

### **Projects and Priority Areas**

The following pages contain the Field Battalions lists of projects and goals for the implementation of the Santa Clara Units Fire Management Plan, the “Meat and Potatoes.” They are compiled by the field Battalion Chiefs with input from the units Pre Fire Engineer, Fire Safe Councils, Stakeholders, and the general public through Community outreach. While they reflect an amazing cross section of goals and ideas, they are not inflexible or cast in stone, nor are they the only options available to mitigate a problem. These are suggestions and a starting point for the journey, not the end point.

#### **Battalion One: (Morgan Hill)**

Battalion One is located in Santa Clara County’s Supervisor District One and lies solely in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) bordering the south side of Bailey Road in the northwest; east of Uvas Road; then westward on the Redwood Retreat Road; south along the Santa Cruz County line to San Benito County line; then jumps across the South Santa Clara Valley and San Benito County Line at San Felipe Road; to the Henry Coe State Park and private ranches to the west side of The County Line Road, including the Highway 152 corridor- from Dinosaur Point to Dunne Hill; and to the south side of Metcalf Road at the United Technologies Corporation (UTC) property in the northeast. The UTC is beginning a removal and environmental cleansing of their property as they prepare to close down their operations this year. In the open lands of the east side of Battalion One and Henry Coe Park there is a need for state agencies and local citizens to protect mountain Lions, black-tailed deer, ground squirrels, coyotes, raccoons, bobcats, and wild pigs roam. Also, there are golden eagles, California, quail, jays, woodpeckers, red-tailed hawks, turkey vultures, western bluebirds and wild turkeys.

Historically, the major wildland fire occurrence has been in the remote and sparsely populated eastern portion of the Battalion One, the 1936 Fire and the 1961 Bollinger Ridge Fire are the largest fires recorded in the Santa Clara Unit. The 2004 Fire Cause Statistics are consistent with previous years with equipment use being the leading cause for preventable wildland fires. The 2004 Fire Season (May through October) statistics for Battalion One are: 1 Battalion Chief; 6 permanent and 1 seasonal Fire Captains; 2 permanent and 1 seasonal Fire Apparatus Engineers; and 16 seasonal firefighters answered the calls with two utilities (circa 1995 & 2002) and four fire engines (circa 1987, 1991, 1992, & 2000) and 1 reserve fire engine (circa 1985) responded to 288 separate local incidents, including 39 out-of-the-county assignments and traveled 72,712 combined miles; expended 107,580 total personnel hours; and were part of 7 different fire engine strike teams assignments in Southern, Central, and Northern California. In addition, a total of 71 vegetation fuel reduction hazard inspections were conducted with no violations or citations written after the second compliance inspection.

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has identified (SRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zones as Moderate, High, & Very High - based on homogeneous lands and their fuel loading, slope, and fire weather. In Battalion One they are located by vertically dividing into three sections: the West section is a Very High (Redwood Retreat Area), the center section is Moderate (South Santa Valley Foothills), and the East section is High (Hwy 152 and the Henry Coe State Park)

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Battalion One, because of its unique combination of vegetation, topography, climate and population, has one of the most severe wildland problems in the San Francisco Bay Area. Wildland and urban interface, rugged terrain and highly flammable vegetation coupled with high winds make the South Santa Clara County foothills especially unsafe for development unless adequate fire safe measures are taken. Without regard for wildland fire protection and water sources, continued development in the SRA will heavily impact fire protection and emergency medical services. Solutions center on designing an acceptable level of risks for firefighters and residents that measure all

elements of that risk. Pre-fire planning, mutual aid agreements, standard response plans and high fire behavior warnings are necessary elements to measure the risks to reduce losses from wildfires.

Duke Energy Moss Landing LLC (1206 mega watts), Monterey County supplies two separate, aerial transmission lines entering Battalion One near Hector Pass Hwy at the Santa Cruz County line. One 250 KVW transmission line travels towards Gilroy City and the other 250KVW travels to Morgan Hill City through heavy redwood timbered area with noticeable dead oaks related to the Sudden Oak Disease.

The Calaveras Fault zone created by the meeting of two distinct geological structural blocks (Foothill and Mountain Blocks) that bisect and underlie the foundation of Anderson and Coyote Lake Dams. Anderson Reservoir is the largest man-made lake in Santa Clara County and can store 90,373 acre-feet (~29.45 billion gallons) of water. On the west side of San Luis Reservoir, the powerful Pacheco Pumping Plant pulls water from the reservoir and sends it flowing by gravity through 36 miles of the San Felipe Project's underground tunnels and pipelines to the base of Anderson Dam. Coyote Dam was one of the six original reservoirs approved for construction by voters in May 1934 and can store 23,244 acre-feet (~7.57 billion gallons) of water. In case of an earthquake that would result in a dam failure, Coyote Reservoir would flow directly into the Anderson Reservoir. However, if Anderson reservoir should fail, it would inundate Morgan Hill City, Gilroy City, and the South Santa Clara Valley. And, if Chesbro Dam can store 7,945 acre-feet (~2.59 billion gallons) would fail: water would follow Llagas Creek down Oak Glen Avenue; cross Sycamore Avenue; continue down along Watsonville Road; into south end of Morgan Hill City; and then through the center of South Santa Clara Valley towards Gilroy City. Uvas Dam would inundate along the lowest elevations of Uvas Road and south of Watsonville Road. The Uvas Dam can store 9,835 acre-feet (~3.2 billion gallons) of water and is located in the Sergeants Fault zone. Uvas Dam was completed in 1957 as a part of the South Santa Clara Valley Water Conservation District.

**Mission Statements:**

**Primarily:**

To protect and enhance South Santa Clara County's open areas and all who abide in it, their property, and the public lands in it. And, to respond "Code 3" safely to all types of emergencies and to respond to all local city and county fire jurisdictions requesting our assistance. Also, to educate South Santa Clara County's residences to improve individual awareness on how the Public Resource Code affects them, including burn permit

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requirements, vegetation fuel hazard reduction inspections, and new building requirements in the SRA lands.

