

***Unit Strategic Fire Plan
Lassen-Modoc-Plumas***



Last update: March 27, 2015

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SIGNATURE PAGE

Unit Strategic Fire Plan developed for Lassen-Modoc-Plumas 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.



Unit Chief
Dave Junette

3/27/2015

Date



Pre-Fire Engineer
Del Beaudry

3/27/2015

Date

The Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit includes Lassen, Modoc and Plumas Counties and portions of Shasta and Siskiyou Counties. The Unit's Fire Management Plan is intended to provide information to CAL FIRE personnel, various County Boards of Supervisors, Firesafe Councils and other stakeholders focused on identifying specific problem areas and solving the mutually agreed upon fire issues.

The Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit Fire Management Plan documents the assessment of the fire situation in the Unit. It includes stakeholder contributions and priorities which identify strategic targets for proactive approaches and project based solutions.

While the Unit Fire Management Plan addresses local needs, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection also has legislative mandates dating back to 1945 requiring it to determine the "intensity" or appropriate level of fire protection for all state responsibility areas in California (*Public Resources Code §4130*). The Unit Fire Management Plan is the means of focusing efforts on local needs while working within the framework of the California Fire Plan as adopted by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.

It is intended to be an ever-evolving working document which can be used to identify potentially hazardous areas or communities at risk, provide guidelines for fire prevention and protection projects and to assist the Firesafe Councils and community groups with useful information in making their communities Firesafe. This document should be used as a guide that can be amended over the years as necessary and as the basic framework for fire prevention projects within the Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit.

The *California Fire Plan (2010)* is outlined within this document. It is the goal of the Unit to apply the California Fire Plan to accomplish a systematic assessment of the fire problem. Through this assessment, the Unit strives to develop "Firesafe" communities and reduce the potential occurrence of devastating wildfires. In an effort to implement the California Fire Plan, the Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit utilizes computer-based data and Geographic Information System (GIS) to comprehensively analyze fire hazards, assets at risk and the level of service, all of which are included in the Unit Fire Management Plan.

The Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit's Fire Management Plan systematically assesses the existing levels of wildland protection services, identifies high-risk and high value areas that are potential locations for costly and damaging wildfires, ranks the areas in terms of priority needs, and prescribes actions that can be taken to reduce future losses.

SECTION I: UNIT OVERVIEW

UNIT DESCRIPTION

Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit is located in the northeastern corner of the State. It consists of Lassen, Modoc, Plumas and portions of Shasta, Sierra and Siskiyou Counties.

The Cascade Mountain Range ends near the Almanor Basin. The Sierra Nevada Range begins and runs to the South along the Diamond Mountains on the Southwest edge of the Honey Lake Valley. The unit encompasses the Northeastern Plateau of California with an average elevation of 5000 feet above sea level.

Vegetation types range from mixed conifer, ponderosa and lodge pole pines along the West side of the Unit, to sagebrush, oaks, and annual grasses mixed with juniper in the desert to the East. The Eastern boundary of the Unit is the beginning of the Great Basin, which continues east to the Great Salt Lake of Utah.

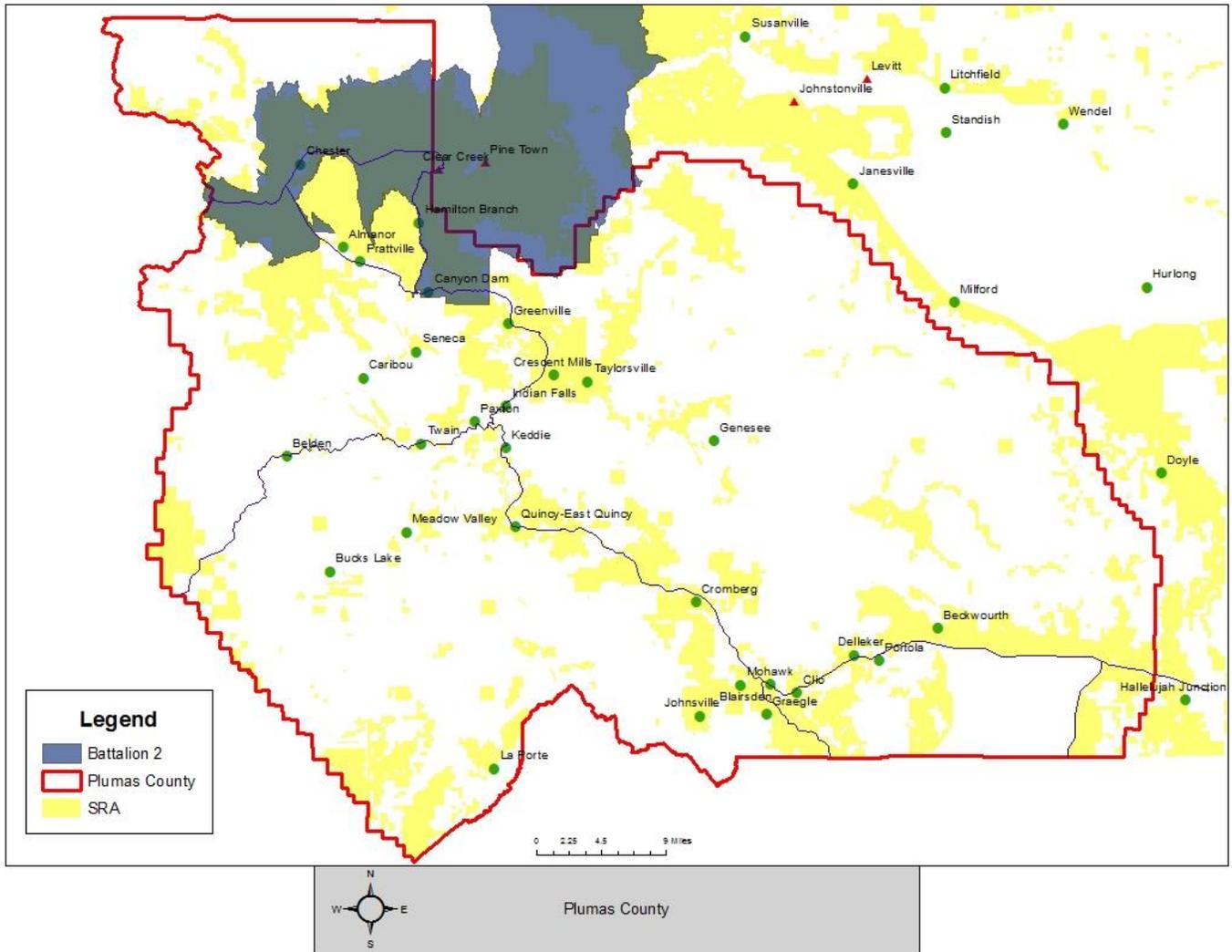
The majority of the populated areas are located in the Honey Lake Valley, Lake Almanor Basin, Big Valley, Alturas and Quincy. The Honey Lake Valley is home to the City of Susanville, and the communities of Janesville, Standish, Litchfield, Wendel, Milford, Herlong, and Doyle.

The Almanor Basin consists of the City of Chester, Almanor, Almanor West, Prattville, Peninsula, Hamilton Branch, Canyon Dam, Clear Creek and Westwood. The Big Valley area includes the communities of Bieber, Nubieber, Lookout, and Adin. The Alturas area consists of the City of Alturas and the towns of Likely, Canby, Cedarville, Davis Creek and the community of Cal Pines. Plumas County consists of Quincy, the county seat and several smaller towns, including Blairsden, Canyon Dam, Cromberg, Meadow Valley, Clio, Portola, Taylorsville, Greenville, Chilcoot, LaPorte, Crescent Mills, Beckwourth, East Quincy, and Graeagle

The Unit administers the Natural Resource Management Program for Plumas County which includes enforcement of the California Forest Practice Act, review of timber harvesting plans and watershed restoration and enhancement. The LMU Fire Prevention Bureau works with Plumas County Agencies, private land owners, and developers to ensure compliance with minimum Firesafety standards relating to defensible space around property and structures within state responsibility areas. The majority of Plumas County consists of federal land. The state land that is located within Plumas County and that is outside of Battalion 2's response area is the U.S. Forest Service's direct protection area (DPA). (See map below)

The majority of fires in the Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit are due to Lightning.

The recent California's Forests and Rangelands have identified priority landscapes and strategies. The individual priority landscapes can be retrieved from the following website; <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov/assessment2010.html>



UNIT PREPAREDNESS AND FIREFIGHTING CAPABILITIES

U.S. Highway 395 runs north to south along the east side of the Unit, from Lakeview, Oregon to Reno, Nevada. State Highways 70, 139, 299, 44 and 36 transect the Unit west to east and State Highway 89 runs north to south along the west side of the Unit traveling through Lassen National Park. Numerous visitors travel these routes throughout the year, as well as interstate commerce from the Sacramento Valley and Oregon in search of a shorter way to the east bound interstate highways.

Logging, correctional institutions and recreation are the major industrial economic factors to the region. Over the past few years, logging has diminished due to environmental concerns and regulations from the Federal and State governments. Although very seasonal, recreation flourishes during the spring and summer months. Watersheds from the Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit flow to the Feather and Sacramento River. Most of these watersheds are the headwaters to these two major rivers in the state.

The Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit resources and facilities include:

Susanville Interagency Fire Center
8 Fire Stations,
13 front line fire engines,
2 reserve fire engines,
5 Lookouts,
3 Conservation Camps,
14 Inmate Fire Crews
Susanville Inmate Training Center
3 medium fire bulldozers,
1 medium helicopter with crew.

The Susanville Interagency Fire Center provides emergency dispatch services for all of the Federal, State and local government fire agencies in Lassen County and the Almanor Basin. Plumas County Sheriff's office dispatches local government fire agencies in the remainder of Plumas County. The Modoc County Sheriff's office dispatches the local government fire agencies within Modoc County.

Cooperating government agencies within the Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit include:

USDA - Lassen National Forest
USDA - Plumas National Forest
USDA - Modoc National Forest
USDI - Lassen Volcanic National Park
USDI - Lava Beds National Monument
USDI - Bureau of Land Management
USDI - Bureau of Indian Affairs
Natural Resource Conservation Service
California Department of Fish and Game
California Department of Transportation
California Highway Patrol
Department of Defense, Herlong Army Depot
Lassen County Sheriff's Office & Lassen County Office of Emergency Services

Plumas County Sheriff's Office & Plumas County Office of Emergency Services
Modoc County Sheriff's Office

SECTION II: COLLABORATION

COMMUNITY / AGENCIES / FIRESAFE 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:

Plan Development Team:

Organization	Title
Lassen Firesafe Council	Lassen County FSC Coordinator
Modoc Firesafe Council	Modoc County FSC Coordinator
Plumas Firesafe Council	Plumas County FSC Coordinator

SECTION III: VALUES

A: VALUES

The primary goal of wildland fire protection in the Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit is to safeguard the wide range of assets found within the unit from the effects of wildfire. The assets at risk, both public and private, are to be protected. The following have been identified as assets at risk to wildfires and include both economic and non-economic assets: people, structures, timber, watershed, wildlife, unique scenic and recreation areas, range, and air quality. The table below provides a description of the evaluated assets.

