is more difficult due to weather and fuel conditions. Public education at the time of burn permit issuance is used to reduce the number of escapes.

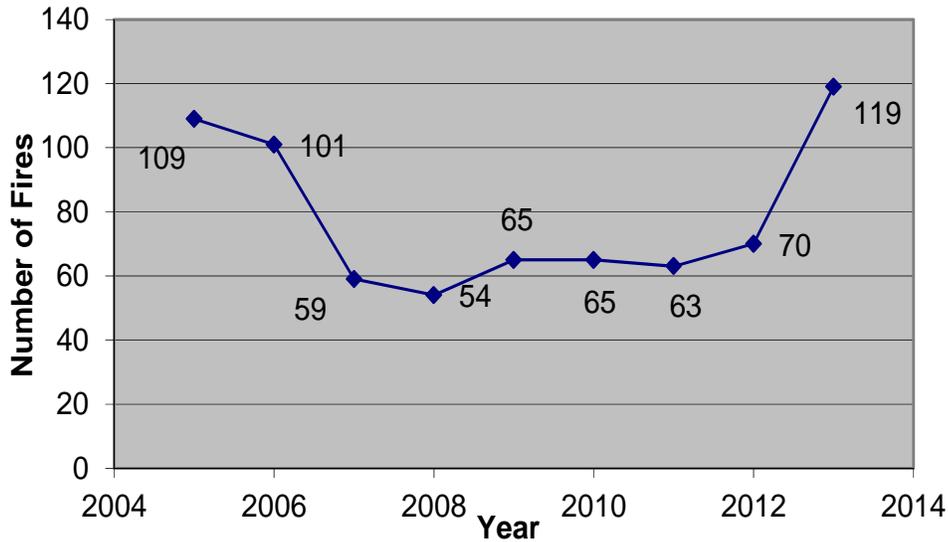
Equipment and vehicle caused fires are the second highest cause of wildfire in the Battalion. Much of the fuel work which occurs in the Battalion involves the use of equipment. Construction and land management activities often require the use of equipment. This equipment use takes place in the wildland areas where vegetative fuels are available and susceptible to burning. Many of the roads in the Battalion are rural roads with vegetation growing very close to the road edge, or on the road surface. The exposure of these fuels to hot exhaust, exhaust discharge, or flame impingement from fires originating within the vehicle is a problem typical of any rural community.

Arson and undetermined fires are considered equally and account for almost 20% of the fires in the Battalion. These fires are intentionally set fire or fires which the ignition could not be determined due to various factors. These fires are the most difficult to reduce due to their nefarious nature and difficulty in assessing. The Unit's prevention program is charged with

investigation and pursuit of arson as felonious activity. The Unit prevention also assists Battalion staff with cause determination if a fire problem persists with no apparent cause. The result is, over time, a reduction in arson fires and determination of cause on undetermined fires allowing fire prevention education to address the actual cause.

The balance of the fires is split between various causes which are considered normal accidental fires.

Battalion 12 Ignitions (2005-2013) All Causes



Mitigation Strategies

1. Public Education:

Public education continues to be a priority within Battalion 12 to reduce the number of fire starts. The action plan for public contact and education is as follows:

A. Burn Permit Administration

Work with residents, especially those that are new to the community to understand the proper methods and timing for debris burning.

LE-62s (Residential Burn Permit – Burn Pile) will be issued by authorized CAL FIRE personnel and cooperators. Issuing points will be CAL FIRE Stations 20 and 21, Nevada County Consolidated FPD, Peardale/Chicago Park FPD Stations, Higgins FPD Stations and Ophir Hill FPD. Only those personnel trained and authorized by the CAL FIRE Battalion Chief will be allowed to issue a LE-62. The emphasis will be placed on the terms of the permit, the responsibilities of the permit holder, and alternative methods of vegetation disposal.

LE-5 (California Inter-Agency Burning Permit) and LE-7 (Project Type Burning Permit) are issued on SRA lands after an inspection by an authorized employee of CAL FIRE. These project burn permits are typically used to dispose of larger piles of material and typically require an inspection by CAL FIRE prior to authorization to burn.

B. Public Education Forums

Battalion personnel remain involved in numerous public education programs. Many programs are cooperative efforts with other fire agencies. The Nevada County Fair is an example of agency cooperation that provides information and education to the public. This venue provides a receptive and captive audience.

Ongoing events throughout the year:

- Fire Safe Council & Community Groups
- School Programs
- Career Days (Bear River & Nevada Union High Schools)
- Home & Garden Shows
- Fire Safe Work Shops / Fire Prevention Week
- Lake Vera Camp Grounds
- Nevada County Air Fest
- Nevada County Fair
- Higgins FPD Open House

C. Fire Prevention/News Releases:

CAL FIRE will continue to utilize a local radio station, the local news paper, as well as the Lake of the Pines & Alta Sierra monthly publications and the Nevada County Fire Safe Council's newsletter to educate the public on fire safe issues.

In addition CAL FIRE will work with local equipment rental yards and dealers with prevention material and to ensure compliance with spark arrestor laws. The focus will be trying to mitigate the rising occurrence of equipment caused ignitions.

A Schedule 'A' Fire Protection Planner works with developers and the Planning Department on land use and PRC 4290 issues, ensuring that adequate access/egress, fuel modification and other fire protection standards are met.

Use PRC 4291 inspections as a public education tool, making contact with local residents and discussing fire safe practices.

2. Vegetation Management: The vegetation management programs are directed at reducing the potential of a large fire and reducing the damage from a large fire.

A. PRC 4291 inspections:

PRC 4291 inspections are completed annually by Nevada County seasonal fire prevention inspectors, CAL FIRE and Nevada County Consolidated F.P.D. personnel.

B. Hazard Reduction Programs:

CAL FIRE has worked in past years with the Nevada Firesafe Council to support a residential chipping program.

High Priority Target Areas

- Nevada City (high structure loss potential)
- Grass Valley (historical value, high population)
- Banner Mountain Community
- Cascade Shores.

Battalion 12 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education Programs

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Ponderosa Fuel Break	P		Shaded Fuel Break/ Community Protection	
Deer Creek Fuel Break	A	2013	Shaded Fuel Break / Community Protection	40
Wolf Mtn CAL FIRE Lookout	O	N/A	Active Fire Lookout	N/A
Banner Mtn CAL FIRE Lookout	O	N/A	Active Fire Lookout	N/A
Truckee / I80 Fuel break	C	2012	Shaded Fuel Break	
FSCNC Chipping	O	N/A	Fuel Reduction	
Banner Mtn VMP	P		Fuel Reduction	1000
Camp Far West Fuel Break	P		Fuel Break	
Dog Bar Rd Fuel Break	P		Fuel Break	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

Fire Safe Council of Nevada County –

FSCNC earned the 2010 Firewise Leadership Award from the National Fire Protection Association for establishing five formal Firewise Communities in Nevada County.

Nevada County Community Shaded Fuelbreak:

This project began in 2004 and was completed in July of 2011 with assistance from private landowners, CAL FIRE and the USDA NRCS cost share incentive programs. The Shaded Fuel Break project area was developed to add protection to the community of Cascade Shores, the Scotts Flat Lake area, and the cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City.

The Nevada County Community Shaded Fuel break was developed out of a need to have a strategic plan to help protect cities and communities in the event of a catastrophic fire and to protect the forests from fires in the urban-wildland interface. The project area encompassed approximately fifteen miles; was up to one quarter mile in width and consisted of mostly large, privately owned parcels. Several meetings were held with Cascade Shores Homeowners Association, Lightning Tree Road Association, Nevada Irrigation District and the US Forest Service to coordinate land treatments and develop cooperation in order to complete the fuel break

project.

Cooperating agencies provided education, awareness and cost-share funding information for private landowners. This program was voluntary and had flexible prescriptions for a shaded fuel break while educating landowners to Best Management Practices (BMP's) on their land including clearing brush, thinning and pruning. The project area had over 60 years of fuels accumulation and was in a high fire severity zone.

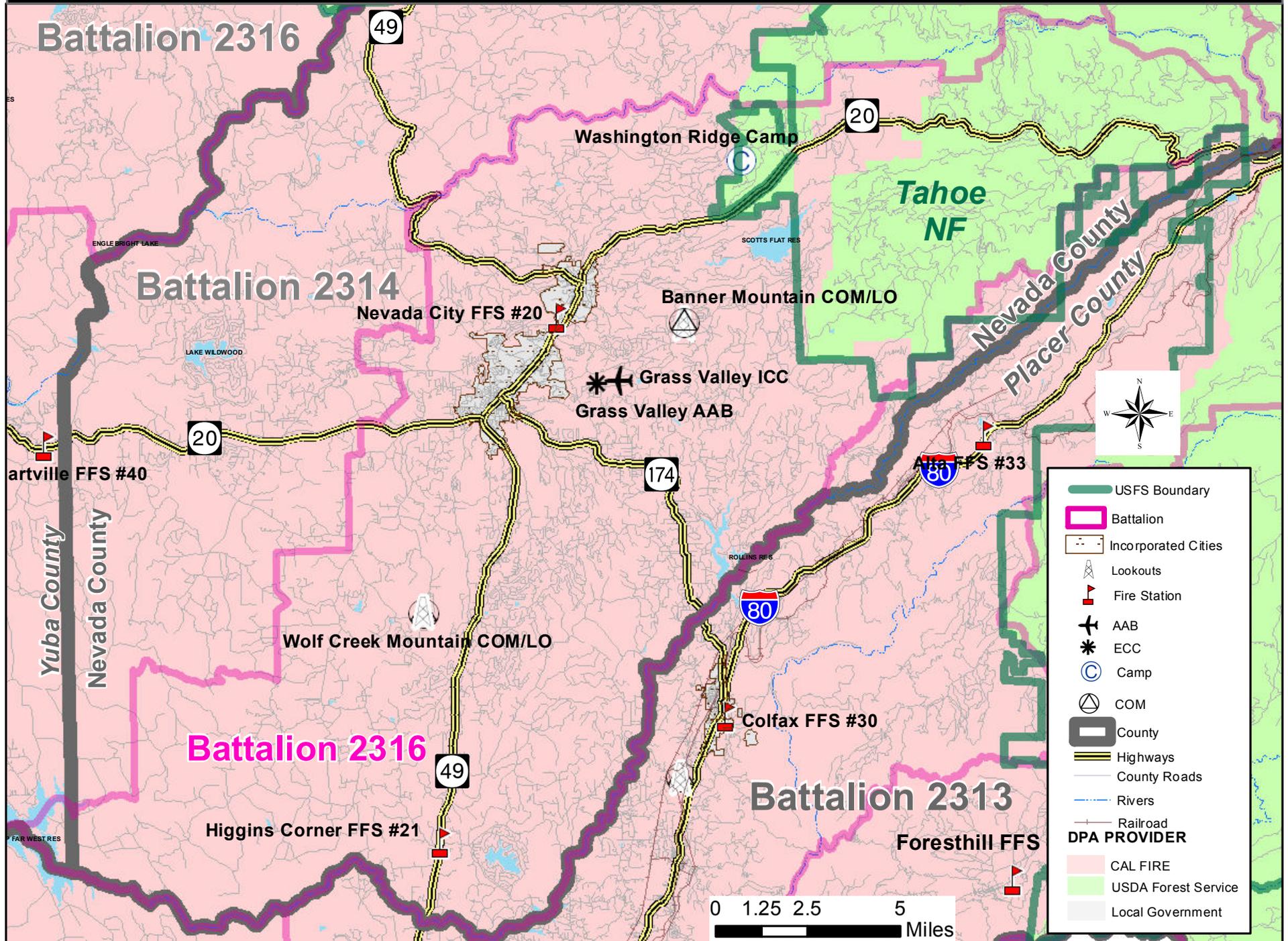
Action Plan

- Debris Escapes – Battalion staff will work with local fire protection districts (Peardale, Chicago Park) and the FSCNC to provide educational materials on safe burning practices to local and visiting residents.
- Powerline Fires – Battalion staff will respond to citizen complaints regarding right of way clearance, coordinate LE-100 inspections and provide necessary tree review to PG&E when questions arise during powerline inspections.
- Equipment Fires - Battalion staff will work with the Unit PIO to locate equipment rental yards and equipment dealers and provide educational materials to the vendors and the public regarding fire safe equipment use. Battalion staff will also provide, upon request of the public, inspections of equipment to ensure fire safe operation. Unit PIO will provide radio interviews regarding safe use of equipment in the area.



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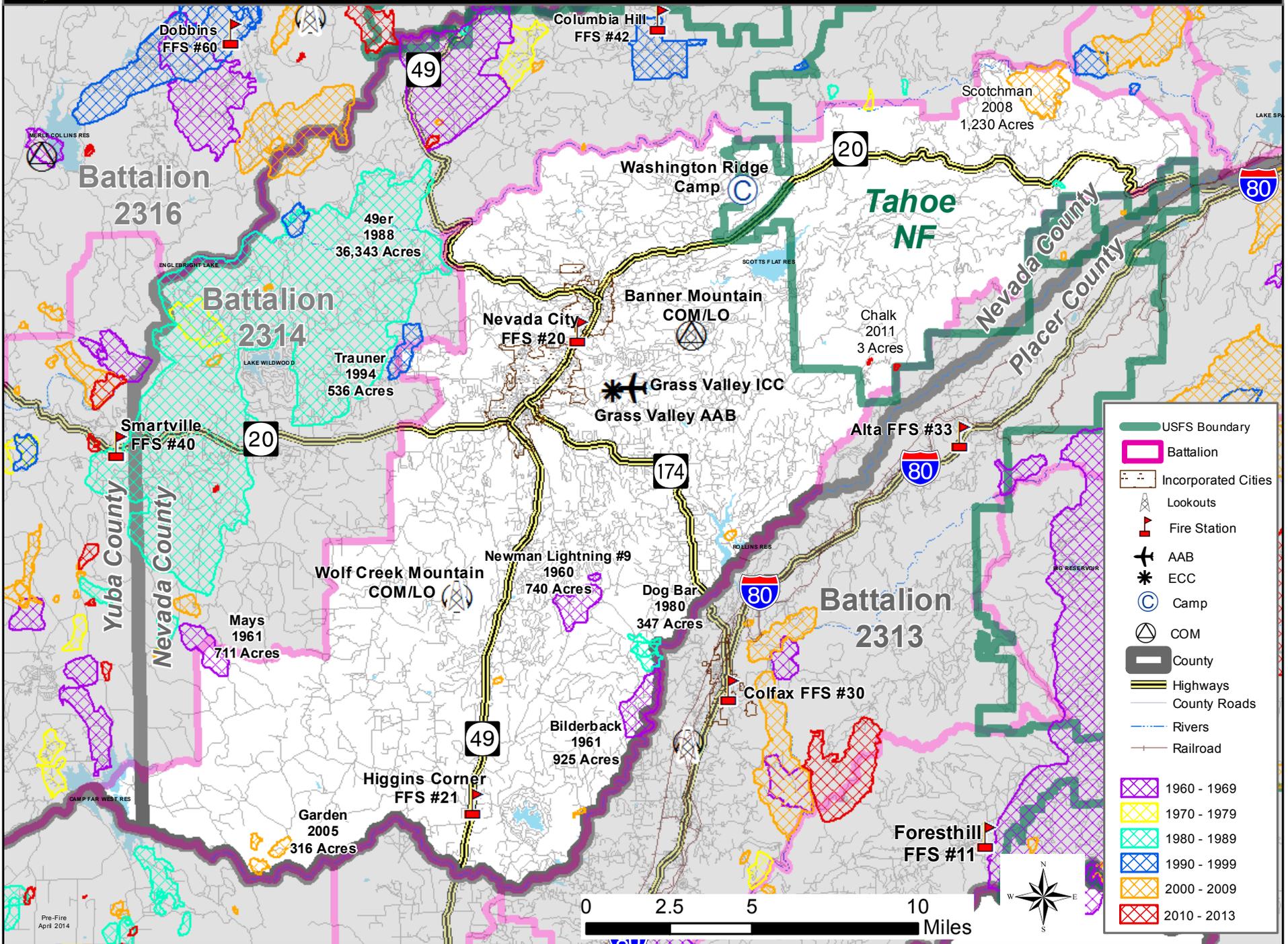
Battalion 12 - Administrative Boundaries





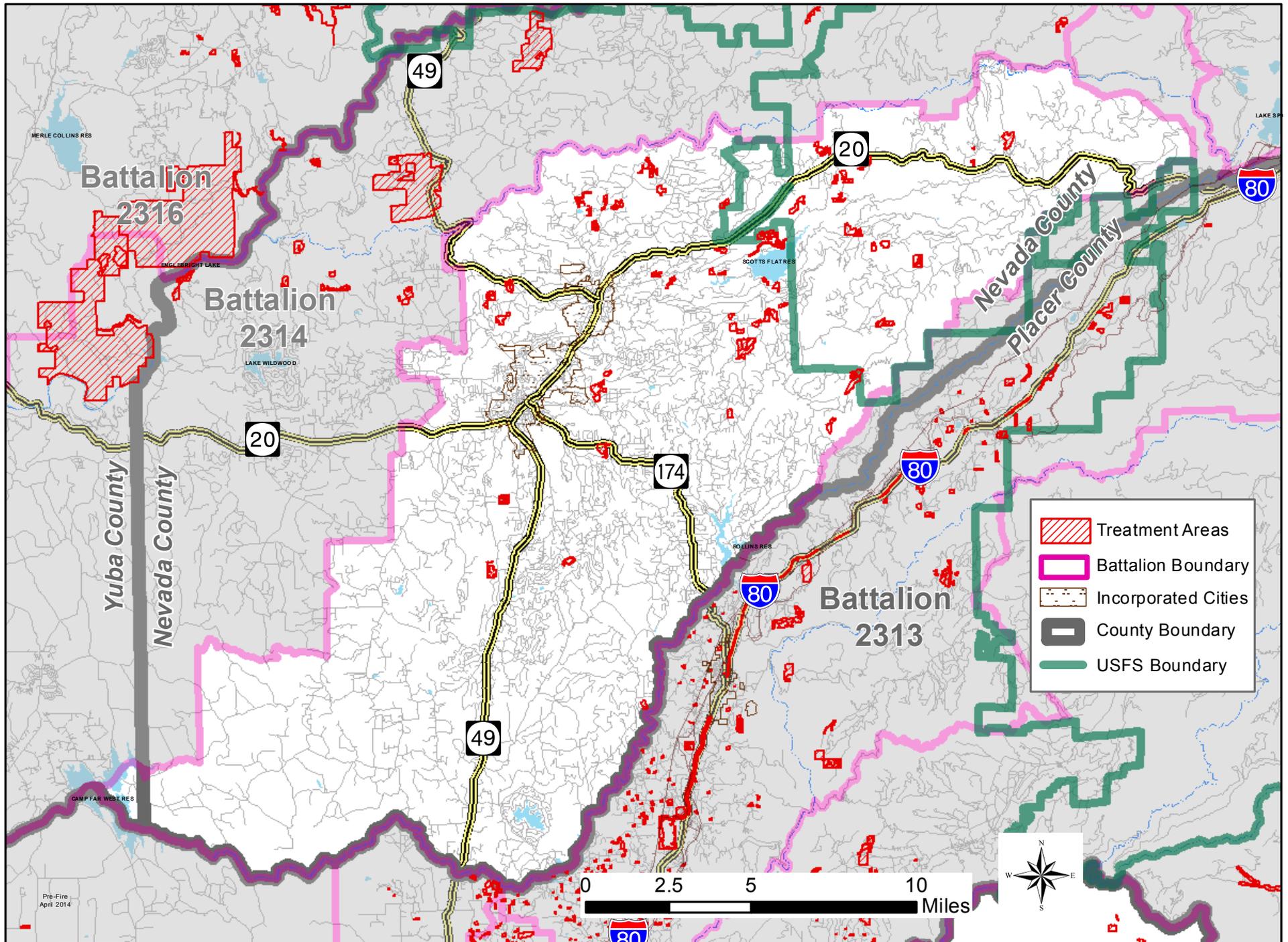
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 12 - Fire History





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 12 - CalMapper Projects



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 13

Battalion Description

The Colfax and Alta Battalion cover an area 155,046 acres in size within Placer County along Interstate 80. The area is densely populated and interlaced with an extensive road system. The elevation ranges from 1600 feet in the drainage of the American River Canyon to 5300 feet around Emigrant Gap. The North Fork American River and Bear River form two distinct drainage systems with steep inner gorges and offers dense heavy fuels. The fuels within the Battalion vary as widely as the elevations, spanning an area that contains blue oak woodland where annual grasses and oaks are mixed with brush and landscape plantings to the prime timber bearing soils of the Sierra Nevada mixed conifer zone which are covered with large pine and fir timber. In between these fuel types is a range of chaparral, conifer / oak forest, and grass meadows, all containing light flashy fuels and mixed with residential development.

The population centers are Meadow Vista, Applegate, Weimar, Colfax and Alta/Dutch Flat which are surrounded by a scattered urban interface where parcels range from 2.5 to 20 acres in size, much of which contains residential and some light commercial development. This mix creates a true WUI problem where even the smallest fires with the most prompt emergency response could be catastrophic and result in burned structures. While the Colfax/Alta Battalion is not highly populated as compared to other portions of Placer County, the day to day traffic flow from the major East/West Freeway (Interstate 80) continues to be a fire problem. A majority of the ignitions in the Battalion originate from vehicles.

Cooperators include Placer Sierra Firesafe Council, Iowa Hill Firesafe Council, Auburn Firesafe Council, Foresthill Fire Department, Placer Hills Fire District, Colfax City Fire Department, Alta Fire Department, Iowa Hill Fire Company, Placer County Fire Department, Bureau of Land Management, and the United States Forest Service

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2313

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 57,707	LRA 900	SRA 96,439
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 44,857	Local 912	State 109,278

Battalion Fire History and Occurrence

Vehicle caused fires rank as the highest cause of wildfire in the Battalion and accounted for 29% of all fires in 2013. This statistic is a reflection of the numerous roads and highways bisecting the Battalion. This portion of Interstate 80 is an area where commercial vehicle traffic often encounters problems as a result of the long downhill run off of Donner Summit. During fire season, as temperatures and vehicle traffic increases on Interstate 80, vehicles with overheating brakes can become an ignition source for roadside vegetation.

Conversely, overheating and friction can affect commercial or passenger vehicles climbing grades within the Battalion causing vehicles to ignite.

Exclusive of Interstate 80, many of the roads in the Battalion are rural roads with vegetation growing very close to the road edge, or on the road surface. The exposure of these fuels to hot exhaust, exhaust discharge, or flame impingement from fires originating within the vehicle becomes an ignition source for vegetation fires.

Debris escapes account for the next highest cause of vegetation fires within the Battalion and accounted for 20% of all fires in 2013. Generally, the residents in the vicinity realize that the fuel treatments near their residences must be done, but often delay burning until the final weeks prior to burn bans being instituted. The result is that burn piles are burned later in the season, when control of the fires is more difficult due to weather and fuel conditions. Public education at the time of burn permit issuance is used to reduce the number of escapes. We are seeing a growing trend of noncompliance by valid burn permit holders. Although the terms of the permit are clearly explained to them, and acknowledgement of those terms by the holder; they simply choose not to follow them. To reduce this ignition occurrence a message accompanying burn day status warning the permit holder of possible fines and suppression cost recovery will occur; if an escape is the result due to failure to follow the terms of the permit. This should curtail and reduce these ignition events.

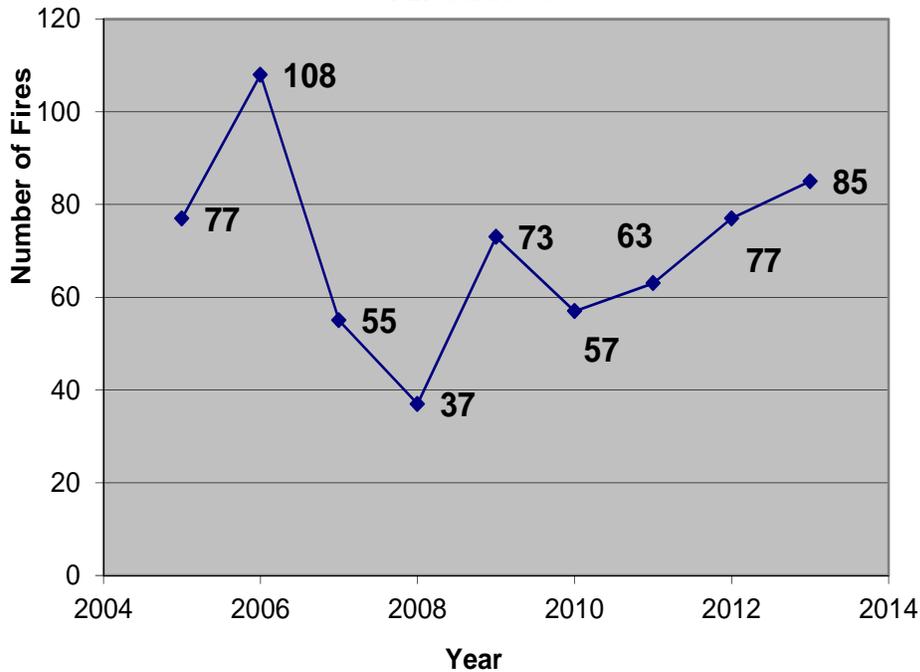
Equipment caused fires account for approximately 11% of ignitions in the Battalion, with a 2% increase from the previous year. Much of the fuel work which occurs in the Battalion involves the use of equipment and construction or land management activities often require the use of equipment. This equipment use takes place in the wildland areas where vegetative fuels are available and susceptible to burning.

Fires with an undetermined cause also account for around 9% of the fires in the Battalion in 2013, which is a 4% reduction over the previous year. These fires are those which the ignition could not be determined due to various factors. These fires are the most difficult to reduce due to their difficulty in assessing. The Unit's Prevention Bureau assists Battalion staff with cause determination if a fire problem persists with no apparent cause. The result is, over time, a reduction in undetermined fires allowing fire prevention education or enforcement to address the actual cause.

Arson fires account for 1% of the fires in the Battalion in 2013. These fires are intentionally set fires and difficult to reduce due to their nefarious nature, however there is a 5% decrease from the previous year, and a 10% decrease over the last two years. The Unit's Prevention Bureau is charged with investigation and pursuit of arson as felonious activity. Continued law enforcement in the Battalion will, over time, has reduced arson fires.

The balance of the fires is split between various causes which are considered normal accidental fires.

**Battalion 13 Ignitions (2005-2013)
All Causes**



Mitigation Strategies

1. Public Education:

A. Burn Permit Administration

Debris escapes account for 20% of ignitions in the Battalion in 2013 which held steady from last year. This is a significant number considering the requirement to have a burn permit in place prior to burning and the fact that restrictions and information are available on the permit to prevent escape. In order to reduce this number of escapes leading to vegetation fires, education at the time of permit issuance is critical so that residents know to review the restrictions and ensure that they are in compliance before lighting the match. Given the dry winter of 2012/2013, with significant rains not returning until February 2014; likely accounts for this increase in debris burn escapes. The public underestimating fuel dryness accompanied with noncompliance of the terms of the permit discussed earlier, is also enabling this number to show no reduction over the previous year.

LE-62s (Residential Burn Permit – Burn Pile) are issued by authorized Cal Fire personnel at the Alta and Colfax Stations. Annually, Battalion personnel issue approximately 800-1000 permits. All employees review compliance requirements with each permit request.

Battalion personnel will also be issuing permits for the City of Colfax. There will be open hours during the winter. Burn hours will be implemented around May 1 and total restriction will start around July 1 depending on weather. The burn ban will be lifted as per NEU policy in the fall at the end of declared fire season.

LE-5 (California Inter-Agency Burning Permit) and LE-7 (Project Type Burning Permit) are issued on SRA lands after an inspection by an authorized Cal Fire employee. These project burn permits

are typically used to dispose of larger piles of material and typically require an inspection by agency personnel prior to authorization to burn.

All permittees are given material covering air pollution rules and information regarding the Placer County chipping program as an alternative to burning.

B. Public Education Forums

Battalion personnel participate in numerous public education programs. The area is a well-known recreational area with campgrounds at the American River, Bear River, Rollins Lake and numerous hiking trails attracting day users throughout the Battalion. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs as follows:

Ongoing events throughout the year include:

- Recreational areas are frequently visited by Cal Fire personnel to provide fire safe information and material.
- The local elementary schools are targeted for Smokey Bear programs.
- Battalion Staff participate in Fourth of July parades at both Colfax & Dutch Flat.
- Battalion Staff work with cooperating fire protection agencies in fire prevention programs in both private and public education forums
- Battalion engine companies are up-dating pre-fire plans, expanding on WUI pre-plan guidelines and maps, and conducting business inspections through-out the year as fiscal limitations and staff time allows.
- The local Battalion Chief works closely with the local Fire Safe Councils on various issues.
- Caltrans crews continue to implement their fuel modification program from the Auburn Battalion to the Baxter area along Interstate 80.
- The BC attends the Colfax City Council meetings to provide input relative to Colfax City VFD activities.
- The BC attends Lions Club meetings once a year to provide information on fire prevention in the local area.
- The BC attends the Alpine Meadows Community meeting to provide fire safe information and advice the landowners.
- The BC Attends both the Meadow Vista Municipal Advisory Council and the Weimar/Applegate/Colfax Municipal Advisory Council to the Placer County Board of Supervisors
- The BC works with Placer County Sheriff's Department on transients and the homeless population to reduce the risk of accidental fire starts in their camping area.
- The BC is working with the City of Colfax with their code enforcement within the City limits to reduce fuel loading on undeveloped parcels. This resulted in significant fuels reduction on over 30 acres within the City of Colfax in 2013 eliminating the ability for transients to camp illegally resulting in ignition/fire starts, the number one cause of fires in the City of Colfax. Approximately 80 acres have been treated within the City of Colfax over the last two years.

C. Fire Prevention

NEU Fire Prevention planners are assigned to the Placer County Building Department. Planners review projects to ensure that PRC 4290 requirements are met or exceeded on all new construction. The BC participates in field inspections upon request and meets with landowners

to provide input regarding necessary fire protection elements required for development in the WUI.

The BC is in direct contact with Union Pacific representatives on a bi-annual basis. During these meetings, the BC receives information regarding future track maintenance. In the summer of 2012, Union Pacific hired a contractor to install a fuel break through the Battalion within 30 feet either side of the track and has been completed. The fuel reduction project is intended to mitigate ignition potential as rail traffic is increased. Union Pacific also significantly reduced fuels on approximately 15 acres adjacent to and within the City of Colfax. Rail traffic is currently around 15 trains per day. The traffic is expected to reach 45-50 trains per day over the next 2 years.

D. PRC 4291 Inspections

Since 2007 Battalion staff inspected the most critical WUI areas to evaluate PRC 4291 compliance. In that timeframe, the Battalion personnel have inspected approximately 90% of residences. Of those residences inspected, approximately 85% of inspections were non-compliant for the first inspection. The result of the inspections is short term compliance being achieved in the season inspected, but subsequent years following inspection have resulted in no change in the long term compliance. One possible solution is to provide second inspections and provide citations for those residences not achieving compliance. To date, no citations have been provided within the Battalion for non-compliance with PRC 4291 requirements.

High Priority Target Areas

- Colfax WUI
- Alta/Dutch Flat WUI
- Meadow Vista WUI
- Clipper Gap WUI
- Weimar WUI
- Applegate WUI
- American River Drainage – Wild and Scenic River Designation and Recreation and Tourist Destination

Battalion 13 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education Programs

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
I-80 Fuel Reduction Project	C	2013	Fuel Reduction	70
Mt. Howell Maintenance	A	Ongoing	CAL FIRE Lookout	42
Colfax Area Strategic Plan – WUI Pre-Plan	A	Ongoing	Pre-Fire Planning	
Iowa Hill Temporary Refuge Area	A	2013	Fuel Reduction/Public Education	20
Rooster Ridge Fuel Break	C	2011	Fuel Reduction	195
Kings Hill Fuel Break	C	2009	Fuel Reduction	200
Long Point Fuel Break	A	2012	Fuel Reduction	150
Roach Hill	C	2011	Fuel Reduction	100
Succor Flat	C	2012	Fuel Reduction	150
Race Track Ridge	C	2014	Fuel Reduction	200
Gillis Hill Fuel Break	A	Unknown	Fuel Reduction	
Meadow Vista Fuelbreak/ McElroy Road	A	2014	Fuel Reduction	
North Fork American River Pre-Attack Planning	A	Unknown	Fuel Breaks / Planning	
Ben Taylor Fuel Reduction	A	2014	Fuel Reduction	1

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

Edwards' Tree Farm / Ponderosa Fire

The Allen Edwards property is located above the North Fork of the American River, a canyon known in the area for experiencing a number of major fires in the past. The combination of fuels, weather and topography all but guaranteed that history would eventually repeat itself and the American River Canyon would once again be under siege by a wildfire.