**Secondarily:**

To protect all California's open lands between local responsibility and federal lands to reduce costs and losses due to wildland fires. Additionally, to be prepared for and major emergencies and natural disasters throughout California to the best of our abilities and train for implementing the Incident Command System to assist local agencies during earthquakes, floods, landslides, hazardous materials spills and possible terrorist acts.

**Objectives:**

1. In 2005 the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) will conduct a formal statewide update and delineation of SRA boundaries to exclude areas of responsibility of local government and federal agencies.
2. Improve awareness and involvement between the Santa Clara Fire Safe Council and south Santa Clara County communities by personnel at the fire station and the available "Living with Fire" in Santa Clara County handouts.
3. Continue hazard reduction inspections (LE38 Inspections) for structures with Volunteers In Prevention (VIP).
4. Continue input on all new construction and developments with the Santa Clara County Fire Marshall's office.
5. Install and maintain a Remote Fire Weather Station (RAWS) in the foothills east of South Santa Clara County basin when funding becomes available.
6. Participate in all local community activities (i.e. Back Country Event, Renaissance Fair, Indian POW WOW, and Tarantella Festival)
7. Continue assistance for Henry Coe State Park, United Technologies Corporation and private ranchers in fuel modification projects.
8. Continue 3.0 staffing on all state funded ICS Type III fire engines during fire season (June through October) and seek 4.0 staffing in the future initial attack responses to further reduce the costs and losses due to wildland fires.
9. Train and pre-plan to assist local government for the possibility of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and terrorist acts.
10. Continue the 2004 Fire Season successes of only having 2 out of 22 wildland fire reached 5 acres prior to being extinguished

**2005 Vegetation Fuel Reduction Inspections Areas:**

1. Armsby Lane
2. Tohara Way
3. Hardy Way
4. Sleepy Valley Road
5. Griffis Way

**2005 Action Plan:**

1. Establish first ever in California Advanced Life Support (ALS) at a state funded wildland station located at Pacheco Pass on Hwy 152
2. Vegetation fuel inspections on Armsby Lane, Tohara Way, Hardy Way, Sleepy Valley Road, and Griffis Way as the 2005 Hazard Reduction target areas for Volunteers In Prevention (VIP) inspections and collection of data related to:
  - A. Roof Types
  - B. Water Sources and capacities
  - C. Wildland Fuel Types near residences
  - D. Address Numbers
3. Provide general fire prevention contacts and prevention materials to local groups and schools.
4. Maintain the Fuel Break Clearance and road maintenance along the County Line Road and establish a Fuel Break along Bollinger Ridge and Castle Ridge to the County Line Road. No funding or hand crew is currently available to complete this.
5. Annually pre-fire planning of Henry Coe State Park (the second largest state park in California), Santa Clara County Parks, Indian POW WOW, and the Renaissance Fair.
6. Assist CAL-TRANS in emergency response time changes affecting the planned westbound overpass connection at Hwy 152 and Hwy 156 junction.
7. Finalize approval of an agreement between CDF and Henry Coe State Park's Wildfire Management Plan to create a Local Operation Plan and prepare as a template for other public lands requiring fire protection agreements.
8. Obtain and install Fire Safe Signs to be located on eastbound Hwy 152 near Casa De Fruta community where the Indian POW WOW (estimated 2,000 people daily) and Renaissance Fair (estimated 6,500 people per weekend day) are occurring during the peak fire season. And, year-round routine eastbound traffic has been estimated by CHP as 2,500 vehicles per hour.
9. Request federal assistance to train personnel with on-line WMD courses and other appropriate courses given locally.
10. Request new fire engines that have enclosed passenger protection, and air conditioning to meet the arduous demands of firefighting in the urban interface, rugged terrain, highly flammable vegetation, and associated high dry winds in the South Santa Clara County to minimize mileage accumulation of equipment.
11. Request for additional firefighters available to staff 4.0 fire engines to reduce excessive amount of engaged work hours and enhance personnel safety.

**Battalion Two: ( San Jose)**

**Purpose Statement:**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Santa Clara Unit, San Jose Battalion (Battalion 2, David L. Athey, Battalion Chief) consists of those areas deemed to be State Responsibility Area in northern and eastern Santa Clara County including the cities of San Jose and Milpitas with an approximate population of 1.5 million people. Historically fires occurred in the lightly populated eastern San Jose foothills and the sparsely populated Mount Hamilton and Isabel Valley areas. The city of San Jose has annexed large parcels of land over the last 10 years increasing the Wildland Urban Interface problem in the western and eastern foothill regions. With the increase of homes and people in the Battalion there has been an increase in the number of fires. The automatic aid and closest resource agreements in place with San Jose Fire Department have helped in containing the majority of these fires in the initial attack stages, but the potential for a large damaging fire to originate in the sparsely populated eastern county during a north wind event is of great concern to the Unit and Battalion personnel.

The Community Wildfire Protection Plan Content Agreement Page incorporates the vision of the Santa Clara Fire Safe Council as stated in the SCFSC Strategic Plan dated October, 2004, and included in section - *I. Appendix, 1. The Santa Clara Fire Safe Council Stakeholders include:*

- CDF (California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection)
- Santa Clara County Fire Department
- San Jose Fire Department
- Saratoga Fire Department
- Milpitas Fire Department
- Santa Clara County Open Space Authority
- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
- Santa Clara Valley Water District
- Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department
- Santa Clara County Fire Marshal's Office
- Santa Clara County Hazardous Vegetation Program
- Santa Clara County Roads and Airports Department
- San Jose Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services
- Pacific Gas and Electric
- Blue Oak Ranch Land Management Association
- Volunteer fire departments, homeowners associations and individuals such as:

- i. Spring Valley VFD
- ii. Uvas VFD
- iii. Montego Road Homeowners Association
- iv. Associated Alum Rock Homeowners
- v. Casa Loma VFD
- vi. Saratoga Rotary Club
- vii. Morgan Hill Rotary Club

### **Executive Summary**

The San Jose Battalion of the Santa Clara Unit incorporates a three-pronged strategy to address the growing wildfire problem in Santa Clara County through: (1) The Santa Clara Fire Safe Council - Incorporating inter-agency and community partnerships within the framework of the Santa Clara Fire Safe Council; (2) The CDF Vegetation Management Program - Pursuing an aggressive VMP program in the interface areas of eastern Santa Clara County; and (3) Wildfire 2005 Multi-Agency Interface Fire Drill – Hosted every June by the Santa Clara County Fire Chiefs Association, the Wildfire 2005 Multi-Agency Interface Fire Drill (aka 'Wildfire 2005').