Asset at Risk	Public Issue Category	Location and Ranking Methodology
Hydroelectric power	Public welfare	1) Watersheds that feed into river power plants ranked based on plant capacity; 2) Cells adjacent to reservoir based plants (Low rank); 3) Cells containing canals and flumes (High rank).
Fire-flood watersheds	Public safety Public welfare	Watersheds with a history of problems or potential for future problems, ranked based on downstream Population.
Soil erosion	Environment	Watersheds ranked based on erosion potential
Water storage	Public welfare	Watershed area up to 20 miles upstream from water storage facility, ranked based on water value and dead Storage capacity of facility.
Water supply	Public health	1) Watershed area up to 20 miles upstream from water supply facility (High rank) 2) Grid cells containing domestic water diversions, ranked based on number of connections; 3) Cells containing ditches that contribute to water supply system (High rank)
Scenic	Public welfare	Four mile view-shed around Scenic Highways and ¼ view-shed around Wild and Scenic Rivers, ranked based on potential impacts to vegetation types (tree versus non-tree types)
Timber	Public welfare	Timberlands ranked based on value and susceptibility to damage
Range	Public welfare	Rangeland ranked based on potential replacement feed cost by region/owner and vegetation type.
Air quality	Public health / Public welfare Environment	Potential damages to health, materials, vegetation, and visibility; ranked based on vegetation type and air basin
Historic buildings	Public welfare	Historic building ranked based on fire susceptibility
Recreation	Public welfare	Unique recreation area or areas with potential damage to facilities, ranked based on fire susceptibility

Structures	Public safety / Public welfare	Ranked based on housing density and fire susceptibility
Asset at Risk	Public Issue Category	Location and Ranking Methodology
Non-game wildlife	Environment Public welfare	Critical habitats and species locations based on input from California Department of Fish and Game and other stakeholders
Game wildlife	Public welfare Environment	Critical habitats and species locations based on input from California Department of Fish and Game and other stakeholders
Infrastructure	Public safety Public welfare	Infrastructure for delivery of emergency and other critical services (e.g. repeater sites, transmission lines)
Ecosystem Health	Environment	Ranking based on vegetation type/fuel characteristics

B: COMMUNITIES AT RISK

The “Communities at Risk” in Lassen, Modoc and Plumas Counties listed in the following tables, are on the National Registry available at the following site:

http://cdfdata.fire.ca.gov/fire_er/fpp_planning_car

Communities at risk: Lassen County

Place Name	County Name	Federal Threat	Federally Regulated
Bieber	Lassen	✓	✓
Clear Creek	Lassen		
Doyle	Lassen	✓	✓
Hallelujah Junction	Lassen	✓	✓
Herlong	Lassen	✓	✓
Janesville	Lassen	✓	✓
Johnstonville	Lassen		✓
Levitt	Lassen		✓
Litchfield	Lassen	✓	✓
Little Valley	Lassen	✓	✓
Madeline	Lassen	✓	✓
Milford	Lassen	✓	✓
Nubieber	Lassen		
Pine Town	Lassen		
Ravendale	Lassen	✓	✓
Spaulding	Lassen	✓	✓
Standish	Lassen	✓	✓
Stones Landing	Lassen	✓	✓
Susanville	Lassen	✓	✓
Wendel	Lassen	✓	✓

Communities at Risk: Modoc County

<u>Place Name</u>	<u>County Name</u>	<u>Federal Threat</u>	<u>Federally Regulated</u>
Adin	Modoc	✓	✓
Alturas	Modoc	✓	✓
Cal Pines Lower Units	Modoc	✓	✓
Cal Pines Upper Units	Modoc	✓	✓
Canby	Modoc		✓
Cedarville	Modoc	✓	✓
Copic	Modoc	✓	✓
Davis Creek	Modoc	✓	✓
Day	Modoc	✓	✓
Eagleville	Modoc	✓	✓
Fort Bidwell	Modoc	✓	✓
Likely	Modoc	✓	✓
Lookout	Modoc	✓	✓
New Pine Creek	Modoc	✓	✓
Newell	Modoc	✓	✓
Willow Ranch	Modoc	✓	✓

Communities at Risk: Plumas County

<u>Place Name</u>	<u>County Name</u>	<u>Federal Threat</u>	<u>Federally Regulated</u>
Almanor	Plumas	✓	✓
Beckwourth	Plumas	✓	✓
Belden	Plumas	✓	✓
Blairsdan	Plumas	✓	✓
Bucks Lake	Plumas	✓	✓
Canyon Dam	Plumas	✓	✓
Caribou	Plumas	✓	✓
Chester	Plumas	✓	✓
Clio	Plumas	✓	✓
Crescent Mills	Plumas	✓	✓
Cromberg	Plumas	✓	✓
Delleker	Plumas	✓	✓
Genesee	Plumas	✓	✓
Graegle	Plumas	✓	✓
Greenville	Plumas	✓	✓
Hamilton Branch	Plumas	✓	✓
Indian Falls	Plumas	✓	✓
Johnsville	Plumas	✓	✓

Keddie	Plumas	✓	✓
La Porte	Plumas	✓	✓
Meadow Valley	Plumas	✓	✓
Mohawk	Plumas	✓	✓
Paxton	Plumas	✓	✓
Portola	Plumas	✓	✓
Prattville	Plumas	✓	✓
Quincy-East Quincy	Plumas	✓	✓
Seneca	Plumas	✓	✓
Taylorsville	Plumas	✓	✓
Twain	Plumas	✓	✓

1. Federal Threat code of x indicates some or all of the wildland fire threat to that community comes from federal (e.g., US Forest Service, BLM, Dept. of Defense) lands.

SECTION IV: PRE-FIRE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

A: FIRE PREVENTION

Fire History

Wildfire history is a significant factor of the pre-fire management planning process. The fire plan assessment framework incorporates detailed information for determining the most beneficial locations for pre-fire management projects, an idea of the level of service in SRA for the unit, and various assets at risk information. Fire history is a piece of the puzzle that allows unit personnel to learn from our past and make an attempt to prepare for future fire behavior. Having knowledge of fire history provides an account of historic fire travel in a particular area armed with knowledge of historic fire spreads, fire suppression forces are better equipped to predict fire spread potentials.

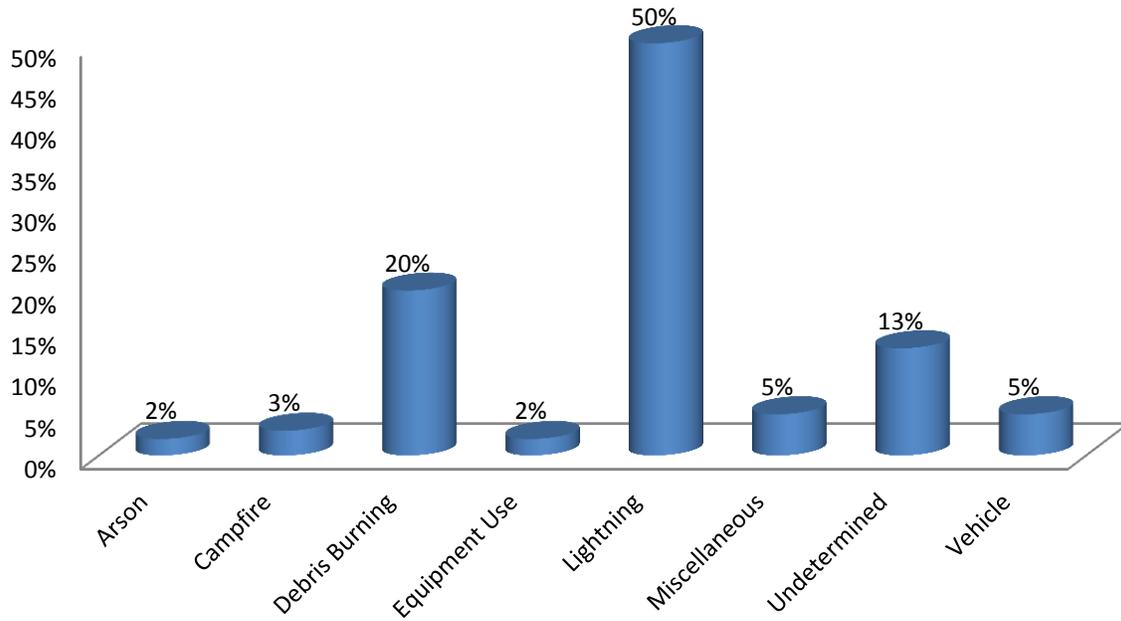
Identifying where the largest and most damaging fires have occurred is a necessary step in preparing for future wildfire. The most significant aspect of fire history in Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit is that personnel are able to compare the relationship between identified assets at risk and the historic burning patterns of wildfire that allows for more informed decision making processes when preparing fire planning documents and procedures.

Ignition Analysis

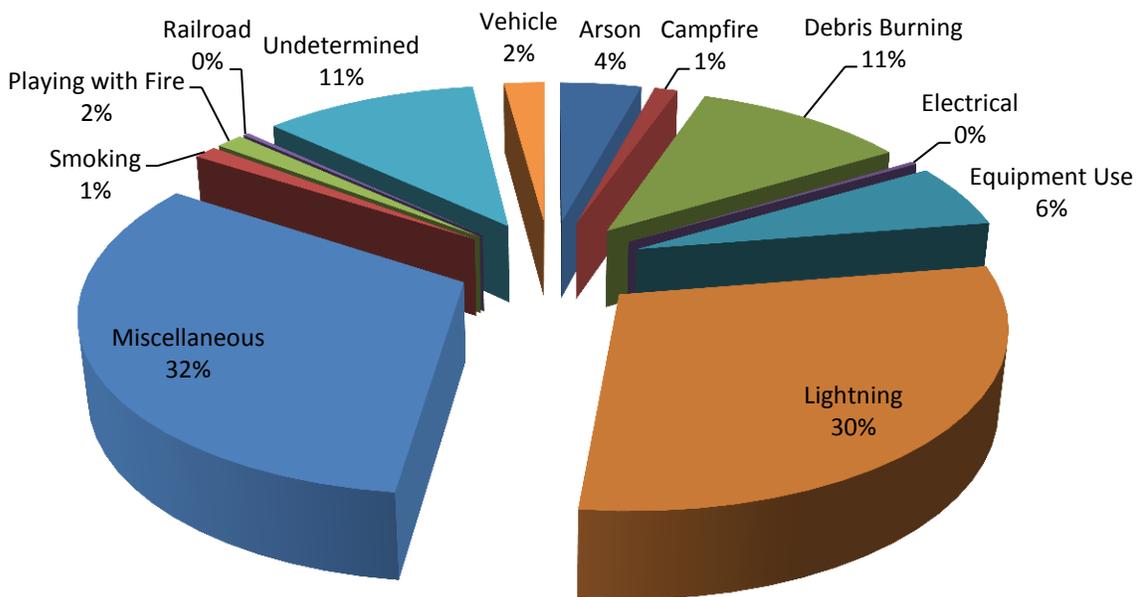
All fires within CAL FIRE Lassen-Modoc-Plumas jurisdiction are included in this analysis. The most common ignition cause in 2014 was lightning which accounted for half of the fires in the Unit. The second most common cause was debris burning, which is up from last year. This could be due to the dry conditions experienced in the Unit with residents burning earlier and later into the year. The Unit will stress the importance of safe debris burning in 2015.

Ignitions within the Unit from 2009 through 2013 indicate the most common source was “miscellaneous” at 32%. Public education has helped reduce the number of “miscellaneous” starts over the past five years, from 11% to 5%. Lightning was the second most common cause at 30%.

Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit 2014



Fire Causes: 2009 - 2013



Engineering & Structural Ignitability

Title 24 (addresses fire apparatus access, water requirements, building materials, and construction methods as of 2007)

The purpose of this code is to establish the minimum requirements consistent with nationally recognized good practices to safeguard the public health, safety and general welfare from the hazards of fire, explosion or dangerous conditions in new and existing buildings, structures, and premises, and to provide safety and assistance to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

Title 19, PRC 4290 (addresses fire apparatus access and water requirements)

These regulations have been prepared and adopted for the purpose of establishing minimum wildfire protection standards in conjunction with building, construction and development in State Responsibility Areas (SRA). These regulations shall become effective September 1, 1991. The future design and construction of structures, subdivisions and developments in State Responsibility Area (SRA) shall provide for basic emergency access and perimeter wildfire protection measures as specified in PRC 4290. These measures shall provide for emergency access; signing and building numbering; and vegetation modification. The fire protection standards contained within PRC 4290 shall specify the minimums for such measures.

PRC 4291 (addresses defensible space around structures)

To ensure continued maintenance of properties in conformance with the defensible space requirements outlines in PRC 4290 and to assure continued availability, access, and utilization of the defensible space provided during a wildfire, provisions for annual maintenance shall be included in the development plans and/or shall be provided as a condition of the permit, parcel or map approval. PRC 4291 is the law requiring annual defensible space be provided around all structures in, upon, or adjoining any mountainous area, forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, grass-covered lands, or any land that is covered with flammable material.