Colfax, CA – In August 2001, a fire roared across Placer County, eating up 2,780 acres of forest. Two days after it started, the fire swept into a canyon along the edge of 520 acres owned by Nancy and Allen Edwards.

The flames rushed up the Edwards' side of the canyon and devoured 125 acres of their trees. But Allen Edwards had removed underbrush and thinned trees to cut a shaded fuel break 400 feet wide along the top of the ridge. The fuel break slowed the fire while it sheltered some of the 984 California Department of Forestry firefighters called out to battle the blaze. They stopped the fire from barreling down the other

side of the mountain and through the town of Colfax. The fire, started by a vehicle, cost \$4.5 million and injured 19 firefighters. Luckily, it destroyed no houses and took no lives. (Source: University of California)

When Allen first began working his land he realized that he needed to consider the potential for a wildfire coming out of the canyon. One of his first efforts was to develop a fuelbreak along the ridgeline of his property to help reduce the likelihood of a fire spreading to the remainder of his parcels. Along the ridge top, his property was primarily a second growth mixed conifer woodland, typified by uneven aged Ponderosa Pines, Black Oak, and a heavy brush component. Allen took the time to thin the stands and prune all remaining stems up at least eight above the ground. By doing these two things he was able to have a significant effect on the fire's behavior within the fuelbreak. The work removed the ladder fuels and provided an open stand from which fire fighters could make a stand against the encroaching wildfire.

The canyon below the Edward's property was covered primarily by Manzanita, Ceanothus, and Scrub Oak. There were also pockets of oak and conifer stands in the drainages and scattered across the landscape. The brush was near critical levels based on live fuel moistures and due to its age had a very significant amount of dead material mixed in with the live. The standing fuels averaged between six and eight feet in height but could be found up to fourteen feet tall in places. The mixed oak and conifer stands typically had a significant brush understory. These stands were even more volatile than the rest of the landscape due to the presence of "needle drape" through-out the understory. This added layer of fine fuels resulted in an increase in torching which also increased the potential for spotting.

The North Fork of the American River flows almost due North - South below the Edward's property. Because of the topographic orientation, the fuels receive direct sunlight through the first half of the day. The humidity and fuel moisture are significantly reduced on this slope by mid-day and the fuel temperature is dramatically increased. Mid-September is typified by hot, dry weather and continuous canyon winds. The standard south-southwest winds combine with the daytime up-canyon winds to create very breezy conditions in the canyon and surrounding areas. Around mid-night the up canyon winds will give way to the colder air settling into the canyon causing strong down-canyon winds.

The topography of the American River Canyon has a very powerful effect on any fire that occurs within it. The slope ranges from ten to two hundred percent with most of it in the 45 - 75 % range. This slope greatly increased the fire's spread by allowing the pre-heating of the fuels and keeping the flaming front in contact with a constant supply of unburned fuel. It also hampered fire-fighting efforts by limiting the access to the fire's edge as there were very few roads in the area.

The Division Supervisor that was responsible for that portion of the fire, Ken Hughes, said, "The fuelbreak was integral in our operations along Gillis Ridge. It gave us a place to safely fire from where we would not put our crews in danger. We were able to extend the fuelbreak along the ridge and tie in with the river to fully contain the head of the fire. Without the work he, (Allen Edwards) had done prior to this fire there is a very good likelihood that the fire would have run up into the homes further to the west."

It cost Allen Edwards and the NRCS about \$4,500 total to treat about ten acres of land. That money proved to be a wise investment as the fuelbreak resulted in a fire perimeter that had very few homes and other structures within it. Without the fuelbreak it is very likely that the fire would have continued up into the south-eastern edge of the city of Colfax.

The Gillis Hill Fuelbreak did not stop the Ponderosa Fire on its own. What it did is provide a strategic location for ground resources to attack the fire without putting the firefighters in danger. The roads that Allen Edwards had built in the area and the fuel he removed from the understory, provided access that previously was not available in this remote area.

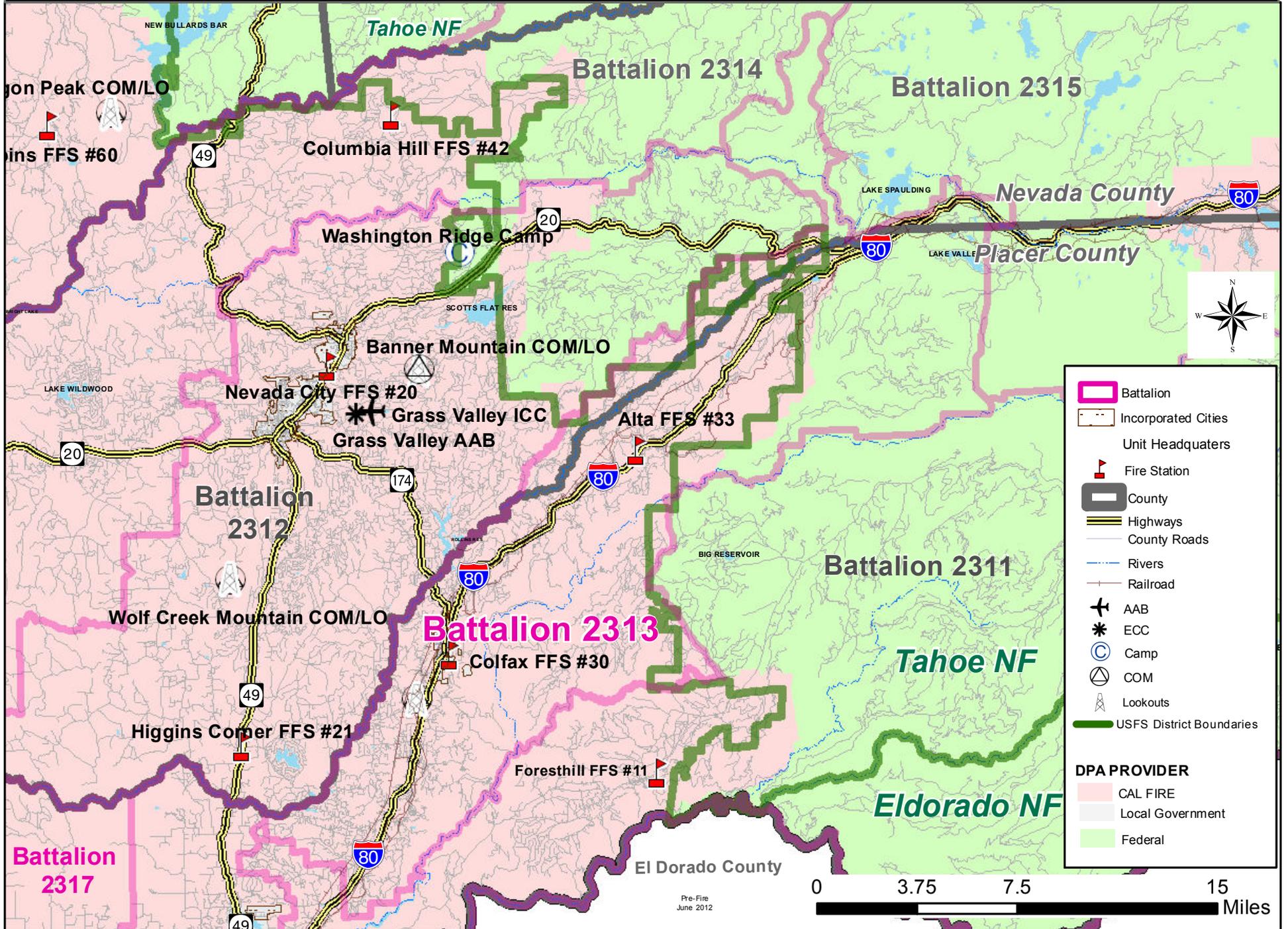
Action Plan

- Public information at equipment rental locations (Hills Flat, Hansen Bros)
- Newspaper releases
- Signage
- Priority PRC 4291 inspection areas
- Focus on I-80 corridor
- Monitor North Fork and Bear River to determine impact of increased recreational use.
- Scotch Broom evasive species public education and mitigation



NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

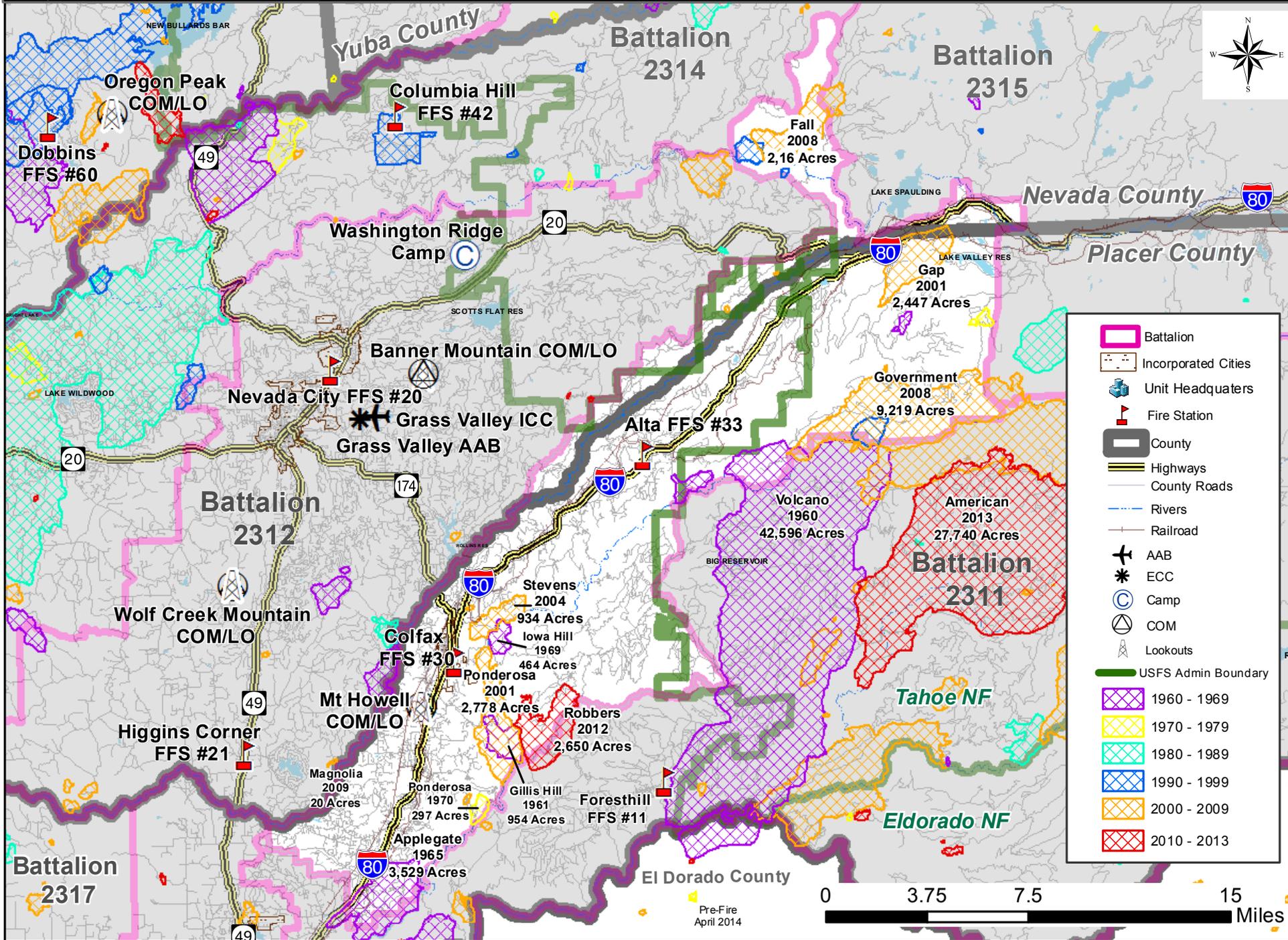
Battalion 13-Administrative Boundary





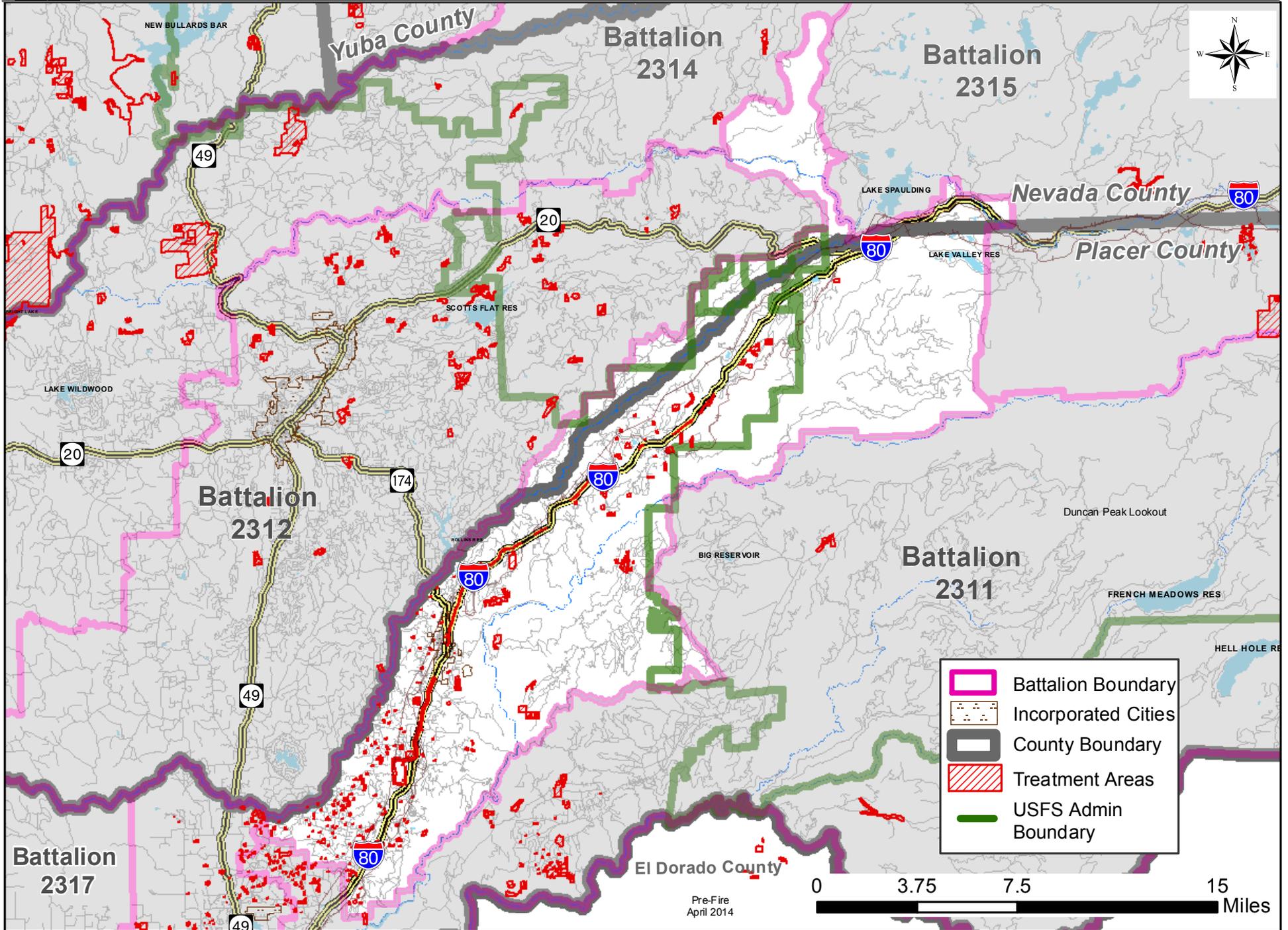
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 13- Fire History





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 13- CalMapper Projects



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 14

Description of the Battalion

At over 270,000 acres the Smartsville – Columbia Hill Battalion (B-14) is the largest in the Unit. It includes more than 160,000 acres of SRA and 15,000 acres of Federal land under State DPA. The main centers of population include Penn Valley, Rough & Ready, North San Juan, North Columbia, Smartsville, Beale Air Force Base, Linda and Wheatland. Most of these communities have been identified on the federal registry of Wildland Urban Interface Communities at Risk. The Battalion is made up of the Yuba River, Deer Creek, and Bear River Watersheds all of which have portions that have been identified as High Hazard Watersheds. From west to east the Battalion begins in the relatively flat lands of the Sacramento Valley and continues northeast to the mountainous terrain of the Tahoe National Forest (TNF). In between these boundaries one will find fuel types that represent at least twelve of the thirteen fuel models. From the valley floor to around 800' – 900' ft elevation is primarily the grass models. Beginning around 700', the oak-woodland begins to appear and it continues on up in elevation to about 1,400 ft. The brush models begin to appear around 800' and carry on up to over 3,000 ft in places. The timber models begin at approximately 1,600 ft, in places, and continue to the TNF boundary. Most of the Battalion is zoned for residential properties of five acres or more, agriculture, or timber production.

Along with the several fire agency cooperators, which include Penn Valley Fire Protection District, Smartsville Fire District, North San Juan Fire District, Rough & Ready Fire District, Wheatland Fire Authority, Linda Fire District, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the TNF, and Beale Air Force Base we have several non-fire agency cooperators that assist us with our fuel reduction and fire prevention efforts. These cooperators include but are not limited to: The University of California Research and Cooperative Extension Center who allows us to hold annual training burns at their facility. The California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), provides us with areas to conduct wildland training exercises and fuel reduction projects. The Army Corps of Engineers provides water shuttle services for rescues and fire responses across and around Englebright Reservoir. The California State Parks have worked with us in the past to conduct several large Vegetation Management Program (VMP) burns on their lands expanding our fuel reduction efforts in the Yuba River Drainage. Several large landowners who have also participated or are eager to take part in the VMP to continue to augment those same fuel reduction efforts.

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2314

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 84,241	LRA 74,900	SRA 197,999
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 103,938	Local 74,969	State 178,233

Discussion of fire occurrence within Battalion

Since 1970, there have been twenty-five fires in excess of 100 acres within the Battalion. The most notable of those are the 49er Fire, the Trauner Fire, and the Oak Tree Fire.

The Unit's most costly and damaging fire occurred entirely within the Smartsville – Columbia Hill Battalion. The 49er Fire began on Sunday, September 11th, 1988 near the intersection of Highway 49 and Birchville Rd. and was contained on Thursday September 15, 1988 about five miles south of Highway 20 in the Smartsville area. Over the course of five days the fire burned 33,500 acres and destroyed 148 homes, 358 other structures, 89 vehicles, and 17 boats. Suppression costs were estimated at 7.5 million dollars and the total dollar lost was estimated at 22.7 million dollars.

The Trauner Fire occurred in 1994. It burned 536 acres and destroyed several residences and historic structures within the community of Rough & Ready. The cause was determined to be poor maintenance of the vegetation growing around powerlines. As a result, 739 counts of negligence were filed against Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) by the Nevada County District Attorney's office and it resulted in one of the largest claims against the company on record. The outcome of the case is considered to be the motivating force behind PG&E's current fuel reduction program.

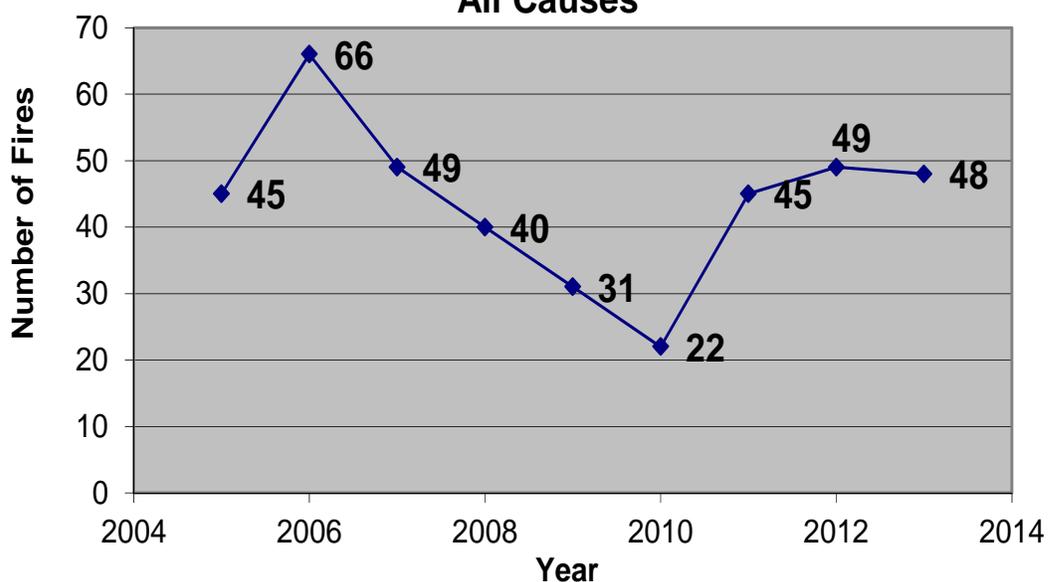
The Oak Tree Fire occurred in 1974 and was the result of an airtanker crash while fighting the Keystone Fire in the North San Juan area. Both fires burned almost 900 acres each.

There are areas in the Battalion that experience at least one fire annually.

- The Spenceville Wildlife Area Shooting Range on Waldo Rd burns every year. To reduce the threat of these fires becoming extended attack fires, a line is cut around the area each spring. The area behind the shooting range is broken into two units. The upper unit has several rock outcroppings and typically dries out before the lower unit. Even though the rocks are outside the designated shooting area, shooters with high powered rifles will regularly set targets on them. Eventually, this combination will lead to a rock strike resulting in a fire. By the time responders arrive the shooters will be gone. In the event the fire starts after the fuels have finished curing, responders will fire out the remainder of the unit that is burning. Any fires that start prior to the fuels being cured will be extinguished by the responders. Ignitions at the shooting range have several causes: rock strikes, use of metal targets, and the use of tracer rounds are the most common. All of these cause result from activities that are either illegal or not permitted and the DFG Wardens have been citing individuals found participating in any of those activities. All Battalion personnel are briefed on the plan regarding the shooting range and will evaluate the feasibility of firing it out upon arrival, extinguishing it, or watching as it burns within the pre-designated area(s) then make a decision on the best course of action.
- Beale AFB has had fires come off of the base eight of the last ten years. These fires generally originate from birds into powerlines, hazard reduction burns, or munitions work on the base. In an effort to reduce the threat of these fires burning onto SRA, each year Beale AFB puts a fuel break around the perimeter of the base. However, due to their environmental constraints they must leave breaks in the line wherever it crosses winter wetlands or vernal pools. These gaps can be several hundred feet in length and provide significant avenues for the fires to escape the base.

By preparing for these events, we are usually able to keep them in the initial attack phase.

Battalion 14 Ignitions (2005-2013) All Causes



Mitigation Strategies

There are several roads in B-14 that were maintained for fire access since the early 1950s. With changes in personnel and land ownership, many of those have been neglected over the past ten to fifteen years. Due to years of neglect many of these roads have become nearly impassable for emergency vehicles. In several places changes in ownership have resulted in the new landowners being unaware of the agreements to the point that North Ponderosa Way now has a home built in the original road prism. Over the next several years, efforts will be made by B-14 personnel to identify the roads that will significantly improve the access into the back country within the battalion and work towards re-establishing as many of the original agreements as possible.

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- 2014 working with the Camp Bountiful staff to develop a fuel reduction zone in and around the camp area. Camp Bountiful is a LDS Church camp that serves several hundred juvenile campers during the summer months. It is located six miles down a narrow gravel road in the Middle Fork of the Yuba River canyon. In the event of an emergency there may not be sufficient time or resources to evacuate the campers, so it is necessary to reduce the fuel loading in the area to provide the campers with a less hazardous environment. Total project area will be approximately thirteen acres.
- 2014 the Army Corps of Engineers contacted the Smartsville personnel in hopes of reigniting the Rice's Crossing Fire Access Rd on the Nevada County side. They advised that they would provide any logistical support and requested that we provide some roadside clearing and surface grading. There is

a current MOU to allow this work and the Army Corp of Engineers has completed the NEPA documents for the project.

- 2013 work began to identify landowners interested in participating on improving a fire access road in the North Columbia area. The Columbia Hill Fire Captain has identified Long Point Rd as a priority for the removal roadside fuels and surface reconstruction.
- 2013 landowners contacted Fire Safe of Nevada County (FSCNC) and requested that they review the Montezuma fuel break for possible project work. FSCNC put them in touch with CALFIRE to discuss future work on the project. Battalion personnel are in the process of determining the level of interest in the project and looking at it as an opportunity to maintain a well-known fuel break along the north rim of the South Fork of the Yuba River.
- 2013 work was initiated with the landowners along Ponderosa Way in Nevada County to re-establish access through Deer Creek Canyon along the old fire access road. Owners on the south side of the canyon have completed extensive work improving the road beyond our expectations. The owners on the North side are open to us clearing the road as long as we can restrict access to emergency vehicles only.
- 2012 road access into the back country between the UC Sierra Field Research and Extension Station and Collins Lake was identified as a priority in the Battalion. In 2013, a road was identified that connects the two locations. Brush clearing and minor surface grading were completed in 2013. Final grading to improve drainage and culvert installation still needs to be completed. The road is all on Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDF&W) property and currently partially maintained by the Browns Valley Irrigation District (BVID). An informal agreement was made with their personnel allowing us access to the road. They advised they would maintain the surface if we would clear the vegetation that currently restricts access. Personnel from BVID have also agreed to install at least one hydrant for our use along their pipeline that parallels the road. Contact was made with the CDF&W and they advised they would complete all of the necessary environmental documentation allowing us to remove the vegetation along the roadway.
- Waldo Low Water Crossing moved to success stories.
- 2011 – 2012 work continued on Scott Forbes Rd, the High Prairie Rd, and the Wood's Creek Truck Trail across the Selby Ranch and into the Richard's Ranch making the roads more accessible for emergency equipment.
- In 2010 work was completed to improve Spenceville Rd from Pitman Rd to the Double Diamond Ranch to allow access of emergency vehicles into the area. The goal for Spenceville Rd is to continue to work with the landowners and re-establish access from the maintained roads in the Double Diamond Ranch all the way to Pitman Rd. When the most recent work was completed on Spenceville Rd, work was also done to improve the road from Spenceville Rd to Beale Falls.
- Also in 2010, B-14 personnel were able to gain permission from the owners of the Selby Ranch to clear brush and small trees along Scott Forbes Rd and the Woods Creek Truck Trail. These roads had become overgrown to the point of completely restricting access of anything larger than a passenger vehicle. As these are the only roads to access the back country north of Englebright Reservoir, it was essential that work be done to allow emergency vehicles in.
- Additional roads to be included as fire access roads in the battalion's are: North Ponderosa Way from Rough & Ready Hwy to Bitney Springs Rd, South Ponderosa Way from Rough & Ready Hwy to Squirrel Creek Rd, Jackass Flats Rd from Tyler Foote Rd to Purdon Rd, Hoyt's Crossing Rd from

Milhaus Boys Ranch to the South Fork of the Yuba River, Murphy Rd from Purdon Rd to Milhaus Ranch Rd., Hatchet Creek Rd from McAndrews Rd to Spenceville Rd., and several of the roads in the Big Oak area which straddles the Nevada/Yuba County line.

- Point Defiance/Rices Crossing Fire Access Roads along and adjacent to the South Yuba River State Park in the Bridgeport area will be graded at least every other year when weather and equipment availability permit.

Signs are posted along Hwy 20 to advise travelers that fireworks are not allowed in the rural areas of Nevada County. In cooperation with the Penn Valley Fire Department, at least one engine from the Smartsville Station will be sent to patrol the area during the fireworks display put on by the Lake Wildwood Homeowners Association. The Columbia Hill engines will be out in the rural areas during the week of July 4th to remind the residents of the rules regarding fireworks use in the area.

1. **Fire Safe Programs**

Work with developers and the Planning Department to ensure that PRC 4290 requirements are met or exceeded on all new construction.

Work with the Fire Safe Councils in both Nevada and Yuba County to identify and implement Fire Safe projects in their areas. Encourage the establishment of Fire Safe Communities throughout the Battalion by working with the two fire safe councils to identify potential participants then assisting them through the process.

2. **Burn Permit Administration**

Cooperators consistent with past practice will issue LE-62's. Issuing points will be all CAL FIRE, the Penn Valley Fire District, Rough & Ready Fire District, and the North San Juan Fire District. The Penn Valley Fire Protection District will issue at Station #44 and at the administrative office for those areas within Penn Valley and Rough & Ready. The North San Juan Fire District will issue out of Station #3 on Tyler Foote Crossing Road. This process will ensure that homeowners can get a permit when the CAL FIRE station is not staffed. Burn hours will be determined by CAL FIRE outside the city limits and the individual cities within their boundaries. There will be open hours during the winter. Burn hours will be implemented around May 1 and total restriction will start around July 1 depending on weather. The Ban will be lifted as per CAL FIRE in the fall at the end of declared fire season.

An authorized employee of CAL FIRE or the USFS will issue LE-5 and Project permits on SRA.

3. **Defensible Space**

Section 4291 of the Public Resources Code will be addressed on SRA. SRA fee funded inspectors, station personnel and county funded inspectors will be used to cover door to door in all areas within Nevada County and Yolo County on an expected 5 year return cycle.

The CAL FIRE stations and Battalion Chief will continue to support this activity with logistical support, inspections and citations, if needed.

4. **Railroad / Power Companies**

Past spot inspections indicate no violations; however fire occurrence has become significant.

Power line inspections will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections as inspectors look up and down while conducting their inspection, and where the lines are available. The Prevention Bureau Chief will be meeting with Power line representatives to discuss PRC 4292. Power line caused fires, within the Battalion, relating to negligence are insignificant and do not warrant the resources to follow up.

5. Public Education

CAL FIRE staff is involved in numerous public education programs. The area is a well-known recreation area. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs as follows:

School Programs - An interagency effort targets all schools in Penn Valley, reaching grades K -12 in the spring.

Pioneer Day – CAL FIRE Personnel will set up a table to issue permits and FireSafe materials at the annual event in Smartsville.

Fourth of July Parade – CAL FIRE will have an engine and an antique engine in this year's parade.

Beale AFB Fire Prevention Week – CAL FIRE will provide an engine for the parade and static display for public education.

6. Ongoing events throughout the year

Lake Englebright Camp Ground - The Army Corp. of Engineers and CAL FIRE will construct fire lines around all shoreline campsites starting in May.

Malakoff State Park Camp Ground - A CAL FIRE engine will address campers during special events planned by the camp area.

Spenceville Rifle Range – A fuelbreak will be constructed around the rifle range during May, and the interior burnt.

Channel 44 - The local message station will run the defensible space tape throughout the summer and event specific messages on request.

High Priority Target Areas

Sicard Flat – Scott Forbes Rd, Rough & Ready

Battalion 14 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
UC Field Station VMP	O		Prescribed Fire	6,231
Bunker Hill VMP	P		Prescribed Fire	
Reader Ranch VMP	P		Prescribed Fire	
Yuba County Roads	A	Continuous	Fuel Treatments	
Spenceville VMP	P		Prescribed Fire	
Shady Creek Fuel Break	M		Fuel Treatments	
Columbia Hill Fuel Break	C		Fuel Treatments	
Selby Ranch	O		Roadside Clearing	
Camp Bountiful	P		Fuel Treatments	
Bunker Hill Fuel Break	M		Fuel Treatments	
Daugherty F&W Property	O		Fuel Treatments	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

The line put around the Spenceville Shooting Area has been successful in holding the fires to the control lines every year since it began. Each and every year we experience between one and four starts out there caused by target practice and every year the fires are kept within our pre-established control lines. Without the lines, many of those fires would have easily developed into an extended attack fire.

Dozer access into the areas between the Waldo Junction Bridge, Perimeter Rd and Camp Far West Reservoir was limited due to weight restrictions on the existing bridges. Work was completed on a low water crossing through Dry Creek at the Waldo Junction Bridge. The project was a cooperative effort between California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDF&W) and CAL FIRE with the battalion personnel and the Nevada City HFEO's completing the groundwork and CDF&W handling the environmental documentation.