### **Collaboration to be successful at the three pronged strategy**

1. The Santa Clara Fire Safe Council – The Santa Clara Fire Safe Council, containing membership as stated above, meets the second Wednesday of every month. The membership discusses achievable goals and prioritizes projects for Santa Clara County. Grant funding is applied for, monies are tracked and directed to funded projects. Additional information is listed in the appendix as noted in section “B”, above.
2. The CDF Vegetation Management Program – The San Jose Battalion of the Santa Clara Unit is pursuing an aggressive VMP program in the interface areas of eastern Santa Clara County. There are currently three (3) pending/ongoing projects, they are:
  - A. **Blue Oak Ranch VMP** – Three plots of 500 acres each on the private property of the Blue Oak Ranch are being burned, one per year, until a complete rotation thru all of three sites is done. Santa Clara County Fire Agencies (City of San Jose, Santa Clara County Fire, Santa Clara County parks, among others) are generally invited to participate to observe early-season fire behavior and build mutual respect and cooperation before the activity of the fire season hits later in August-October. Additional information is included in – *1. Appendix, 2. Blue Oak VMPG*
  - B. **Grant Ranch VMP** – Joseph Grant Ranch County Parks is owned and operated by the County of Santa Clara, Department of Parks and Recreation. Grant Ranch hosts the 'Wildfire 2005' Multi-Agency Fire Drill, this will be the second year that the park is hosting the

two-day event. 80 acres of the 250 acre project is done during the drill, the remaining acreage is then burned to complete with project. Additional information is included in - *1. Appendix. – 3. Grant Ranch VMP*

- C. **Brush Mt. VMP** – The Brush Mt. VMP is a 400 acre VMP project with the goal of reducing some of the old-growth brush in the Lake Isabel area of Santa Clara County. Additional information is included in – *1. Appendix, 4. Brush Mt. VMP.*
3. **Wildfire 2005 Multi-Agency Interface Fire Drill** – This drill is hosted every June by the Santa Clara County Fire Chiefs Association, (aka ‘Wildfire 2005’). The drill is scheduled for June 21-22, 2005 and David L. Athey, Battalion Chief for the San Jose Battalion, is the Deputy Incident Commander for the exercise for the second consecutive year. This is a continuation and a relocation of the drill that was held annually at UTC (United Technologies Corporation), but discontinued in 2004 due to the pending closure of the facility. The Santa Clara County Department of Parks and Recreation, in partnership with the CDF and county fire agencies, spearheaded efforts to resurrect the drill, first as a part of the CDF’s VMP Program. The success of the drill in 2004 led to its continuation now in 2005. This multi-purpose drill gives the attending fire agencies of Santa Clara County a series of refresher, ‘hands-on’ live fire exercises to sharpen their skills in ‘Interface Firefighting Methods and Techniques’, so as to sharpen their skills for the coming 2005 Fire Season.

### **The Fire Situation Santa Clara County General Fire Environment**

As noted above, the communities in Santa Clara County are surrounded by many large, populated, Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas, primarily in the foothills on either side of the Santa Clara Valley.

There are many fire prone areas in Santa Clara County which are at risk of wildfires because they have large accumulations of natural fuels. Many areas in the county are very similar to the Oakland Hills area in Alameda County where a wildland fire in 1991 caused major losses of life and structures. Terrain, vegetation and accessibility conditions in Santa Clara County create the potential for similar events to occur here.

“Living in California means learning to live with wildfires.” The Santa Clara County Fire Safe Council empowers individuals and communities to make our homes and neighborhoods “Fire Safe.”

There are eleven communities in the County on the California Fire Alliance and CDF lists of Communities at Risk. These Communities at Risk are Cupertino, East Foothills, Gilroy, Lexington Hills, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, San Jose, San Martin and Saratoga.

### **Potential Losses Due to Wildland Fires in Santa Clara County**

The Oakland Hills fire (Alameda County, California) on October 20, 1991, was, the worst fire involving loss of life and property since the Great San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906. The cost of this fire was 25 Deaths, 150 Injuries, 2,843 Single Family Dwellings Destroyed, 193 Single Family Dwellings Damaged, 433 Apartment Units Destroyed, 3,469 Total Living Units Damaged or Destroyed, 1,520 Total Acres Burned by the Fire, 5.25 Miles Fire Perimeter, \$1,537,000,000 Estimated Fire Cost (Over \$1.5 Billion).

In 2004, the Kincaid Fire consumed 1246 acres and the San Antone Fire burned 246 acre near the Lick Observatory located in the San Jose Battalion.

### **Priority Areas:**

- The areas of Santa Clara County west of US Highway 101 in the *Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones* and are the first priority
- *High Fire Hazard Severity Zones* dominate the areas east of US Highway 101 in Santa Clara County up to a large north-south ridge running parallel with the highway and centered at Mt. Hamilton Observatory, a facility of the University of California, Santa Cruz. These areas are the second priority.
- *Moderate Fire Hazard Severity Zones* mark the open brush land that runs from the Mt. Hamilton ridge eastward to the Stanislaus County border. These areas are mostly private cattle ranches and are the third priority.

### **Action Plan**

The key to the implementation of the Fire safe Projects in Santa Clara Unit Battalion 2 (San Jose Battalion) has been the partnerships developed within the Santa Clara Fire safe Council. A list of the current active membership of the Council is included as an attachment. Grants have been applied for, awarded, received, and spent as promised under the grant guidelines. Future grants are pending.