This law was enacted to prevent fire that originates in structures or on premises to spread into forested areas. It was also created to minimize the chances of a forest fire entering into populated areas and destroying improved property and endangering human life. The history of damaging fires has shown the most devastating danger is the risk of fire originating in the wildland and transmitting itself into improved areas. Most statutory hazard reduction requirements and other hazard reduction measures are based upon this concept. However, the risk of wildfire originating on or about structures and their premises is great, and also causes historically damaging fires. The statutory hazard reduction requirements, and other hazard and risk measures, also mitigate the occurrence of structure and premise wildfire ignitions.

Protection Planning

(Fire Protection planning is reviewed at the subdivision and parcel map level and typically implemented at the development stages of a project.) CAL FIRE is responsible for enforcing

Public Resources Code 4290 (SRA only) and Public Resources Code 4291 within Lassen, Modoc and Plumas Counties. Lassen County has adopted CAL FIRE as the County Fire Warden. The Lassen County Fire Warden is responsible for enforcing Public Resources Code 4290 (SRA only), Public Resources 4291 and Lassen County Ordinance 502 in relation to improvement standards on all new building construction (commercial and residential), parcel splits, subdivisions and use permits within Lassen County.

Code enforcement

CAL FIRE enforces forest, state and county laws and regulations to include Public Resource Code, Health and Safety Code. CAL FIRE also enforces building standards adopted by the State Fire Marshall and published in the State Building Standards Code relating to fires or to fire prevention and protection.

Building inspections

The goal of the fire prevention program is to educate homeowners of measures to prevent the ignition and spread of unwanted human-caused fires. Emphasis should be placed on loss reduction and prevention of large and damaging fires and to provide firefighter safety. One of the necessary tools utilized to accomplish this goal is the structural fire prevention inspection. Inspections are a fire prevention engineering activity. Coordinated with other ignition management activities, the inspections are aimed at eliminating or reducing fire hazards and risks by changing the environment through removing or reducing the heat source, modifying or reducing the fuels, and modifying the act or omission, allowing the heat source to contact the ignitable fuels.

Information and Education

Information Program

The Unit provides information to the public through the Fire Prevention Specialist who acts as the Unit's Public Information Officer (PIO). The PIO prepares news releases for the newspapers and radio regarding burning restrictions, burn permit requirements, tips about burning safely, information on creating defensible space, etc. The Unit provides information to the public through its website that contains current burn information and news releases.

During emergency incidents the PIO provides the public with information about the incident; location, acreage, road closures, evacuations, etc. This is accomplished through news releases and radio announcements and via public meetings, information centers and call centers.

It is through education and information that the Unit reduces ignitions. This is accomplished by educating children when they first enter school and continuing that education through adulthood.

Education Program

The Unit's Education Program reaches people of all ages. The Unit's Fire Prevention Specialist teaches children from preschool through junior high about 9-1-1, Stop, Drop and Roll, (EDITH)

Exit Drills in the Home, the Consequences of Playing with Fire, etc. Education is delivered to the schools in Lassen, Modoc County and the Lake Almanor portion of Plumas County through assemblies, class room training, field trips to CAL FIRE stations and more. In addition to school programs the Unit participates in a variety of other events where there is an opportunity to teach children and adults about fire safety, the requirements of PRC 4291, and the advantages of removing ignition sources from around their homes.

The Fire Prevention Bureau of the Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit has a Juvenile Firesetter Program used to identify and educate youth ages 2-14 about the consequences of playing with fire. The program is two-pronged: it involves intervention with juveniles caught playing with fire and education for juveniles at risk of fire play behavior.

The Unit works with Firesafe Councils and other local, state and federal agencies to educate the public about the importance of preparing for wildfires, encouraging homeowners to work together to protect their communities. CAL FIRE works with agencies to educate the public about the benefits of community fuel breaks and the advantages of reducing the fuels around their homes.

B. VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

Attainment of the fuel reduction goals of the Lassen–Modoc-Plumas Unit Fire Plan will require on-the-ground effort. The use of CAL FIRE and CDCR crews and equipment will continue to be necessary in many areas where stakeholders do not have the finances or resources to do an effective job individually or as a group. The Vegetation Management program (VMP) is currently a vehicle which CAL FIRE may use resources on privately owned lands. Recently the local Firesafe Councils have utilized grant funding to promote fuel reduction in high fire danger areas adjacent to communities using a combination of paid Licensed Timber Operator contractors on larger areas and use of CDCR crews for smaller areas near sensitive locations that do not lend well to mechanical equipment. The Unit continues to participate in a joint effort to target at-risk communities and high fire danger areas in the wildland urban interface (WUI) areas in cooperation with the US Forest Service, BLM, Industrial timberland owners and the local Firesafe Councils.

In place since 1981, the VMP program has been an effective fuels reduction / rangeland improvement tool. Because of increasing competition for smoke allotments, CAL FIRE's use of fire to reduce fuel load is in jeopardy. As a result, chipping will likely become the primary disposal method in the future. VMP is a cost-share program; the State's share of a project's cost may range from zero to ninety percent. This is based on a public benefits formula --the greater the benefit to the public, the greater the share of the cost of the project CAL FIRE may assume. Fuels reduction projects in critical areas within the Unit as identified in this plan have a high public to private benefits ratio therefore the unit's efforts should be concentrated in these areas. For example, a project in the Janesville area that reduced fuels around the community would have a high public/private benefit ratio and lower landowner participation is then justified. Conversely, potential projects that are essentially range improvement burns that are not near

population concentrations will require a higher degree of landowner effort and proportional costs.

This is not to say that rangeland burning is of minor importance. Through this century, range improvement burns have been vital in managing wildland fuels on a landscape basis. However, increasing population in the rural areas has brought constraints such as smoke management and liability concerns. Such constraints have made the LE-7, range improvement project less attractive and has put VMP projects in higher demand with managers from the timber industry and ranchers.

The unit has experienced a sharp decline in VMP projects due to a series of factors including a very narrow burn window for large acreage projects and a lack of available resources during the appropriate window. Staffing levels have been reduced where only the resources required to staff a shift are on at a given time and must be immediately available for emergency. At this time, there are no VMP projects planned.

Thinning Projects

Intermountain, Devils Garden and Antelope Crews have continued to work on CAL-TRANS right of way roadside thinning projects under the direction of CAL-TRANS where visibility is being improved along the roadway and fuel reduction for Fire safety is being achieved.

SECTION V: PRE-FIRE Management Tactics

DIVISION / BATTALION / PROGRAM PLANS

PREVENTION BUREAU

The Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit Pre Fire Management Program has been in place since 1997. During the past sixteen years, data has been validated and processed in order to assess vegetative fuels, assets at risk, fire weather, and level of service calculations. The assessments now include changes in the dynamics of the actual on-the-ground work that has been accomplished. This is an ongoing process.

The development of a method for incorporating the current and past Timber Harvest Plans, Emergency Notices, Exemptions, and Non-Industrial Timber Management Plans into a GIS format is under way. The data to be collected and utilized will include the locations and types of fuels treatments in areas containing assets having the greatest value. This information can be utilized in many aspects by the unit and cooperating agencies.

Unit Fire Plan Data Layers

The Unit Fire Management Plan Data layers, which consist of fuels, weather, fire history, emergency activity reporting, assets at risk and level of service have been completed to date, however, conditions are dynamic in nature and must be re-validated on a regular basis.

Unit Fire Management Plan Integration into Daily Operations

Over the years, many of our managers and supervisors have had priorities and goals to reduce fuels around many of the communities within the Unit. The development of the Unit Fire Management Plan was based on the strong support and assistance from the Firesafe Councils. Many of the ideas from these collective influences are now coming to fruition.

The California Fire Plan (2010)

The *State Board of Forestry (BOF)* and the *California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)* drafted the *California Fire Plan (2010)*. This document is a comprehensive fire plan for the wildland fire protection in California. The fire plan consists of a planning process that considers: level of service measurements, assets at risk assessments, incorporates the cooperative interdependent relationships of wildland fire protection providers, provides for public stakeholder involvement, and creates a fiscal framework for policy analysis.

Goals and Objectives

The overall goal of the *California Fire Plan* is to reduce the total losses and ever increasing costs from wildland fires in California by protecting the assets at risk through focused pre-fire management prescriptions and improving the potential of initial attack success.

BATTALION 1

Battalion 1 (B-2211 Susanville Battalion Chief) is located in the central and southeastern portion of Lassen County, with the communities of Susanville, Johnstonville, Janesville, Standish, Litchfield, Lake Forest Estates, Stones Landing and Spaulding. The incorporated City of Susanville lays is in the center of the Battalion.

U. S. Highway 395 travels through the Battalion on its east side. State Highways 44, 139 and 36 also travel through the Battalion and intersect with U.S. 395. The elevation of the Battalion is approximately 4500' in the Honey Lake Valley to 7700' on Diamond Mountain, with an average elevation of approximately 5800' on the northeastern plateau of California.

Approximately 32,000 acres of this Battalion are State Responsibility Lands; the only Local Responsibility Land is located within the Honey Lake Valley area, in Susanville City, and portions of the communities of Standish, Janesville and Johnstonville. The highest housing and population concentration in the Unit is located in Battalion 1.

Fuels

The vegetative cover in Battalion 1 is comprised of standing timber on the west and northwest sides of the Battalion and high desert sage, bitterbrush and juniper on the mid and east side of the Battalion. Most of the large fires in Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit over the years have occurred in Battalion 1 in the timbered areas.

Fire Weather

Fire weather in Battalion 1 can be extreme because of its location and elevation. Most of the 32,000 acres are in a very dry climate due to being in the rain shadow of the Sierra Nevada Cascade Range. Single digit relative humidity during the summer months is not uncommon and many of the forest fuels remain ready to burn in the late spring to early summer, prior to the finer fuels drying.

Battalion 1 Resources

B-2211 Susanville BC

Susanville Station

2- Fire Engines
1- Bull Dozer
1- Reserve Fire Engine
Landon Lookout

Grasshopper Station

2- Fire Engines
Fredonyer Lookout

Fire Protection Districts and Volunteer Departments within Battalion 1

California Correctional Center
Susanville City Fire Department
Susan River Fire Protection District
Janesville Fire Protection District
Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District
Doyle Fire Protection District
Eagle Lake Fire Protection District
Stones-Bengard Fire Protection District
Lake Forest Fire Protection District
Milford Fire Protection District
Sierra Army Depot Fire Department
Spaulding Volunteer Fire Department
Herlong Volunteer Fire Department

BATTALION 2

Battalion 2 (Battalion 2212 Westwood Battalion Chief) is located on the west side of Lassen County and includes the Almanor Basin in Plumas County. The communities of Westwood, Pinetown, Clear Creek, Hamilton Branch, Canyon Dam, Prattville, Almanor West and Chester are all within Battalion 2.

Those areas of state land within Plumas County that are outside of Battalion 2's response area are protected by the U.S. Forest Service and lie within their direct protection area (Federal DPA). Fire protection to the residents in that area is provided by local paid and volunteer fire protection agencies.

State Highways 36, 147, 89 and 44 traverses through Battalion 2. The elevation of the Battalion is approximately 4500' in the Chester area to 7500' on Dyer Mountain, with an average elevation of approximately 5100' in the community of Westwood and the Mountain Meadows area.

In Battalion 2 approximately 13,000 acres are State Responsibility Lands. Local Responsibility Land is located in the town of Chester and the community of Westwood. The population is concentrated in Westwood and the immediate area surrounding Lake Almanor. Battalion 2 is home to approximately 25,000 people. However, this number drops dramatically during the winter months.

Fuels

The vegetative cover in Battalion 2 is predominately standing timber, with some grass, and sage cover.

Fire Weather

Battalion 2 typically receives the most precipitation within the Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit. As much of the area is shaded by Dyer Mountain and Keddie Ridge, the snow pack can linger well into the late spring. Single digit relative humidity during the summer months is not uncommon

and many of the forest fuels remain ready to burn in the late spring to early summer, prior to the finer fuels drying.