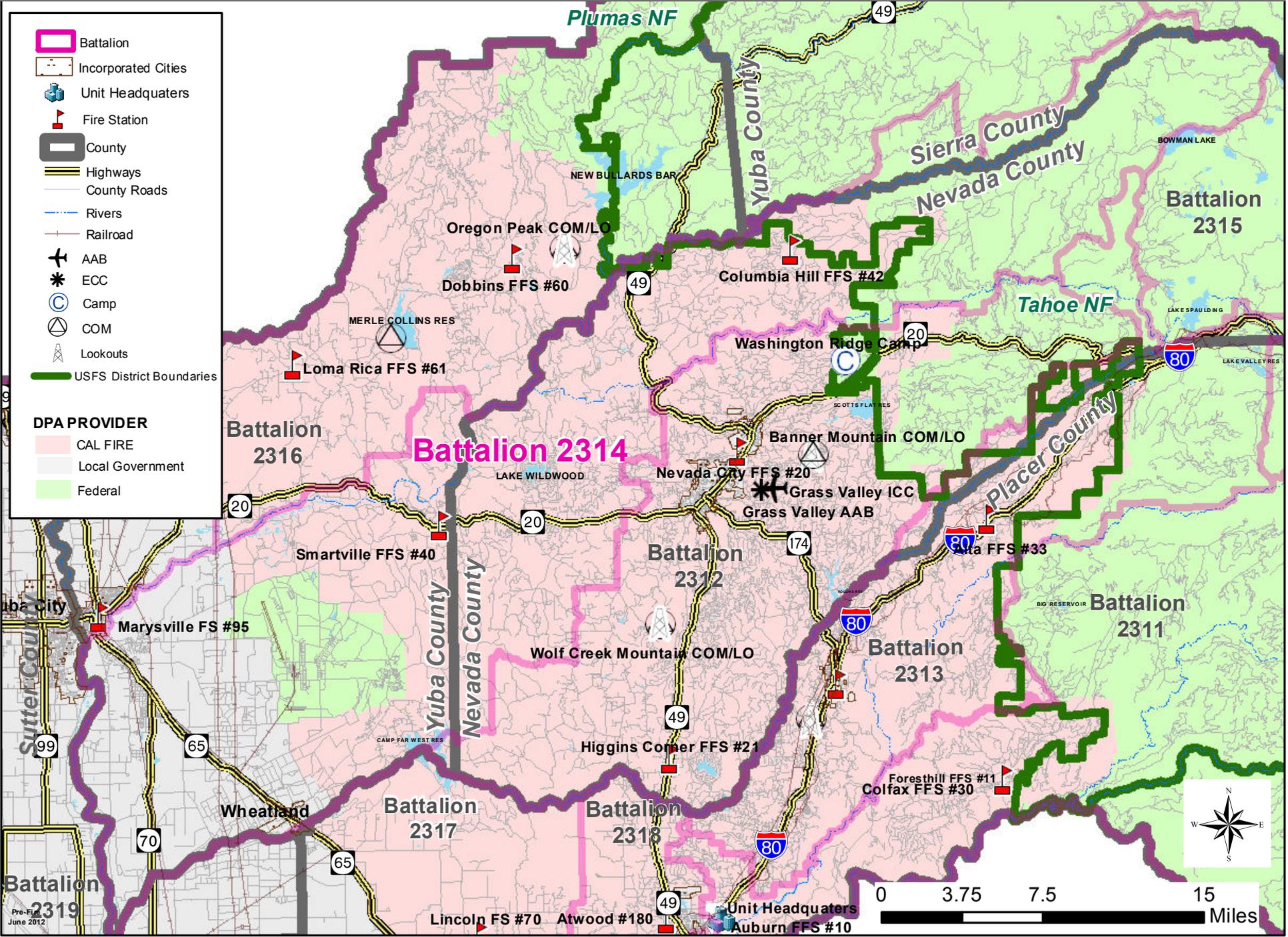
Action Plan:

- Continue to pursue completion of the VMP contracts that remain in the planning stage. As the contracts are completed we will focus on implementation. Implementation will focus on fuel reduction and live fire training for fire personnel.
- Opportunities to combine our VMP projects with the Fire Safe Council efforts will be researched.
- Continuance of the public education efforts will be a priority for battalion personnel.
- All personnel will focus their daily training efforts on wildland fire suppression.



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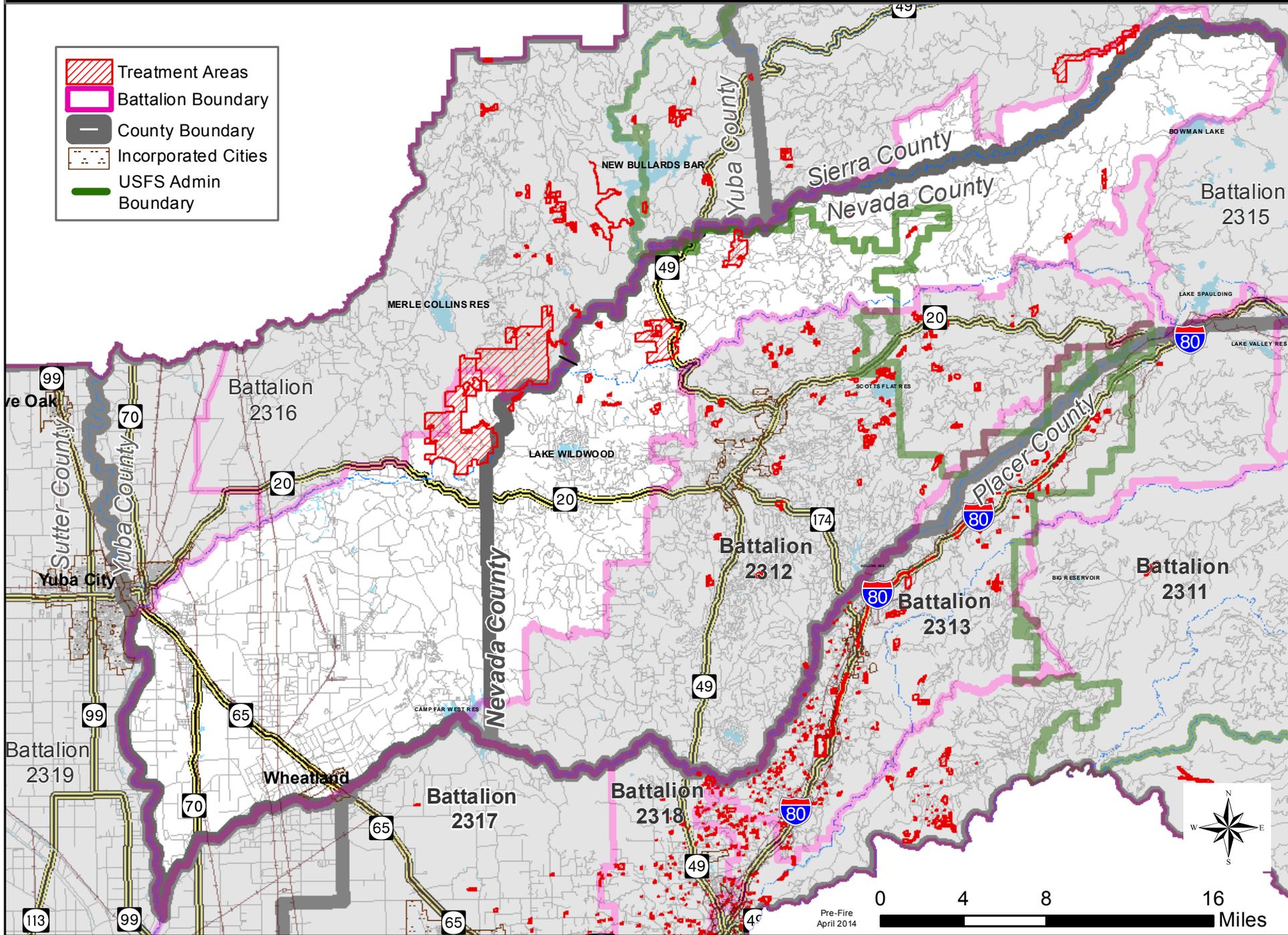
Battalion 14- Administrative Boundaries





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 14- CalMapper Projects

-  Treatment Areas
-  Battalion Boundary
-  County Boundary
-  Incorporated Cities
-  USFS Admin Boundary



Pre-Fire
April 2014



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 15

Battalion Description

Battalion 15 covers approximately 812,285 acres within Placer and Nevada counties including some portions of Sierra County. The primary population center is the Town of Truckee which is the Battalion Headquarters. This high sierra community has a permanent year-round population of 18,000 people. Due to the large number of vacation homes in the Battalion, the population can double on summer week-ends. A large portion of the Battalion lies within the boundaries of the Truckee Fire Protection District. In 1994, the Town of Truckee was incorporated, converting 21,000 acres of SRA to LRA. In 2010, a contract was initiated between the Town of Truckee and Cal Fire for fire suppression on approximately 7,900 acres of wildland within Truckee's LRA.

There has been a significant protection shift within the Tahoe Basin area of B2315. Traditionally, the Forest Service has been the dominant protection provider within the basin, but due to clarified policy within the agency on structure protection guidelines, areas of privately owned lands with structure are returning to state protection status. This translates to Cal Fire playing a significantly stronger role within the Basin. Battalion 15 acquired an additional 20,000 acres of state protection area, encompassing the communities along the west shore of Lake Tahoe and the Highway 89 corridor including Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows.

Fuel type varies from desert grass/brush to timber in topography ranging from mountain valleys to peaks over 9,000 feet. The fuel makeup is typical of this eastside timber and meadow environment. The fuel loading varies from a minimum of 2 tons per acre to greater than 25 tons per acre. Significant WUI problems exist and are difficult to mitigate due to the temporary nature of the residents. Up to half of the residential structures are vacation homes.

Cooperators include Truckee Fire, Northstar Fire, North Tahoe Fire Protection District, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, Meeks Bay Fire, Squaw Valley Fire, Fire Safe Council of Nevada County, US Forest Service (TMU, Tahoe N.F., Plumas N.F.), and Army Corp of Engineers.

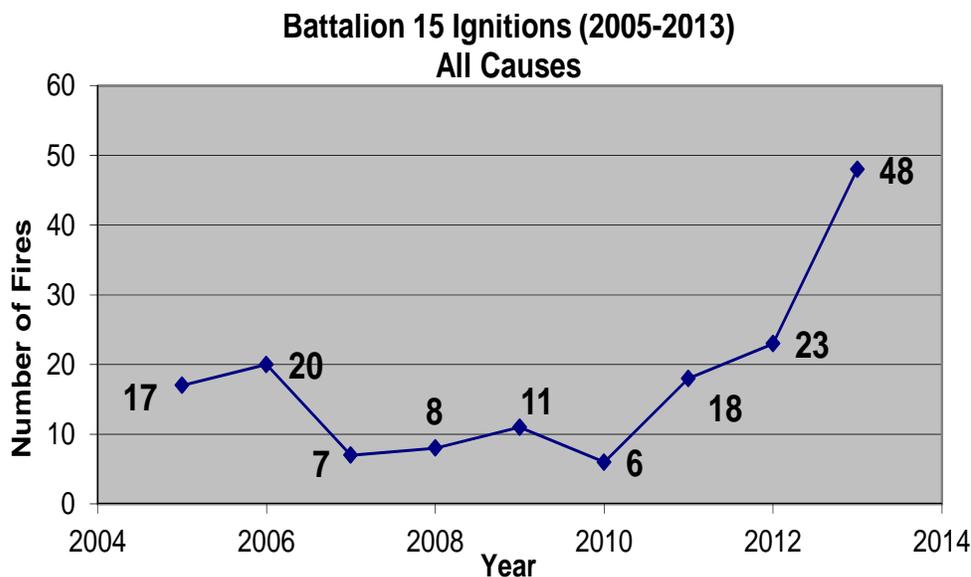
Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2315

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 450,664	LRA 94,858		SRA 266,763
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 663,750	Local Wildland Contract 7,882	Local 37,483	State 103,171

Battalion Fire History and Occurrence

Large damaging and costly fires do occur on the east side of NEU. Significant in terms of acreage are the Donner Ridge Fire (1960 – 44,812 acres), Cottonwood Fire (1994 - 46,800 acres), and Martis Fire (2001 – 14,126 acres). Fire hazard severity (2007 FHSZ) predicts a high likelihood that such fires will occur again. Typically, Battalion 15 will receive 15-25 vegetation fires per year dependent upon the occurrence of lightning, normally the primary ignition source (50% of ignitions). The balance of normal fire activity is primarily campfires, including homeless fires and party fires started by careless individuals. Other historic problems include freeway related causes from vehicle fires. Overheating and consumption of vehicles with the wildland as an exposure is the normal vegetation fire ignition source.



Mitigation Strategies

1. Public Education:

Battalion 15 will work to reduce fire ignitions and reduce damage by fire occurrences by actively participating in public education programs, fuel reduction programs, and homeowner education programs. The components to meet these goals are as follows:

A. Burn Permit Administration

About 2,000 dooryard burn permits are issued annually in the battalion. The majority are issued by our local government cooperators. Permits are required from May 1 through December 1. The CAL FIRE imposed burn ban is an important and necessary regulation. Burning on the eastside is daylight hours only on approved burn days. Escapes are rare and usually insignificant.

LE-5 (California Inter-Agency Burning Permit) and LE-7 (Project Type Burning Permit) are issued on SRA lands after an inspection by an authorized employee of CAL FIRE or USFS. These project burn permits are typically used to dispose of larger piles of material and typically require an inspection by agency personnel prior to authorization to burn.

About three project burn permits are issued annually by the Battalion Chief.

B. Public Education Forums

CAL FIRE staff is involved in numerous public education programs. The Truckee-Tahoe area is a world known resort area. The target audience is quite large and has proven to be receptive to various programs.

Ongoing events throughout the year:

- School Programs - An interagency effort by CAL FIRE, the Truckee Fire Prevention District, Northstar Fire Department, and the USFS, targets all schools in Truckee, reaching grades K - 3 in the spring. Students create fire safety posters for display on roadside fire prevention signs.
- Fourth of July Parade – CAL FIRE will have an engine in this year's parade.
- Pre School Programs – CAL FIRE will continue to provide age appropriate fire safety programs with an appearance by Smokey Bear at the request of any public day care centers.
- Prevention Activities within the Tahoe Basin – An ongoing process assisting allied agencies around the Lake Tahoe Basin. Projects include: fuel reduction on state owned and conservancy lands and PRC 4291 cooperative inspections.

C. Fire Prevention

Martis Peak Fire Lookout - Martis Peak Fire Lookout is traditionally put into service as a detection platform on mid-July, and is staffed daily through September 30th. Martis Peak has the ability to report at distances of up to 40 miles away. Martis Peak has been documented as reporting numerous initial reports as far away as South Lake Tahoe and has also recorded the locations of numerous lightning strikes, and is instrumental in tracking the progress of developing thunderstorms. Lookout VIP staff at Martis Peak make over 2,000 public contacts annually, speaking with visitors from as far away as South Africa. The operating agreement with the USFS remains in place. We will continue to promote the lookout through the local media and community groups this spring to generate interest in volunteer staffing. All volunteers will be signed up as Volunteers in Prevention (VIP). The Truckee Town Wildland Contract will fund a paid CAL FIRE Lookout position for Martis Peak as in past years. This will be a four days per week position, so the remaining three days per week will require staffing by VIPs.

Fire Safe Programs – The Battalion will work regularly with developers and County Planning Departments to ensure PRC 4290 requirements are met on all new construction. The BC will participate in field inspections when needed. The objective is to emphasize fire safety during construction and compliance with PRC requirements when complete.

Railroad and Power Company Contact - The Battalion Chief makes annual contact with Union Pacific representatives. The Battalion is informed of any on-going maintenance along the thirty miles of active track within the Battalion. Spot inspections are usually made and provide suggestions on areas of fire safety improvement. Railroad starts in the area average about one per year.

Annually, the BC meets with both Sierra Pacific Power and Truckee Donner PUD reps to discuss summer work projects in the area. Report and cooperation with SPP has been outstanding. Conductor clearance crews are aggressive in the Battalion.

D. PRC 4291 inspection:

PRC 4291 defensible space inspections serve a dual purpose. One is as a vegetation management motivator. The other is as a public education tool. Battalion staff will continue to support this activity. Battalion personnel will continue to assist the North Tahoe Fire District and Squaw Valley Fire Protection District with LE-100/defensible space inspections on the north and west shores of Lake Tahoe. NEU will supply a Fire Prevention Specialist to assist the Truckee Fire Protection District with LE0-100 inspections within the Truckee town limits.

Northstar FD has a comprehensive inspection program in Placer County within SRA that has achieved near 100 percent compliance. Tahoe Donner Association's Forestry Department also conducts inspections with a high rate of compliance.

2. Vegetation Management: The vegetation management programs are directed at reducing the potential of a large fire and reducing the damage from a large fire.

A. Community Fuel Reduction Support

CAL FIRE supports fuel treatments with forestry expertise given by the Truckee area forest and fire suppression knowledge by the Truckee Battalion Chief. Through this combination of fire and forestry advice, both large and small landowners can benefit from onsite appraisal of fuel treatment and forest health needs. It is the intent of the CAL FIRE Battalion Chief and CAL FIRE Forester to encourage and assist landowners to actively manage their properties to protect their homes, reduce fuels and enhance natural resource values.

B. Installation and Maintenance of Fuel Breaks

The Battalion will support the acquisition of project funds that will achieve the installation and maintenance of fuel breaks. NEU Washington Ridge Fire Crews will continue to support the communities of Battalion 15 (Eastern Placer, Nevada and Sierra Counties) with comprehensive fuel reduction and fuel break programs.

B. VMP Projects

Battalion 15 works closely with cooperating agencies to develop VMP projects that will reduce the potential for a large and damaging wildfire by eliminating the fuel in a controlled fashion. (Project descriptions can be found under unit VMP projects.

Current VMP schedule includes:

- Chinquapin – North Tahoe Fire Protection District
- Waddle Ranch – Truckee Tahoe Airport District
- Tahoe Donner Homeowner's Association – Truckee Fire Protection District

Battalion 15 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education Programs

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Chinquapin VMP	A	2014	Prescribed Fire	20
Donner State Park VMP	C	2011	Prescribed Fire	23
Waddle Ranch VMP	P	2016	Prescribed Fire	68
Truckee Home Show	O	-----	Community Education	N/A
Truckee Rodeo	O	-----	Youth Education	N/A
Tahoe Donner Homeowners Association VMP	P	2017	Prescribed Fire, thinning and mastication	10-20
Burton State Park Fuel Reduction Program	O	-----	Thinning and prescribed fire	448
Tahoe Donner Fuel Reduction Program	O	2014	Thinning, chipping, mastication and piling and burning.	10-60
Glenshire Ridge Fuel Break and Strand Fuel Treatment	P	2016	Thinning, chipping, mastication and piling and burning	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

80 Fire Success Story Results from Cooperative Fuel Reduction Efforts

CAL FIRE works cooperatively at the state, county and local levels to complete fuels reduction projects throughout the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit. Projects are designed to encourage landowners to create defensible space and to protect communities from costly and damaging fires. NEU utilizes state and federal grant funds to support these fuels reduction projects.



Recently, on August 22, 2007 cooperative fuel reduction efforts completed by the Tahoe/Donner Homeowners Association, Truckee Fire District and CAL FIRE proved to be a critical component in stopping the advancement of what could have been a devastating wildland fire. The fire started near Highway 80 and quickly advanced upslope towards the Tahoe/Donner subdivision. As the fire approached the subdivision, it burned into an existing fuel break and was stopped. The fuel break was designed and implemented by the Tahoe/Donner Homeowner's Association and the Truckee Fire District fuel reduction programs. Cal Fire has provided support to these programs through the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) and the Proposition 40 Fuels Reduction Program.



The purpose of Cal Fire's California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) is to encourage private and public investment in, and improved management of, California forest lands and resources. The program scope includes the improvement of all forest resources, including fish and wildlife habitat, soil, and water quality. Cost-share activities include land management planning, site preparation, tree purchase and planting, timber stand improvement, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and land conservation practices.

The goal of Cal Fire's Proposition 40 Fuels Reduction Program is to reduce wildland fuel loadings that pose a threat to watershed resources and water quality. This fuel reduction program is funded by Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002.

High Priority Target Areas

- North side of Highway 80
- Glenshire
- Tahoe-Donner West and South Common Areas
- Burton Creek State Park
- California Tahoe Conservancy Properties
- McKinney-Rubicon**
- Talmont Subdivision**

** These areas have had fuels work but may need maintenance and or new projects.

Action Plan:

The Truckee Battalion is committed to providing the best possible public service for fire protection and resource management for

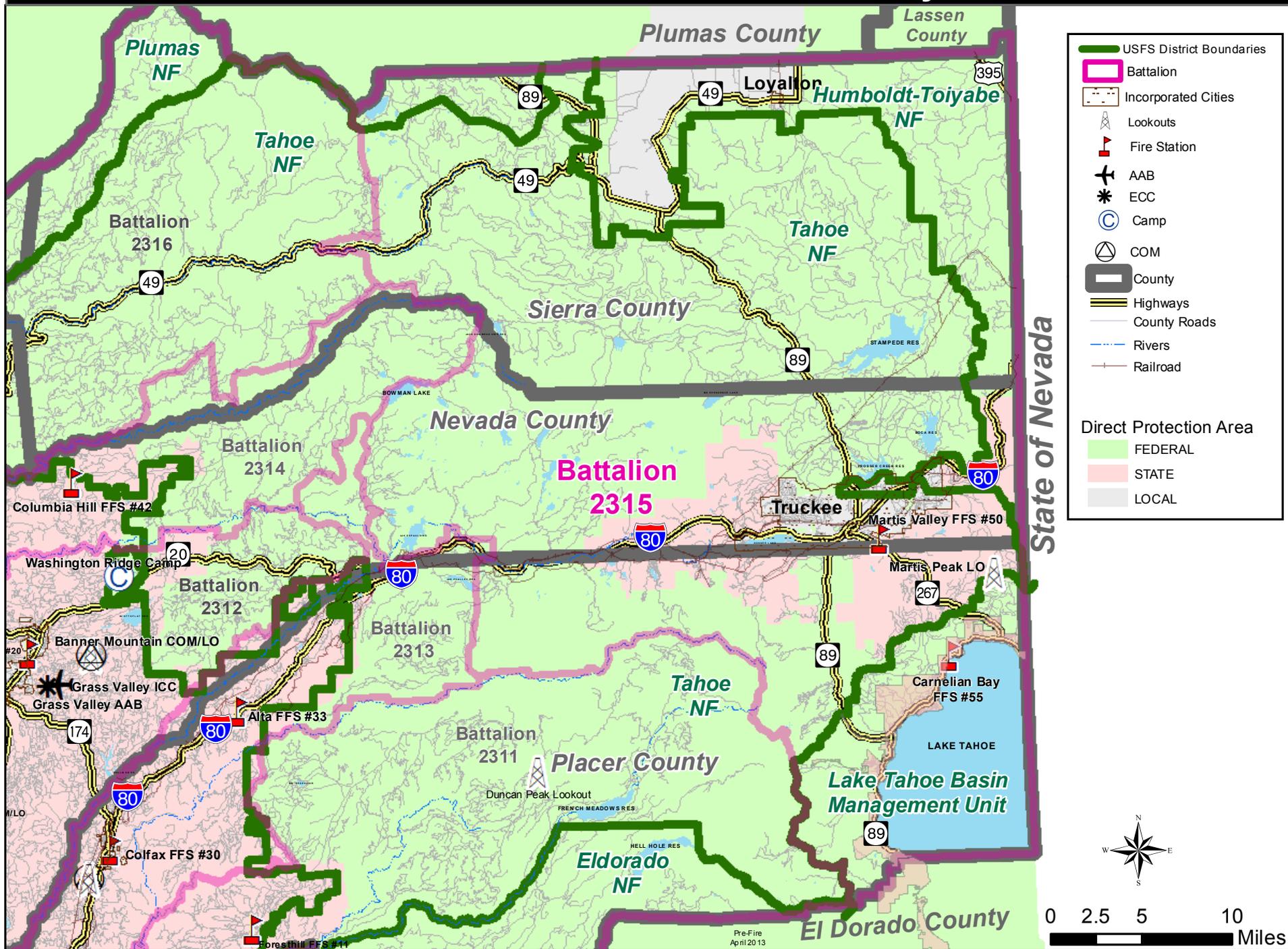
- Pursue SRA fee funding for fuel reduction and prevention projects
- Continue support for the VMP projects
- Continue emphasis on wildland fire suppression mission

Battalion 15 remains quite busy with prevention activities. The strong relationship between CAL FIRE, Truckee Fire Protection District, North Tahoe Fire Protection District, Northstar Fire Department, Squaw Valley Fire Protection District, U.S. Forest Service and others has provided for a professional and comprehensive program that has shown benefits in public awareness and concern. Many of the fires are caused by people who reside outside the area. Lightning activity is traditionally a wildcard in the high country, and most lightning activity has brought significant moisture. This indicates that education of the public during dooryard burn permit issuance, and education programs aimed at preschool and school aged children have been quite successful.



NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 15 - Administrative Boundary



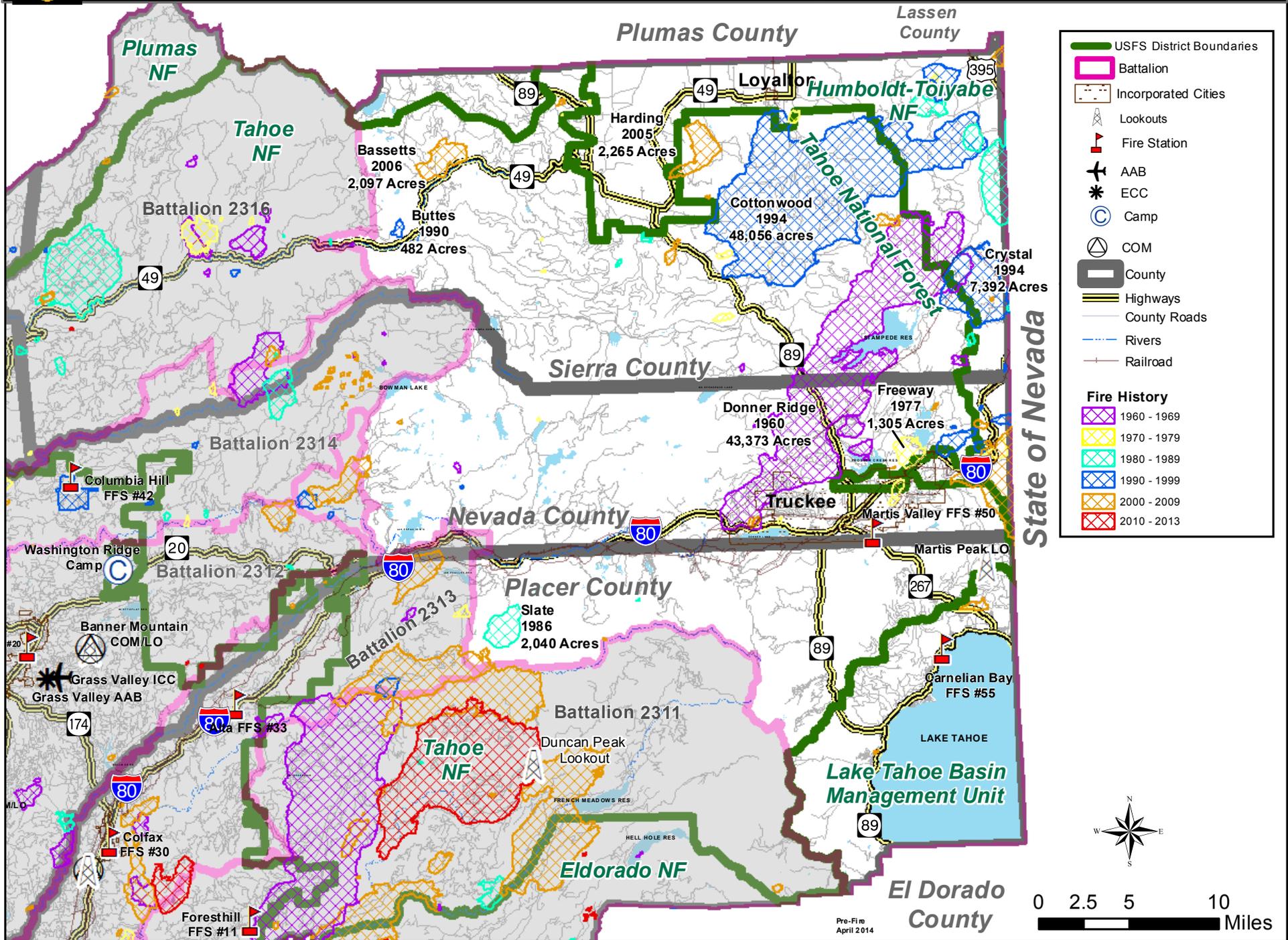
State of Nevada

Pre-Fire
April 20 13



NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

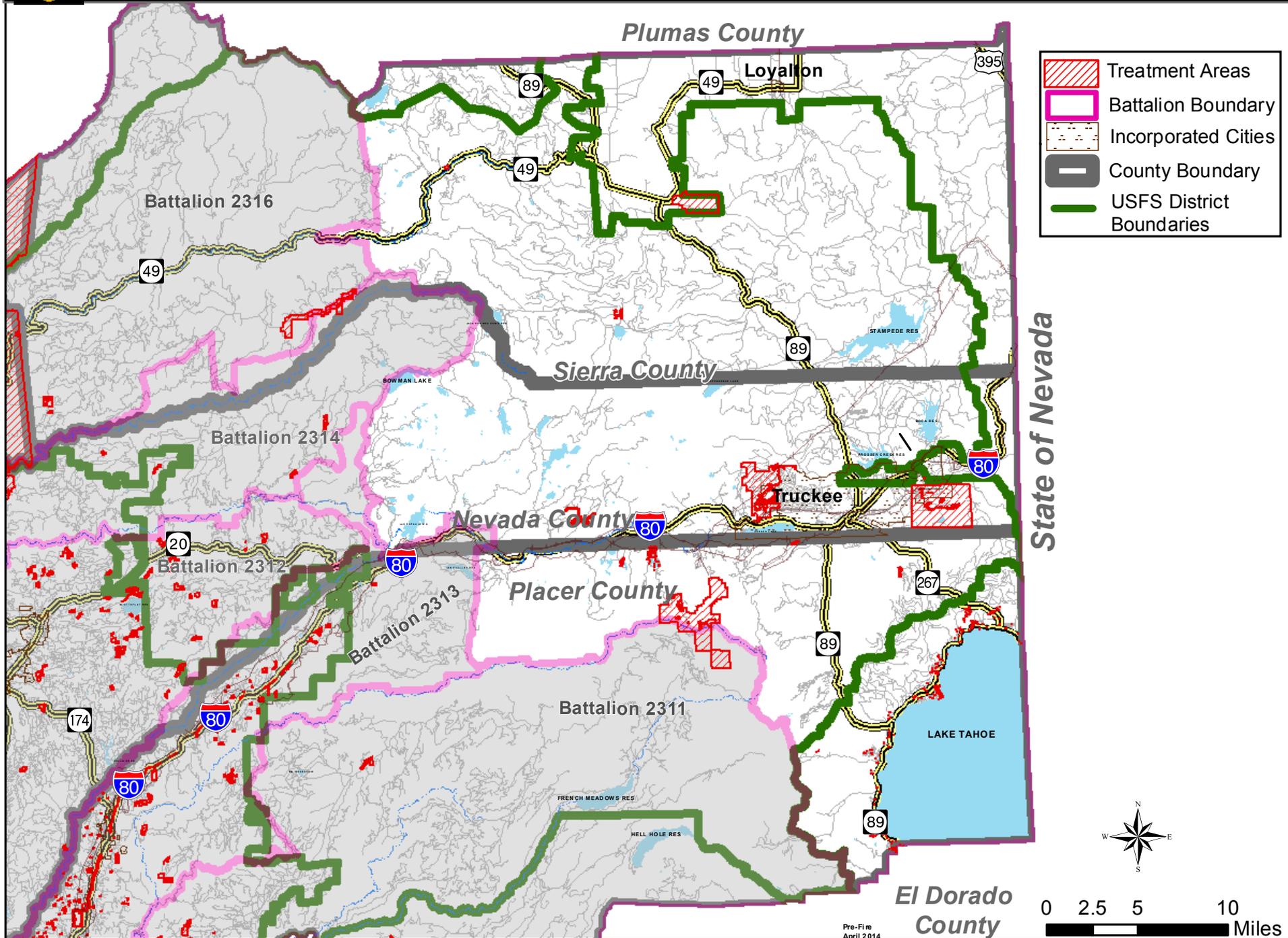
Battalion 15 - Fire History





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 15 - CalMapper Projects



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 16

Battalion Description

The Loma Rica/Browns Valley battalion serves a large area of SRA. Population densities within the Battalion consist of the towns of Loma Rica, Browns Valley, Brownsville, Dobbins, and Oregon House. The battalion is dominated by grass fuel models in the low valley areas giving way to oak woodlands, mixed brush and conifer at the higher elevations. The topography is flat near the valley floor changing to gentle rolling slopes as one moves west toward the Sierra Nevada. The battalion contains several areas where small fires could likely become large damaging incidents.