### **Completed Projects:**

1. Loma Chiquita Chipper – The Santa Clara Fire safe Council funded \$8,000 for the placement of a chipper and crew on Loma Chiquita Road in late 2003. Local landowners, many of whom were in the burned/affected area of the “Casa” fire on Sept/Oct of 2002. The grant that funded this work was 01-BLM-0095.
2. Community Outreach and Education – The Santa Clara Fire safe Council funded \$2,000 for outreach public information projects including San Jose’s “Wildlife Festival”, an annual event that hosts nearly 5,000 visitors at Alum Rock Park in eastern San Jose. The Council also participated in other events; the grant that funded this was 01-BLM-0096.

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3. Due to the extreme fire situation in both the Santa Clara Unit and southern California last fire season, there were insufficient personnel and equipment to implement the “Brush Mt. VMP”, a 750 ac project in the Isabel Valley. We DID do part of the project area and plan on continuing this year.

**Projects Underway:**

1. Montego Road Interface Clearance – This project is funded by the Montego Road Homeowners association under the direction of the Santa Clara Fire safe Council. The MRHA paid for the use of goats to graze the low brushy fuels away from the interface areas in their back yards that border the area of Guadalupe County Park in western Santa Clara County. This is an ongoing project, this year the MRHA requested and will be receiving BLM grant funding to continue and expand the project.
2. Santa Clara County Fire Department Chipper Project – The Santa Clara County Fire Department, a partner in the Santa Clara Fire safe Council, annually funds and provides a chipper to the homeowners in northwestern Santa Clara County in the vicinity of the towns of Los Gatos, Saratoga and Los Altos Hills.
3. Community Outreach and Education – The Santa Clara Fire safe Council has received the first allotment of its new fire safe publication entitled “Living With Fire In Santa Clara County, a guide for homeowners”. It is a comprehensive 20 page 8 ½ x 11 guidebook, in color, outlining “defensible space” and “wildland/urban interface” concepts in clear and simple terms for the homeowner. 1,000 of these publications have been issued to fire stations within Santa Clara County, and additional 4,000 will be made available by mid-summer at a cost of \$5,000 to the Council. They are funded by a grant, 03-BLM-0071.
4. Crothers Road Fuel break – This project takes the existing Crothers Road, east of the city of San Jose and forming the southern boundary of Alum Rock City Park, and widens it to 100’ by manually removing, clearing and chipping the vegetation for 40’ on either side of the roadway. This project has cleared the legal requirements of San Jose City and is anticipated to begin at the beginning of the summer. The project is funded by the city of San Jose.
5. Grant Ranch County Park VMP – The CDF works with the staff of Grant Ranch County Park, a large county park in the foothills east of San Jose, under VMP program guidelines. 275 acres were burned in 2002, assisting in unwanted non-native intrusive species and star thistle eradication, as well as watershed enhancement and improved fire safety around the adjoining campgrounds. In 2004 the VMP will also serve as a joint training exercise called “Santa Clara Wildland 2004”, which will host fire agencies from as far away as the city of South San Francisco who will be participating in “real time” training during the project. This is schedule for June 9-10, 2004.

**Projected Projects (5 Year Plan):**

1. We are applying for funds to continue the issuance publications as an ongoing community information project. We will be applying for funding from various sources to extend the primary Crothers Road Fuel break project from the vicinity of the park south and east to the homes in the “Peacock Gap” development in the eastern San Jose hills. We will continue to participate in wildlife, watershed and fire safety enhancing project burns thru the CDF’s VMP program in the Grant Ranch County Park.
2. The existing projects (Community Outreach and Education, Chipper availability and hazardous fuels reduction) are funded and maintained on an annual basis by the participating agencies and will continue to do so. Requests have been made in the hopes of securing funding for a fuel break that will extend the project area currently maintained in the Montego Road area northward to Battalion #3 in the Los Gatos area
3. We (the San Jose Battalion) are working to implement a project that was abandoned in 1996, the “Isabel Valley VMP”. This project was incompletely done and is a large-scale project (3000 + acres) that has existing roads and control lines and is in the area of the fires of “The Santa Clara Complex” of 2003. Since it is a past, but expired, contract, we hope to be able to do it in the summer of 2005.

**Battalion Three: (Los Gatos)**

Battalion Three is located in Santa Clara County and lies solely in the State Responsibility Area (SRA) bordering the north of Highway 152; west of the Almaden Valley; then east of the Santa Cruz County line; South from the San Mateo County Line. The Battalion includes watershed for local communities, as this watershed flows in to many lakes and streams managed by both the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the San Jose Water Company. The Battalion also is home to a large amount of Coastal Redwoods protected from development by open space districts along with County parks. The Battalion also has a number of small rural communities that have little or no governmental services.

Historically, the major wild land fire occurrence has been in the remote and sparsely populated South western portion of the Battalion Three, the 1987 Lexington Fire and the 1994 Croy Fire were large structure loss incidents in the Santa Clara Unit. The 2004 Fire Cause Statistics are consistent with previous years equipment use being the leading cause for preventable wild land fires. The 2004 Fire Season (May through October) statistics for Battalion Three are: 1 Battalion Chief; 7 permanent and 2 seasonal Fire Captains; 2 Fire Pilots and 2 seasonal Fire Apparatus Engineers; and 25 seasonal firefighters answered the calls with one utility (circa 1986) two fire engines (circa 1985, 1991) one helicopter (circa 1968) and one helicopter service unit (circa 1996) responded to 488 separate incidents,

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has identified (SRA) Fire Hazard Severity Zones as Moderate, High, & Very High - based on homogeneous lands and their fuel

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loading, slope, and fire weather. In Battalion Three they are located by vertically dividing into three sections: the South section is a Very High (Loma Preita area), the center section is Moderate (West Santa Clara Valley Foothills), and the North section is High (Hwy 85 and Interstate 280)

Battalion Three, because of its unique combination of vegetation, topography, climate and population, has one of the most severe wild land problems in the San Francisco Bay Area. Wild land and urban interface, rugged terrain and highly flammable vegetation coupled with high winds make the South West Santa Clara County foothills especially unsafe for development unless adequate fire safe measures are taken. Without regard for wild land fire protection and water sources, continued development in the SRA will heavily impact fire protection and emergency medic services. Solutions center on designing an acceptable level of risks for firefighters and residents that measure all elements of that risk. Pre-fire planning, mutual aid agreements, standard response plans, Mutual threat zones and high fire behavior warnings are necessary elements to measure the risks to reduce losses from wildfires.