Battalion 2 Resources

B-2212 Westwood BC

Westwood Station

2- Fire Engines

Peg Leg Lookout

Dyer Mountain Lookout

Eagle Lake Station

1 – Fire Engine

Fire Protection Districts and Volunteer Departments within Battalion 2

Westwood Community Services District and Volunteer Fire Department

Chester Fire Department

Almanor West Fire Department

Hamilton Branch Fire Department

Clear Creek Volunteer Fire Department

Prattville Fire Protection District

Peninsula Fire Protection District

BATTALION 3

Battalion 3 (Battalion 2213 Bieber Battalion Chief) is located in the northwest portion of Lassen County, southwest corner of Modoc County and borders to the west along Shasta – Trinity and Siskiyou Units. The communities of Bieber, Nubieber, Day, Lookout, Little Valley and Adin are located within its boundaries.

State Highways 299 and 139 traverses through the Battalion. Approximately 17,260 acres of this Battalion are State Responsibility Lands; Local Responsibility Land is located in the Big Valley area around the towns of Bieber, Nubieber, and Pittville. The population within the Battalion is found in Bieber, Nubieber, Lookout, Day, Little Valley and Adin. Battalion 3 is home to approximately 1,400 people.

Fuels

The vegetative cover in the Battalion 3 is predominately standing timber with grass/sage cover. The Big Valley area of the Battalion is agricultural with much of the land committed to the production of hay. Many fires in this Battalion grow quite quickly, due to its remoteness and the lack of roads.

Fire Weather

Fire weather in Battalion 3 is typically wetter than that of Battalions 1 and 4 that are located in the rain shadow of the Sierra/Cascade Mountains. However, as most of the terrain is un-shaded, snow pack usually melts off by early spring. Single digit relative humidity during the summer

months is not uncommon and many of the forest fuels remain ready to burn in the late spring to early summer, prior to the finer fuels drying.

Battalion 3 Resources

Battalion 2213 Bieber BC

Bieber Station

2- Fire Engines

1- Helicopter and crew

Snag Hill Lookout

Happy Camp Station

1 – Fire Engine

Fire Protection Districts and Volunteer Departments within Battalion 3

Big Valley Fire Protection District

Lookout Volunteer Fire Department

Adin Volunteer Fire Department

McArthur Volunteer Fire Department (Day Bench)

Little Valley Community Services District

BATTALION 4

Battalion 4 (Battalion 2214 Alturas Battalion Chief) is located in the northeastern portion of the Lassen –Modoc - Plumas Unit. It is situated on the east half of Modoc County with Oregon to the north and Nevada to the east. The southern end of the Battalion is within the northeastern part of Lassen County. The communities of Alturas, Canby, Likely, and Madeline are located within its boundaries. Battalion 4 also services the communities of Davis Creek, New Pine Creek, Willow Ranch, Cedarville, Eagleville, Lake City and Fort Bidwell.

U. S. Highways 395, 299 and State Highway 139 traverse through the Battalion. Approximately 21,500 acres of this Battalion are State Responsibility Lands; Local Responsibility Land surrounds the community of Alturas and extends south to Likely. Battalion 4 is home to approximately 1800 people.

Fuels

The vegetative cover in the Battalion is predominately standing timber in the mountains, with juniper grass/sage cover in the eastern half of the battalion where the terrain is at a lower elevation. Many fires in this Battalion grow quite quickly due to the remoteness of the area and lack of roads.

Fire Weather

Fire weather in Battalion 4 is drier on average than Battalion 2 and 3 with Battalion 4 being in the rain shadow of the Sierra Cascade/Mountains. Snow pack will accumulate in the Upper Cal-Pines area shaded by Manzanita Ridge, and remains into late spring. Valley areas usually receive limited snow fall that rarely lingers. Single digit relative humidity during the summer

months is not uncommon and many of the forest fuels remain ready to burn in the late spring to early summer, prior to the finer fuels drying.

Battalion 4 Resources

Alturas Station
2- Fire Engines
Likely Mountain. Lookout

Deer Springs Station
1 – Fire Engine

Fire Protection Districts and Volunteer Departments within Battalion 4

Alturas City Fire Department
Alturas Rural Fire Protection District
Cal Pines Community Service District
Canby Fire Protection District
Cedarville Fire Protection District
Davis Creek Fire Protection District
Eagleville Fire Protection District
Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District
Lake City Fire Protection District
Likely Fire Protection District
Madeline Fire Protection District
Willow Ranch Fire Protection District
New Pine Fire Protection District

ANTELOPE CAMP

Antelope Camp is operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The camp is located in the California Correctional Center, eight miles east of Susanville in Lassen County.

Opened in 1963, the facility houses 120 level-one inmates, and provides five 17-man fire crews. Antelope Camp is an excellent resource for the local community and the state in emergency response and conservation work.

Antelope Camp is staffed by CAL FIRE and CDCR personnel. CAL FIRE staff includes one Division Chief, one Heavy Equipment Mechanic, one Office Technician, and eight Fire Captains.

SUSANVILLE TRAINING CENTER

Susanville Training Center is operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and is one of two training centers providing inmate fire fighters to conservation camps statewide. Susanville Training Center is located in the California Correctional Center eight miles east of Susanville in Lassen County.

The training center provides highly trained inmates to conservation camps located in the north state. Inmates undergo one week of classroom training and a week of field training, covering wildland fire safety and attack, hand tool use, teamwork, and crew expectations. In addition to receiving education in firefighting and safety, each inmate is trained and evaluated for physical fitness. During 2014, the Susanville Training Center held 96 classes and graduated 1,389 inmates from the Forestry Fire Training Program.

Susanville Training Center is staffed by CAL FIRE personnel. CAL FIRE staff includes one Battalion Chief, one Office Technician, and seven Fire Captains

INTERMOUNTAIN CAMP

Intermountain Camp is operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The camp is located east of Redding, outside the community of Bieber in Lassen County. It sits on a beautiful site, nestled in the pines at the base of Big Valley Mountain.

Opened in 1962, the facility houses 80 level-one inmates, and provides four 17-man fire crews. Intermountain Camp is an excellent resource for the local community and the state in emergency response and conservation work.

Intermountain Camp is staffed by CAL FIRE and CDCR personnel. CAL FIRE staff includes one Division Chief, two Heavy Fire Equipment Operators, one Water & Sewer Plant Operator and eight Fire Captains.

DEVIL'S GARDEN CAMP

Devil's Garden Camp is operated by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The camp is located seven miles south of Alturas, in Modoc County. It sits on the Devil's Garden Plateau which spans all the way from Alturas to Oregon.

Opened in 1989, the facility houses 120 level-one inmates, and provides five 17-man fire crews. Devil's Garden Camp is an excellent resource for the local community and the state in emergency response and conservation work.

Devil's Garden Camp is staffed by CAL FIRE and CDCR personnel. CAL FIRE staff includes one Division Chief, two Heavy Fire Equipment Operators, one Office Technician, one Water & Sewer Plant Operator and 10 Fire Captains.

APPENDIX A: PRE- FIRE PROJECTS

Overview

The Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit has developed an objective ranking process to prioritize prospective fuels treatment and modification projects. The ranking process was developed by local subject matter experts and is designed to emphasize the benefits to public safety and to assist in the prevention of large costly fires.

Identification of communities at risk was determined by California Fire Alliance. Information from the Fire Threat Map developed using statistical information from the Fire and Rescue Assessment Program (FRAP) was also utilized. A formula using fire history, potential fire threat and proximity to fire suppression resources was developed to aid in the prioritizing of projects for communities at risk for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

Listed below are the descriptions and the values assigned to the ranking process;

Fire History within 3 miles of a “Community at Risk” to a wildfire

10-100 acres within past 10 years; **1 Point per fire**

100+ acres within past 10 years; **2 Points per fire**

Any major fire having threatened a community within the last 10 years; **2 Points per fire**

Fire Threat Based on FRAP Fuel Types

Non-Fuel; **0 Points**

Moderate; **2 Points**

High; **4 Points**

Very High; **6 Points**

Extreme; **8 Points**

Response Times to a “Community at Risk” to a wildfire

< 10 minutes; **0 Points**

10-20 minutes; **1 Point**

20-30 minutes; **2 Points**

> 30 minutes; **3 Points**

Community proximity to a “Community at Risk” to a wildfire

For each community within approximately 3 miles of a project; **1 Point**

BATTALION 1

Battalion 1 is working closely with the Lassen County Firesafe Council. (L.C.F.S.C)

The following communities and projects have been identified.

Cheney Vegetation Fuel Reduction Project

CAL FIRE is planning for a potential vegetation fuel reduction project in conjunction with LCFSC and with the City of Susanville and other land owners. The main purpose of the project is to establish a fuel reduction zone along portions of Cheney Creek Road. The treatment method should largely consist of hand cutting and piling of the vegetation. Treatment of the vegetation piles will most likely consist of chipping and scattering the material on site at any time of year, utilizing a towable chipper where feasible. However, the piles may be burned when conditions are safe, and the use of a chipper is not feasible.

Diane Vegetation Fuel Reduction Project

CAL FIRE is planning for a potential vegetation fuel reduction project in conjunction with LCFSC. The main purpose of the project is to establish a fuel reduction zone passing through and or bordering the Diamond Crest Rancho Subdivision, Lassen Trails and Trust property, and a number of other landowners. The treatment method should largely consist of hand cutting, and piling of vegetation. Treatment of the piles will most likely consist of burning when conditions permit.

Lake Vegetation Fuel Reduction Project

A vegetation fuel reduction project is being proposed on portions of Sierra Pacific Industries property in conjunction with CAL FIRE. The main purpose of the project is to establish/maintain a fuel reduction zone along or through portions of SPI land that borders Lake Forest Estates. The treatment method should largely consist of hand cutting, and piling of vegetation. Treatment of the piles will most likely consist of burning when conditions permit.

Milford Fuel Treatments and Risk Assessments

LCFSC has been implementing fuel treatments in 2014. 600 acres of fuel treatments were accomplished along with residential risk assessments in the home ignition zone. Additional treatments around structures are underway.

North Susanville Fuel Treatment

LCFSC and the Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District are in the preliminary stages of organizing a partnership between the Susanville Indian Rancheria, Bureau of Land Management, Beatty and Associates, Sierra Pacific Industries, and the LCFSC, to treat fuels within the Northwest and North WUI of Susanville from Hwy 36 to Hwy 139. Treatments will include mechanical thinning, biomass removal, hand thinning, and under burning. The objectives of the project are to reduce surface, ladder, and canopy fuels in order to protect the city of Susanville, and improve the forest health within the Susan River Watershed.

Piute Creek Fuels Reduction

The LCFSC is seeking to conduct fuel treatments to reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire within the Piute Creek watershed. Communities at risk are Lake Forest and Susanville. Forest stands to be treated include 35 year old plantations resulting from the 1977 Eagle Lake Fire. Treatments will consist of thinning and chipping of sub merchantable trees followed with hand or mechanical methods to reduce loading of brush and slash fuels along County Road A-1. Biomass material will be utilized to help offset treatment costs.

Spaulding Fuel Reduction Planning and Risk Assessments

LCFSC will be seeking funds to perform risk assessments in the home ignition zone and fuel reduction treatments within and around the Spaulding area.

Doyle Fuel Treatments and Risk Assessments

LCFSC, in conjunction with the Plumas National Forest and Bureau of Land Management, is in the initial planning stage of assisting the community of Doyle in gaining Firewise Community status, and with a possible fuels treatment project that could include fuel breaks in sagebrush areas surrounding the community.

Diamond Mountain

LCFSC will continue planning for a collaborative fuels treatment project along and below Diamond Mountain south of Susanville. Work will tie into work previously completed by LCFSC, BLM and Honey Lake Valley Resource Conservation District (HLVRCD).

Janesville Fuel Treatments and Risk Assessments

This project is the continuation of the 2013 fuel treatments and risk assessments in the home ignition zone. The planned treatments include developing defensible space around homes and potentially 400 additional acres of landscape scale fuel treatments. Forest stands will be thinned and brush fuels will be masticated where they pose a threat to homes.