There are several cooperators within the Battalion including Dobbins/Oregon House Fire Protection District, Foothill Fire Protection District, Loma Rica/Browns Valley Fire and the Yuba Watershed protection and Fire Safe Council.

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2316

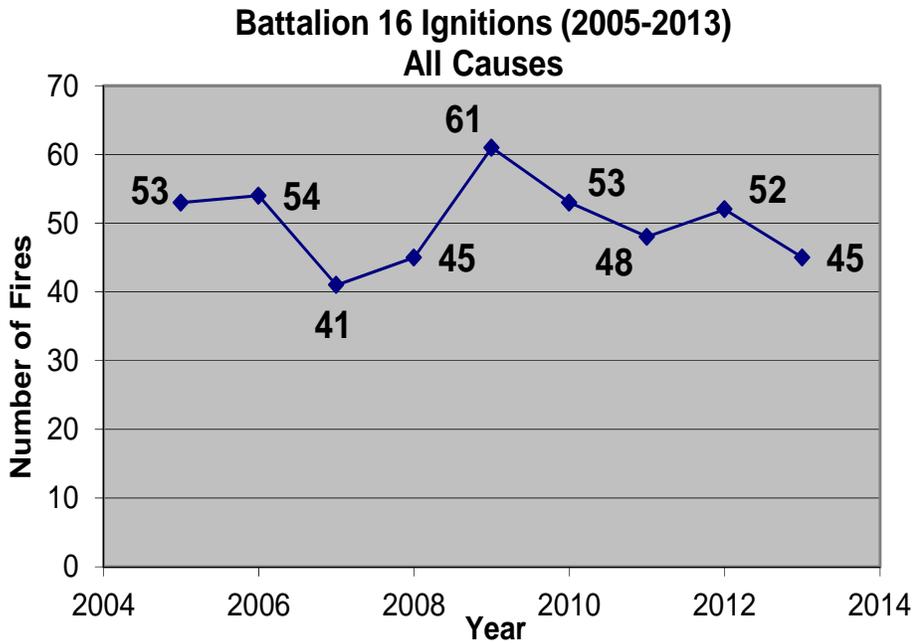
Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 218,022	LRA 10,815	SRA 194,138
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 280,179	Local 10,829	State 131,966

Battalion Fire History and Occurrence

Large fire activity in the Battalion has been consistent over the past few years within Battalion 16. Large fire events include the Williams fire (Sept 1997- 5,838 acres), Pendola Fire (Oct 1999 – 11,725 acres), Marysville Fire (Aug 2006 – 388 acres), Yuba Fire (Aug 2009 – 3,829 acres), and Bullards Fire (Aug 2010 – 1,307 acres). Large damaging and costly fires are a regular occurrence in the Battalion. Fire Hazard Severity Zone mapping (2007 FHSZ), illustrates that there is a high hazard that large damaging and costly fires will occur in the future.

Historically debris fires have been the biggest problem within this battalion. This is followed by a consistent arson problem in the summer and increasing quantities of roadside fires. For the year 2012, debris fires continue to be the greatest cause of fire within the battalion at nearly thirty-one percent. Residents often delay burning until the final weeks prior to burn bans being instituted. The result is a greater number of burn piles being burned later in the season, when control of the fires is more difficult due to weather and fuel conditions. Public education at the time of burn permit issuance will continue to be used to reduce the number of escapes.

Many of the roads in the Battalion have vegetation growing very close to the road edge, or near the road surface. The exposure of these fuels to hot exhaust, exhaust discharge, or flame impingement from fires originating within the vehicle is a problem typical of any community. This explains why vehicle related fires are the third largest cause class running at just over thirteen percent of all fires in the Battalion. Arson and undetermined fires are considered together and account for nearly thirty-nine percent of the fires in the battalion.



Mitigation Strategies

Mitigation strategies within the battalion include: advertising and executing LE-100's, year round public education and fuel break construction.

There are several roads in B-16 that were maintained for fire access since the early 1950s. With changes in personnel and land ownership, many of those have been neglected over the past ten to fifteen years. Due to years of neglect many of these roads have become nearly impassable for emergency vehicles. Over the next several years, efforts will be made by B-16 personnel to identify the roads that will significantly improve the access into the back country within the battalion and work towards re-establishing as many of the original agreements as possible and developing new ones where appropriate.

Fire Access Roads

Kane Ranch Rd: This road connects the south end of Collins Lake with Marysville Rd. It is strategically located for getting lake visitors out and fire resources in to the Collins Lake area in the event of a fire blocking or threatening the northern access to the lake. The road traverses CDF&W land along with one other land owner. Battalion personnel are currently looking into that land owner's willingness to support the project. It would involve simply removing the brush and vegetation along the roadway and possibly surfacing the road with a grader to improve access for emergency vehicles.

Collins Lake/UC Field Station Access Rd: This project is in concert with the work being done by Battalion 14 personnel in the area. See the Battalion 14 Ignition Management Plan for additional information.

Rice's Crossing Rd: Access through the Richard's Ranch to the north side of Englebright Reservoir. This road was last graded by CALFIRE personnel in 2008 and needs to be surveyed to determine the current needs to maintain the road.

UC Field/ Richard's Ranch Rd: This road will permit the evacuation of residents from Ure Mountain while allowing for a reduction in response times for emergency resources. The road needs some cleaning up and resurfacing but will eventually connect two well-maintained gravel roads. The road will have gated access only that will require emergency personnel to open.

1. Public Education

A. Burn Permit Administration

In March update the Yuba County Burning Permit Issuance Plan in conjunction with the Feather River Air Quality Management District.

In April, Battalion staff will train the V.I.P.s in burning permit issuance and ensure that Cal Fire employees have reviewed the the Yuba County Burning Permit Issuance Plan.

B. Public Education Forums

Community Involvement - Public relations and interaction between Cal Fire and the community is a key factor in promoting a public understanding of fire prevention. Each year Battalion staff will:

- Station 61 will continue a year round coordination of the sales and installation of street and address signs and house numbers.
- Station 60 and 61 along with VIP's and the volunteers from the LR/BV C.S.D. will participate in local community activities including Wild Hog Glory Daze – Loma Rica Lions Club in May, Brownsville Mountain Fair – Foothill Fire Department in July, Bok Kai Parade – Marysville in March, Beale Fire Prevention Week – Beale A.F.B. in November.

C. Fire Prevention and Awareness

An ongoing program, which furthers the public's awareness of the wildland fire problem and develops public habits conducive to fire safety, will be provided. Annually the Battalion staff will:

- During the months of May and June release (4) four general fire prevention news releases to the Appeal Democrat and the Rabbit Creek Journal newspaper.
- Post fire prevention signs
- Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) will conduct school programs each winter at the following schools: Yuba Feather, Dobbins, Loma Rica, and Browns Valley. Station 60 and 61 will provide assistance and an engine at each program
- Station 60 and 61 will be expected to conduct fire prevention programs when requested by local groups, provided fire activity allows for the commitment.
- Participate as an acting member on the Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council.
- Conduct PRC 4291 inspection.
- Coordinate with Loma Rica/Browns Valley CSD personnel and incorporate fire prevention and burning permit issuance program to the local responsibility areas of the fire district.
- A door-to-door program to promote the reflective house numbering program.

- Meetings will be conducted with local cooperators covering fire prevention specific to their facilities or agency.
- Reduce the wildland fuel loading by 1) reviewing development projects within the SRA and require developers to instill fuel reduction practices, 2) Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council Fuel Break/modification projects, 3) Yuba County Road fuel modification project, 4) CSA 2 emergency evacuation route development
- Each spring spot check 1/3 of the power lines within the Battalion, a map will be maintained to ensure that a different area is inspected each spring.

2. Vegetation Management:

A. Chipping

The Yuba County chipping program has provided free chipping to residents in the foothills to encourage their participation in maintaining the required clearance around their structures. This program is overseen by the Dobbins/Oregon House Fire District and has been partially funded with grant dollars provided by CALFIRE.

B. Fuel Breaks

Working with the Yuba FireSafe and Watershed Council, several roadside fuel breaks have completed within the Battalion. The Council gets together annually to prioritize the roads needing work, then they work with the CALFIRE staff to identify work days when the crews will be able to clear the road right-of-ways by cutting and chipping the brush.

Each spring a dozer line is put in between Marysville Rd and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDF&W) lands at Daugherty and Stanfield Hills; historically, both of these areas experience roadside fires that have the potential to become costly and damaging, however; they are generally held in check by the dozer lines.

C. VMP (Description under Vegetation Management Section)

Daugherty and Stanfield Hill VMPs

High Priority Target Areas

- Due to the demand for water quantity and clarity, watershed protection is a high priority.
- High tension power lines in the Battalion
- Yuba River drainage
- Dobbins Area WUI
- Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area
- Along Rural Roads in the Battalion
- Oregon Ridge Fuel Break

Battalion 16 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education Programs

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Yuba County Chipper	A	O	Fuel Reduction	
Yuba County Roadside Clearing	A	O	Fuel Reduction	
Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area Fuel Breaks	O	O	Fuel Break	
Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area VMP	P	2016	Prescribed Fire	5,000
Yuba Firesafe Council	O	O		
Stanfield Hill Wildlife Area Fuel Breaks	O		Fuel Break	
Stanfield Hill Wildlife Area VMP	P		Prescribed Fire	3,000
Richard's Ranch VMP	P		Prescribed Fire	3,375
Sugarloaf Ranch VMP	P		Prescribed Fire	2,500

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

BLM Grant for Fuel Reduction is One of the Keys to Stopping the Dry Fire

The Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council is targeting fuel reduction along roads as a focus for fire season planning in the Yuba County foothills. The Council's partnership with the Yuba County Public Works Department has resulted in the treatment and maintenance of fuel along over 40 miles of road to reduce vehicle fires from spreading to the wildland. The Bureau of Land Management provided funding through California State Fire Safe Council Clearinghouse to reduce fuel along a six mile portion of Marysville Road.

On the early evening of July 31, 2009, a truck traveling on Marysville Road started at least 5 small road-side grass fires along the cleared section of the project. The reduction of fuels along the road slowed the intensity and spread of the fires. Another large factor in controlling the fire was a dozer line constructed annually by CALFIRE in a wildlife refuge uphill from the fire starts. The fires initially did not burn with high intensity due to fuel reductions. Air tanker use would have been limited if the fire continued to burn into the night, as operations must be suspended shortly after sunset.

Strong initial attack by CALFIRE air resources reinforced the fire lines, allowing ground forces to rapidly control all the fires. CALFIRE fire modeling estimated without the fire prevention work the flame length could have exceeded 20 feet (too extreme for direct attack by ground units at the head of the fire) and the fire would have reached the top of Stanfield Hill in about a half hour. Homes would have been critically threatened and destroyed. There was a potential for significant spotting. This fire would have exceeded initial attack, and would have required a significant augmentation of resources. It is very likely that this fire would have grown to at least a hundred acres, and destroyed several homes. This is the third documented vehicle-caused fire that did not become catastrophic because of these roadside fuel reduction projects.



Roadside fuel reduction also provides other management benefits during a fire by improving evacuation corridors for citizens and better access for fire fighters and equipment. Due to the roads' bare surface and the commitment of the Yuba County Public Works to maintain the fuel reduction along treated roads, they can also serve as fuel breaks in limited intensity fires.

For more information contact Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council Facilitator, Glenn Nader at ganader@ucdavis.edu

Fuel reduced along the Yuba County's Marysville Road slowed the rate of spread of the Dry Fire

Middlebrook Fuel Break Used as a Fire Fighter Tool in the Yuba Fire

A CAL FIRE Prop 40 funded grant to the Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council was used by fire crews to stop the Yuba Fire from going to Marysville Road and blocking traffic and damaging more watershed and homes in the Dobbins community.

In 2004, landowner, John Middlebrook completed construction of a fuel break 300 feet wide $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile on his property along Marysville Road and a portion of the east boundary using his own money. The Yuba Watershed Protection and Fire Safe Council, with assistance from High Sierra Resources Conservation and Development Council Inc. obtained a Proposition 40 grant from Cal Fire to complete an additional 1.1 miles of fuel break along the easterly boundary and southerly end of Middlebrook property. Brush and small trees were masticated with equipment or hand cut, piled and burned. A maintenance/access road within the SFB was also constructed. The project was started in 2007 and was completed early in 2008.



On Friday, August 14, 2009, the Yuba Fire started as Fire stopped at the Middlebrook fuel break and access road

3,891 acres before it was contained. The fire was slowed down by the southerly end of the fuel break. If the fire had extended 500 to 1000 feet northerly it would have entered into young timber stands and done much economic damage and marched northerly uphill toward Marysville Road, a main arterial highway in the County. The fuel break provided time to marshal firefighting resources. Quick access to the fire was also gained from Lake Francis Road to the south into the fire and through the grant funded fuel break access road. The \$52,500 fuel break grant paid off many times over by slowing and stopping the fire, while at the same time providing access for the successful firefight.

Yuba County Roads Project

After the 1997 Williams fire and following the recent (2009) Yuba Fire, the Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council (YWP&FSC) identified that heavy fuel along roadways restricted the evacuation of residents and limited fire fighter access. Through this request, 7.5 miles of Oregon Hill Rd (45 acres) will have a shaded fuel break constructed along the county road easement. This will help ensure safe ingress / egress during future community evacuation and fire suppression efforts. This project will also show the public the need and success of reducing fuel loading on their properties. The Yuba County Department of Public Works with assistance from Cal Fire's Washington Ridge Conservation Crew will be completing the work. The hand crews will cut and chip small fuels, while larger fuels will be cut into firewood lengths and left for local landowners. The common chaparral species to be removed are Manzanita, deer brush, toyon, ceanothus, and tanoak. Some small conifer species will also be removed. Completing this project will increase community safety. This project continues a successful program that was initiated through 7 previous grants & has completed 100 miles of shaded fuel breaks along Yuba County Roads.



Roadside Chipping Before.



Roadside Chipping After.

Action Plan:

- Increase advertising exposure and executing of LE-100 inspections.
- Continue year round public education efforts within the battalion
- Continue to support fuel reduction efforts within the battalion
- Establish roadside voluntary disking program where feasible on private property.



NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 16- Administrative Boundaries

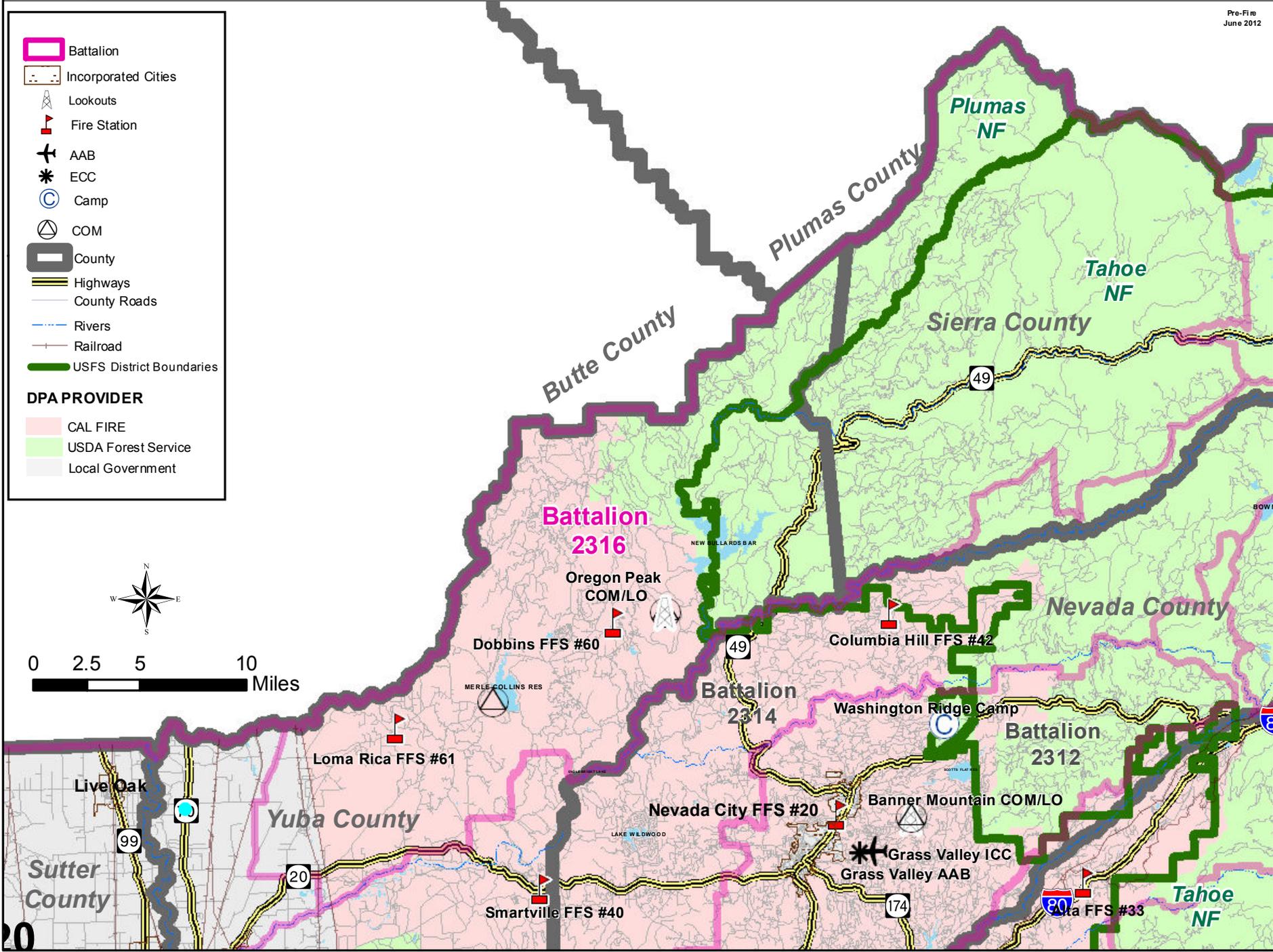
Pre-Fire
June 2012

Legend

- Battalion
- Incorporated Cities
- Lookouts
- Fire Station
- AAB
- ECC
- Camp
- COM
- County
- Highways
- County Roads
- Rivers
- Railroad
- USFS District Boundaries

DPA PROVIDER

- CAL FIRE
- USDA Forest Service
- Local Government





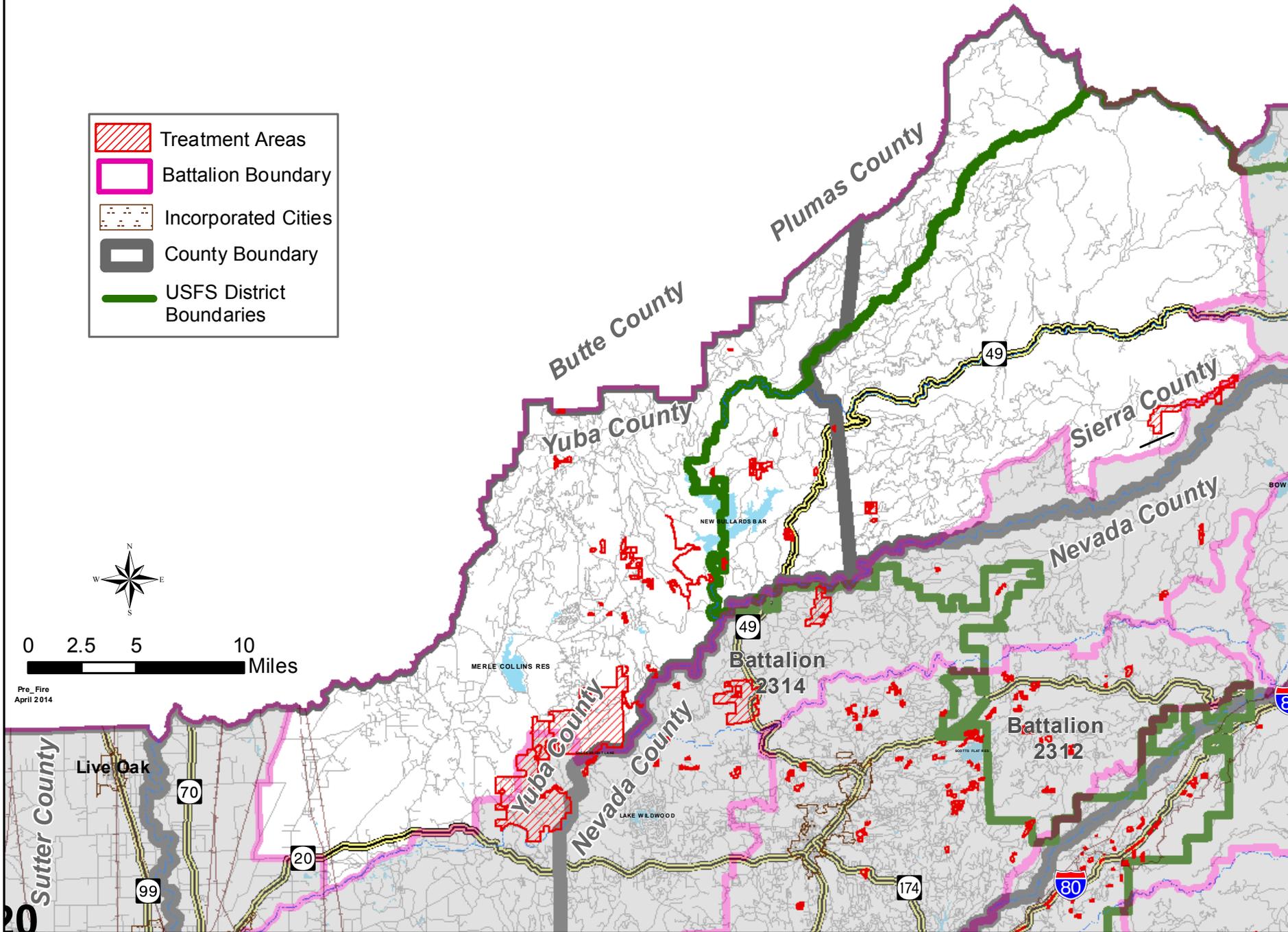
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 16- CalMapper Projects

-  Treatment Areas
-  Battalion Boundary
-  Incorporated Cities
-  County Boundary
-  USFS District Boundaries



0 2.5 5 10 Miles

Pre_Fire
April 2014



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 17

Description

The Lincoln Battalion serves a mixture of SRA and LRA. The battalion is dominated by grass fuel models in the lower valley area and oak woodlands and mixed brush at higher elevations. The topography is flat near the valley floor changing to gentle rolling slopes as one moves east toward the foothill areas. The battalion contains several areas where small wind-driven fires could likely become large and damaging events.

There are several cooperators within the battalion including the cities of Lincoln, Roseville, Wheatland, Rocklin and Loomis Fire Departments, as well as the Placer County Fire Schedule A Program managed by CAL FIRE.

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2317

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 0	LRA 159,230		SRA 61,889
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 0	Local Wildland Contract 6,124	Local 153,387	State 63,113

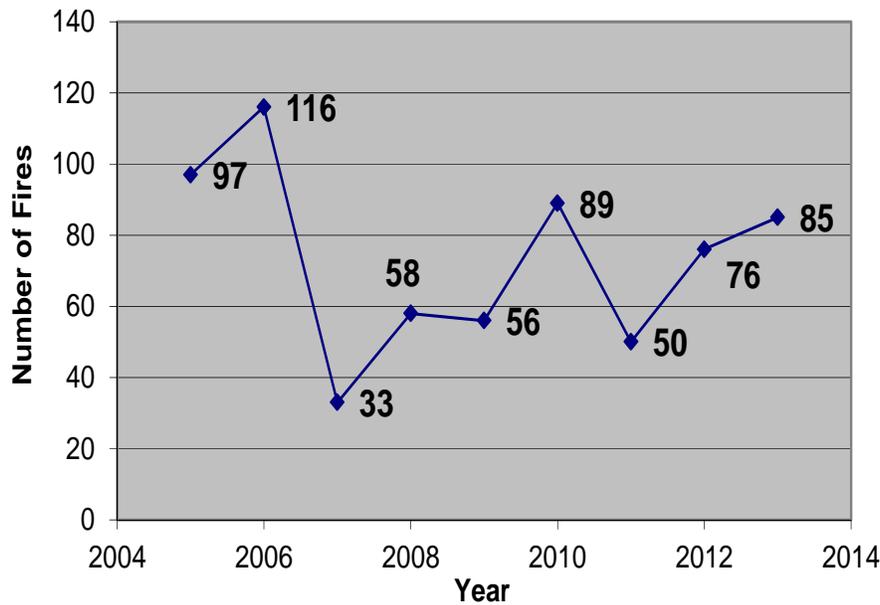
Fire occurrence within Battalion

The Battalion 17 area historically has small acreage fire events. This area does have the potential to experience severe wind driven events. One of the most notable in past years is the wind driven Gladding fire (Sept 2008 – 1,090 acres). Lincoln has traditionally been an area of agriculture and irrigated pastures which served as effective firebreaks. Few farms and active ranches are maintained currently which has decreased the amount of available and maintained fuel breaks. Today development is changing the rural landscape, creating a wildland urban interface at risk.

Arson, most often sourcing from the urban center, is a significant problem within the battalion constituting 5.2% of the fires during the 2012 season. Battalion personnel are working with the prevention bureau to address this issue. Equipment use comprised nearly 12% of the ignitions with 2012. A roadside disking program is developing to assist with the reduction of roadside fire extending into the vegetation.

The majority of the fires within the battalion during the 2012 season were from undetermined (over 38%) causes. Prevention staff is working with the battalion on cause determination training to help reduce the undetermined causes. The result will allow hazard mitigation to address actual causes.

Battalion 17 Ignitions (2005-2013) All Causes



Mitigation Strategies

Fire Protection Planner

The Placer County Fire Protection Planner will continue to provide building plan fire and life safety reviews for PRC 4290 and uniform fire code regulations.

Burn Permit Administration

Issuing points for LE-62's will be Cal Fire/Placer County Fire Station 70 and Station 77. The local pollution control district determines burn hours. Pre-inspections will be provided on a requested or as needed basis. With each permit written, a Placer County Air Pollution Control District's Residential Open Burning informational sheet will be included. A copy of the permit will be filed at Station 70 or Station 77.

Defensible Space

A battalion goal is to target areas within the foothills that have a significant wildland fire threat or historical clearance problems and inspect homes using the PRC 4291 program. Campgrounds at Camp Far West Lake will be inspected prior to June 15th for compliance of related Forest and Fire Laws.

Power line Inspections

Inspection of power lines will occur during the PRC 4291 inspections. Staff will advise the battalion chief of a violation, the battalion chief will coordinate an inspection by the Units Fire Prevention Bureau.

Volunteer Presence

Battalion 17 has a strong volunteer firefighter presence, including the following stations Paige (Station 75), Thermalands (Station 74), Fowler (Station 73), and Sheridan (Station 78).

Community Involvement

- National Night Out
- Thermalands and Paige Volunteer Company Pancake Breakfasts
- Sheridan Christmas Parade
- Amoruso and Lincoln 4th of July Parades

Public Education

School programs- Station 70 staff along with the Lincoln group; provide fire safe presentations to schools with in the battalion. Age specific fire prevention material will be handed out at each presentation.

Parades- each year the City of Lincoln invites Station 70 and the Lincoln companies to their annual parade. The engine company staff will display the engine so members of the public can inspect the engine and equipment, staff will hand out fire prevention material and discuss fire prevention issues.

Business fire safety programs- Station 70 and Station 77 staff will provide instruction on the proper use of fire extinguishers to local businesses within the battalion.

Fire Prevention Signs- Station 70 staff provide maintenance of several signs within the Battalion. Station 70 staff request 3 additional fire prevention signs that will be placed in targeted areas during the fire season.

Thunder Valley Casino- Station 77 in cooperation with Thunder Valley Casino will provide fire prevention material and information to customers of the Casino during National Fire Prevention Week.

High Priority Target Areas

- Lincoln City boundaries, Sheridan
- Open space areas surrounding dense populations and main road ways are included in the high priority areas.
- Areas surrounding the new residential building in the Battalion, which has significantly increased.

Projects

Battalion 17 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Hidden Falls	A	O	Fuel Reduction	
Placer Land Trust VMP	P	P	Vegetation Management	
Fiddymment Training Area	O	O	Firefighter Training Area	154
Trail Corridors	O	O	Fuel Reduction	
Placer County Roads	O	O	Fuel Reduction	
Fire Break	P	P	Fuel Reduction	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

- Juvenile fire setter program
- Multiple wildland fires contained by disking project
- Residential burning education to approximately 800 residents per year through the issuing of LE-66A permits, likely significantly reducing the occurrence of escape debris burns.