**Mission Statements:**

**Primarily:**

To protect and enhance Western Santa Clara County's open areas and all who abide in it, their property, and the public lands in it. To respond with due diligence to all types of emergencies. We will assist local city and county fire jurisdictions requesting our assistance. Also, to continue to use proven methods of public fire prevention techniques such as school programs, Informational roadside check points. Foster contacts and continued involvement in the Santa Clara Fire Safe Council. Continue to Issue burning permits and aggressively pursue vegetation fuel hazard reduction inspections. Keep the good working relationship with those involved with the County building permit process to insure proper review of permits and compliance with the public resources code.

**Secondarily:**

To protect all California's open lands between local responsibility and federal lands to reduce costs and losses due to wild land fires. Additionally, to be prepared for and major emergencies and natural disasters throughout California to the best of our abilities and train for implementing the Incident Command System to assist local agencies during earthquakes, floods, landslides, hazardous materials spills and possible terrorist acts.

**Objectives:**

1. In 2005 the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) conducted a formal statewide update and delineation of SRA boundaries to exclude areas of responsibility of local government and federal agencies.
2. Continue to Improve and expand the agreement with the Santa Clara Water District (PL566 Project)
3. Continue hazard reduction inspections (LE38 Inspections) for structures with Volunteers In Prevention (VIP).
4. Continue input on all new construction and developments with the Santa Clara County Fire Marshall's office.

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5. Continue assistance for Santa Clara Valley Water District, Santa Clara Open space, Mid Peninsula open space and private ranchers in fuel modification projects.
6. Continue 3.0 staffing on all state funded ICS Type III fire engines during fire season (June through October) and seek 4.0 staffing in the future initial attack responses to further reduce the costs and losses due to wild land fires.
7. Continue to foster the County wide Incident Command Team.
8. Continue wild land fire training with local government, county government and open space agencies.

**2005 Vegetation Fuel Reduction Inspections Areas:**

1. Redwood Retreat Road
2. Loma Chiquita Road
3. Croy Road
4. Loma Preita Road
5. Mt Madonna Road

**2005 Action Plan:**

1. Vegetation fuel inspections on Redwood Retreat Road, Loma Chiquita Road, Croy Road, Loma Preita Road and Mt Madonna Road. as the 2005 Hazard Reduction target areas for Volunteers In Prevention (VIP) inspections and collection of data related to:
  - A. Roof Types
  - B. Water Sources and capacities
  - C. Wild land Fuel Types near residences
  - D. Address Numbers
2. Provide general fire prevention contacts and prevention materials to local groups and schools.
3. Maintain the Fuel Break Clearance and road maintenance on the PI566 project and establish a Fuel Break from Loma Preita to Twin Creek's area of the Almaden Reservoir.
4. Annually pre-fire planning of Mid Peninsula Open space area of Santa Clara County, Santa Clara County Parks.
5. Assist in training of both the Mid Peninsula and Santa Clara open space Districts.
6. Finalize approval of an agreement between CDF and Mid Peninsula open space Wildfire Management plan to create a Local Operation Plan and prepare as a template for other public lands requiring fire protection agreements.
7. Request for additional firefighters available to staff 4.0 fire engines to reduce excessive amount of engaged work hours and enhance personnel safety.

### **Battalion Four (Alameda County)**

Battalion four covers the entire county of Alameda. Alameda County has a population of 1.5 million people. It is geographically located on the eastern side of the San Francisco Bay and stretches eastward from Oakland into the greater San Joaquin valley near Tracy. Contra Costa County borders it to the north while Santa Clara and San Joaquin border it to the south and east.

Topography ranges from hilly near the bay to mountainous elevations up to 4000 feet with steep canyon drainages south of Livermore. Fuel types are generally grass (50%), Chaparral (30%) and Oak Woodland (20%). Weather during fire season is temperate near the bay and hotter and drier further inland approaching the inland valleys. The most significant weather factor in Alameda County is wind. Wind patterns are predominately east to west during fire season due to the cooler marine air flowing into the Livermore and San Joaquin valleys. Wind speeds vary but on most summer days the winds near the bay are 10 to 20 m.p.h. In the eastern portion of the county on those same days wind velocities will be 15 to 25 m.p.h. Wind velocities of 40 to 50 mph in the eastern portion of the battalion are not uncommon under normal weather patterns. Even though relative humidity's are tempered by the marine influence the higher wind speeds adversely affect fire behavior. Any fire starts with sustained fuel continuity downwind quickly progress into moderate to rapid rates of spread at the fires head. Quick initial attack by fire suppression forces is critical in these conditions.

Operationally, Battalion four is a complex environment for C.D.F. There are fourteen local government fire agencies operating in Alameda County. Nine of these cities border C.D.F. state responsibility areas (SRA). There are approximately 70 miles of wildland-urban interface separating local government responsibility areas (LRA) from the 286,000 acres of C.D.F. jurisdiction. The interface area is densely populated with homes that easily exceed one million dollars each. The high values at risk in Battalion four and the windy conditions have combined to create high damage loss fires historically. One 2 acre fire in the Oakland Berkeley hills destroyed two homes and damaged a third for a total damage loss of four million dollars. The 1991 Tunnel Fire destroyed 3000 homes for a loss of 1.8 billion dollars. Life safety at wildland fires is also a major concern. There have been 28 fire fatalities in Alameda County going back to 1968 including citizens, police and firefighters. Coordination during wildland fire evacuations in the densely populated interface areas is a major challenge. Coordination with local government fire resources is critical to fire response in Alameda County. An extensive cooperative effort over the past five years to create and manage mutual threat zones and responses to fires has dramatically increased C.D.F.'s initial attack capability in this area. That coupled with C.D.F. moving additional fire engines and helicopters into the East Bay during times of high fire danger increases the probability of keeping fires small and therefore reducing the need for evacuations and reducing dollar loss.