Diamond Mountain Forest and Meadow Restoration Project 1&2

#1 HLVRCD has completed treating 404 acres of mechanical thinning and mastication, 40 acres of hand thinning, pruning and slash disposal, and 11 acres of meadow restoration with a Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant. Under an approved California Fire Safe Council Grant, HLVRCD has funds to treat an additional 275 acres in 2014/2015. HLVRCD is assessing, planning and coordinating the treatment of additional acreage on the Diamond Mountain Forest and Meadow Restoration project with an emphasis on acreage adjacent to the Lassen National Forest.

Education Program

LCFSC will be seeking funds to support the “Firewise in the Classroom” 6th grade education program. This program is a one week long, one hour per day, youth education curriculum on forest health and fire safety which includes family involvement in the development of their family disaster plan. The program follows the State educational framework and is implemented in 10 different schools in Lassen County.

BATTALION 2 with Plumas County

Battalion 2 is actively working with the communities of Westwood, Clear Creek and the Lake Almanor Basin. The Basin Communities include Hamilton Branch, Peninsula, West Almanor, Prattville and Chester. Battalion 2 is also working closely with the Plumas County Firesafe Council and Lassen County Firesafe Council. To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Peninsula Defensible Space Program

The Peninsula community is home to approximately 2,000 people and 1,500 structures. The Peninsula Fire Department also has a fire and evacuation plan in place with identified areas of safe refuge. They are in the process of becoming a “Fire Wise Community” and have implemented the CAL FIRE 4291 inspection process.

McKenzie Vegetation Fuel Reduction Project

Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) is pursuing a fuels reduction and shaded fuel break at the 101 Ranch on Hwy 36. The goal of this project is to reduce the amount of fuels along the highway and provide a shaded fuel break as the project heads to the south.

Plumas County Evacuation Plans

Plumas County Office of Emergency Services (PC OES) is working closely with area fire chiefs to develop evacuation route inventories for high risk communities. Lake Davis Highlands, Greenhorn and Mohawk Vista are complete. Additional community mapping is in progress. CAL FIRE is developing plans for Warner Valley and SRA areas within the Lake Almanor Basin in conjunction with PC OES. As projects are completed, coordination between Plumas County Sheriff’s Office and CAL FIRE is needed to provide these maps as a guide for cooperative efforts to ensure public safety as a priority in the event of an evacuation.

Plumas County Signage

This factor is critical to agencies providing emergency services, not only for wildland fire purposes, but all emergency vehicle access. Plumas County strives to have all residences and communities meet Public Resource Code 4290 requirements for road and address signage. Currently a standard exists in Plumas County for new construction, but not older structures. The County is considering modifying code measures which may include, but not be limited to, requiring proper signage upon sale.

Plumas Eureka Area Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PCFSC) will continue to work with private landowners, the Plumas Eureka Fire Department, the Plumas Eureka Community Services district, to identify and implement fuels reduction treatment. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication. The community of Plumas Eureka is working to become a Firewise community.

Plumas County Green Waste Disposal

Plumas County and the PCFSC are exploring different options that might be utilized by communities throughout the county to safely and economically dispose of green waste generated by vegetation maintenance projects, including residential clearing to meet 4291 requirements.

Warner Valley Hazard Fuel Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Warner Valley to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. There are many properties that would benefit from future treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Almanor Basin Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Lake Almanor Basin to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. The Council has worked with private landowners and has identified many acres of treatments that need to occur. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Mohawk Vista Hazard Fuel Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Mohawk Vista community to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Portola Hazard Fuel Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Portola area to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Gold Mountain Hazard Fuel Reduction Project

The Plumas County Fire Safe Council will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Gold Mountain area to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Dixie Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Dixie Valley area to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication. The community of Dixie Valley is interested in becoming a Firewise Community.

La Porte Area Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners in the La Porte area to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Grizzly Creek Corridor Hazard Fuel Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners in the Grizzly Creek area to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Feather River College Fuel Reduction and Under Burn Project

Plumas Audubon Society, Feather River College (FRC), Greenville Indian Rancheria (GIR), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Plumas National Forest (PNF) and Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship are partnering to reduce hazardous fuels and reintroduce fire on FRC and PNF lands. The goal of the project is to protect the FRC campus from wildfire. A recently completed FRC Forest and Fire Management Plan identified and prioritized areas on campus in need of fuel reduction. FRC and GIR have signed a use agreement which will allow GIR to apply for a NRCS Tribal funds to reduce fuels on 20 acres of campus. The campus watershed is an ideal location for watershed restoration, fire education, and carbon sequestration research as it contains a variety of forest types recovering from a high intensity fire in 1946.

Genesee Valley Hazard Fuel Reduction and Under Burn Project

Plumas Audubon Society, Feather River Resource Conservation District, Feather River Land Trust, Greenville Indian Rancheria, Natural Resource Conservation Service, Plumas National Forest and Sierra Buttes Trail Stewardship are partnering to reduce hazardous fuels and reintroduce fire on public and private lands in the upper Genesee Valley. The goals of the projects are to proactively protect the communities in Genesee and Frank's Valleys from wildfire.

Butterfly Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC is working with both the Forest Service and private landowners to treat hazardous fuels throughout the Butterfly Valley Community. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Indian Valley Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Indian Valley, to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. The Council completed over 150 acres of treatments to date, and there are many other properties that would benefit from future treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

American Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the American Valley, to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Meadow Valley Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Meadow Valley to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Bucks Lake Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Meadow Valley Bucks Lake area, to identify and implement fuels reduction treatments. There are many properties that would benefit from future treatments. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication.

Greagle Area Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project

The PCFSC will continue to work with private landowners throughout the Greagle area to identify and implement fuels reduction treatment. Activities will include education, hand thinning, piling, chipping, burning, and mastication. The Communities within the Greagle Fire Protection District are recognized as Firewise.

Plumas County Senior/Disabled Assistance Program

The PCFSC has an ongoing program that facilitates hazardous fuels reduction projects for residents in Plumas County that need assistance.

Clear Creek Forest & Meadow Restoration Project

LCFSC has completed 830 acres of the project to date. Additional funds will be requested to perform more mastication treatments will restore the watershed and reduce hazardous fuel loads within and around the Clear Creek community along with LCFSC partners SPI, Beatty & Associates and PG&E. Brush fuels will be masticated where they pose a threat to homes and or, are within potential evacuation corridors.

BATTALION 3

Battalion 3 is working closely with the Modoc County Firesafe Council, The Lassen County Firesafe Council as well as Local Government Fire Fighting Agencies towards community preparedness in the event of wildland fire threats. To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Big Valley Mountain Fuelbreak

A project has been proposed to create an 11-mile long shaded fuelbreak along the A-Line and B-Line roads on Big Valley Mountain in Lassen and Modoc Counties. The project would be approximately 300' wide and begin at Hwy 299E at the southern end of the project area. Creation of the shaded fuelbreak would include removal of the biomass material from the understory as well as treating brush and ground fuels.

Day Lassen Bench Mastication

A project has been proposed to masticate brush along the Day Road corridor to reduce hazardous fuel loads, allow for safer evacuations and aid in potential fire suppression efforts.

Lookout Watershed Restoration & WUI Treatments

LCFSC and Pit Resource Conservation District (PRCD) have completed treating 2,000 acres and will be applying for additional funding as opportunities arise. This project reduces hazardous fuel loads and restores the forest, watershed and critical closures. The previous phase was funded by Sierra Nevada Conservancy and the California Fire Safe Council. CAL FIRE has committed conservation crews to assist with follow-up hand treatments. This phase will focus on fuels west of the railroad tracks. Additional treatments will be conducted within the Lookout Ranchettes if sufficient funding is available. The project lies within Lassen and Modoc Counties and is also a top priority in the Modoc County Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan.

Little Valley Critical Infrastructure Protection

LCFSC received partial funding for a portion of this project in 2014, and completed two miles of treatments that protect infrastructure critical to the Little Valley Community, and PG&E electrical lines. In 2015 the LCFSC will be coordinating with private landowners and BLM to complete the protection of the electrical lines that serve the community. Mastication of brush will be the primary treatment.

Little Valley Forest & Meadow Restoration Project

LCFSC has received partial funding for this project. They expect that 1,400 acres will be treated in 2014. They will be applying for additional implementation funds to complete the forest and meadow restoration treatments around the community of Little Valley. Primary work will be the removal of the invasive western juniper, and forest thinning in overstocked pine stands.

BATTALION 4

Battalion 4 is working closely with the Modoc County Firesafe Council (MCFSC), Modoc County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) and Local Government Fire Fighting Agencies towards community preparedness in the event of wildland fire threats. To this effort, the following communities and projects have been identified.

Franklin Canyon

Davis Creek residents share concerns regarding the area of Franklin Canyon, a small community south of Davis Creek, with cabins occupied at different times of the year. This area is loaded with dead and dying fuels, with heavy brush along the roadsides that can easily carry wildfire to the adjacent public lands, and neighboring communities. A Grant proposal was submitted to develop a shaded fuel break along the county road into Franklin Canyon, to the Forest Service road, as well as fuel breaks around the private property perimeter. Develop pull-outs along county road to allow for evacuation of residents, as well as entry of emergency personnel.

Chipper Program/County Wide

Residents countywide have expressed gratitude for the defensible space program run by the MCFSC. MCFSC will continue to seek funding yearly to continue this program.

Evacuation Routes

Residents countywide have expressed concerns about the lack of designated evacuation routes for those communities in the WUI. MCFSC will be seeking funding to develop a countywide informational brochure that will highlight the importance of following evacuation orders as well as resources available in the event of a wildfire.

Upper Cal-Pines

The Upper Cal-Pines Unit has a total of 11,344 one-acre parcels. Of these, only 50 are developed, and only 18 are occupied year-round. Because many of these parcels are not developed or occupied, they are not well maintained, and the parcels are surrounded by heavy brush and dead and dying fuels. During a Firewise assessment, the following recommendations were made: education of absentee landowners regarding the dangers of untreated forest fuels, working with the Forest Service to improve the road at the end of County Road 71 that connects to Forest Road 22, maintaining the existing 10-mile shaded fuel break, finish hanging the evacuation signs on all identified roads, and developing evacuation brochures to distribute to seasonal and year-round property owners.

Surprise Valley

Residents have expressed concern for those living in the foothill areas of the Warner Mountains. With winds that typically shift downhill after 2:00 pm, fires have the potential to be devastating to residents that live along these areas. They have also expressed concerns for those living in the area east of Dry Lake between Lake City and Cedarville. MCFSC will be seeking funds to maintain the Lake City Fuel break as well as expand it.

Likely/West Valley Ranch

Likely is a gateway to the Warner Mountains, with high use by hikers, anglers and tourists. The creation of a fuel break around the Historic West Valley Ranch would be ideal to protect local residents from wildfire. The MCFSC would like to develop an evacuation plan for Jess Valley and surrounding areas leading into and around Likely.

Thoms Creek Estates Owners Association

Unit 1 residents have concerns about the safe and reliable ingress/egress. The CCR's make it impossible at this time to accommodate vegetative management actions. Creating fuel breaks around this area would greatly improve access in the event of wildfire.

Modoc Recreational Estates (MRE)

MRE consists of 1,900 lots and 350 year round residents using one main artery, Pencil Road, for evacuation. There are unmarked roads which need names and or number designation for emergency services. At this time, MRE has a basic evacuation plan, given the one main road. MCFSC will be seeking funds to develop an educational brochure to send to absentee land owners regarding the conditions in MRE and options for fuel reduction and to post evacuations signs throughout the community.

County Road 61 Wildlife Estates

There is heavy fuel loading in this area that has been heavily invaded with juniper. MCFSC will seek funds to reduce fuels and provide residents with defensible space work.