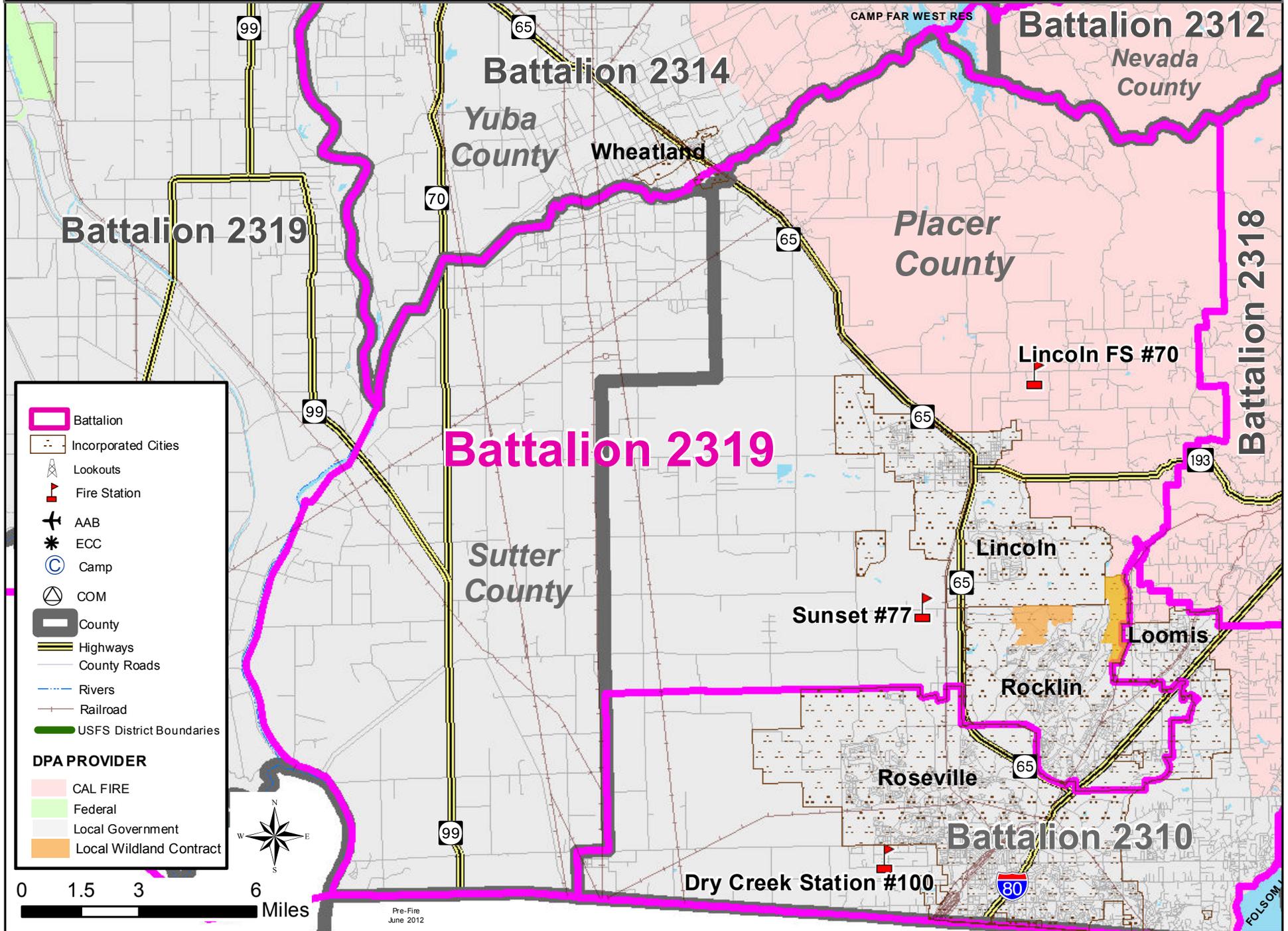
Action Plan:

- Work with Unit prevention to reduce the number of undetermined fire causes: battalion staff will continue prevention training to help improve undetermined fire causes within the battalion.
- Continue public education efforts within the battalion
- Continue defensible space inspections within the battalion
- Focus on business inspections and pre-fire plan activity.
- Continue to improve the Battalion disking program
- Identify new and improve existing fire roads and fuel breaks



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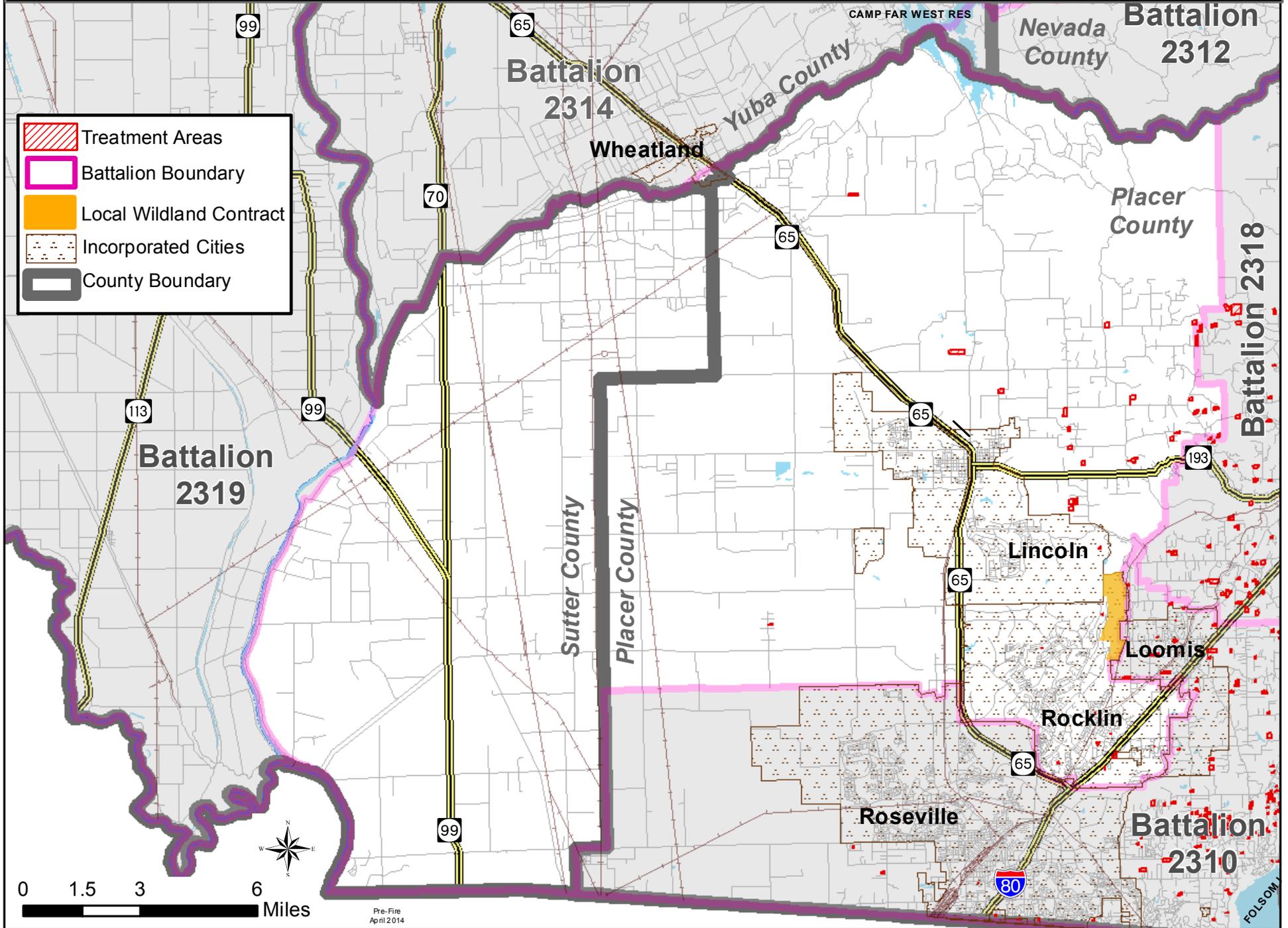
Battalion 17- Administrative Boundaries





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalion 17- CalMapper Projects



Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 18

Description of the Battalion

The Battalion includes unincorporated areas within Placer County and northwest Auburn City through Local Wildland Contract. Highway 80 borders the eastern portion of the battalion and Highway 193 comprises the southern boundary. The topography is characteristic of the Sierra Nevada foothills containing gentle slopes in the flat valley areas to steep inner gorge canyons along upper watercourses. Fuels are a mosaic of grasses, mixed brush, oak woodlands and mixed hardwood-conifer. The battalion includes an extensive amount of urban and rural developments, all bordered by wildland urban interface.

The Battalion contains several cooperators including Auburn City Fire, Newcastle Fire, Penryn Fire, Placer County, Placer County Fire Alliance, Placer County Resource Conservation District, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

Statistics

Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2318

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 320	LRA 3,122	SRA 43,329
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 0	Local 3,115	State 43,654

Discussion of fire occurrence within Battalion

Historically equipment use and vehicle ignitions comprise most of the fire causes within the battalion. Construction and land management activities within the WUI often require the use of equipment. This equipment is often rented and use takes place where vegetative fuels are available and susceptible to burning.

Statistics show a dramatically increasing trend of escaped debris burns occurring. The residents realize that the fuel treatments near their residences must be done and often delay burning until the final weeks prior to burn bans being instituted. The result is a greater number of burn piles being burned later in the season, when control of the fires is more difficult due to weather and fuel conditions.

Arson and undetermined fires have been an inherent problem within this battalion. Some of these ignitions can also be associated with the significant homelessness issues that exist within this area. These fires are intentionally set fire or fires which the ignition could not be determined due to various factors. These fires are the most difficult to reduce due to their nefarious nature and difficulty in assessing.

Significant fire events within this battalion include the Fawn Fire (August 1992 - 350 acres), 13 structures destroyed and most recently the 49 Fire (Aug/Sept 2009) that burned 343 acres, destroying 65 residential and commercial structures.



Mitigation Strategies

Public Education

- The battalion mitigation strategies will focus on public education and outreach geared toward equipment use and defensible space.
- The battalion will continue to support defensible space inspections and chipping services to reduce fuels
- Battalion staff will work with local cooperators to develop and construct fuel breaks.

Training

Battalion staff will work with prevention on cause determination training to help reduce the number of undetermined fires within the battalion.

Burn Permit Program

It must be recognized that public contact during burn permit issuance provides Cal Fire with the best opportunity to present a fire prevention message.

High Priority Target Areas

Watershed, high tension power lines, the American River drainage, Ophir, Newcastle / south of 80, Jordon, Mt Vernon, Lonestar, Christian Valley and the Penryn Fire District

Projects

Battalion 18 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Placer County Chipper	O	-----	Fuel Reduction	
Hidden Falls Park	O	-----	Fuel Reduction	
PG&E North Auburn VMP	P	2016	Prescribed Fire	TBD
WUI Pre-Plan	P		Pre-Planning	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Success Stories

49 Fire – Moss Rock Dr homes had exceptional defensible space.

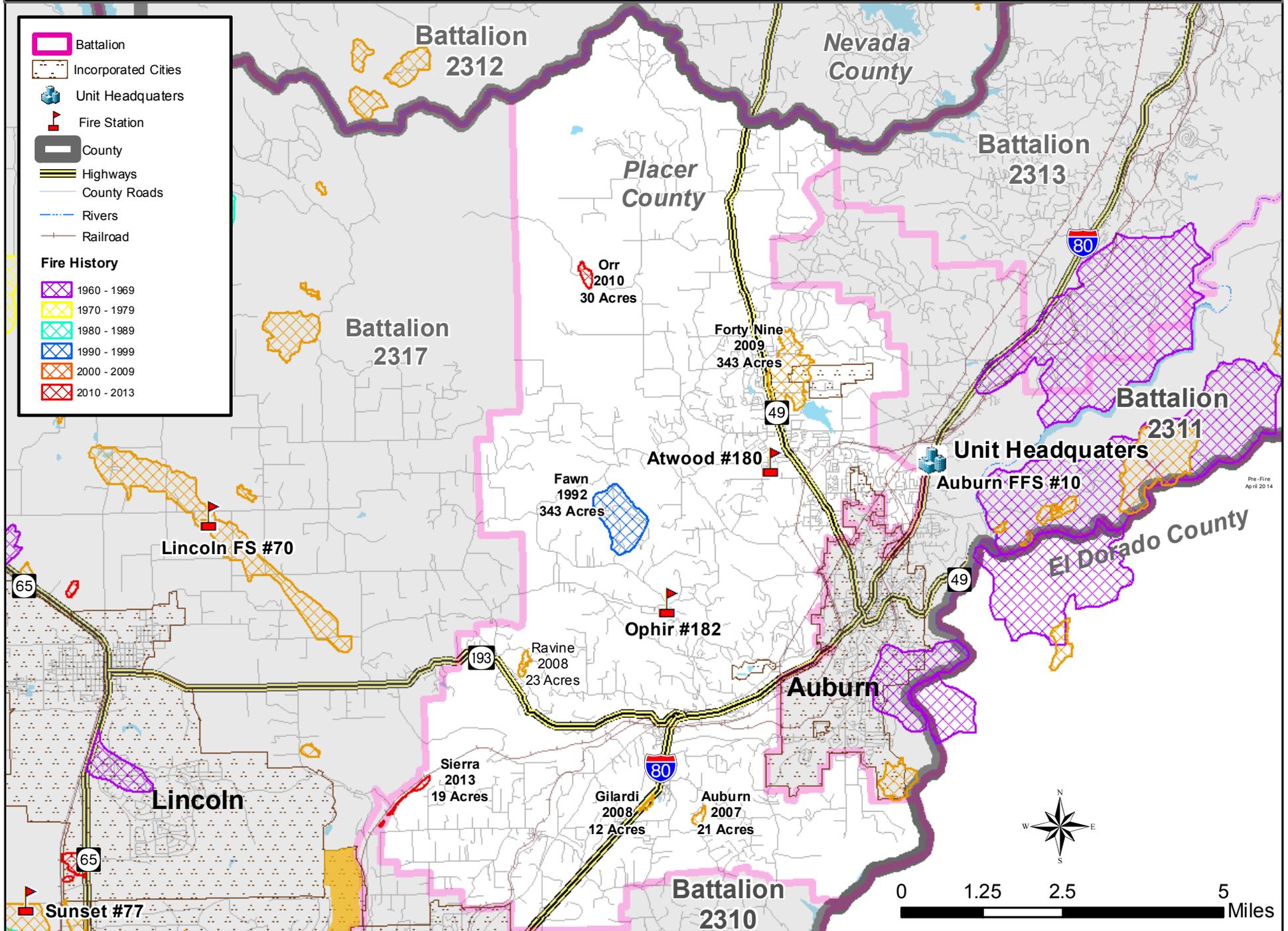
Placer County Chipper – over the past several years the Placer Chipper program has provided chipping services and encouraged defensible space for hundreds of homeowners within the battalion.

Action Plan:

- Work with Unit prevention to reduce the number of undetermined fire causes: battalion staff will continue prevention training to help improve undetermined fire cause determination within the battalion.
- Continue public education efforts within the battalion
- Increase defensible space inspections within the battalion
- Work on a WUI pre-plan in the Christian Valley, Mt. Vernon and Wise Rd areas.



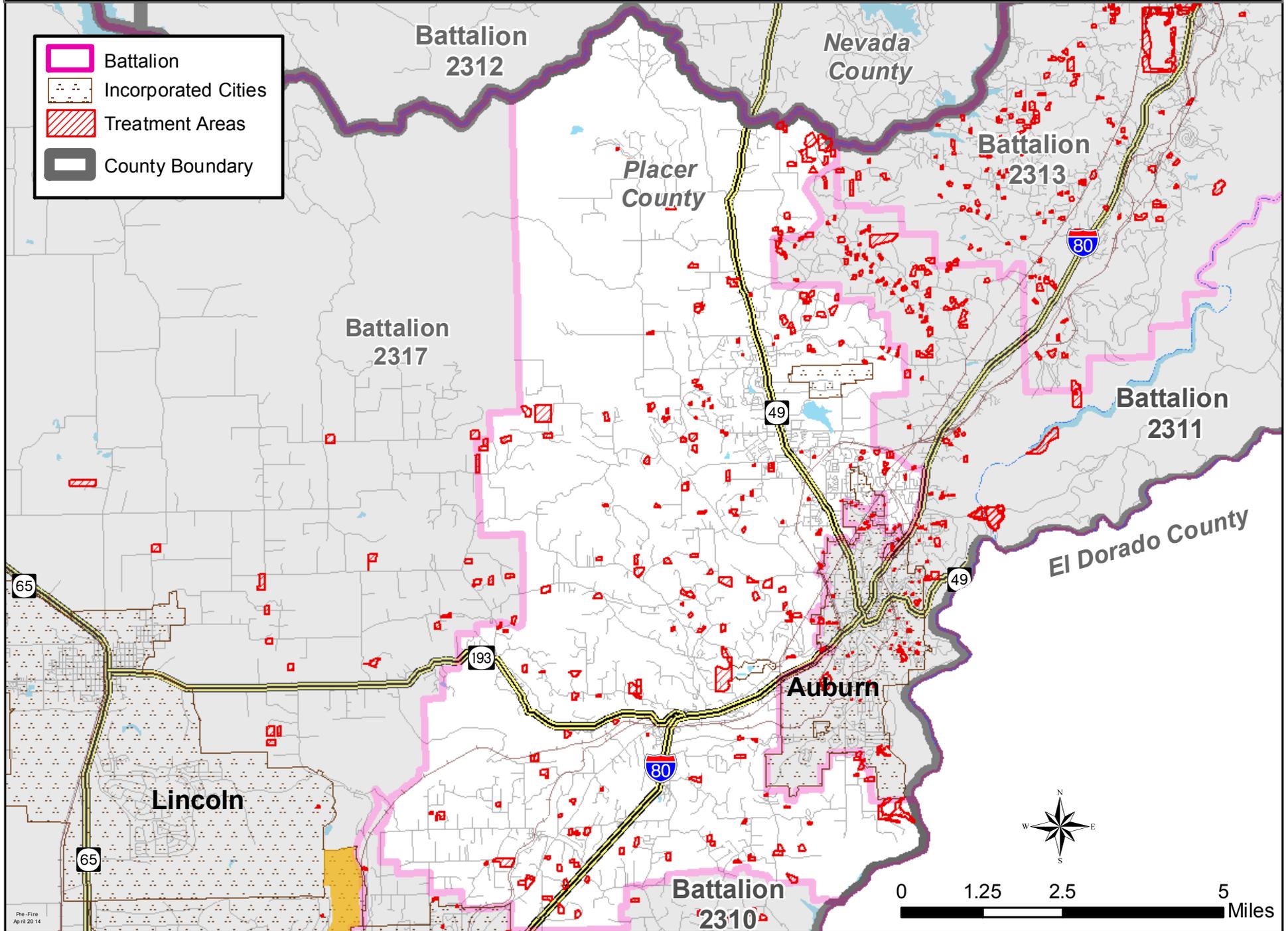
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 18- Fire History





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 18- CalMapper Projects

- Battalion
- Incorporated Cities
- Treatment Areas
- County Boundary





NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

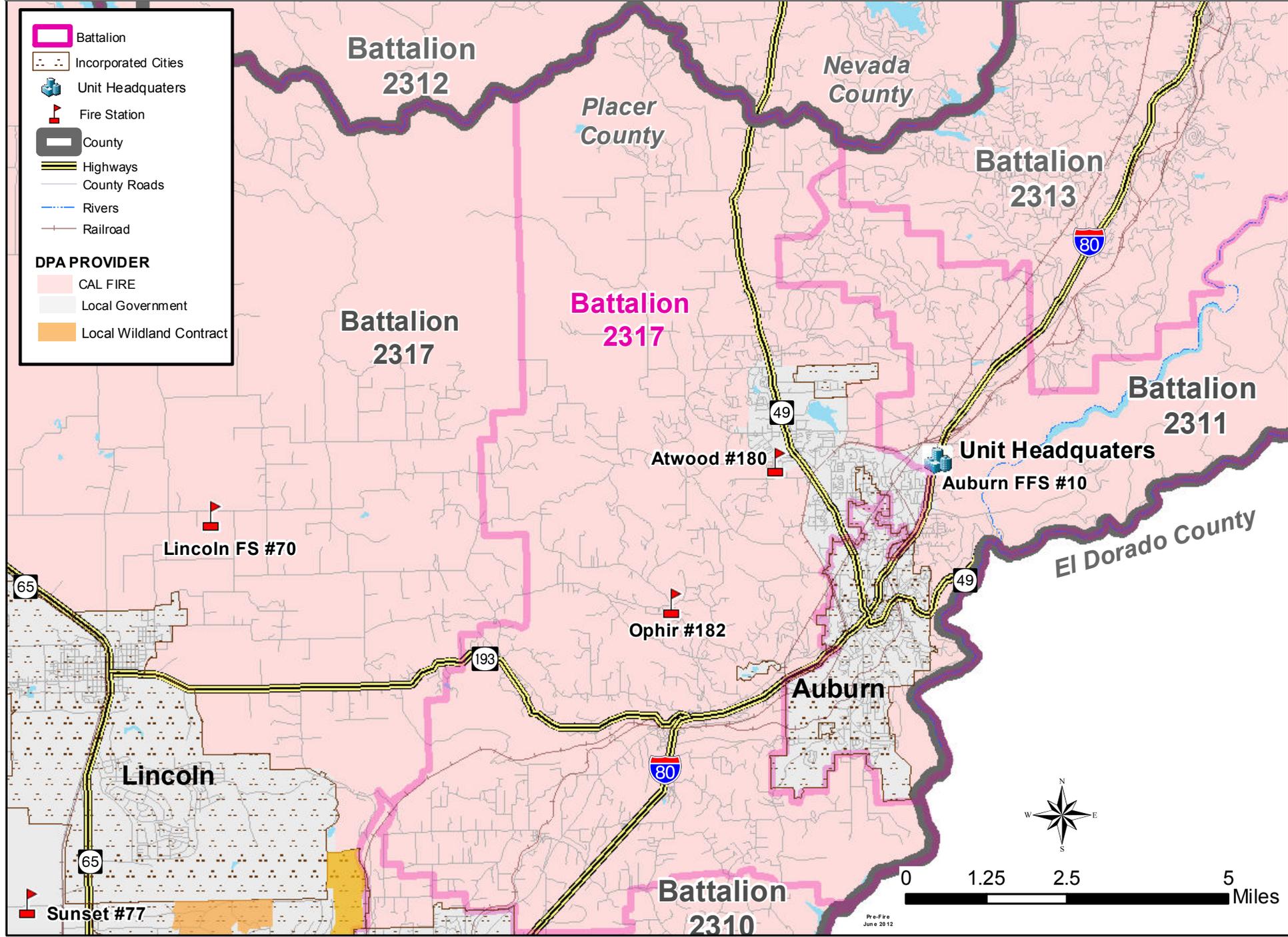
Battalion 18- Administrative Boundaries

Legend

- Battalion
- Incorporated Cities
- Unit Headquarters
- Fire Station
- County
- Highways
- County Roads
- Rivers
- Railroad

DPA PROVIDER

- CAL FIRE
- Local Government
- Local Wildland Contract



Pre-Fire
June 2012

Ignition Management Plan

Battalion 19

Description of the Battalion

The Marysville battalion includes the Schedule A Contract for the City of Marysville and surrounding SRA lands. The area is commonly referred to as the Yuba-Sutter Area after the two counties. The City of Marysville is 40 miles north of Sacramento and located in the Sacramento Valley where the topography is generally flat. The city has a total area of 3.6 square miles and a population of approximately 12,072 people. The city is bordered on the south and east by the Yuba River and the west by the Feather River. The two rivers converge just southwest of the city and pose a serious flooding hazard during years of heavy precipitation and affiliated runoff. Fuels are dominated by grasses but dense brush is common along river bottoms and in non-agricultural areas. Agricultural crops comprise a significant portion of the battalion. Varying crop stages are often determinant of fire risk within the area. This battalion currently has CAL FIRE administrative battalion for Sutter County. It should be noted that the Marysville Fire Department utilizes Firehouse software for tracking of fire reports and all other activities.

All burn permits for Marysville are issued directly from the air district; mostly agricultural/non-residential permits.

Cooperators within this battalion include Sutter County Fire, Yuba City Fire, Linda Fire

Statistics

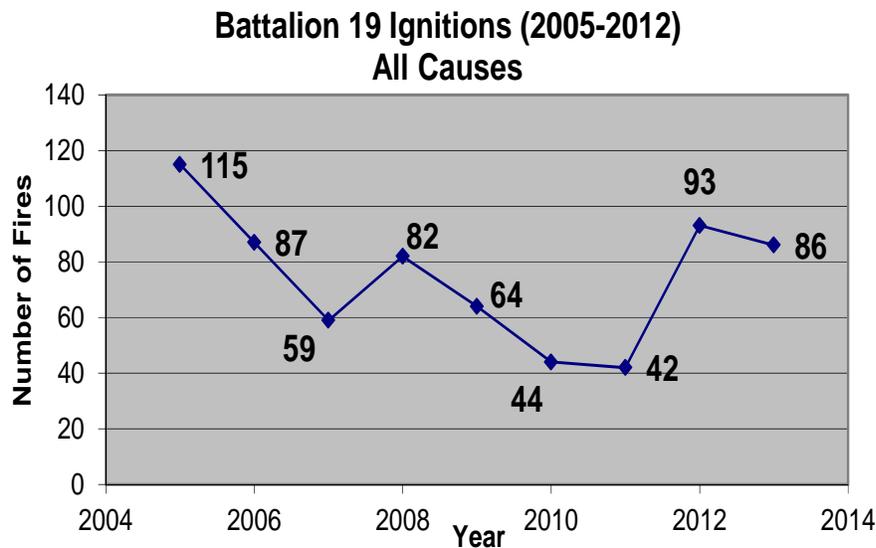
Responsibility Area and Direct Protection Area for Battalion 2319

Responsibility Area (acres)	FRA 3,356	LRA 338,823	SRA 0
Direct Protection Area (acres)	Federal 3,408	Local 338,771	State 0

Discussion of fire occurrence within Battalion

Arson and undetermined fires are considered equally and account for almost 70% of the fires in the Battalion. These fires are intentionally set fire or fires which the ignition could not be determined due to various factors. This community has a significant transient river population. CAL FIRE has been working closely with local law enforcement to mitigate. The community also has a large number of abandoned alleys and buildings that tend to attract warming type fires.

Outside the city boundaries, equipment and debris escapes are the most significant causes. Construction and land management activities often require the use of equipment. This equipment use takes place in the wildland areas where vegetative fuels are available and susceptible to burning.



Mitigation Strategies

Battalion 19 will work to reduce fire ignitions and reduce damage by participating in public education programs, arson investigation, business inspections, and the plan review process. The components to meet these goals are as follows:

Commercial Business Inspections

- Inspect local businesses (high risk hazard inspection, sprinkler inspections)

Fire Preplans

- Update fire preplans for all businesses.
- Currently over 800 buildings within city limits with no preplan.
- Work to document resident knowledge of buildings and infrastructure.

Plan Review

- Conduct fire plan review on building projects within the city and district.

Prevention

- Continue working with law enforcement to investigate arson fires and mitigate homeless persons caused ignitions.

Vegetation Management

- Complete weed abatement inspections in Marysville City limits.
- Vegetation management along river bottom.
- Work with Marysville Police Department on annual cleanup day.

Public Education

- Participate in public education programs within the City and Yuba-Sutter Area.
- Marysville Joint Unified School District – Provide public education along with participation in School organized functions i.e., Read-a-Thon, Athletic events, lunch visits, Fire Station

tours, Fire department class visits, School Safe program planning. Senior Safety-Provide fire safety training and public education to local senior care facilities.

- City sponsored Activities- Christmas Parade, Bok Kai Festival, Fourth of July Parade, Gold Days, Peach Festival, Hot Rod Jamboree, Marysville Rodeo, and the Yuba-Sutter Fair.
- Participate in Fire Prevention week with Fire Station Open House
- Participation at Marysville Motocross, providing prevention and EMS standby duties.

Training

- Fire cause investigation training.
- Inter-company training with Yuba City Fire
- Coordinated hazmat exercises with cooperators.

High Priority Target Areas

River bottoms, the Hollywood area and Thorntree Fish and Game property, open spaces surrounding the city, abandoned structures.

Projects

Battalion 19 Fuel Modification Projects, Community Outreach and Education

Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
Public Education	A	O	Education/Outreach	
Fire Prevention Week	A	O	Education/Outreach	
Annual River Bottom Vegetation Management	A	O	Fuel Reduction	
Structure Pre-Planning	A	O	Pre-Fire Planning	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.

Action Plan:

- Continues to interact with its community emphasizing fire safety.
- Maintains a cooperative relationship with its neighbors and collectively provide a strong fire safety message that benefits the community.
- Educate the public on fire prevention and fire safety.
- Work to identify fuel reduction opportunities for densely vegetative areas within and surrounding the city.



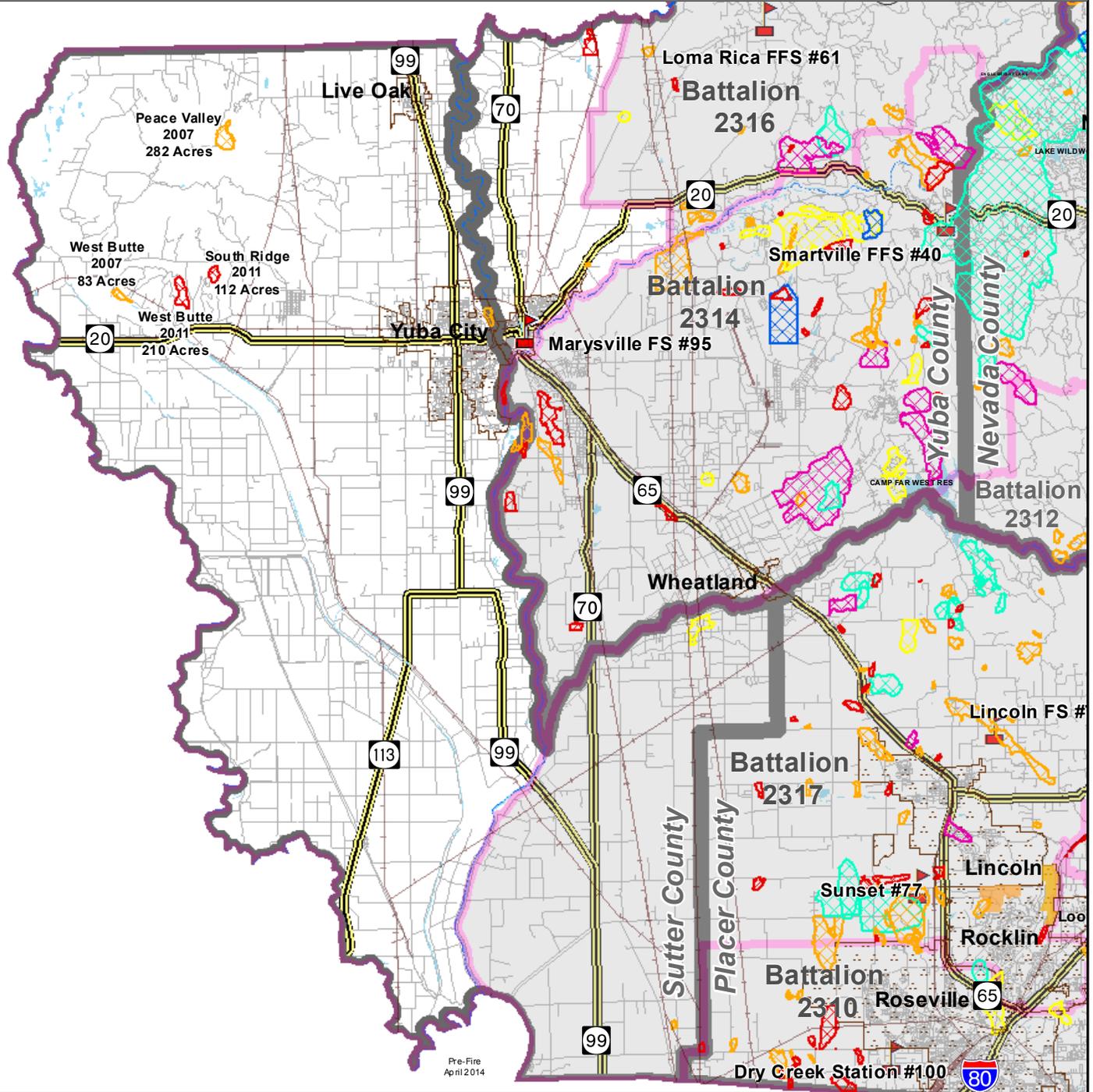
NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 19- Fire History

Legend

- Battalion
- Incorporated Cities
- Lookouts
- Fire Station
- AAB
- ECC
- Camp
- COM
- County
- Highways
- County Roads
- Rivers
- Railroad
- USFS District Boundaries

Fire History

- 1960 - 1969
- 1970 - 1979
- 1980 - 1989
- 1990 - 1999
- 2000 - 2009
- 2010 - 2013

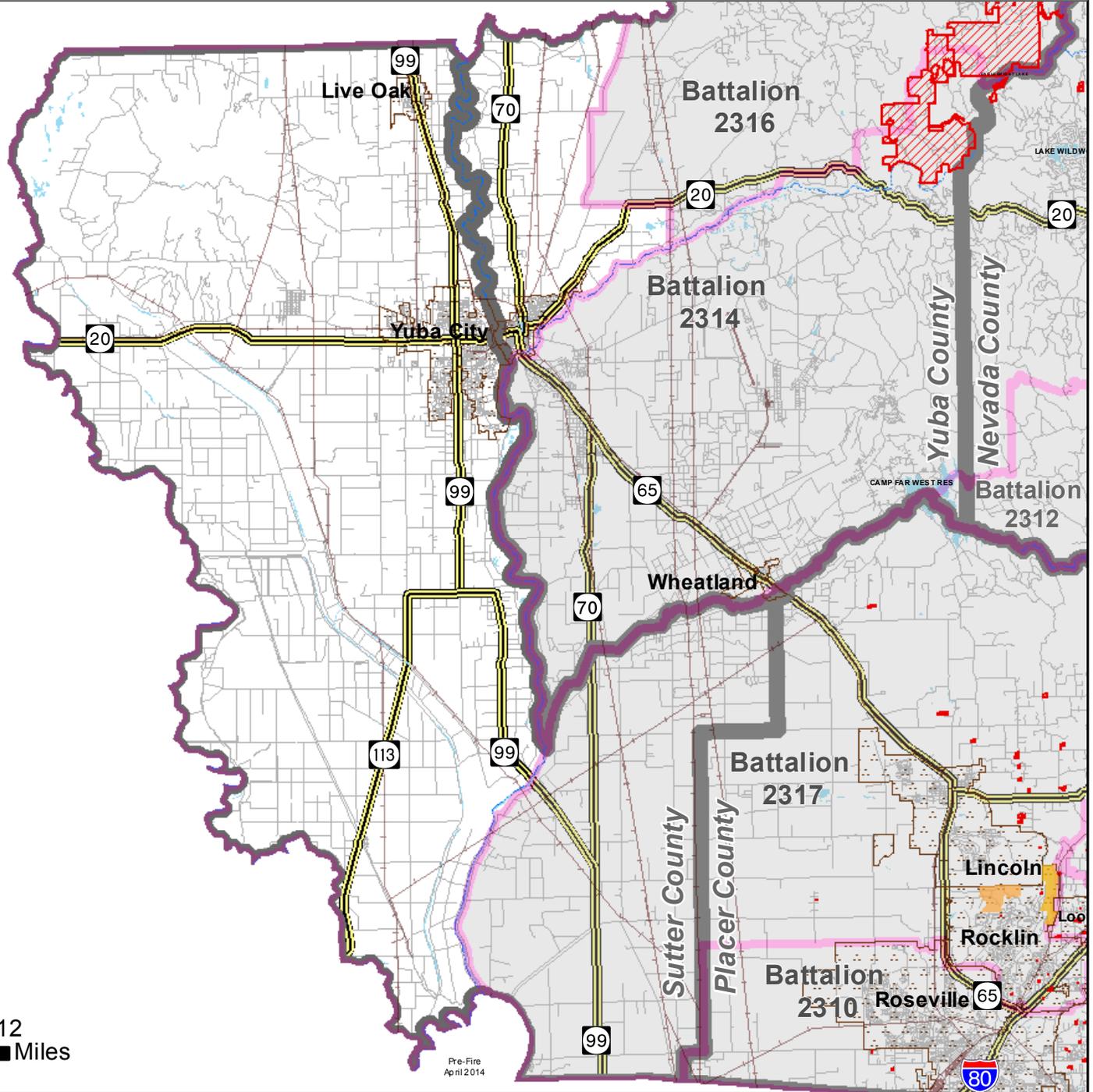


Pre-Fire
April 2014



NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU) Battalion 19- CalMapper Projects