The main focus for fire prevention in Battalion Four is public education, information and fuel reduction in prioritized areas. This focus includes a strong relationship with stakeholders to maximize limited resources to accomplish prioritized objectives. C.D.F. is partnered with local government fire agencies, the Diablo Fire Safe Council and the East Bay Hills Emergency Forum. This partnership is designed to reach beyond the fire service to involve homeowners, community leaders, planners, developers, insurance companies, public utilities and others to reduce the risk of wildfire -- before a fire starts.

**Objectives:**

1. Reduce the size and threat of wildfires in the interface by fuel reduction.
2. Utilize fuel modification in the form of shaded fuel breaks to enhance evacuation corridors and tactical positions for firefighting operations.
3. Establish and maintain strong relationships with local government fire agencies for coordination and cooperation.
4. Coordinate with the Alameda County Fire Marshall to maximize the use of fire codes, ordinances, PRC 4290 and 4291 on all new developments in the SRA.
5. Continue to update and administer mutual threat zone agreements in the SRA-LRA interface areas.
6. Participate in interagency training including disaster services and law enforcement.
7. Continue to maximize media contacts to educate the public on ways to prevent fires and preserve life safety.
8. Reduce the threat of hostile fires escaping from known fire start hazard areas such as roadside and wind power generation.

**Priority Areas:**

1. SRA-LRA wildland urban interface areas.
  - 1.1 Oakland-Berkeley hills
  - 1.2 San Leandro-Castro Valley hills
  - 1.3 Hayward hills
  - 1.4 Union City-Fremont hills
  - 1.5 Pleasanton Ridge-Kilcare Woods
  - 1.6 Palomares-Niles Canyon
2. Eastern county wind generating area
3. Mines Road drainages including Del Valle recreational area

**Action Plan:**

1. Continue and enhance the fuel modification and fuel reduction projects in the wildland-urban interface areas. Coordinate resources with the Hills Emergency Forum and the Diablo Fire Safe Council. Projects include but are not limited to:
  - 1.1 Berkeley upper Strawberry Canyon fuel reduction project.
  - 1.2 Diablo FireSafe East Bay roadside clearance project.
  - 1.3 East Bay Regional Park Claremont Canyon fuel reduction project.
  - 1.4 Tilden Park Eucalyptus removal project.
  - 1.5 Oakland-Berkeley hills 15 mile fuel break project.
  - 1.6 Oakland Shepherd Canyon shaded fuel break project

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- 1.7 Chabot Park fuel reduction project.
- 1.8 Highway 24 Caldecott Tunnel fuel reduction project.
2. Obtain language changes in the conditions of approval for wind generators use permits requiring numbering and marking gates and road access utilizing the standards of PRC 4290 with regard to signage.
3. GIS / GPS mapping and marking of wind farm gates and road system
4. Conduct public information and education programs at local schools.
5. Distribute FireSafe educational materials at public gatherings and public venues.
6. Utilize Volunteers in Prevention for targeted inspections of dwellings and buildings for compliance with PRC 4291.
7. Utilize Volunteers in Prevention to conduct bulk mailing of self inspection and fire safe guides to postal customers in high hazard areas.
8. Whenever dealing with the media suggest fire prevention messages to be included and integrated into their story.
9. Conduct meetings with agricultural groups such as the Cattleman's Association, and Farm Bureau to provide information and encourage the use of firebreaks and clearance around all improvements such as dwellings, barns, out buildings and wells.
10. Conduct training exercises and pre-fire season briefings with cooperating fire agencies and share pre-fire plans for special target hazards.

**Battalion Five: (Stanislaus)**

**Objectives:**

1. Improve local operational efficiency and effectiveness by improving mutual and auto aid agreements between CDF and West Stanislaus Fire Protection District, City of Patterson, and City of Newman. This will include improving communications systems and dispatch procedures.
2. Review all development projects for compliance with PRC 4290 and make recommendations for fire defense improvements. This will include: review of first phase development plans for Diablo Grande Development and major infrastructure projects related to it, planning green belts and fuel breaks, and fuel reduction projects in advance of development.

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3. Seek grant funding for fuel reduction (brush clearing) along the Stanislaus /Santa Clara County Road firebreak.
4. Complete approximately 250 acre Biel VMP project.
5. Participate in planning fire safe requirements for expansion of Frank Raines ORV Park.
6. Work with Caltrans on mowing and fuel reduction projects along I-5 corridor.

**Priority Areas:**

1. Frank Raines ORV County Park
2. Diablo Grande Subdivision
3. I-5 corridor

**Action Plan:**

1. Work closely with local fire officials (the Chief and Fire District Board of Directors for West Stanislaus Fire Protection District, The City Manager and City Council for the cities of Patterson and Newman) to improve mutual aid and auto aid agreements in the Battalion. This will include improving communications capabilities (interoperability) and dispatch procedures.
2. Work closely with Stanislaus County Community Development Department staff and West Stanislaus County Fire Protection District on developing fire safe conditions for the second phase of the Diablo Grande Development. This will include the construction of a sewer pipeline from Diablo Grande to Patterson and the possible construction of a resort hotel starting in 2005.
3. Request hand crews for brush abatement along the Stanislaus /Santa Clara County Road. Coordinate project work with Coe State Park staff. Brush abatement should include obtaining clearance in the Red Creek drainage of the Coe State Park Wilderness area.
4. Complete the Biel VMP project contract and burn by the winter of 2005. Start project planning for the Mustang Peak project to be finished by spring of 2006.
5. Work with West Stanislaus County Fire Protection District and Stanislaus County Parks on improving fire safety conditions in Frank Raines OHV Park.
6. Develop safe operating procedures for annual Caltrans mowing project along the center divider of I-5. Work with local media through press releases to encourage adjacent landowners to disc along the right of way to help prevent large wind driven fires along the corridor.