CALMAPPER PRE-FIRE PROJECTS

Batt Planning area	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
3		Rush Creek 0479	C	2012	F	
3		Rush Creek 10716	C	2012	F	
3		Hwy 139 Cleanup	C	2012	F	
3		Daisy Dean	A	2015	C	
3		Intermountain Camp Fuel Break	C	2013	F	
3		Hwy 299 Big Valley Brushing	O		F	
3		Juniper Lake	A	2015	C	
3		Mapps Ranch	C	2015	C	
4		Modoc Recreational Estates Fuel Break	C	2013	F	
3		Hwy 139 Tree Removal	C	2012	F	
4		Mitchell Hill	C	2013	C	
4		Fort Bidwell Fuel Break	C	2013	F	
2		Almanor Basin Fuel Break	C	2013	F	
2		Hog Flat Fuel Break	C	2012	F	
4		Modoc County Road 9 Brushing	C	2013	F	
4		Devil's Garden Camp Fuel Reduction	O		F	
4		Ash Valley Ranch Fuel Reduction	A	2015	F	
3		Lookout Ranchettes Fuel Reduction	C	2014	F	
1		Hwy 36 Brushing	O		F	
1		Janesville Fuel Break	C	2013	F	
2		Hwy 44 Brushing	O		F	
3		Ash Valley Juniper Reduction	A	2014	C	
3		Clear Lake Sagebrush Steppe	A	2014	C	
1		Eagle Lake Ranger District Hazard Fuel Reduction	A	2014	F	
4		CMRCD Smith	A	2014	C	
2		Hwy 147 Brushing	O		F	
3		Pitville Highway Brushing	C	2013	F	
1		Laver Crosssing Brushing	A	2014	F	
1		Constantia Road Brushing	A	2014	F	
1		Mapes Road Brushing	A	2014	F	
1		Poole Lane Brushing	A	2014	F	
1		Smitheck Road Brushing	P	2014	F	
4		Cedarville Rancheria Fuel Reduction	C	2013	F	
4		Modoc County Road 1 Brushing	C	2013	F	
4		County Road 71 Brushing	C	2014	F	
2		Hwy 89 Brushing	O		F	

Batt Planning area	Project Number	Project Name	Status	Estimated Completion Year	Project Type	Net Acres
2		Clear Creek Fuel Break	C	2014	F	
4		XL Reservation Fuel Reduction	A	2014	F	
4		CMRCD Murphy	A	2014	C	
3		Clark Creek Road	A	2015	F	
3		Mt Shasta Fuel Break	C	2014	F	
4		Horse Camp Fuel Break	A	2015	F	
1		Stones Road Brushing	O		F	
1		Milford Fuel Break	A	2015	F	
3		Little Valley Fuel Break	A	2015	F	

Status Guide: A = Active, P = Planning, C = Completed, O = Ongoing, M = Maintenance.
Project Type: F = Fuel Reduction, C = Conservation

APPENDIX B: UNIT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

CAL FIRE Units were asked to identify two or more priority objectives under each goal in the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan for California. The Units' priorities are identified in bold and a measurement criteria are provided for each of the identified objectives. Throughout the next year, the Units will implement the identified priorities and report on the measurement criteria by June 2013. The priority objectives are displayed under three headings:

- A. SACRAMENTO PROGRAMS OR COMMITTEE ONLY
- B. SACRAMENTO PROGRAMS AND STAFF OR COMMITTEE, REGIONS AND UNITS
- C. UNITS ONLY

These categories are not intended to exclude Units from addressing priority objectives in any of the three categories, they are only recommendations.

A. SACRAMENTO PROGRAMS OR COMMITTEE ONLY

Goal 1: Identify and evaluate wildland fire hazards and recognize life, property and natural resource assets at risk, including watershed, habitat, social and other values of functioning ecosystems. Facilitate the sharing of all analyses and data collection across all ownerships for consistency in type and kind.

Objectives:

- a) **Identify and provide appropriate automated tools to facilitate the collection, analysis and consistent presentation of datasets.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE shall establish policy that specifies spatial databases covering all forest and rangeland to not be older than 10 years. Include minimum requirements for spatial databases. Follow the coordinated work schedule with the USDA Forest Service to maintain cost effective collection and processing of data.*

Goal 2: Articulate and promote the concept of land use planning as it relates to fire risk and individual landowner objectives and responsibilities.

Objectives:

- a) **Identify the minimum key elements necessary to achieve a Firesafe community, and incorporate these elements into land use planning, CWPPs and regional, county and Unit fire plans.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE to create a working committee with CAL Chiefs, USDA Forest Service and other key organizations to develop, monitor and refine elements of Firesafe community, including evacuation plans. The Committee shall review existing templates for FIREWISE Assessments, CWPPs, fire plans and land use plans; identify the common elements and approaches for better integration. Utilize fire protection, planning and engineering expertise to identify the key elements (from existing templates) necessary for Firesafe communities. Once agreed upon, these key elements will then be used as a checklist to guide*

consistency in Firesafe planning efforts across jurisdictions. At a minimum, annually report to the Board on results.

Goal 3: Support and participate in the collaborative development and implementation of wildland fire protection plans and other local, county and regional plans that address fire protection and landowner objectives.

Objectives:

- a) **Establish a working group, consisting of Board members and Departmental staff, to develop minimum standard elements for inclusion in Unit fire plans.**
- b) **Emphasize coordination of Unit fire plans with community wildfire protection plans to encourage and support one consistent approach. Develop county or regional fire plans by bringing together community-based groups, such as Firesafe councils and affected fire and land management agencies.**

Measurement Criteria: *These measurement criteria meets objectives a and b. CAL FIRE to revise the template for the Unit fire plans to incorporate the goals and objectives of the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan. During the revision, the template for a CWPP will be jointly reviewed in order to reduce duplication of fire planning efforts. The key elements identified through the process identified in Goal 2, Objective b will also be incorporated into the Unit fire plan/CWPP.*

- c) **Create and support venues in which individual community members can be actively involved in local Firesafe councils, community emergency response teams, FIREWISE and other community-based efforts to develop readiness plans and educate landowners to mitigate the risks and effects of wildland fire.**

Measurement Criteria: *The California Fire Alliance to work with the California and local FSCs to develop venues (e.g., workshops) that assist landowners with readiness planning and education. CAL FIRE, California Fire Alliance Liaison to report to the Board annually on Alliance activities.*

Goal 4: Increase awareness, knowledge and actions implemented by individuals and communities to reduce human loss and property damage from wildland fires, such as defensible space and other fuels reduction activities, fire prevention and Firesafe building standards.

Objectives:

- a) **Educate landowners, residents and business owners about the risks and their incumbent responsibilities of living in the wildlands, including applicable regulations, prevention measures and replanning activities.**

Measurement Criteria: *In coordination with the CAL FIRE Communications Program, the USDA Forest Service and local FIRE agencies, University of California and county cooperative extension offices, CAL FIRE to collect information on methods and effectiveness of existing*

outreach. Complete the information collection within year one of adoption of the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan. Develop a common set of measures to assess CAL FIRE efforts, build those into Unit fire plans and report to the Board. Report the progress of implementation at the end of year two.

Goal 5: Develop a method to integrate fire and fuels management practices with landowner priorities and multiple jurisdictional efforts within local, state and federal responsibility areas.

Objectives:

b) Work to remove regulatory barriers that limit hazardous fuels reduction activities.

Measurement Criteria: *In conjunction with the Resource Protection Committee, CAL FIRE will develop an approach to identifying and recommending ways to address regulatory and other barriers that limit hazardous fuels reduction activities. This approach should include consultation with the Board's Interagency Forestry Working Group and with other agencies, such as the USDA Forest Service, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the California Energy Commission, the Department of Fish and Game, regional water quality control boards, local government and the public. Finish this compilation within the first year of adoption of the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan. Based on barriers identified and recommendations for change, report to the Board starting in the second year.*

Goal 6: Determine the level of fire suppression resources necessary to protect the values and assets at risk identified during planning processes.

Objectives:

e) Initiate and maintain cooperative fire protection agreements with local, state and federal partners that value the importance of an integrated, cooperative, regional fire protection system and deliver efficient and cost effective emergency response capabilities beneficial to all stakeholders.

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE to identify the number and effectiveness of agreements and partnerships. In conjunction with the Board's Resource Protection Committee, CAL FIRE will develop suggested measures of effectiveness of cooperative agreements. This should be in collaboration with its partners, completed within 18 months of adoption of the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan and reported to the Board.*

i) Provide for succession planning and employee development at all levels within CAL FIRE to maintain emergency response leadership capabilities, administrative management skills and pre-fire planning expertise.

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE to revise and update the information developed in the 2005 Succession Planning meetings. This work should be completed within two years of the adoption of the 2010 Strategic Fire Plan, with annual reporting to the Board based on issues raised, including identification of key training needs, funding available and expenditures on the training*

program, content of Academy curricula, number of students requesting and/or able to take classes at the Academy, local community college or other educational outlets.

B. SACRAMENTO PROGRAMS AND STAFF OR COMMITTEE, REGIONS AND UNITS

Goal 1: Identify and evaluate wildland fire hazards and recognize life, property and natural resource assets at risk, including watershed, habitat, social and other values of functioning ecosystems. Facilitate the sharing of all analyses and data collection across all ownerships for consistency in type and kind.

Objectives:

- b) Engage and participate with local stakeholder groups (i.e., Firesafe councils and others) to validate and prioritize the assets at risk.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE shall designate personnel as advisors/liaisons to the California Firesafe Council (CFSC) and to each county or regional FSC. The advisors will be responsible for reporting activities to the Unit and Region. The advisor to the CFSC will report to the Board. Annual reporting of time-spent working will be displayed in hours at the Unit, Region and Headquarters level. Reporting will include activities with local FSCs, communities, watershed groups or others defining hazards and risk of wildfire and documenting these in a CWPP or Unit fire plan. Emphasize the products developed in Goal 3, Objective b. Advisors will emphasize using standard guidelines and templates for consistency throughout the state.*

Goal 2: Articulate and promote the concept of land use planning as it relates to fire risk and individual landowner objectives and responsibilities.

Objectives:

- b) Assist the appropriate governmental bodies in the development of a comprehensive set of wildland and wildland urban interface (WUI) protection policies for inclusion in each county general plan or other appropriate local land use planning documents.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE to appoint a committee including Unit, Region, Headquarters and Contract County representatives. Develop a work plan that identifies key elements of improving WUI strategies, including planning. Reporting should be based on elements identified and priorities for addressing them.*

Under the Board's Resource Protection Committee, review existing Board policies as they relate to wildland fire and the relevance (ease of use, applicability) to incorporation in local general plans. Identify areas of possible improvement and update policies.

Track and report hours at the Unit, Region and Headquarters level spent in reviewing plans and projects; number of local Board/Council, Planning Commission meetings and/or meetings with other cooperators.

Goal 4: Increase awareness, knowledge and actions implemented by individuals and communities to reduce human loss and property damage from wildland fires, such as defensible space and other fuels reduction activities, fire prevention and Firesafe building standards.

Objectives:

- c) **Increase the number and effectiveness of defensible space inspections and promote an increasing level of compliance with defensible space laws and regulations through the use of CAL FIRE staffing as available, public and private organizations, and alternative inspection methods.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE to form an advisory committee to review PRC §4291 regulations and make recommendations to the Board that will provide for consistency, streamlining and clarification of existing regulations. The Committee shall develop criteria to increase the number and effectiveness of defensible space inspections. The Committee will develop an implementation plan for the recommendations and report on progress to the Board*

Goal 7: Address post-fire responsibilities for natural resource recovery, including watershed protection reforestation, and ecosystem restoration.

Objectives:

- a) **Encourage rapid post-fire assessment, as appropriate, and project implementation to minimize flooding, protect water quality, limit sediment flows and reduce other risks on all land ownerships impacted by wildland fire.**

Measurement Criteria: *Provide training for CAL FIRE personnel on suppression repair and damage assessment procedures. Develop standard formats and documentation templates for these assessments. Identify and use the findings to reduce the impacts of fire suppression on the landscape and improve resiliency of assets at risk from wildfire.*

C. UNITS ONLY

Goal 5: Develop a method to integrate fire and fuels management practices with landowner priorities and multiple jurisdictional efforts within local, state and federal responsibility areas.