-  Treatment Areas
-  Battalion Boundary
-  Incorporated Cities
-  County Boundary



Pre-Fire
April 2014



NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

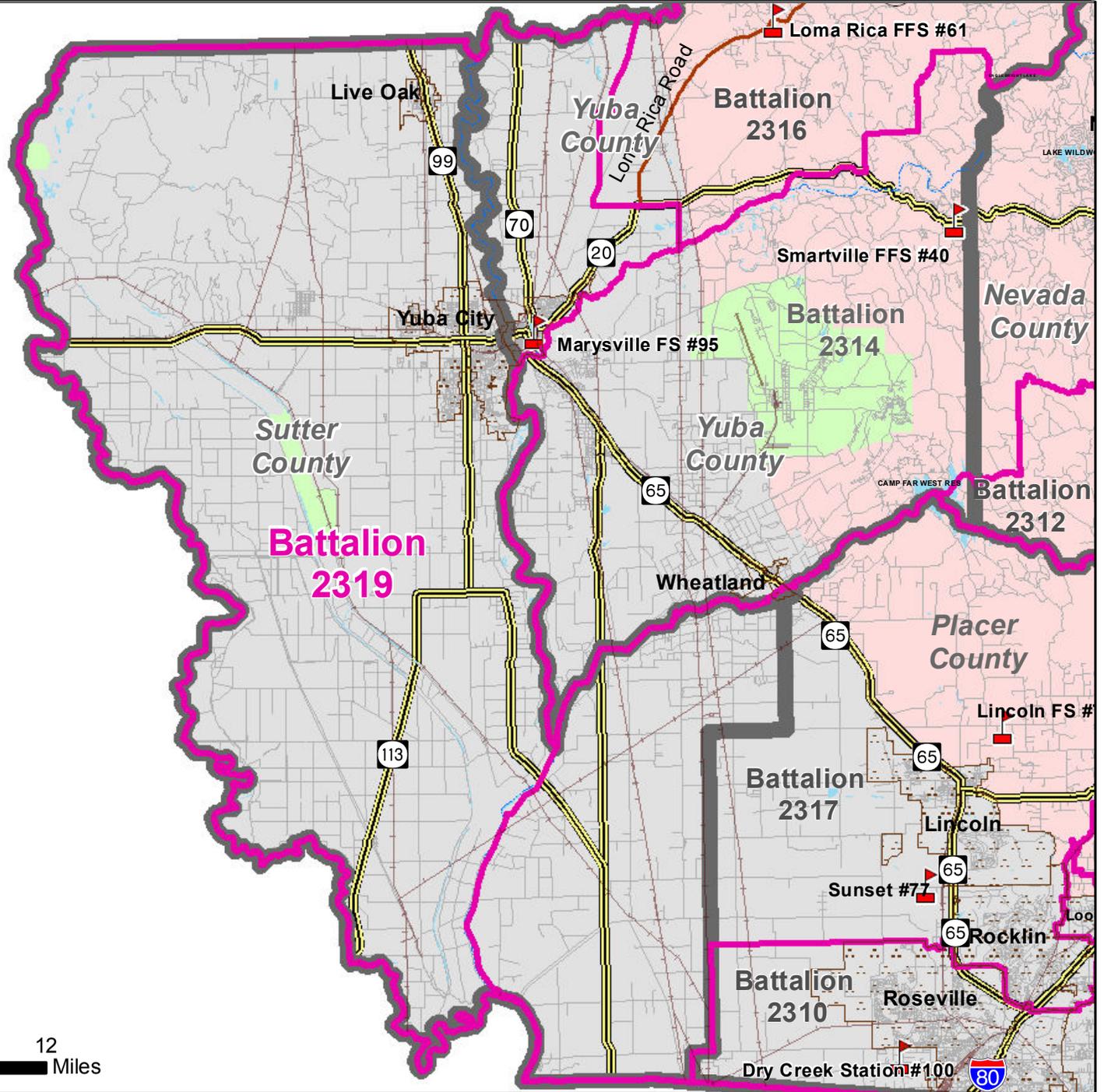
Battalion 19- Administrative Boundaries

Legend

- Battalion
- Incorporated Cities
- Lookouts
- Fire Station
- AAB
- ECC
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- COM
- County
- Highways
- County Roads
- Rivers
- Railroad

DPA PROVIDER

- CAL FIRE
- Federal
- Local Government



Training / Safety Battalion

Battalion 2307

Training

The Unit Training Bureau maintains a highly active and dynamic program.

The Battalion Staff is comprised of one Battalion chief and one engine captain and/or engineer that work in training during non-peak staffing. The Staff continually strives to provide creative, cost effective, innovative training, and always providing the highest commitment to safety. The state-funded training operations, which are divided into 18 separate program areas, are a seven-day a week operation and are listed below:

Administration and Office staff
Battalion Chiefs
Company Officers
Firefighters
Training
Emergency Command Center
Air Attack
Fire Prevention and Engineering
Automotive Fleet Maintenance

Pre-Fire Engineering
Joint Apprenticeship Program
Vegetation Management
Emergency Medical Services
Hazardous Materials Responses
Volunteer Firefighters
Volunteers-in-Prevention
Fire Safe Councils
Joint-Agency Operations

Strategies

- Identify the legal state and federal requirements for training in each program area.
- Identify training requirements for contract programs within the Unit.
- Meet or exceed those training standard identified in the CAL FIRE State Training handbook.
- Identify training priorities set by Senior Staff.
- Identify the needs of each of the 18 program areas to meet the training requirements established by the program managers.
- Maintain and update the Unit's Emergency Resources Directory (ERD).
- Determine the training needs for the Northern Region Training allocations.
- Work towards enhancing the knowledge and skill levels necessary for safe and effective response to possible weapons of mass destruction incidents.
- Identify the training needs of cooperators.
- Identify CAL FIRE's new training programs in the early stages of development, project their impact and develop an implementation plan.
- Identify projected vacancies and the training requirements necessary to help those personnel filling vacancies to do so successfully.
- Identify the needs of each employee to help achieve career development goals.
- Seek alternative funding sources in the form of grants, participation with universities and course sharing with other agencies.
- Establish a training priority list and develop a Training Plan with achievable goals for the Training and Safety Battalion.
- Work with local colleges and other local cooperators to develop interagency training opportunities and strategies.

Safety

The Nevada Yuba Placer Training Battalion Chief also serves as the Unit Safety Officer. The Unit Safety Officer oversees the Safety Committee meetings to discuss Safety issue; review personnel and vehicle accidents; recommend steps to prevent future mishaps; ensure the department's safety requirements and safety programs are being adhered to in the fire stations and on incidents.

Listed below is the Nevada Yuba Placer Unit Safety Committee Charter.

Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Safety Committee is established in accordance with section 1703 of the Department's Safety Issuance Manual in order to meet the objectives of the department's safety goals and policies. The purpose of this committee is to promote a safe and healthy work environment for employees and to recommend methods to reduce accidents and personal injuries.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Safety Committee is to develop and promote a healthy and safe environment for all employees through the involvement of all individuals with regards to education, communication and safe work practices.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of the safety committee are as follows:

- Developing program goals and objectives.
- Reviewing accident reports to determine causation and develop prevention recommendations.
- Recommending guidelines and programs for safety education and training.
- Exchanging ideas to improve methods of operation.
- Developing recommendations regarding policy and programs to senior staff.
- Review all submitted Employee Safety Suggestion & Unsafe Practices (IIPP-8).
- Reviewing needs and effectiveness of safety clothing and equipment.
- Work with all personnel in their respective program / battalion to assure compliance is achieved for:
 - Facility Safety Inspections
 - The Injury and Illness Prevention program
 - Material Safety Data Sheets
 - Mobile Equipment Safety Inspections
 - Personal Protective Equipment
 - Safety related training
 - The California Code of Regulations, Title 8.
- Defining major hazards and recommending corrective action.
- Disseminating safety information to keep managers, supervisors, and employees informed of safety hazards and prevention techniques.

- Evaluating the effectiveness of unit's safety program.
- Make recommendations for nominations of the Employee Safety Award

STRUCTURE/ORGANIZATION

Committee make-up will consist of the follow members:

<u>Program/Function</u>	<u>Member</u>
Senior Staff	1
Resource Management	1
Fire Prevention	1
ECC/GVABB	1
Administrative Support Staff	1
Place County Fire Volunteer Representative	1
Training and Safety Bureau	1
Field Battalions (one each)	10
Washington Ridge Camp	1
Fleet	1

The committee officers will consist of a Chairperson who will be the Unit Safety Officer, a Co-Chairperson, and a Secretary. Officers will be elected by the committee membership at the third quarter meeting of an election year to begin their tenure the following January. The objective is to ensure active participation by all committee members. Each committee member will serve a minimum two-year term.

Automotive Battalion

Nevada Yuba Placer Unit's (NEU) Automotive Battalion (2330) encompasses facilities and resources across three counties and is responsible for both California State wildland protection funded equipment and Placer County Schedule A contract equipment. Two major automotive repair shops are at Auburn Headquarter (Station 10) and Nevada City Fire Station (Station 20). A smaller capability shop is located at Dobbins (Station 60) and is Schedule B, operating only during the fire season. The Heavy Fire Equipment Operators (HFEOs) assist the SCU's Heavy Equipment Mechanics (HEM) with automotive repairs, maintaining state fire breaks and roads and participate in VMPs and training burns when not assigned to wildland fire incidents. The Fleet Equipment Manager (FEM) directs and manages the NEU Automotive Battalion. The FEM manages the automotive budget, assigns repair projects, projects automotive needs of the future and coordinates equipment replacement.

The automotive battalion attempts to maintain each piece of mobile equipment in a condition consistent with the work for which it was designed. This is accomplished through the uniform application of an effective, preventive maintenance program in accordance with all state automotive and fiscal requirements. Repairs are made and parts replaced as necessary to keep the equipment functional, with priority being given to those items contributing to personnel safety. Mobile equipment is not altered or modified except, as outlined in the CAL FIRE Mobile Equipment Handbook. Approval for modifications or alteration is granted in writing by the appropriate level.

Regular inspections of all mobile equipment are made as outlined in the preventive maintenance procedure and record. The Automotive Battalion maintains accurate records of maintenance and repairs on all mobile equipment. As much as possible, major repairs are scheduled during the time of least expected incident activity. The Type III fire apparatus have the majority of maintenance performed during the winter months.

Automotive Equipment Statistical Data:

Table 24: Nevada Yuba Placer has the following equipment (Schedule B).

25 Type 3 (Wildland Engines)	3 Fire Suppression Bulldozer
37 Utility vehicles (four wheel drive)	3 Transports
2 Service Units (Mobile repair vehicles)	3 Low Bed Trailers
1 Mobile Communications Unit	1 Grader
3 Sedans	1 Front End Loader
2 Supply Van	2 Stakesides (1 big and 1 small)
3 Dozer Tenders (Bulldozer Service Units)	1 Dump Truck
6 CCVs (WAR)	4 Forklifts
4 ATVs	

Table 25: Placer County Schedule A Equipment

10 Type 3 (Wildland Engines)	8 Water Tenders
17 Type 1 (Structural Engines)	1 - Hazmat Support Unit
2 100ft Ladder Trucks	1 Mobile Breathing Support
5 Command Vehicles	1 Squad Vehicle 4x4
4 Chippers	1 – MCI Trailer
10 Utilities	1 Repair Vehicle

Automotive Battalion Goals:

- Enhance skills and certifications of the automotive staff in order to stay current with automotive technology changes.

- Maintain the Unit's emergency response equipment in a safe, incident ready status.
- Continue to operate a cost effective and efficient automotive operation.
- Coordinate with the Unit's Vegetation Management Program to maintain fuel breaks and fire roads.
- Work closely with DGS and Regional Technical Service to maintain and upgrade facilities.

Grass Valley Emergency Command Center

The Grass Valley Emergency Command Center (GVECC) provides command and control services for the CAL FIRE resources positioned to protect State Responsibility Areas (SRA) of Nevada, Yuba, Placer, Sutter, and Sierra counties. During fire season, the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit (NEU) staffs 12 Schedule B fire stations, the Grass Valley Air Attack Base, and the Washington Ridge Conservation Camp. These facilities span from the grasslands of Yuba County, through the gold country of Placer and Nevada counties, to the eastern Sierra and the northern portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin. Several of the stations are staffed year round through Amador Contracts: Loma Rica in Yuba County, Higgins in Nevada County, and Auburn, Colfax, and Alta in Placer County. Additionally, NEU provides various levels of full service fire protection through cooperative agreements in all three counties.

The Grass Valley ECC is unique in the hierarchy of CAL FIRE command centers, due to the high number of contracts and responsibilities. The GVECC has dispatch contracts with three cities, one town, a private ambulance company, 20 fire districts, and six volunteer fire companies – in total over 30 agencies. The Grass Valley ECC also serves as the coordination center for Region IV of the Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), as well as the Operational Area Dispatch for Nevada County (XNE) and the Tahoe Basin (XTB).

Along with fire equipment, the Grass Valley ECC coordinates air ambulance helicopters for the Sierra Sacramento Valley EMS Agency (SSV), which consists of Butte, Colusa, Nevada, Placer, Sutter, and Yuba counties. EMS helicopters communicate continuously with Grass Valley as they respond to scene calls in those six counties.

In addition, the GVECC communicates with numerous cooperating agencies that work and respond within the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit. The ECC coordinates with and provides operational support for contract agencies and cooperators in the mitigation of all-risk emergency incidents. ECC staff members regularly communicate with local, state, and federal agencies for both emergency management needs and routine operations. NEU operates as an inter-agency ECC with the Tahoe National Forest at Grass Valley, which provides near-instantaneous emergency notification, resource requests, and information sharing.

The Grass Valley ECC is budgeted for one Battalion Chief, four Fire Captains, 12 Communications Operators, and one Office Technician. Within the first year of employment each captain and comm op attend four weeks of training at the State Fire Academy in Lone and complete an Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) course. The shifts are staggered to maintain one Fire Captain (ECC Duty Officer) on 24 hours per day. A minimum of four other qualified employees are on duty during transitional and peak staffing day shift, two other qualified employees for night shift.

The Grass Valley ECC is a secondary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). 911 calls are transferred into the command center from a law enforcement agency, or primary PSAP. The ECC has an enhanced 911 system that allows the dispatcher to view the location information as soon

as the call is connected. The ANI/ALI screen provides the address of the incident, which is then entered into a Computer Aided Dispatch program (CAD) that will provide the dispatcher with the information necessary to send the correct resources.

The value of the enhanced 911 system, as well as the ability to interrogate 911 callers firsthand, proves invaluable time and again. Our dispatchers are trained to not just place emphasis on the current situation, but on the potential for growth. They ask about specific location, proximity to structures or other exposures, the fire's size in language the caller can identify with, fuel type, and of course, how the fire started. This information is entered into CAD and relayed to responding units and Fire Prevention as appropriate.

The Grass Valley ECC uses Altaris CAD, which is the 'brain behind the operation.' CAD technology incorporates dynamic routing, real-time statusing, and pre-determined response plans and agreements to dispatch the closest available resource(s) to incidents. On a broader scale, the GVECC works closely with adjoining jurisdictions if an incident they are responding to has the potential to, or has exceeded their capabilities. These adjoining jurisdictions may include the City of Roseville, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, or Beale Air Force Base.

CAL FIRE resources including personnel, engines, dozers, hand crews and aircraft are also statused in real-time in the national Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS). As one Unit reaches critical draw down levels, resources can be mobilized from a neighboring Unit to provide adequate initial attack response. The goal of maintaining accurate real-time status of resources is to ensure that there is a balance of resources both at the individual level and also statewide.

The Grass Valley ECC provides a leadership role in the monitoring of fire weather conditions within the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit. The ECC works closely with the Reno and Sacramento Fire Weather Offices to anticipate weather events, which allows the ECC to augment staffing prior to the barrage of fire activity that accompanies some weather events. The ECC also works closely with the NEU Duty Chief and the Region Duty Officer as it pertains to pre-positioning of CAL FIRE resources in the critical areas of NEU and tracking of costs associated with these augmentations. The ECC strives to be ever-prudent, but appropriately prepared to respond.

The ECC manages three Remote Weather Stations (RAWS) and monitors one other (managed by the Tahoe National Forest). NEU has set dispatch levels that are determined by the weather conditions and burn indices gathered at these RAWS stations. During fire season these factors are continuously monitored. Fire weather observations are recorded every two hours and dispatch levels change as weather conditions improve or deteriorate. The ECC announces the current weather and dispatch levels over the air every two hours. The dispatch levels are expressed as low, medium, or high. The following are pre-determined response plans that dictate the amount of equipment that is sent to an SRA fire:

Low: one Battalion Chief, two engines

Medium: one Battalion Chief, Unit Duty Chief and Prevention notification, four engines, one hand crew, one dozer, one air attack, one air tanker

High: one Battalion Chief, Unit Duty Chief and Prevention notification, six engines, two hand crews, one dozer, one air attack, two air tankers, one helicopter

The GVECC Duty Captain has the discretion to modify the response plan based on information gathered from 911 call interrogation or other methods of intelligence. NEU has five Fire Lookout Towers that are staffed on varying schedules by Volunteers in Prevention throughout the summer. The GVECC also has a high-resolution camera mounted on the radio tower on the command center compound. These are valued methods of gathering information; whether it be a vague report of smoke or a fire in an area with no cellular phone reception.

During non-fire season / winter months, the GVECC works closely with local Air Pollution Control Districts to determine burn day status based on weather and fuel conditions. These factors are re-evaluated each day with input from the NEU Duty Chief.

The ECC expanded operation (NEU Expanded) is a co-located facility that allows for the operation of any incident that exceeds the abilities of the initial attack response to be managed off the main ECC floor. The ECC can then continue to maintain the day-to-day business of the Unit with less distraction. The NEU Expanded operation is fully functionalized (crews, equipment, overhead, supplies, and general information). When an initial attack incident occurs that has the potential to become extended attack or a major incident, the ECC Duty Officer can request to open NEU Expanded. Staffing can be requested by call-back of off-duty ECC personnel or by requesting the activation of an ECC Support Team.

Each Communications Operator and Fire Captain assigned to the Grass Valley Emergency Command Center is certified in Emergency Medical Dispatch and the use of the Medical Priority Dispatch System (MPDS) of processing emergency medical calls. The MPDS is in part based on published standards by the National Association of EMS Physicians, the National Institute of Health, the American Medical Association, and more than 20 years of research, development, and field testing throughout the world. The protocol contains 34 chief complaint protocols, case entry and exit information, call termination scripts, and additional verbatim instruction protocols for AED support, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), childbirth assistance, tracheostomy airway and breathing, and the Heimlich maneuver. The GVECC has taken a step further by implementing ProQA dispatch software which integrates the MPDS protocols with Altaris CAD. ProQA streamlines the medical call interrogation process, assists dispatchers in quickly identifying the appropriate determinant code for each incident, and clearly displays the response plan specifically assigned to the code and built into Altaris CAD in each response area. This results in tiered code 2, code 3, and multi-resource response to medical incidents. ProQA also guides dispatchers in providing all relevant post-dispatch and pre-arrival instructions, as well as important case completion information.

The Grass Valley ECC continuously tracks and dispatches 30+ agencies on four command frequencies while monitoring other dispatch frequencies, region intercoms and aviation frequencies. This in addition to answering and processing 911, seven-digit emergency, and business phone lines. Those phone calls could include: a medical emergency down the street from the ECC, a structure fire in Truckee, a train derailment in Alta, a commercial vehicle accident on the Interstate in Auburn, a drowning in Loma Rica, a request for an air ambulance in Oroville, a vegetation fire in Nevada City, a request for 10 strike teams of engines to Malibu, or just about anything you can imagine.

Grass Valley ECC Vision Statement:

We the employees of the Grass Valley Emergency Command Center are committed to being leaders in providing professional dispatch services to the public, cooperating agencies, and the State through teamwork and dedication while maintaining a safe working environment and promoting employee physical, mental, and emotional wellbeing.

Grass Valley ECC Core Values:

- Respect
- Dedication
- Integrity
- Teamwork
- Positive Attitude

Washington Ridge Camp

Washington Ridge Camp – Administered by D2303



Washington Ridge Camp is located 8 miles NE of Nevada City in Nevada County. Washington Ridge is the only camp in the CAL FIRE Nevada-Yuba -Placer Unit and services all of Nevada, Yuba, Placer Counties and portions of Butte, Sutter, El Dorado, and Sierra Counties. The 100 man camp changed hands in 2005 when the California Department of Corrections assumed operations from the California Youth Authority.

Emergency response is the top priority as the camp is staffed 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Although the camp does engage in flood fighting, snow removal, and storm clean-up, the primary mission is wildland fire suppression. Washington Ridge crews are first due into Nevada, Yuba, Placer Counties and portions of Butte, Sutter, and Sierra Counties for wildland fires. The five crew's average approximately 50,000 emergency man hours a year.

In addition to emergency response, Washington Ridge camp is heavily engaged in pre-fire management, working with stakeholders from local, state and federal jurisdictions implementing fuel reduction projects. Projects range from working with county road and parks departments, fuel reduction for local fire safe councils, to providing crews for communities creating strategically placed shaded fuel breaks to assist in fire suppression. Private land owners participate in these projects by providing assistance and funding for projects through the previously mentioned jurisdictions.

Grass Valley Air Attack Base Battalion 2308

Grass Valley Air Attack Base is located at the Nevada County Airport. The base sits on 3.0 acres, and is co-located with the Grass Valley Emergency Command Center.

The Nevada County Airport is a general aviation airport, which is situated at 3150 foot elevation, giving Cal Fire aircraft a superior launch capability for aerial firefighting. Stationed at the Grass Valley Air Attack Base are:

- 1-OV10 Bronco, Air Attack (AA 230)
- 2 – Gruman S2T Air Tankers (T88-T89)
- 1 – Aero Commander Turbine (Also stationed at Grass Valley Air Attack Base) this is a USFS Air Attack for the Tahoe National Forest (AA 17).

The Grass Valley Air Attack Base utilizes three pits for the filling of retardant for air tankers working fires. The retardant is loaded by ICL who is the retardant contractor. Grass Valley Air Attack Base has a proud history and has been an active Air Attack Base since 1958.

With much support from Nevada county residents, Grass Valley Air Attack Base has become a fixture here in the beautiful foothills of the Gold Country.

The state aircraft stationed at the base are a regional asset and can be sent to a fire anywhere in California.

CALFIRE NEU Fuel Moistures

Every other week, fuel moistures are collected, dried and weighed and posted to the NFMD (National Fuel Moisture Database). NEU has one of the most complete historical records of fuel moistures in the state. Collection species and locational information can all be found on NFMD.

National Fuel Moisture Database Website

<http://www.wfas.net/index.php/national-fuel-moisture-database-moisture-drought-103/>

NEU Collection points:

USBOR - Chamise

Nevada City – 1000 hr fuels

Tyler Foote – Manzanita

Reader – Manzanita and live oak

Historical Fire Perimeters

Historic fire perimeters provide a mechanism for estimating current fuel conditions within burned areas, providing a starting point for field validation. Fire perimeter data is used during major fires to display where fires have taken place in order to take advantage of reduced fuels and previous control lines.

CAL FIRE NEU exceeds state collection standards and has policy in place to collect GPS perimeters for all wildland fires in the unit greater than 10 acres and all prescribed fire activity. Information collected includes incident number, start and end dates and cause.

Data is submitted annually to CAL FIRE's Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) and is available for download by the public in GIS format.

<http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/data/frapgisdata/download.asp?spatialdist=1&rec=fire>

CALMAPPER

Cal MAPPER is a new forest improvement and fuel reduction project activity tracking database. This effort has been organized to bring the Department's records from various fuels reduction and forest improvement programs into a common database.

Cal MAPPER is an acronym and stand for CAL FIRE Management Activity Project Planning and Event Reporter. It contains GIS and tabular information. The goal is to improve project tracking and fiscal reporting, and to support emergency response, planning, and assessment.

The Pre-Fire Engineer is responsible for collecting all data from CAL FIRE programs and its cooperators, entering it into Cal MAPPER and submitting it to Sacramento quarterly.

Fireplan

The current version of the statewide fireplan works to answer the question of "how do we utilize and live with the risk of wildfire?"

The PFE works cooperatively with Unit/Region/ Sacramento Staff in developing and analyzing data for Pre-Fire Management Plans and for public stakeholder meetings. They perform Level of Service (LOS) analysis, identify and validate values-at-risk, collect and display fire history and fire weather on GIS maps, and develop high risk/high value maps of the unit.

Training

NEU Pre-Fire works with unit training to provide the unit training in fire behavior, GPS use, map reading and Field Observer (FOBS).

GIS

Pre-Fire works with counterparts from other units, Sacramento, local counties, USDA Forest Service, BLM, BOR, NPS and any local entities to share data and communicate projects. Placer County and Yuba County have started up local user GIS groups.

SRA / DPA Review

CAL FIRE is required to maintain official maps of State Responsibility Areas (SRA), where the State has financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing fires as determined by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (PRC 4102-4125). CAL FIRE conducts a 5 year review of SRA maps as required by PRC 4125 to capture changes in land use, for example conversion in or out of agriculture, areas of densification due to development, and other relevant changes. SRA data are updated on a more frequent basis to capture annexations and changes in federal ownership that affect SRA status.

To provide a level of wildland fire protection for the intermingled lands "equivalent" to similar lands protected directly by the state or the federal agencies, the said intermingled and adjacent lands have been divided into practical "Direct Protection Areas" (DPAs) delineated by boundaries regardless of statutory responsibility, and this protection is assumed by administrative units of either the federal agencies or the state. The boundary will be reviewed annually during the process of developing operating plans. Proposed changes must be mutually agreed upon prior to forwarding for approval.

Both major and minor adjustments are encouraged based on changes in protection capability, changed land ownership or use, or Board of Forestry policy which states that "lands which can reasonably be more effectively protected by the state should not be contracted to the USFS for protection."

Fire Hazard Severity Zones

[PRC 4201-4204](#) and [Govt. Code 51175-89](#) direct the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to map areas of significant fire hazards based on fuels, terrain, weather, and other relevant factors. These zones, referred to as Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ), then define the application of various mitigation strategies to reduce risk associated with wildland fires and drive Title 24 requirements for building standards.

The Pre-Fire Engineer is the Unit representative for testing the model and validating all data produced for the Fire Hazard Severity Zone model. The Pre-Fire engineer also attends all public meetings, representing as a technical expert.

CWPP Development

CAL FIRE pre-fire participates in the development and advising stages of Community Wildfire Protection Planning Documents within all of our counties of responsibility.

RAWS Maintenance and Monitoring

Pre-Fire is responsible for monitoring the Unit RAWS stations and working with the vendor each year to complete annual maintenance.

APPENDIX B: VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

UC Field Station VMP – Battalion 14

Location: The VMP area encompasses approximately 1,040 acres in 7 units of the UC field station, approximately 12 miles west of Grass Valley, 7 miles southeast of Loma Rica, and 9 miles southwest of Dobbins.

Purpose: The UC Research Station VMP is an ongoing project to help manage and study means of managing and controlling noxious weeds and fire impacts on water quality. The weeds that are attempting to be controlled are yellow starthistle, barbed goatgrass, and medusahead. These burns allow the field station to scientifically evaluate the effectiveness of burning in a control program. The effect of a controlled, cool to moderate temperature burn on blue oaks will also be studied.

CEQA: PEIR

Bunker Hill VMP – Battalion 14

Location: Approximately 5 miles northwest of the town of Nevada City. The proposed project consists of approximately 1,000 acres of mixed brush, primarily on west, north and east facing slopes.

Purpose: The project is within the South Yuba River Watershed. Shady Creek runs through the north end of the project and discharges into the South Fork of the Yuba River.

The project objective is to reduce the potential of a costly and damaging fire within the treated and surrounding area.

A series of prefire projects have been planned to create a contiguous are of hazardous fuel reduction to effectively create a shaded fuel break from Bridgeport extending east up the San Juan Ridge to North Bloomfield. These projects include the completed Bridgeport State Park prescribed VMP burns, the completed VMP prescribed burn at French Corral, Browning property, the completed and proposed Reader Ranch VMP projects, this proposed project, the completed Malakoff Diggins VMP project east of this project, and the completed Montezuma fuel break. These projects have been developed to create a strategic location where fire-fighting resources may more effectively attempt fire suppression activities to stop a costly and damaging fire such as the 49'er fire of 1988.

This proposed project will entail the pre-treatment of the brush fuel by creating hand piles with crews and/or piling and crushing with machinery. Control lines will also be re-established by dozers and/or hand crews. Burn piles are to be treated in spring and early fall, however, other conditions may occur that will allow burn treatment at another time of the year. Some areas may be broadcast burned.

CEQA: PEIR

Reader Ranch VMP – Battalion 14

Location: Approximately 5 miles northwest of the town of Nevada City. The proposed project consists of approximately 1,200 acres of mixed brush, primarily on west, south and east facing slopes.

Purpose: The project is within the South Yuba River Watershed. Shady Creek runs through the north end of the project and discharges into the South Fork of the Yuba River.

The project objective is to reduce the potential of a costly and damaging fire within the treated and surrounding area.

A series of pre-fire projects have been planned to create a contiguous are of hazardous fuel reduction to effectively create a shaded fuel break from Bridgeport extending east up the San Juan Ridge to North Bloomfield. These projects include the completed Bridgeport State Park prescribed VMP burns, the completed VMP prescribed burn at French Corral, Browning property, the proposed Bunker Hill VMP projects, this proposed project, the completed Malakoff Diggins VMP project east of this project, and the completed Montezuma fuel break. These projects have been developed to create a strategic location where fire-fighting resources may more effectively attempt fire suppression activities to stop a costly and damaging fire such as the 49'er fire of 1988.

This proposed project will entail the pre-treatment of the brush fuel by creating hand piles with crews and/or piling and crushing with machinery. Control lines will also be re-established by dozers and/or hand crews. Burn piles are to be treated in spring and early fall, however, other conditions may occur that will allow burn treatment at another time of the year. Some areas may be broadcast burned.

CEQA: PEIR

Spenceville VMP – Battalion 14

Location: Throughout the Spenceville Wildlife Area. The project consists of several burn units scattered throughout the Spenceville Wildlife Area.

Purpose: The project is within the South Yuba River and Bear River Watersheds. Dry Creek runs through the center of the wildlife area and discharges into the Bear River.

The project objective is to reduce the potential of a costly and damaging fire within the treated and surrounding area while primarily focusing on noxious weed abatement. .

A series of units have been identified throughout the wildlife area to combat the spread of Yellow Star Thistle and Medusa Head Grass while allowing our personnel opportunities for live fire training and establishing annual fuel breaks.

This project will be accomplished primarily through broadcast burns of pre-established units.

CEQA: PEIR

Chinquapin – North Tahoe Fire Protection District VMP – Battalion 15

Location: Approximately 20 acres between the Dollar Point subdivision and the Chinquapin Condominiums within the North Tahoe Fire Protection District near Tahoe City and Kings Beach. An additional 50 acres will be treated south of the Kingswood West subdivision. The burn will be conducted by CALFIRE, North Tahoe Fire Protection District and other local fire agencies.

Purpose: The primary objectives of the project are for fuel hazard reduction, fuel modification and wildlife habitat improvement. The project area consists of Sierra mixed-conifer timber type.