**Battalion Six: (Contra Costa / Tracy)**

The Contra Costa battalion covers all of Contra Costa, a small sliver of northwestern Alameda, and western San Joaquin counties. There are several large landowners in the battalion. Three of the largest are Mt Diablo State Park, Contra Costa Water District and the wind power consortium near the Altamont Pass. Mt Diablo State Park encompasses approximately 20,000 acres of open space in the middle of the battalion. The Contra Costa Water District includes the Los Vaqueros Reservoir and is a large stakeholder in overall watershed protection with close to 80,000 acres under management. The Los Vaqueros Reservoir and watershed incorporates some 20,000 acres and provides a domestic water supply to over 450,000 people. While many fire safety steps have been taken by the wind power consortium, wind farms continue to be an ignition source for vegetation fires. A new generation of wind turbines being currently installed are an unknown factor and may lead to a new learning curve on reducing fire starts

The population of Contra Costa County is now over one million people. The continuing growth in the population further increases the pressure on areas of wildland urban interface. Top on the list of projects for the battalion are the cooperative agreements with other fire agencies. These include the staffing of Sunshine Forest Fire Station through the winter under an Amador plan with East Contra Costa Fire Department and updating and improving the Mutual Threat Zone response plans. The Diablo Fire Safe Council has been very successful in obtaining grant money to further fire safety and fuels management projects in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Battalion Six personnel will continue to support these projects in anyway possible. In October of 2003 the Diablo Fire Safe Council and Hills Emergency Forum hosted a Fire Wise Workshop at the San Ramon Convention Center. This workshop brought together city and county managers, planners, building officials, contractors and emergency services personnel from across the country to illustrate the wildland fire problem and mitigation steps that can be taken to decrease the amount of damage a fire can cause in our communities.

**Objectives:**

1. Begin fuel modification, 4291 inspections and look at access and egress issues within and around the Canyon Community.
2. Implement a fuel modification zone on Mt Diablo State Park boundaries.
3. Identify funding sources for Alameda Whip Snake habitat recovery research.
4. Continue working with Mt. Diablo State Park and US Fish and Wildlife to study the effects of fire on the Alameda Whip Snake due to wildfires and controlled burning.
5. Draft and implement a 20 to 25 year control burn cycle within the state park.

6. Maintain Wind Farm fire plans and continue the inspections of the re-powering projects.
7. Begin focused enforcement of the 4291 code in the Alhambra Valley and Wildcat Canyon areas.
8. Begin groundwork for 4291 program in the San Pablo Watershed.
9. Continue working with Contra Costa Water District to protect and enhance the Los Vaqueros watershed and nature area.
10. Upkeep, maintenance and mapping of the Contra Costa County fire trails.
11. Remain active in the Diablo Fire Safe Council.
12. Educate the public on equipment caused fires.
13. Reduce arson fires.
14. Review/update Mt. Diablo State Park pre-fire management plan with State parks and agency cooperators.
15. Secure property in the Altamont Wind Resource Area to establish remote automated weather station.
16. Secure funding for the replacement of the apparatus building at Sunshine FFS.

**Action Plan:**

1. Canyon
  - A. Begin a series of community meetings to assess the overall feeling for fire safety in the community.
  - B. Start a 5-year phase in of 4291 code inspections as soon as VIP's are available.
  - C. Address the access / egress issues with county planning, transportation and building officials.
  - D. Using GIS based products and a fire behavior-modeling program such as Far Site or Behave conduct a series of fire scenarios in the Canyon area before fuel modification projects and after. Take this data and perform cost suppression estimates of fires before and after projected fuel modification efforts.
  - E. Phase in enforcement of 4290 Driveway and Water Supply requirements.
  - F. Explore the possibility of placing utilities present in Canyon underground with the responsible agencies.
  - G. Implement a fuel reduction project funded by the 2006 Bureau of Land Management (BLM) funding cycle.
  
2. Mt Diablo State Park
  - A. Implement a fuel modification zone along the park boundaries to limit the spread of fires from the park into the urban interface and vice versa.
  - B. Work with park management, US Fish and Wildlife and adjacent local governments to draft and implement a 20-year fire reduction plan in the park.
    1. This project would start at or near the top of Mt Diablo and proceed down beginning again after reaching the bottom areas.

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2. These burns would be confined to approximately 500 acres per year as conditions allow.
  
3. Alhambra Valley, Wild Cat Canyon and West Contra Costa County
  - A. Begin a focused, phased 4291 code enforcement program as VIP's become available.
  - B. Assess the region for fuel modification projects and secure contracts with local landowners.
  
4. Bollinger Canyon and Las Trampas Ridge
  - A. Working with East Bay Regional Parks, San Ramon Valley Fire Department and local landowners begin fuel modification on Las Trampas Ridge running north
  - B. Continue 4291 and local weed abatement enforcement in the LRA and SRA areas.
  
5. Los Vaqueros Watershed and Mallory Ridge
  - A. Continue assisting Contra Costa Water District with fuel modification projects and control burns in the Los Vaqueros watershed sensitive areas.
  - B. Assist Contra Costa Water District with weed abatement projects on Mallory Ridge.