Objectives:

- h) **Support the availability and utilization of CAL FIRE hand crews and other CAL FIRE resources, as well as public and private sector resources, for fuels management activities, including ongoing maintenance.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE will report to the Board on the number of crews available each year with a description of projects, including acres treated, completed by each Unit. Report the number of agreements and/or amount of funding and acres treated that involve grants or partnerships with federal agencies, resource conservation districts, local FSCs, fire districts, watershed groups or other non-profit or community groups that support the ability to carry out fuels reduction projects.*

Goal 7: Address post-fire responsibilities for natural resource recovery, including watershed protection reforestation, and ecosystem restoration.

Objectives:

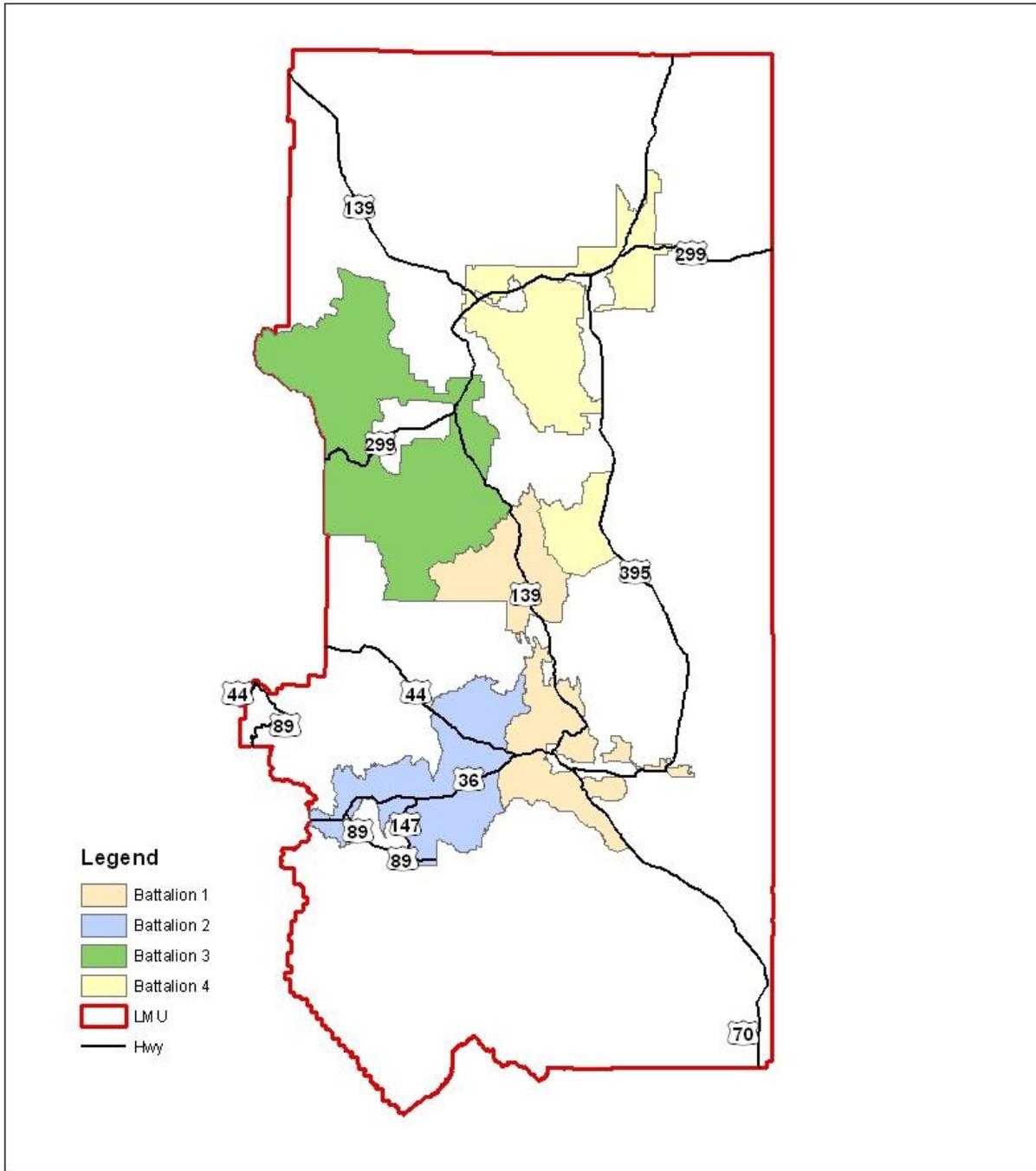
- e) **Assist landowners and local government in the evaluation of the need to retain and utilize features (e.g., roads, firelines, water sources) developed during a fire suppression effort, taking into consideration those identified in previous planning efforts.**

Measurement Criteria: *CAL FIRE (utilizing Incident Command Teams) to schedule a post-fire review of the planning documents that cover the area affected by the fire. Review the goals, objectives and projects (implemented and planned) to identify successes and failures. Review the features developed during the fire and incorporate them into the existing Unit fire plan documents. This objective will only be reported when a fire occurs in an area with an existing Unit fire plan document. Incident command teams may conduct this post fire assessment under the direction of the Unit Chief.*

EXHIBITS: UNIT & BATTALION MAPS

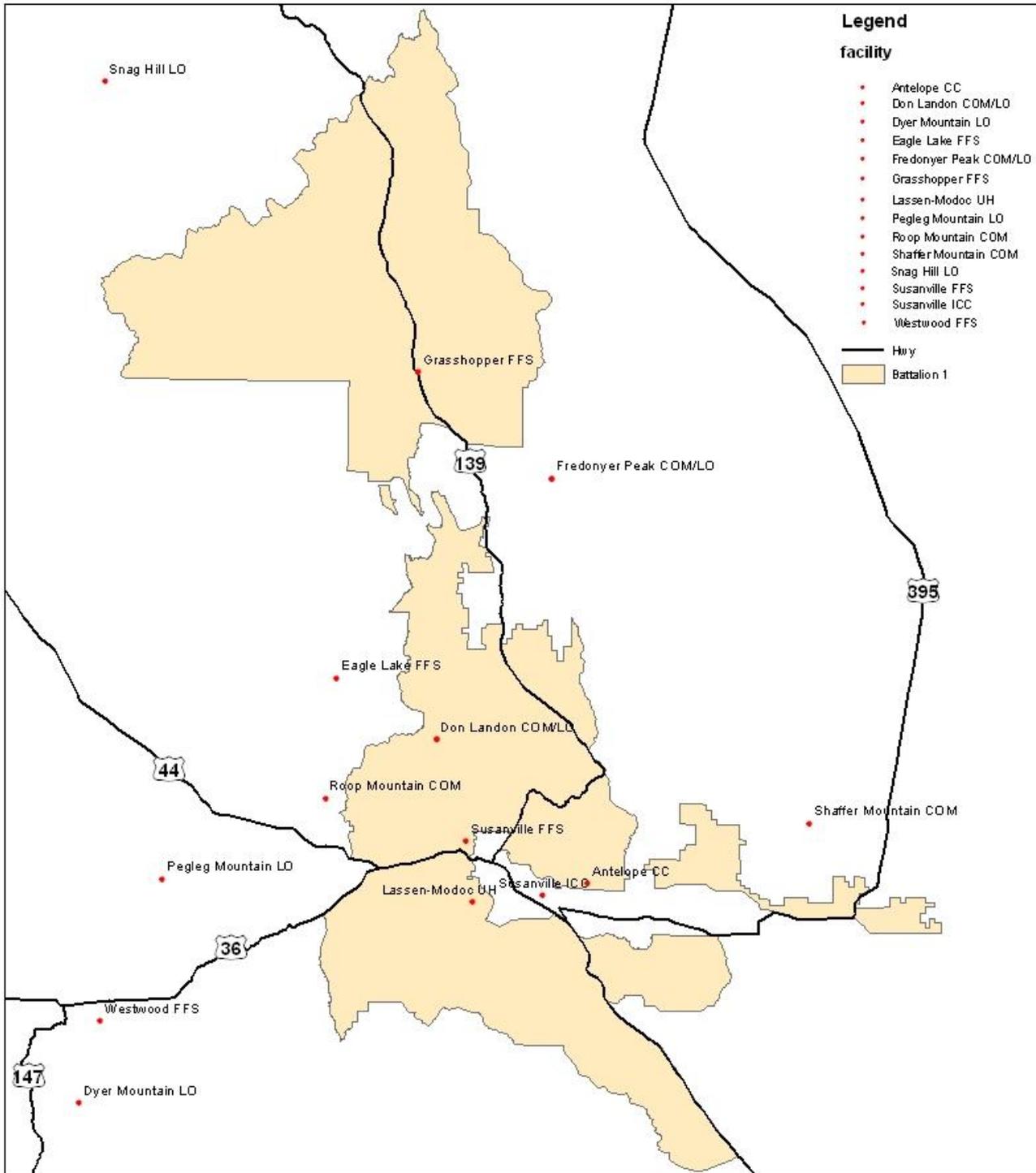


Lassen Modoc Plumas Unit



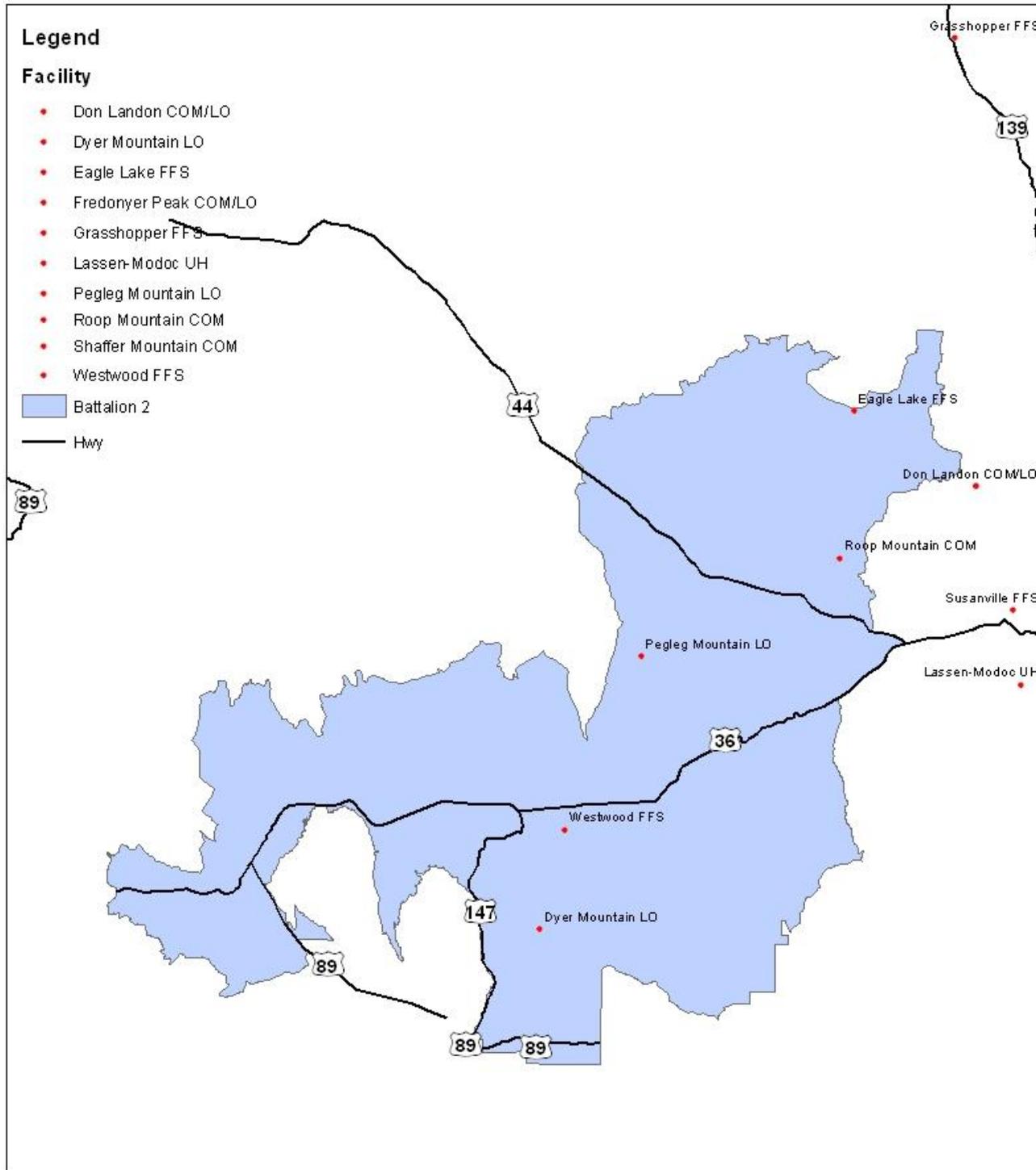
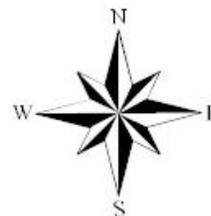