Program Funds: VMP, Community Assistance Grant

CEQA: Cal Fire Mitigated Negative Declaration

Waddle Ranch VMP – Battalion 15

Location: Waddle Ranch consists of approximately 1,462 acres of forest land within the Martis Valley. The landowner is the Truckee Tahoe Airport District.

Purpose: The primary objective is the reduction of fuel. Project area is 60 acres divided into 10 units, all of which have been previously masticated.

Program Funds: VMP

CEQA: PEIR

Daugherty and Stanfield Hill VMPs – Battalion 16

Location: The Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area encompasses all the CDF&W lands within five miles of Collins Lake Reservoir.

Purpose: The project area encompasses all 5850 acres of CDF&W lands in the Daugherty and Stanfield Hill areas. The project objective is to reduce the fuel loading across the ownership while creating a vegetative mosaic to enhance wildlife habitat. This will further reduce the threat of roadside fires becoming large and damaging.

The overall objective is to remove the standing Manzanita and live oak stands which have taken over the project area, reduced the grazing capabilities of the land, and created a heavy fuel load for firefighting efforts. Reducing the fuel load will improve wildlife habitat, improve grazing use and allow for better fire protection to the communities of Loma Rica, Oregon House and Dobbins from wildfires that may originate along Marysville Rd. Prescribed fire and piling and burning will be the treatment methods for the project.

CEQA: PEIR

Tahoe Donner VMP – Battalion 15

Location: The project area is on the south side of Euer Valley, at the toe of the slope that trends towards the subdivision. Tahoe Donner Association is the landowner.

Purpose: Both wildlife habitat enhancement and fuel reduction will be obtained. The project area may be 10-20 acres in size. This project is in the planning phase.

CEQA: PEIR

APPENDIX C: STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION IN NEU

Purpose/Overview

The purpose of the development, implementation and maintenance of a project such as fuel modification can be considered a fire prevention/management tool that may promote awareness, mitigation, and assist in fire suppression activities in the event of a wildland fire situation in Interface Lands. The objective is to reduce, modify, and manage fuels within designated areas that may enhance mitigation efforts in the event of a wildland fire situation. The Shaded Fuel Break is an identified key component of any project:

is a strategic location along a ridge, access road, or other location where fuels have been modified. The width of the fuel break is usually 100 to 300 feet depending on the site. This is a carefully planned thinning of dense vegetation, so fire does not easily move from the ground into the overhead tree canopy. A shaded fuel break is not the removal of all vegetation in a given area. Fire suppression resources can utilize this location to suppress wildland fires due to the modification of fuels of which may increase the probability of success during fire suppression activities. Any fuel break by itself will not stop a wildland fire.

The Shaded Fuel Break is a recommended guideline for fuel management within identified Interface Lands.

The goal is to protect human life and both public and private resources by reducing the risk and potential hazard of wildland fire by practicing management strategies that promote the preservation and restoration of natural resources and protection of cultural resources.

Objectives are mitigation of fire dangers in an effort to: Enhance public safety; Protect natural and cultural resources; Provide for recreational opportunities; Conduct cost effective maintenance of features and facilities.

In previous Fire Plans, three separate fuel reduction prescriptions were described (Defensible Space, Defensible Landscape, and Modified Shaded Fuel Break). With the adoption of the new PRC 4291 standards, NEU is recommending landowners utilize the guidelines adopted statewide. Further, we recommend landowners utilize the "Defensible Space – Reduced Fuel Zone" guidelines for areas beyond the required 100 feet. These guidelines can be downloaded from the Internet at: http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov/pdfs/4291finalguidelines2_23_06.pdf

The three fuel reduction prescriptions described below are standards or guidelines and are being provided for guidance, they are not intended to be regulatory and are as follows:

Defensible Space (PRC 4291): Area surrounding a structure where fire protection or firebreak is made by removing all brush, flammable vegetation, or combustible growth which is located up to 100 feet from such structure or to the property line, whichever is closest. The goal is to create an area where ground based fire suppression resources, such as fire engines, can successfully defend the structure from an advancing fire.

Defensible Landscape: The area outside of the defensible space zone where additional fuel reduction is completed to enhance the protection value of the defensible space zone around a structure. Increased aesthetics and habitat values are planned for in this prescription.

Modified shaded fuel break: defined as a defensible location, where fuels have been modified, that can be used by fire suppression resources to suppress oncoming wildfires. Any fuel break by itself will NOT stop a wildfire. It is a location where the fuel has been modified to increase the probability of success for fire suppression activities. Ground resources can use the location for direct attack or firing out. Air resources can use the location for fire retardant drops. The public and fire resources can use the location for more efficient ingress and egress.

The three prescriptions are listed below. The defensible space and defensible landscape prescriptions incorporate the modified shaded fuel break prescription with a few variations. ***The only trees eligible to be removed under the following prescriptions are in the 10- inch diameter class (diameter of main stem at breast height) or smaller. All trees larger than the 10- inch diameter class will only be pruned to a height of 8 to 10 feet above the ground, not to reduce the live crown ratio of the plant to below 50%. Exceptions for defective trees and snags are noted below.***

I. Defensible Space Prescription: PRC 4291

Includes all of following:

1. Maintain around and adjacent to a building or structure a firebreak made by removing and clearing away, for a distance of not less than 100 feet on each side thereof or to the property line, whichever is nearer, all flammable vegetation or other combustible growth. This does not apply to single specimens of trees, ornamental shrubbery, or similar plants that are used as ground cover, if they do not form a means of rapidly transmitting fire from the native growth to any building or structure.
2. Remove that portion of any tree that extends within 10 feet of the outlet of any chimney or stovepipe.
3. Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging any building free of dead or dying wood.
4. Maintain the roof of any structure free of leaves, needles, or other dead vegetative growth.
5. Provide and maintain at all times a screen over the outlet of every chimney or stovepipe that is attached to any fireplace, stove, or other device that burns any solid or liquid fuel. The screen shall be constructed of nonflammable material with openings of not more than one-half inch in size.
6. Within 100 feet of existing structures all annual grasses are to be maintained to below 6 inches in height.
7. Except as noted in 1 above, the Modified Shaded Fuel Break prescription described below also applies.

II. Defensible Landscape Prescription:

Includes all of the following:

1. Oak trees with trunks within 3 feet of each other, essentially making one canopy, may be considered one tree in the defensible landscape areas. Prune branches off of all residual trees from 8 to 10 feet off the forest floor, not to reduce the live crown ratio below 1/2 of the height of the tree. **Adjacent trees shall be removed to create horizontal distances between residual trees from 20 feet between trunks up to 8 to 15 feet between tree crown drip lines.**
2. One clump of trees per lot or acre, where tree trunks are within 20 feet of each other, may also be retained in the defensible landscape areas providing spread of fire to or from this feature is adequately mitigated. Mitigation measures for this feature include:
 - a. Prune branches off of all residual trees from 8 to 10 feet off the forest floor, not to reduce the live crown ratio below 1/2 of the height of the tree
 - b. Trees adjacent to this feature shall be removed to create horizontal distances **between residual trees from 20 feet between trunks up to 8 to 15 feet between tree crown drip lines.** No ground fuels shall exist within the drip line of the feature.
3. Except as noted in 1 and 2 above, the Modified Shaded Fuel Break prescription described listed below also applies.

III. Modified Shaded Fuel Break Prescription:

Implementation consists of removing or pruning trees, shrubs, brush, and other vegetative growth on the project area. For site protection, all work is encouraged to be completed by use of a masticator and/or hand crews supported by chippers and/or burning. Heavy equipment with blades is not recommended for use for fuel reduction work.

1. Understory Fuels

Understory fuels over 1 foot in height are to be removed in order to develop vertical separation and low horizontal continuity of fuels. Individual plants or groups of plants up to 10 feet in canopy diameter may be retained provided there is a horizontal separation between plants of 3 to 5 times the height of the residual plants and the residual plants are not within the drip lines of an overstory tree.

For rare and endangered species concerns, elderberry trees shall not be removed or treated within the shaded fuel breaks in elevations below 3000 feet.

2. Mid-story Fuels

Only trees up to the 10-inch diameter class (at breast height (dbh)) may be removed. Exception to this size limit shall be trees that have significant defect and/or which do not have a minimum of a 16-foot saw log. Live but defective trees larger than the 10-inch diameter class providing cavities or obvious wildlife use will be retained.

Trees shall be removed to create horizontal distances between residual trees from 20 feet between trunks up to 8 to 15 feet between tree crown drip lines. Larger overstory trees (> 10 inches dbh) do count as residual trees and, in order to reduce ladder fuels, shall have vegetation within their drip lines removed. Prune

branches off of all residual trees from 8 to 10 feet off the forest floor, not to reduce the live crown ratio below 1/2 of the height of the tree.

For rare and endangered species concerns, elderberry trees shall not be removed or treated within the shaded fuel breaks below the 3000 feet elevation level.

Criteria for residual trees (< 10 inch diameter class (dbh)):

Conifers:

Leave trees that have single leaders and thrifty crowns with at least 1/3 live crown ratio.

Conifers - Leave tree species in descending order:

- Ponderosa pine
- Sugar pine
- Douglas fir
- White fir
- Incense cedar

Intolerant to shade species have a higher preference as leave trees because their seed will be less likely to germinate in the understory.

Snags

Snags are a conduit for fire spread during a wildfire. However, they also provide excellent wildlife habitat in their natural state. The following is the criteria of when snags shall be retained:

18 inch diameter class or larger and not more than 30 feet in height which are not capable of reaching a road or structure provided there is a separation of least 100 feet between snags.

Hardwood trees:

Leave trees that have vertical leaders and thrifty crowns with at least 1/3 live crown ratio. Retain all elderberry trees.

Hardwoods -Leave tree species in descending order:

- Big Leaf Maple- Riparian area, less common
- Blue Oak - least leaf surface area, less volatile when burning
- Black Oak - higher leaf surface area
- Madrone - more volatile when burning
- Live Oaks - most volatile when burning, branches closest to ground.

Brush:

It is desirable to remove as much brush as possible within the shaded fuel break area. However, if individual plants or pairs of plants are desired to be left, leave plants with the following characteristics: young plants less than 5 feet tall and individual or pairs of plants that are no more that 5 feet wide. Retain all elderberry trees.

Brush Species - Leave species in descending order:

Toyon – Less Common

Buckeye – Less Common

Dogwood – less common

Lemmon Ceanothus - less common, less volatile

Buck brush (Wedge leaf ceanothus) - smaller brush plant, less volatile

Redbud - less common

Coffeeberry - less common

Whitethorn - lower lying plant

Deer brush - larger plant, high leaf surface area, more volatile when burning

Manzanita - larger plant, high leaf surface area, more volatile when burning

Chamise - foliage contains highest amount of flammable oils, most volatile when burning

Wetlands:

Functional wetlands will be avoided for treatment and ground operations.

Watercourse and Lake Protection Zone (WLPZ):

To provide mitigation for riparian associated species and to reduce the potential risk of habitat fragmentation, the following will apply:

Maintenance Prescriptions

Once fuels have been modified within an area, maintenance activities should be planned and implemented on a regular basis to keep the effectiveness of the original treatment. If no maintenance activities occur, the effectiveness of the original treatment will diminish every year, potentially yielding no net effect within 5 years. The necessary maintenance activities will be minimal if implemented on an annual basis.

The original prescription treatment should be followed for maintenance. Possible fuel reduction techniques to be utilized for maintenance include the following:

Hand Work: Use of hand tools by crews or individuals. This technique is labor intensive and potentially expensive (>\$1000 per acre). Impacts to soils are negligible.

Mechanical Work: Use of heavy equipment such as masticators and/or bulldozers. This technique is moderately expensive (as low as \$400 per acre) but limited by topography (to slopes less than 50%) and not appropriate for most watercourse and lake-protection zones and excessively wet soils.

Chemical Controls: Use of California registered herbicides. This is the most cost-effective technique. Implementation usually requires one or two individuals for ground application. This technique has negligible soil effects but may not be appropriate for certain areas such as riparian zones, watercourses, and areas of listed plants.

Prescribed Browsing: Use of goats in a controlled setting to browse within appropriate areas to reduce fuel levels. Browsing goats can be an effective tool to control grasses

and low growing vegetation, when controlled properly, can have little impact to the environment. Costs may vary.

Prescribed Burning: The use of planned and controlled burning operations to reduce fuel levels. Control lines are established prior to burning. Burning and Air Pollution permits are required to conduct these operations. This technique varies in cost per acre depending on complexity of project. Burning is becoming more difficult to complete due to air regulations.

APPENDIX D: IGNITION MANAGEMENT UNIT STATISTICS

Ignitions by Cause (NEU):

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	95 (23%)	105 (21.5%)	71 (17%)	148 (25.65%)	152 (22.03%)
Lightning	7 (2%)	5 (1%)	5 (1%)	8 (1.39%)	9 (1.30%)
Campfire	9 (2%)	8 (<2%)	10 (2%)	16 (2.77%)	42 (6.09%)
Smoking	14 (3%)	15 (3%)	16 (4%)	15 (2.6%)	13 (1.88%)
Equipment	61 (15%)	83 (17%)	85 (20%)	67 (11.61%)	125 (18.12%)
Vehicle	57 (14%)	72 (15%)	90 (21%)	92 (15.94%)	96 (13.91%)
Debris	58 (14%)	78 (16%)	72 (17%)	109 (18.89%)	136 (19.71%)
Arson	52 (13%)	54 (11%)	20 (5%)	44 (7.63%)	25 (3.62%)
Powerline*	22 (5%)	23 (5%)	27 (6%)	27 (4.68%)	39 (5.65%)
Railroad	2 (<1%)	9 (<2%)	1 (<1%)	9 (1.56%)	8 (1.16%)
Playing With Fire (PWF)	5 (1%)	9 (<2%)	9 (2%)	9 (1.56%)	7 (1.01%)
Other	29 (7%)	27 (5.5%)	23 (5%)	33 (5.72%)	38 (5.51%)
Total	411	488	429	577	690

* Bird strike against powerline caused fires increasing in number.

Largest 5 Fires in NEU 2012

	Month	Acres	Cause	Protection
American	August	27,431	Miscellaneous	USFS
Beale AFB	September	255	Unidentified	DOD
PFE	June	180	Unknown	CAL FIRE
Beale 2	June	109	Unidentified	DOD
McGanney	July	73	Unknown	CAL FIRE

Battalion Level Statistics

Battalion 10:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	7 (19%)	7 (16%)	6 (17%)	7 (15.91%)	9 (17.65%)
Lightning	0	0	0	0	0
Campfire	1 (3%)	1 (2%)	0	2 (4.55%)	4 (7.84%)
Smoking	1 (3%)	3 (7%)	1 (3%)	2 (4.55%)	1 (1.96%)
Equipment	5 (13.5%)	6 (14%)	6 (17%)	3 (6.82%)	10 (19.61%)
Vehicle	2 (5%)	2 (4.5%)	6 (17%)	6 (13.64%)	4 (7.84%)
Debris	5 (13.5%)	4 (9%)	1 (3%)	4 (9.09%)	10 (19.61%)
Arson	13 (35%)	18 (41%)	9 (25%)	8 (18.18%)	6 (11.76%)
Powerline*	2 (5%)	2 (4.5%)	2 (5%)	5 (11.36%)	4 (7.84%)
Railroad	0	0	0	0	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	0	1 (2%)	3 (8%)	2 (4.55%)	1 (1.96%)
Other	1 (3%)	0	2 (5%)	5 (11.36%)	2 (3.92%)
Total	37	44	36	44	51

Battalion 11:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	3 (11%)	4 (15%)	8 (23.5%)	15 (28.30%)	12 (19.05%)
Lightning	1 (4%)	0	0	0	2 (3.17%)
Campfire	1 (4%)	1 (4%)	0	1 (1.89%)	3 (4.76%)
Smoking	0	2 (7%)	1 (3%)	1 (1.89%)	0
Equipment	3 (11%)	5 (19%)	8 (23.5%)	15 (28.30%)	12 (19.05%)
Vehicle	7 (26%)	7 (26%)	9 (26%)	11 (20.75%)	7 (11.11%)
Debris	3 (11%)	2 (7%)	5 (15%)	6 (11.32%)	16 (25.40%)
Arson	5 (19%)	4 (15%)	0	1 (1.89%)	2 (3.17%)
Powerline*	0	1 (3.5%)	2 (6%)	0	4 (6.35%)
Railroad	3 (11%)	0	0	0	1 (1.59%)
Playing With Fire (PWF)	0	1 (3.5%)	1 (3%)	0	0
Other	1 (4%)	0	0	3 (5.66%)	4 (6.35%)
Total	27	27	34	53	63

Battalion 12:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	8 (12%)	8 (12%)	10 (16%)	12 (17.14%)	16 (13.45%)
Lightning	0	2 (3%)	1 (1.5%)	1 (1.43%)	1 (0.84%)
Campfire	0	4 (6%)	2 (3%)	1 (1.43%)	5 (4.20%)
Smoking	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	2 (3%)	1 (1.43%)	3 (2.52%)
Equipment	13 (20%)	10 (15%)	10 (16%)	9 (12.86%)	21 (17.65%)
Vehicle	7 (11%)	6 (9%)	7 (11%)	10 (14.29%)	11 (9.24%)
Debris	20 (31%)	16 (25%)	19 (30%)	24 (34.29%)	39 (32.77%)
Arson	2 (3%)	8 (12%)	0	0	0
Powerline*	4 (6%)	5 (8%)	6 (10%)	7 (10.00%)	8 (6.72%)
Railroad	0	0	0	0	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	3 (5%)	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	1 (1.43%)	1 (0.84%)
Other	6 (9%)	3 (5%)	5 (8%)	4 (5.71%)	14 (11.76%)
Total	65	65	63	70	119

Battalion 13:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	3 (4%)	7 (12%)	8 (13%)	10 (12.99%)	8 (9.41%)
Lightning	1 (1%)	0	0	1 (1.30%)	0
Campfire	1 (1%)	1 (2%)	2 (3%)	4 (5.19%)	10 (11.76%)
Smoking	3 (4%)	1 (2%)	4 (6%)	1 (1.30%)	3 (3.53%)
Equipment	12 (16%)	6 (11%)	11 (17%)	7 (9.09%)	9 (10.59%)
Vehicle	22 (30%)	26 (46%)	22 (35%)	23 (29.87%)	25 (29.41%)
Debris	13 (18%)	7 (12%)	7 (11%)	15 (19.48%)	17 (20.00%)
Arson	6 (8%)	6 (11%)	2 (3%)	4 (5.19%)	1 (1.18%)
Powerline*	3 (4%)	0	4 (6%)	2 (2.60%)	2 (2.35%)
Railroad	4 (5%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	7 (9.09%)	6 (7.06%)
Playing With Fire (PWF)	1 (1%)	0	0	0	0
Other	4 (5%)	2 (4%)	2 (3%)	3 (3.90%)	4 (4.71%)
Total	73	33	63	77	85

Battalion 14:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	8 (26%)	2 (9%)	8 (18%)	9 (18.37%)	8 (16.67%)
Lightning	1 (3%)	0	0	2 (4.08%)	0
Campfire	0	1 (4.5%)	0	0	3 (6.25%)
Smoking	1 (3%)	1 (4.5%)	1 (2%)	0	1 (2.08%)
Equipment	2 (6%)	4 (18%)	10 (22%)	7 (14.29%)	8 (16.67%)
Vehicle	4 (13%)	1 (4.5%)	5 (11%)	6 (12.24%)	5 (10.42%)
Debris	4 (13%)	7 (32%)	8 (18%)	14 (28.57%)	16 (33.33%)
Arson	4 (13%)	0	0	1 (2.04%)	1 (2.08%)
Powerline*	2 (6%)	2 (9%)	4 (9%)	2 (4.08%)	1 (2.08%)
Railroad	0	0	0	0	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	0	1 (4.5%)	0	2 (4.08%)	1 (2.08%)
Other	5 (16%)	3 (14%)	9 (20%)	6 (12.24%)	4 (8.33%)
Total	31	22	45	49	48

Battalion 15:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	2 (18%)	0	5 (28%)	4 (17.39%)	9 (18.75%)
Lightning	2 (18%)	1 (16.5%)	4 (22%)	4 (17.39%)	6 (12.50%)
Campfire	2 (18%)	1 (16.5%)	3 (17%)	3 (13.04%)	14 (29.17%)
Smoking	0	0	1 (5.5%)	2 (8.70%)	0
Equipment	1 (9%)	0	0	0	2 (4.17%)
Vehicle	0	1 (16.5%)	2 (11%)	0	4 (8.33%)
Debris	1 (9%)	0	2 (11%)	3 (13.04%)	8 (16.67%)
Arson	0	0	0	1 (4.35%)	1 (2.08%)
Powerline*	1 (9%)	1 (16.5%)	0	2 (8.70%)	1 (2.08%)
Railroad	0	2 (33%)	0	2 (8.70%)	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	1 (9%)	0	1 (5.5%)	0	2 (4.17%)
Other	1 (9%)	0	0	0	1 (2.08%)
Total	11	6	18	23	48

Battalion 16:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	16 (26%)	11 (21%)	8 (17%)	15 (28.85%)	8 (17.78%)
Lightning	0	0	0	0	0
Campfire	0	0	1 (2%)	0	1 (2.22%)
Smoking	0	2 (4%)	0	0	2 (4.44%)
Equipment	8 (13%)	14 (26%)	9 (19%)	4 (7.69%)	14 (31.11%)
Vehicle	12 (20%)	6 (11%)	7 (15%)	7 (13.46%)	5 (11.11%)
Debris	13 (21%)	8 (15%)	13 (27%)	16 (30.77%)	10 (22.22%)
Arson	4 (7%)	3 (5.5%)	1 (2%)	5 (9.62%)	1 (2.22%)
Powerline*	5 (8%)	4 (8%)	5 (10%)	2 (3.85%)	1 (2.22%)
Railroad	0	0	0	0	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	2 (3%)	3 (5.5%)	1 (2%)	0	0
Other	1 (2%)	2 (4%)	3 (2%)	3 (5.77%)	3 (6.67%)
Total	61	53	48	52	45

Battalion 17:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	10 (18%)	22 (25%)	8 (16%)	29 (38.16%)	22 (25.88%)
Lightning	0	0	0	0	0
Campfire	0	0	0	1 (1.32%)	0
Smoking	1 (2%)	2 (2%)	1 (2%)	4 (5.26%)	0
Equipment	14 (25%)	19 (21%)	14 (28%)	9 (11.84%)	18 (21.76%)
Vehicle	5 (9%)	6 (7%)	15 (30%)	11 (14.47%)	16 (19.05%)
Debris	9 (16%)	14 (16%)	5 (10%)	11 (14.47%)	10 (11.76%)
Arson	4 (7%)	14 (16%)	3 (6%)	4 (5.26%)	5 (5.88%)
Powerline*	4 (7%)	7 (8%)	2 (4%)	0	10 (11.76%)
Railroad	2 (4%)	1 (1%)	0	3 (3.95%)	1 (1.18%)
Playing With Fire (PWF)	1 (2%)	3 (3%)	0	1 (1.32%)	0
Other	6 (11%)	1 (1%)	2 (4%)	3 (3.95%)	3 (3.53%)
Total	56	89	50	76	85

Battalion 18:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	19 (30%)	19 (29%)	1 (3.5%)	5 (12.50%)	23 (38.33%)
Lightning	0	0	0	0	0
Campfire	0	0	0	2 (5.00%)	2 (3.33%)
Smoking	2 (3%)	1 (2%)	4 (13%)	4 (10.00%)	2 (3.33%)
Equipment	19 (30%)	20 (31%)	7 (23%)	7 (17.50%)	14 (23.33%)
Vehicle	7 (11%)	6 (9%)	7 (23%)	6 (15.00%)	6 (10.00%)
Debris	6 (9.5%)	8 (12%)	6 (20%)	10 (25.00%)	6 (10.00%)
Arson	6 (9.5%)	7 (11%)	1 (3.5%)	1 (2.50%)	1 (1.67%)
Powerline*	3 (5%)	4 (6%)	2 (7%)	2 (5.00%)	4 (6.67%)
Railroad	0	0	0	0	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	0	0	2 (7%)	0	1 (1.67%)
Other	1 (2%)	0	0	3 (7.50%)	1 (1.67%)
Total	63	65	30	40	60

Battalion 19:

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Undetermined	29 (45%)	11 (25%)	9 (21%)	42 (45.16%)	37 (43.02%)
Lightning	0	0	0	0	0
Campfire	2 (3%)	2 (5%)	2 (5%)	2 (2.15%)	0
Smoking	5 (8%)	1 (2%)	1 (2%)	0	1 (1.16%)
Equipment	6 (9%)	8 (18%)	10 (24%)	6 (6.45%)	17 (19.77%)
Vehicle	6 (9%)	9 (20%)	10 (24%)	10 (10.75%)	13 (15.12%)
Debris	4 (6%)	7 (16%)	6 (14%)	6 (6.45%)	4 (4.65%)
Arson	10 (16%)	6 (14%)	4 (10%)	19 (20.43%)	7 (8.14%)
Powerline*	0	0	0	2 (2.15%)	4 (4.65%)
Railroad	0	0	0	0	0
Playing With Fire (PWF)	1 (2%)	0	0	3 (3.23%)	1 (1.16%)
Other	1 (2%)	0	0	3 (3.23%)	2 (2.33%)
Total	64	44	42	93	86

APPENDIX E: Fire Planner Services Provided within NEU

FIRE PLANNER TASKS AND FEE LIST

Effective January 1, 2014

TASK	EXPLANATION	HOURS	2014 FEE	REQUIRED BY*
GENERAL / MISCELLANEOUS				
Pre-development meetings (non major projects)	Site visit, meeting and paperwork	2.75	323.39	CDRA
Underground LPG tank installation	Plan Check and Inspection	2.75	323.39	CFC
Set-back Variance	Plan Check and Inspection	2	235.19	PRC / CDRA
Fireworks display (review only)	Plan Check and Inspection	3.5	307.96	H & S Code 12648
Fireworks display with stand-by	Same as above and present at the display	7.75	911.34	H & S Code 12648
Temporary outdoor event permit (per site)	Plan Check and Inspection	4.5	529.17	CFC / CDRA
State mandated inspections (Care homes, day care, etc.)	Plan Check and Inspection	2.5	293.99	CFC
Parcel Maps	Plan Check and Inspections	4	470.37	CFC / PRC / CDRA
Hydrant Flow Test	Site Visit	5.25	617.35	CFC
Special Inspection request	1 hour minimum	2.25	264.59	CFC/NFPA/PRC/CDRA
7A Inspection	Site Visit	3.5	411.58	UBC / PRC / CDRA
Environmental Questionnaire (minor/modifications)	Review for compliance	3.75	440.97	CFC / CDRA
Minor Use Permit (MUP)	Review for compliance	2.75	323.39	CFC / CDRA
Conditional Use Permit (CUP) (non major projects)	Review for compliance	4.5	529.17	CFC / CDRA
CIVIL				
Traffic and Circulation	Plan Check	3.25	382.17	CFC / CDRA
Private Fire Service Main (sprinkler feed only)	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	4.5	529.17	NFPA 24 / CDRA
Private Fire Service Main (hydrants only)	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	5.5	646.76	NFPA 24 / CDRA
Private Fire Service Main (hydrant and sprinkler feed)	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	5.5	646.76	NFPA 24 / CDRA
SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS				
UL 300 hood system	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	2.25	264.59	CFC / CDRA
Special suppression system-clean agent	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	3.75	440.97	CFC / CDRA
Standpipe - Dry	Plan Check and Inspection	4.75	558.57	NFPA 14 / CDRA
Standpipe - Wet	Plan Check and Inspection	4.75	558.57	NFPA 14 / CDRA
Fire Pump	Plan Check, Flow Test, Inspection	5.25	617.35	NFPA / CDRA
Sprinkler - Shell/Initial system 1-99 heads	Plan Check, Visual Inspection, 2-hour Hydro Test and Final	5.5	646.76	NFPA 13 / CDRA
Sprinkler - Shell/Initial system 100-299 heads	Plan Check, Visual Inspection, 2-hour Hydro Test and Final	7.75	883.08	NFPA 13 / CDRA
Sprinkler - Shell/Initial system 300+ heads	Plan Check, Visual Inspection, 2-hour Hydro Test and Final	8.75	997.03	NFPA 13 / CDRA
Sprinkler - Tenant Improvement 1-49 heads	Plan Check, Visual Inspection	3.5	424.75	NFPA 13 / CDRA
Sprinkler - Tenant Improvement 50+ heads	Plan Check, Visual Inspection, 2-hour Hydro Test and Final	5.5	646.76	NFPA 13 / CDRA
Spray Booth	Plan Check, Visual Inspection	2.75	323.39	CFC / CDRA
FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS				
Alarm System - 1-9 devices	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	2.75	330.56	NFPA 72 / CDRA
Alarm System - 10-29 devices	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	3.75	447.53	NFPA 72 / CDRA
Alarm System - 30+ devices	Plan Check, Inspection, Testing	4.75	541.24	NFPA 72 / CDRA
SUBDIVISIONS / MULTI-RESIDENTIAL				
Subdivisions 5-25 units	Plan Check, EIR, Inspection	6	705.55	CFC / PRC / CDRA
Subdivisions 26-50 units	Plan Check, EIR, Inspection	8	940.74	CFC / PRC / CDRA
Subdivisions 51+ units	Plan Check, EIR, Inspection	10	1139.46	CFC / PRC / CDRA
Multi-residential 5-25 units	Plan Check, Inspection	5.5	626.68	CFC / PRC / CDRA
Multi-residential 26-50 units	Plan Check, Inspection	6.5	764.35	CFC / PRC / CDRA
Multi-residential 51+ units	Plan Check, Inspection	8	940.74	CFC / PRC / CDRA
DO NOT CHARGE AT THIS TIME				
Planning Entitlements				
Building Permits				
ESD Civil, Improvement Plans				
Miscellaneous				

ATTACHMENT
to Fire Protection Planning Ordinance

NEU Pre-Fire Projects

Meadow Vista Roadside Clearing and Shaded Fuel Break

This cooperative project combines community pre-fire planning and fuels reduction to benefit the communities of Colfax, Weimar, Iowa Hill, Meadow Vista and Applegate. The project included a series of fuels reduction efforts of private lands involving mastication and hand crews. Treated areas will be target that enhance fire suppression efforts, improve and provide for safe evacuation routes and promote land stewardship.

CEQA: Forest Practice Exemption. It is also hopeful that this project will allow for utilization of the Meadow Vista PTEIR for certain project areas.

American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break

The American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break consists of approximately 300 acres of public and private lands within and adjacent to the City of Auburn. The project area is considered a “very high” risk area because of the proximity of residential, commercial, and recreational development and is within the Wildland Urban Interface and is designated in Very High and High Fire Hazard Severity Zones.

The intent of the Shaded Fuel Break is to provide protection through removal of flammable fuels consumed in a wildfire as so to lessen fire intensity in an attempt to allow fire resources to utilize such a location to increase the probability of success during fire suppression activities. The Shaded Fuel Break is a carefully planned thinking of dense vegetation in an area approximately 300 feet wide where fire does not easily move from the ground into the overhead tree canopy.

The purpose of the Shaded Fuel Break is to minimize destruction to the City of Auburn from wildfire and to protect and enhance natural resources; watershed and habitat of the pristine American River Canyon and Auburn State Recreation Area. The goal is to treat these lands using the prescribed fuels application with the desired outcome of manageable lands for future fire prevention projects.

CEQA: Auburn Fire Department has a CEQA Exemption document on file.

Placer County Chipper

Since 1998, the Placer County Chipper Program has provided service to residents of the County. This helps to lower the costs of creating and maintaining defensible space and also reduces the amount of outdoor burning and the associated air pollution as well as escaped fires.

The County owns four chippers and tow vehicles, purchased from a PG&E settlement and supplemented by a Prop 204 grant. Maintenance is performed by CAL FIRE. Therefore the annual cost is for the four crew managers, one for each chipper, and the crews. In order to keep costs down, trustees from the County Jail are used as crews.

Gold Country Fairgrounds

This is a high visibility public education project. The Gold Country fairgrounds lies at the intersection of Hwy 49 and I-80 and hosts visitors from Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado and Nevada Counties annually for numerous events, the largest being the Gold Country Fair and the Auburn Home show (Spring/Fall). The Home Show is the largest in northern California and attracts approximately 35,000 homeowners and the Gold Country Fair attendance is about 45,000.