Battalion 1



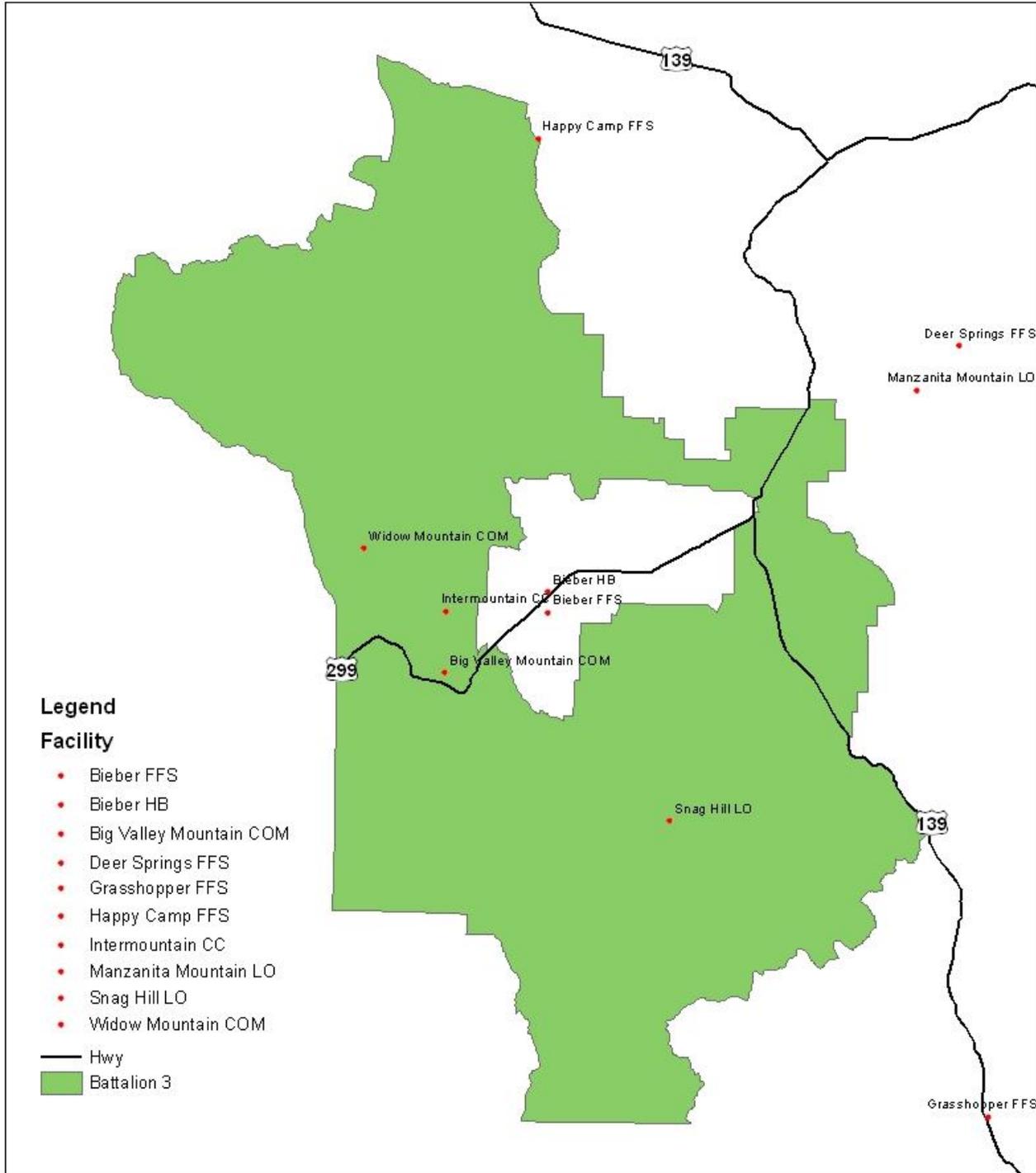


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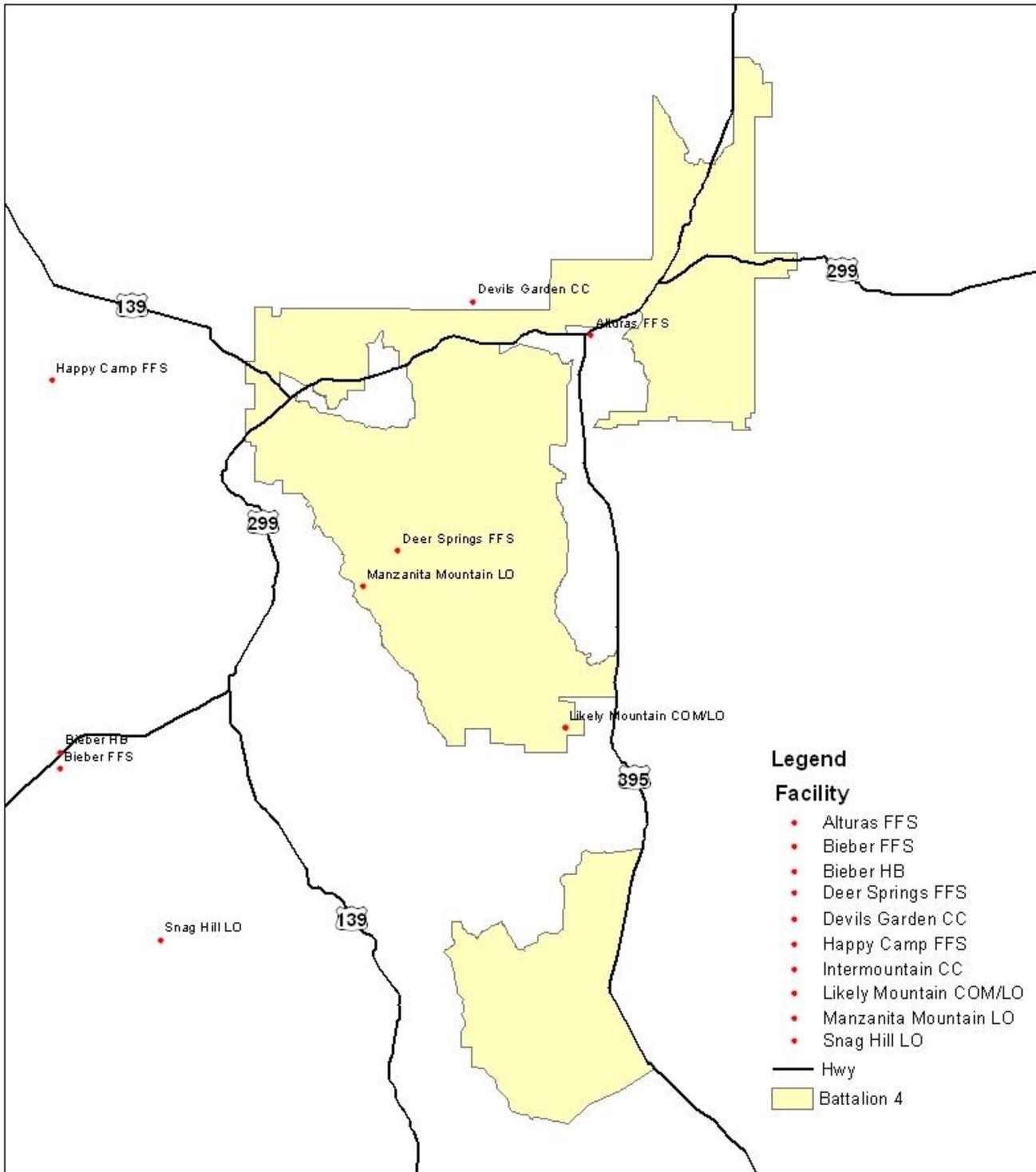


Battalion 3





Battalion 4



SUPPLEMENT: 2014 UNIT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Firesafe Councils

In 2014, Lassen Firesafe Council continued their work on multiple fuel treatment projects, As well as other projects. In Milford, 540 acres were treated (500 acres biomass thinning and CALFIRE hand treatments). A community assessment was completed as were 50 risk assessments. Milford was recognized as a Firewise Community. In Clear Creek, 399 acres were treated (359 mastication, 40 acres CALFIRE assisted hand treatments). In Little Valley, 147 acres were treated (102 acres biomass thinning, 45 acres of hand treatments). A community assessment was also conducted for Little Valley and they received Firewise recognition. In Ash Valley, 1,179 acres were treated (all biomass thinning). In Janesville, 320 acres of biomass thinning was completed. In Spalding, a Community Assessment was completed and they received Firewise recognition. In Westwood, four miles of PG&E power line right of way was masticated. Lassen County now has 10 recognized Firewise communities.

Though Modoc Firesafe Council did not complete any projects in 2014, they did utilize their Title II Land Owner Assistance and Residential Chipping Program to assist elderly and disabled residents to construct defensible space around their homes.

In 2014, the Plumas County Fire Safe Council completed the following work or projects. 190 acres were treated on numerous properties along LaPorte Road. The Council conducted outreach to landowners along C-Road, and is providing treatment to two properties totaling 13 acres. The Council worked with the Plumas National Forest to complete an application that has secured \$103,000 to provide hazardous fuels reduction to residents whose properties are within 1/4 mile of the USFS corridor project along Hwy 70, north of Quincy. As a result of this funding, the Council provided fuels reduction treatments on a total of seven properties which treated approximately 39 acres of over grown forest lands both in the Indian Valley and near Cutler Meadows. The Council conducted outreach to landowners in the Whitehawk Community and provided treatment to nine properties totaling 16 acres. In 2014, the community of Greenhorn became the fifth recognized Firewise community in Plumas County.

Conservation Camp Program

Crews were busy with conservation work and fire response in 2014; providing assistance to local, state and federal agencies.

- During 2014, Intermountain Conservation Camp provided the local communities with 34,944 hours of project and conservation work. State agencies benefited from 11,704 hours and federal agencies—2,520. The fire season of 2014 saw Intermountain Crews dispatched to 43 incidents and logging over 87,580 hours of fire suppression.

- During 2014, Devil’s Garden Conservation Camp provided the local communities with 15,072 hours of project and conservation work. State agencies benefited from 1,368 hours and federal agencies—50,888. The fire season of 2014 saw Devil’s Garden Crews dispatched to 36 incidents and logging over 80,560 hours of fire suppression.
- During 2014, Antelope Conservation Camp provided the local communities with 42,040 hours of project and conservation work. State agencies benefited from 7,728 hours and federal agencies—20,272. The fire season of 2014 saw Antelope Crews dispatched to 64 incidents and logging over 89,860 hours of fire suppression.

Susanville Training Center

During 2014, the Susanville Training Center held 96 classes and graduated 1,389 inmates from the Forestry Fire Training Program. The training center provides highly trained inmates to conservation camps located in the north state. Inmates undergo one week of classroom training and a week of field training, covering wildland fire safety and attack, hand tool use, teamwork, and crew expectations. In addition to receiving education in firefighting and safety, each inmate is trained and evaluated for physical fitness.

Prevention Program

In 2014, Unit staff and Volunteers in Prevention (VIP) provided over 2,000 hours of fire prevention education, making contact with over 14,500 adults and children through fairs, school programs and other events. The VIP roster for 2014 consisted of 94 volunteers.