In 1982, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection designed and built approximate 25ft x 25 ft gazebo at the front entrance gate which is used as the fire prevention host facility at all major events. Cal Fire managed this display and annually invites the Forest Service, BLM and local fire safe councils to share the space and provide public education materials. For the Gold Country Fair, Station 10 personnel maintain a constant presence to support fair public safety and response.

The gazebo is rapidly deteriorating and despite annual efforts to maintain and reinforce the structure, it is reaching the point where it is unsafe for public visitation.

This project constructs a new WUI (Wildland Urban Interface) demonstration structure, with each dimension of the structure illustrating different types of WUI construction materials, one side using the old standard. The message will be supported by new educational displays illustrating the influence of building materials on fire spread, emphasizing the role they played in the 2009 49 fire that spread through North Auburn, destroying 65 residential and commercial structures.

North Fork American Shaded Fuel Break – Placer County

For the past 20 years, Cal Fire has been working cooperatively with the City of Auburn, Bureau of Reclamation and California State Parks to establish and maintain the existing footprint of the Auburn Fuel Break. Using Prop 40 and federal fire assistance grant dollars we were successful extending the fuel break south of Auburn City Limits into SRA.

The next phase of this project is to extend the fuel break north, protecting the SRA communities that line the North Fork of the American River. The North Fork is federally listed as a Wild and Scenic River and has numerous management and suppression restrictions on it in case of a fire.

This project introduces extending the fuel break from the existing northern boundary of the Foresthill Bridge, north – crossing the communities of Applegate, Meadow Vista, Weimar and Colfax. There are numerous existing completed fuel treatments implemented through Prop 40, CFIP and firesafe council grants, and Robbers fire contingency lines that will be tied together by this effort.

This area has an active large fire history, encompassing the communities impacted by the 2009 49 fire, 2012 Robbers fire, 2004 Stephens fire and the Ponderosa fire in 2001.

CEQA: Still in scoping phase

Ben Taylor Fuel Reduction

Fuel reduction to a 1 acre area that borders Colfax High School and Colfax Elementary, the other side is residential. The area is heavily travelled by the public and school children. Fuel reduction will lessen the likelihood of an ignition, and an intense fire that would spread to the community.

CEQA: NOE

Mt Howell Maintenance

Mt Howell Lookout encompasses 38 acres owned by the State of California and functions as a seasonal fire prevention lookout for western Placer County. This project focuses on brush cutting, fireline construction, broadcast burning and hazard tree removal within an area of extreme wildfire risk due to dense, overgrown vegetation and scotch broom invasion.

CEQA: NOE

McCourtney Rd Landfill Fuel Reduction – Nevada County

The closed Nevada County landfill has an extreme buildup of dense manzanita brush that poses a significant threat to the surrounding communities. It also provides habitat for several species of plants that are uncommon in Nevada County. In spite of the history of habitat disruption, the majority of the site sees little human disturbance. It is very accessible to the public. Neighboring lands will benefit from a reduced fire threat by managing the shrub layer. Finally, local botanists are committed to protecting this resource and monitoring the plant community. Habitat will be improved while reducing fire threat through shrub management, and occurrences of existing rare and endangered plants will be expanded.

This is a cooperative project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Nevada County to mitigate the existing fuel loading and enhance the threatened species habitat and assist Nevada County with developing a management plan to guide them in the future.

CEQA: Mitigated Neg Dec

Applegate

This project consists of 60 acres of timberland. The project site has been used for crew brush cutting training. The project area lies adjacent to the alignment of the Transcontinental Railroad now owned and operated by Union Pacific. Access is limited.

The existing project is a combined fuel reduction and hand crew training effort with proposed pile burning operations as a means to eliminate the hand cut fuels. Adding mastication as a treatment option, will enhance the fuel treatment on the landscape level and create an anchor for further fuel treatments to the north and south as part of the proposed North Fork American Shaded Fuel Break.

CEQA: Timber Harvest Plan and Notice of Exemption

Establish Fire Safe Councils in the Granite Bay – and Greater Truckee Area

Establishing Fire Safe Council(s) in this area of the County is a first step towards educating local residents about the fact that they live in an urban forest and there is a wildfire hazard, and motivating them to take appropriate action to reduce their risk.

Meadow Vista / Applegate Pre-Fire Project

Event 1: A series of roadside fuel modifications, located in strategic areas to allow fire fighting resources access and a location to effectively suppress an encroaching wildfire. Using existing roads for the location of the fuel modification takes advantage of the area occupied by the road surface, which is devoid of all vegetation. Modifying the fuels for a distance of 25 feet on both sides of the existing road will give an effective fuel break width of approximately 70 to 80 feet for secondary roads. The location of these fuel modifications will allow ready access and a strategic defensive position for fire suppression resources and facilitate long term maintenance of the fuel breaks.

CEQA: Forest Practice Exemption document, filed by Placer County RCD

Event 2: An intensive inspection program of the Meadow Vista and Applegate area to enforce the Public Resources Code 4291 Fire Safe standards (LE-100 Inspection). Placer County Planning Department estimates that there are approximately 3,400 housing units in this general area.

Event 3: Revise the Defensible Space and Healthy Forest Handbook: A Guide to Reducing the Wildfire Threat (2003). This handbook was developed specifically for landowners within the Meadow Vista Community Plan area and its surrounding communities.

Event 4: Work with landowners within the Meadow Vista Community Plan area to implement and make use of the Meadow Vista PTEIR (Program Timberland Environmental Impact Report), completed initially in 1999.

Event 5: Work with Placer County OES to develop an evacuation plan for this community.

Columbia Hill Shaded Fuel Break Project

With California's wildland-urban interface areas quickly growing, as well as the population of Nevada County, the objective of the Columbia Hill Shaded Fuel Break Project is to create a shaded fuel break in the Columbia Hill area of Nevada County. Strategically, the project will tie in with the earlier established Montezuma Fuel Break to give firefighters a place to make an efficient stand against a wildfire on the San Juan Ridge.

CEQA: Cal Fire CEQA-NOE

Senior and Disabled Assistance Program

The Fire Safe Council of Nevada County has identified a need to continue the Senior and Disabled Assistance Program to provide defensible space clearing for elderly and disabled Nevada County residents unable to physically and financially clear on their own. The program currently utilizes workers from the Nevada County Probation Department's Work Release Program with supervision and direction from FSCNC staff to complete the requested work and bring participants into compliance with current defensible space laws.

Defensible Space Drop Off Programs

In an effort to encourage residents in outlying portions of the County and the East side of the County to clear defensible space, the FSCNC provides drop-offs days and locations throughout the County where residents are allowed to drop off vegetative material, including pine needles and other materials not able to be processed through the chipping program, for a weekend time frame. Materials are then ground and transported to cogeneration facilities or distributed as mulch. This program has proven more effective than chipping in the Eastern portion of Nevada County.

Yuba County Public Works Roadside Clearing Plan

Roadside clearance projects that will benefit the various foothill community's fire protection and traffic safety have been identified by the cooperative efforts of Cal Fire, USFS, and the Yuba Watershed Protection & Fire Safe Council. Through a system of prioritization and cooperation the Yuba County Department of Public Works (YCDPW) will direct their roadside clearing efforts to those roads identified as having the greatest potential for improving fire safety, evacuation, egress, and access.

Roads identified include Forbestown Road, Pendola Extension Road and the 169 Road. Also included and identified by CAL FIRE as priority roads are Selby Ranch, Woods Creek Truck Trail, Labadies High Prairie Road and Oregon Peak Lookout Road.

CEQA: Yuba County has filed a NOE

Battalion 14 Fire Roads – Nevada and Yuba County

Battalion 14 contains a number of historical un-maintained fire roads that the unit has traditionally maintained to a standard that will allow fire apparatus access and in an emergency could be utilized for ingress/egress for evacuees. Each year the battalion works with private landowners to improve these roads. All work is done within the existing road prism. Road surface, road drainage and site line distance are all maintained. This includes grading with a road grader or dozer, cutting and removal of vegetation along the road edge and chipping if necessary.

CEQA: NOE

Foresthill Divide Fuel Break Maintenance – Placer County

The communities of Foresthill, Iowa Hill, Todd Valley and Michigan Bluff have had extensive fuel break work completed in the past 5-10 years, primarily driven by Foresthill Fire Department and Fire Safe Council grant success. These communities also have a number of masticated fuel breaks completed through CFIP program participation and on the Robbers Fire – during suppression repair. A number of these fuel breaks are reaching their 5 year maintenance date.

CEQA: NOE

Burton Creek State Park Hazardous Fuel Reduction

The project area is 20 acres of upland mixed conifer forest in Burton Creek State Park on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. Under prevailing southwesterly pre-frontal winds, the project area is downwind of multiple ignitions sources in Tahoe City, and upwind of the North Tahoe Intermediate School and High School.

Commercial thinning of intermediate and overstory trees was implemented over the snow during the winter of 2000. Surface fuels and understory ladder fuels were not treated during that entry. Hazardous fuel reduction treating the surface fuels and ladder fuels is needed to reduce potential wildfire intensity and fire behavior in this critical area.

CEQA: California State Parks NOE

Porcupine Hill Maintenance

The Porcupine Hill Maintenance Project is a multi-year project that has a focus of fuels reduction by creating a fuel break within the Community of Northstar, above U.S. Highway 267 leading into the Northstar Community Services District. The project area is an open common space area that is used for recreational hikers and mountain bikers. A road exists through the project area that is used by the Northstar Community Services District Utilities Department and it acts as an emergency road for fire suppression. The project area is susceptible to fire originating off the highway and or from neighboring land across the highway. The site currently contains dense brush and tree fields acting as a corridor for fire to travel aggressively into the community. Project work will break up the continuity of fuels and help protect cultural and historical sites.

CEQA: NOE

Bakken Oil Transport Pre-Planning

Union Pacific plans to increase rail shipments of Bakken oil from the North Dakota region to the Bay Area, utilizing the rail system that travels through the extent of Placer County. The shipments through the State of California are expected to jump from 1 million barrels in 2012 to more than 6 million in 2013. The increased volatility of oil from the Bakken region poses significant safety and hazardous material response challenges. Placer County is actively working with CA State OES to pre-plan and execute emergency response scenarios focused on Bakken Oil transport.

APPENDIX G: NEU 2013/2014 Active SRA Fee Projects

Project Name	Type	County	CalMapper ID
Drought Outreach	Education	NEU	2300-2014-FAS-001
McElroy Rd / Shaded Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-001
Mt. Howell Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-002
Ben Taylor	Fuel Reduction	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-003
Applegate	Fuel Reduction	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-004
Battalion 14 Fire Roads	Roadside Clearance	Nevada / Yuba	2300-2014-FPL-005
Porcupine Hill Maintenance	Fuel Reduction	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-006
Burton Creek State Park	Fuel Reduction	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-007
Fuel Break Maintenance	Maintenance	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-008
North Fork American Shaded Fuel Break	Outreach	Placer	2300-2014-FPL-009
McCourtney Rd Landfill	Fuel Reduction	Nevada	2300-2014-FPL-010
PRC 4291 Signage	Prevention	NEU	2300-2014-PRE-001
Smokey Program	Prevention	NEU	2300-2014-PRE-002
Gold Country Fairground	Outreach	NEU	2300-2014-PRE-003
East Side Outreach	Outreach	Tahoe Basin	2300-2014-PRE-004
UC Field Station VMP	Prescribed Fire	Yuba	2300-2014-VMP-001
Reader Ranch VMP	Prescribed Fire	Yuba	2300-2014-VMP-002
Bunker Hill VMP	Prescribed Fire	Yuba	2300-2014-VMP-003

APPENDIX H: COOPERATOR PROJECTS

California Conservation Corps (CCC)

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Funding
Placer Center Shaded Fuel Break	Shaded Fuel Break	Placer	66	6,304 Hours – Prop 40 Funded 2013
Traylor Ranch Reserve	Fuel Reduction	Placer	TBD	1,188 Hours – Prop 40 Funded 2013
Canyon View Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	Placer	8.5	1,120 Hours – Prop 40 Funded 2013
FSC Special Needs Assistance	Defensible Space	Nevada	66	2,2162 Hours – SRA Fee Funded 2013
Placer Center Shaded Fuel Break	Shaded Fuel Break	Placer		4,000 Hours – SRA Fee Funded 2013
Deer Creek Community Fuel Break	Shaded Fuel Break	Nevada		5,918 Hours – SRA Fee Funded 2013
Deer Creek Community Fuel Break Phase III	Shaded Fuel Break	Nevada		4,011 Hours – SRA Fee Funded 2014
Deer Creek Community Fuel Break Phase II	Shaded Fuel Break	Nevada		3,500 Hours – SRA Fee Funded 2014

Placer County

Foresthill / Iowa Hill Fire Safe Council & Foresthill Fire Protection District

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Michigan Bluff	Community Defense	Placer	100	1
Todd Valley II	Fuel Break	Placer	150	1
Pipeline II	Fuel Break	Placer	100	2
Mosquito Ridge Rd	Fuel Break	Placer	50	3
Todd Valley I	Maintenance	Placer	50	4
Pipeline I	Maintenance	Placer	100	5
Melody Lane Roadside Clearing	Roadside Clearing	Placer		1
Polaris Road	Roadside Clearing	Placer		1
Johnson Valley / Pecky Cedar	Roadside Clearing	Placer		1
Red Ridge Road	Roadside Clearing	Placer		1
Ebbert Ranch Rd	Roadside Clearing	Placer		1
Firewise	Community Assessment	Placer		1
Fire Prevention Program K-12	Education	Placer		2
Senior Assistance	Defensible Space	Placer		3
Community Education	Education	Placer		4

Invasive Species Removal	Education	Placer	5
Chipper Program	Fuel Reduction	Placer	6

Auburn City Fire Department

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Areolia Heights/Chamberlain (7 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	0	Planning / 1
Aeolia Olive Orchard (6 acres)	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	0	Planning / 1
Virginia/Gold (4 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	0	Active
Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way throughout the City of Auburn	PCT, Pruning, Removal	Placer	Unknown	Active
Interstate 80 corridor areas within City limits	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	Unknown	Active
American Canyon Shaded Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	Active
Auburn Dam Overlook	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 2
Borland Ave., El Dorado/Hwy 49 areas & Canyon Ridge Subdivision	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 2
Southridge Subdivision	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 2
Grayhorse Subdivision	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 3
Grand Oaks Homeowners Open Space	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 3
Auburn Bluffs Subdivision	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 3
Vienna Woods Subdivision, Dairy Road	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 4
White Hawk Meadows Subdivision	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	N/A	planning / 4
2010-2011 Virginia & Gold St. Fuel Break (Davenport)	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	6	Complete
2010-2011 Canyon Rim Estates, Eagles Nest Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Pile & Burn	Placer	5	Complete
2004 GAAFSC Shaded Fuel Break II	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	37	Complete
2005 GAAFSC Shaded Fuel Break III	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	66	Complete
2007 GAAFSC Shaded Fuel Break III	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	30	Complete

North Tahoe Fire Protection District

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
2011 CTC Future Project (25 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1
2011 Vedanta (80 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1
2011 Maloney (3 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1
2011 Regency CTC (40 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1
2011 NTRP (31 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1
2011 Mourelatos (15 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1
2011 Beach Street (5 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 1

2011 McKinney Chambers (40 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 2
2011 Book 85 (40 Acres)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning / 2
2010 Eagle Rock CTC	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	8	Complete
2010 Rideout School	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	3	Complete
2010 Ward Unit CSP	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	154	Complete
2010 Talmont CTC1	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	9	Complete
2010 Talmont CTC2	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	6	Complete
2010 Tahoe City Private	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	20	Complete
2010 Skylandia	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	15	Complete
2010 Highlands TCPUD	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	7	Complete
2010 CTC Water Tank	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	3	Complete
2010 Sierra Pacific Power	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	20	Complete
2010 Carnelian Bay	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	155	Complete
2010 Placer County KWW	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	15	Complete
2010 Woodvista CTC	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	97	Complete
2008-2009 Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Chipping	Placer	100	Complete
2009 Homewood	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	57	Complete
2009 Mark Twain	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	35	Complete
2009 Granlibakken	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	4	Complete
2009 Tahoe City CSP	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	10	Complete
2009 Old Mill Road CTC	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	2	Complete
2009 Old Mill Road Private	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	14	Complete
2009 Highlands Combo	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	110	Complete
2009 CTC Beverly	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	7	Complete
2009 OTC	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	123	Complete
2009 Chinquapin	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	40	Complete
2007-2008 Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Chipping	Placer	175	Complete
2008 Mark Twain	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	5	Complete
2008 Talmont	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	7	Complete
2008 Rocky Ridge	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	22	Complete
2008 Kingswood West	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	85	Complete
2008 Kingswood East	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	6	Complete
Brockway Springs	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	24	Complete
2006-2007 Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Chipping	Placer	150	Complete
2007 Highlands TCPUD	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	8	Complete
2004 Hazardous Fuels Reduction	Chipping	Placer	200	Complete

Placer County Resource Conservation District

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Dutch Flat / Alta Fuels Treatment - Phase 3	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning/ 1
Applegate Community Shaded Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Complete
Placer County Chipper Program	Chipping	Placer	Unknown	Active

Foresthill WUI Fuels treatment Incentive	Chipping	Placer	Unknown	Active
Thomas Street Community Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning/ 1
Gills Hill Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Active
Northstar CDC Thinning and Fuels Reduction	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Placer	0	Planning/ 1
2004 Placer County Fuels Reduction Phase 4	Chipping	Placer	1440	Complete

Greater Auburn Area Fire Safe Council

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
American River Canyon Shaded Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	110+	1
City of Auburn Defensible Space Program	Defensible Space	Placer	955 Homes	4
City of Auburn Open Space Areas	Fuel Break	Placer	295	3
Traylor Ranch	Fuel Break	Placer	76	2
Bickford Ranch	Fuel Reduction	Placer	1942	2
Griffith Quarry	Fuel Break	Placer	23	2
Dry Creek Road at Northpark Subdivision	Fuel Reduction	Placer	40	2
Deer Ridge Open Space and ARD Meadow	Fuel Reduction	Placer	30	3
Timberline Senior Housing Development Area	Fuel Reduction	Placer	119	2

Greater Lincoln Fire Safe Council

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Bickford Ranch	Fuel Reduction	Placer	1942	1
Clark Tunnel Road	Fuel Reduction	Placer	TBD	1
Roadside Disking	Fuel Break	Placer		2
Invasive Species Removal	Education	Placer		3
Firewise	Education	Placer		3
Chipper Program	Fuel Reduction	Placer		3
Recreation Area Fuel Reduction	Fuel Reduction	Placer		2
Preparedness Planning	Pre-Fire Planning	Placer		3
Homeowner Education	Education	Placer		3
Senior Assistance	Defensible Space Assistance	Placer		3
Hidden Falls Regional Park	Fuel Reduction	Placer	TBD	4

Placer County Land Trust

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Canyon View Parcel Fuel Break	Hand Pile & Burn	Placer	17	Active

7,000 acres Lincoln Area	Grazing	Placer	Unknown	Active
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Truckee Fire Protection District

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
2007 District Defensible Space	Chipping	Nevada	275	Complete
2006 District Defensible Space	Chipping	Nevada	500	Complete
2005 District Defensible Space	Chipping	Nevada	214	Complete

Northstar Fire Department

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Fuels Management Maintenance III	Maintenance	Placer	48	1
Porcupine Hill Fuels Reduction	Fuel Reduction	Placer	66	2
Northstar Proposition 84, Phase II	Fuel Reduction	Placer	96	3
Northstar SEP Phase II	Fuel Reduction	Placer	40	4

Placer Sierra Fire Safe Council

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Alpine Meadows Community Defense	Defense Buffer	Placer	40	1
Gillis Hill Fuelbreak	Fuel Break	Placer	187	1
Gillis Hill Extension	Fuel Break	Placer	146	2
Moody Ridge Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	13	3
Long Point Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	74	4
Canyon Rim Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	137	5
Colfax Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	50	6
Secret Town Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	100	7
Big John Ridge Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	102	8
Ponderosa Way Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	118	9
Jefferson Fuel Break	Fuel Break	Placer	189	10
Meadow Vista – McElroy Rd	Roadside Clearing	Placer	23	1
Moody Ridge Roadside	Roadside Clearing	Placer	40	2
Placer Hills Roadside	Roadside Clearing	Placer	52	3
Alpine Meadows Subdivision	Roadside Clearing	Placer	31	4
Ponderosa Way Roadside	Roadside Clearing	Placer	19	5
Boole Roadside	Roadside Clearing	Placer	16	6
Cerro Vista Roadside	Roadside Clearing	Placer	23	7
Dutch Flat / Alta Roadside	Roadside Clearing	Placer	72	8
Firewise	Education	Placer		1

Senior Assistance	Education	Placer		2
Homeowner Pile Burning Education	Education	Placer		3
Invasive Species Removal	Education	Placer		4
Chipper Program	Education	Placer		5

Nevada County

Fire Safe Council of Nevada County

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Green Waste Drops	Drop Off for Chipping	Nevada		Unfunded / 1
Community Chipping	Chipping	Nevada		Active
Juniper Hill Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Unfunded / 1
Cascade Shores Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Unfunded / 1
Model Defensible Space Home Tour	Education and Outreach	Nevada		Active
Dear Creek Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Active
Firewise	Education and Outreach	Nevada		Active
Columbia Hill Fuel Break Expansion	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Planning
Scotch Broom Challenge	Scotch Broom brush pulling	Nevada		Active
Alder Creek Fuel Break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Planning
W Truckee I-80 Fuel break	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Complete
Defensible Space Advice	Education and Outreach	Nevada		Active
Special Needs Assistance	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Active
Washington Town Site	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Complete
Woodpecker Ravine Roadside	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Complete
Jones Ridge Neighborhood	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Complete
Red Dog - You Bet Roadside	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Nevada		Complete

Yuba County

Yuba County Fire Safe Council

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status / Priority
Moonshine Hazard Reduction	Thinning	Yuba	192	Proposed 2015
Camptonville Community Fuels Reduction	Thinning	Yuba	85	Proposed 2015
Roadside Thinning – Camptonville	Roadside	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Fire Water Storage Tank Project	Infrastructure	Yuba		Proposed 2015
Candlewood Thinning	Roadside Treatment	Yuba		Proposed 2015
1000 Trails Park Cleanup	Defensible Space	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Vavasuer Road Project	Roadside	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Dobbins South	Thinning	Yuba		Proposed 2015
Fountain House	Roadside	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Hansonville Hill	Fuel Break	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Costa Creek Burn	Prescribed Fire	Yuba		Proposed 2015
Mount Hope Camp Wildfire Safety	Thinning	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Woodleaf Wildfire Safety	Defensible Space	Yuba		Proposed 2015
Zions Camp Wildfire Safety	Defensible Space	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Greenville	Roadside	Yuba		Proposed 2014
Smartville Fuel Reduction	Thinning	Yuba		Proposed 2014

Yuba County Public Works

Project Name	Type	County	Treated Acreage	Status
Fuel Reduction Along County Roads	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Yuba	unknown	Ongoing
Fuel Reduction Along Major Evacuation Routes (10.2 Miles of Road)	PCT, Pruning, Chipping	Yuba	unknown	Ongoing

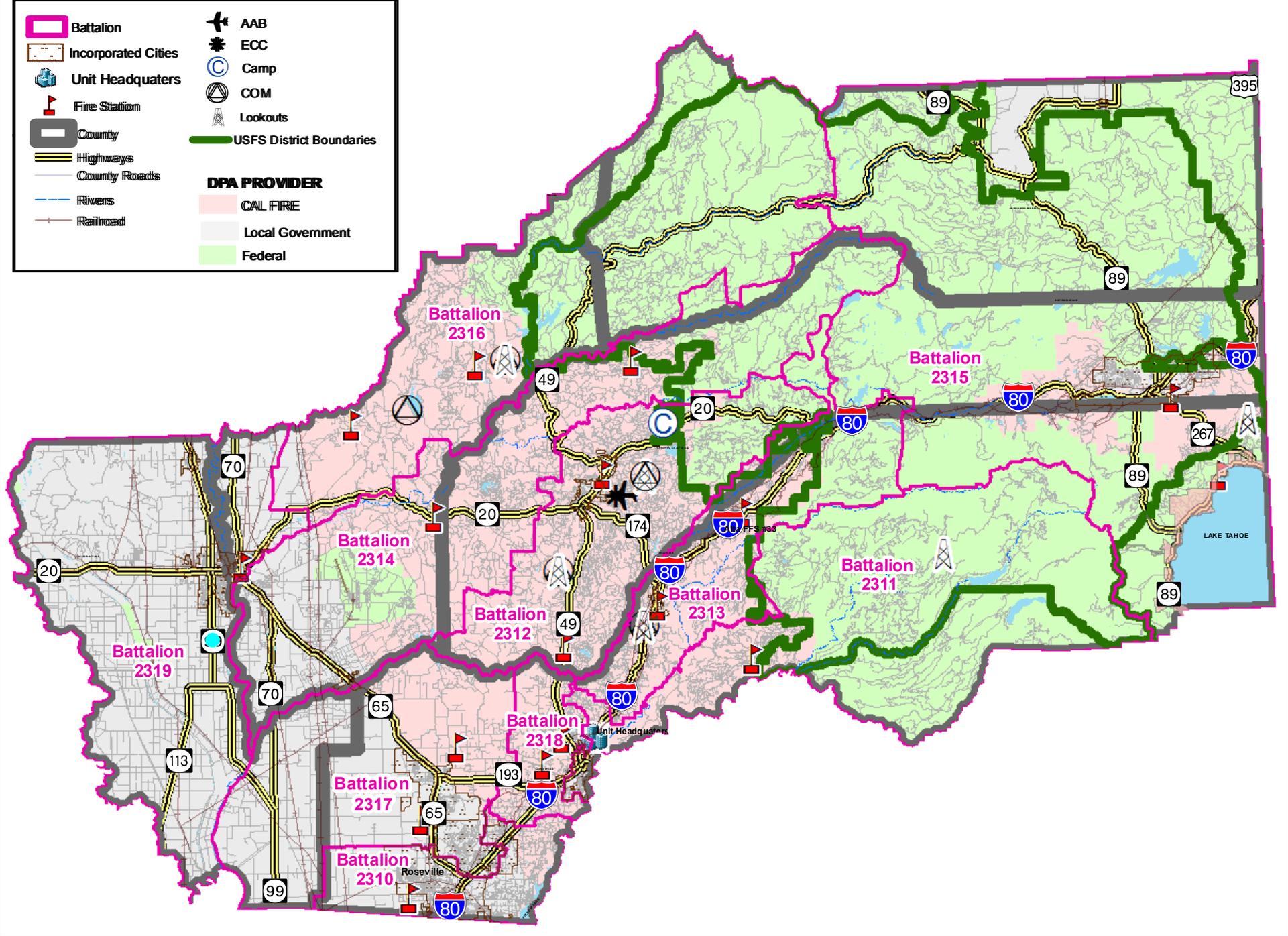
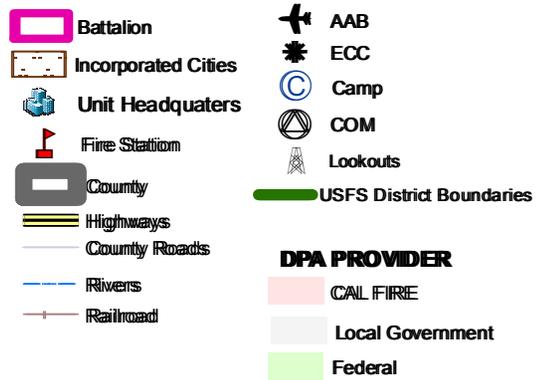
EXHIBITS:

MAPS

Exhibit 1 – Unit Map

NEVADA - YUBA - PLACER UNIT (NEU)

Battalions- Administrative Boundaries



SUPPLEMENT: 2013

Annual Report of Unit Accomplishments

The Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit has continued to work on a variety of projects throughout 2012. Unit Staff continues to work with cooperators assisting in the development, implementation, and oversight of numerous fuel reduction projects. In addition to fuel reduction work, the Unit has also dedicated time and resources to defensible space inspections (LE-100), and community education and participation.

LE-100 Defensible Space Inspections

Approximately three thousand seven hundred LE-100 inspections were completed throughout the Unit in 2012. Of this, approximately five hundred properties were not in compliance after the first inspection. After continued re-inspections and education, one hundred percent compliance was reached.

Volunteers In Prevention (VIP'S)

The Unit utilizes a dedicated cadre of volunteer personnel or Volunteers In Prevention. These volunteers are utilized to staff two fire lookouts within the Unit during fire season. Assist with two County Fairs and a Christmas parade. Assist with writing and issuing dooryard burn permits at State Fire Stations. Provide office support staff to the Unit's Fire Prevention Bureau, and staff the Unit's Fire Information Center during large incidents. During 2012, our VIP's volunteered a combined total of just over three thousand hours.

Education and Community Involvement

It is the goal of the Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit to engage in a wide variety of community education opportunities. In a typical year, the Unit attends specific events such as the Nevada County Fair, the Gold Country Fair, and the Lincoln City Christmas Parade. Throughout the year, the Unit is invited to and attends numerous other events. Community education, participation, and involvement is not borne by any one CAL FIRE program, but encompasses all programs and staff. The program works best when individual stations can react to, and attend an unplanned community event.

Fuel Reduction Projects

Cal Fire NEU has always had an extremely active pre-fire / vegetation management program supporting the development and management of fire prevention projects across the unit. Cal Fire crews out of Washington Ridge Camp are an important asset to these projects. The following contains 2012 Unit accomplishments.

Nevada County

Over 2800 LE-38 Inspections

Nevada County Roadside Clearings

Placer County

Mt Howell Maintenance

Foresthill Bridge Retrofit Project and Prescribed Burn

Extension of the Auburn Fuel Break

I-80 Fuel Reduction Project

Meadow Vista / McElroy Road Fuel Break

Ralston Ridge Fuel Break

Applegate Fuel Reduction Project

Gillis Hill Fuelbreak / Robbers Fire Contingency

Auburn State Recreation Area Fuel Reduction

Yuba County

Yuba County Roads Fuel Reduction

Stanfield Hill Fuelbreak

Daugherty Hill Fuelbreak

Spenceville Shooting Range

Oregon Peak Fuel Reduction

Sierra County

Sierra County Roads – Cooperative with Sierra County and CalTrans

SUPPLEMENT : 2014
Annual Report of Unit Accomplishments

The 2013 year has been a particular important year for the Nevada-Yuba Placer Unit. The NEU Pre-Fire and Fire Prevention programs have transferred funding sources from prior State general funds to the newly developed SRA Fee Program funding. This change occurred for these programs on a statewide basis. The Unit anticipates an increased effort in Defensible Space Inspections and fuel reduction projects resultant from SRA Fee funding. Community Fire Prevention education and participation in various events are a continued priority for NEU.

Fire Planning

NEU has three staff positions (Fire Captains) dedicated to local government planning and building coordination. In 2013 these staff reviewed approximately 500 documents and projects. Having these personnel directly located in the County facilities greatly streamlines the permitting process.

Investigations and Enforcement

Staff continues to prioritize education and public outreach as the first step to enforcement. In 2013 the majority of law enforcement cases involved Public Resource Code violations. Escaped debris burns, allowing fire to escape and burning the lands of another continue to be persistent violations. The majority of violations in 2013 involved fires of relatively small acreage (under 15 acres).

Wildland Fire Prevention Engineering

In 2013 approximately 4,000 LE-100 Defensible Space Inspections were completed in the Unit. We anticipate our inspection efforts to significantly increase in 2014 due to additional SRA Fee Defensible Space Inspectors. Staff participated in pre-fire season safety meetings with cooperators and provided fire prevention equipment inspections for PG&E and Union Pacific.

Civil Cost Recovery

The Unit continues to be very active in both criminal and civil cost recovery. In 2013 a total of 19 criminal citations were issued in the Unit for Public Resource Code (PRC) violations. 21 civil cases cost recovery cases were initiated.

Volunteerism

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Nevada County

- Over 2800 LE-100 Inspections
- Nevada County Roadside Clearings

Placer County

- Mt Howell Maintenance
- Foresthill Bridge Prescribed Burn
- I-80 Fuel Reduction Project
- Meadow Vista / McElroy Road Fuel Break (Prop 40 Community Assistance Grant)
- Ralston Ridge Fuel Break (Prop 40 Community Assistance Grant)
- Applegate Fuel Reduction Project
- Gillis Hill Fuelbreak / Robbers Fire Contingency
- Auburn State Recreation Area Fuel Reduction

Yuba County

- Yuba County Roads Fuel Reduction

Approximately 24 Prop 40 CFIP projects were completed on private land in 2013 for a total of 113 acres.