**Battalion Seven: (South Santa Clara County Fire District):**

The South Santa Clara County Fire District is located in the southern bay area. The Fire District provides fire and emergency medical services to 40,000 customers in the unincorporated areas of Morgan Hill, Gilroy and the community of San Martin. The Fire District has 3 fire stations and covers approximately 300 square miles; from the San Jose city limits to the North highway 101 at Metcalf road; To the Santa Cruz County line to the West Hecker Pass highway, East to bell station Pacheco pass highway; South to the San Benito County line and the Pajaro river. The South Santa Clara County Fire District protects residential, commercial, and light industrial occupancies, the wildland urban interface hazard, the 450 miles of State highways 152,156,25 and 101, and the 45 miles of two main rail lines of Southern and Union Pacific along with the Cal train commuter trains. The San Andrea's, Hayward and Sergeants Faults all run through the Fire District. One major water and gas pipeline run through the Fire District. Since 1997, the Fire District has provided advanced life support (paramedic) services for all members of the community. The Fire District works closely with the local ambulance provider (American Medical Response), Santa Clara County EMS. Along with fire suppression and emergency medical service, the fire district personnel are trained in many other aspects of emergency responses. These include: vehicle extrication, swift water rescue, hazardous material response, earthquake, and flood preparedness. The Fire District also provides fire prevention and education, code & law enforcement, and engineering services to the public. The Fire District staff includes 1 Battalion Chief, 6 Fire Captains/Paramedics, 7 Fire Apparatus Engineers/Paramedics, 5 Fire Apparatus Engineers, 1 Mechanic, 2 Dispatchers and 3 Firefighters. The fire district operates 5 type 1 Fire Engines, 1 OES Fire Engine, 2 3,000 Gallon

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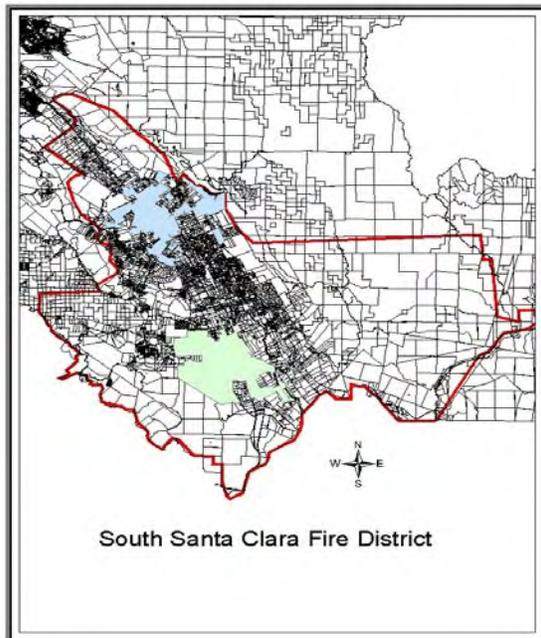
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Water Tenders, 2 Utility Vehicles, a Chief Officer's Vehicle and a Mobile Air Support Unit. The Fire District is supported by its' 35 paid call firefighters. In addition to emergency response, the Paid Call Firefighters are frequently utilized to staff stations when front line engines are on other emergencies. The Paid Call Firefighters are also involved in numerous charitable activities and fund raisers.

The South Santa Clara County Fire District participates actively in automatic aid agreements, with the Gilroy City Fire Department, Santa Clara County Fire Department (Morgan Hill City), Pajaro Valley Fire District, San Benito County Fire, and San Jose City Fire Departments. We are an active participant in the Santa Clara County and State of California Mutual Aid Plans responding to disasters in the County and throughout California

The Insurance Service Rating (ISO) rating for the South Santa Clara County Fire District is 5 and 10. The ISO rating of 5 is with in 5 miles of any Fire District station or a fire department we currently have an auto aid agreement with.

### **Battalion Seven: (South Santa Clara County Fire District):**



The South Santa Clara County Fire District was established in 1980 when the Gilroy Rural Fire District merged with the Morgan Hill Rural Fire District. The South Santa Clara County Fire District contracts for personnel and administration with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). This is the largest multi-purpose emergency service and resource protection agency within the United States. The Santa Clara Unit (SCU) of CDF is responsible for over 1.35 million acres of State Responsibility Area (SRA), as well as Local Responsibility Area (LRA).

A seven-member board of Fire Commissioners oversees the South Santa Clara County Fire District They are appointed by the Santa Clara County Board

of Supervisors. They live in different areas of the Fire District and represent the views of the community. They provide community input, oversight, and budget management, while representing the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

The South Santa Clara County Fire District is an all risk emergency response agency. Responding to approximately 2500 incidents per year. These incidents include emergency medical service response, all types of fires, hazardous materials, water rescues and public service assists.

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INCTYPE	SUBTYPE	Count Of SUBTYPE
FIRE	Assist other agency	108
FIRE	Smoke check	36
FIRE	Debris Trash	30
FIRE	Structure	280
FIRE	Structure Commercial	8
FIRE	Veh. Commercial	4
FIRE	Veh passenger	61
FIRE	wildfire	169
FMS	Hazardous Condition	58
FMS	Hazardous Materials	2
FMS	Power Lines Down	13
Medical	Minor	6
Medical	Life Threatening	988
Medical	Vehicle accident w/ injuries	385
Medical	Vehicle accident w/ rescue	33
OTHER	Cancelled before response	32
OTHER	Law Enforcement	16
OTHER	Other	174
OTHER	OFS	16
OTHER	Out of Unit	53
OTHER	Referral	36
PSA	Assist person	43
PSA	Flooding	4
PSA	MSC	23
PSA	Water Evac	1
Total		2579

**Mission Statement:**

**Santa Clara County Mission Statement**

Our mission is to provide quality public services with measurable outcomes for the residents of the County of Santa Clara, in order to meet their needs for a healthy, safe, and prosperous environment and help them develop a community rich in both natural beauty and economic opportunity where diverse people come together to celebrate a higher quality of life.

**The South Santa Clara County Fire District Mission Statement**

The South Santa Clara County Fire District is dedicated to provide professional customer service through performance and accountability.

We provide fire and emergency medical services to protect life and property and we strive to reduce emergencies through fire prevention and public education.

**South Santa Clara County Fire District Board of Commissioners Strategy**

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We will advise responsibly and in accordance with all Federal, State, and Local laws, codes, and ordinances.

We will ethically represent the residents of the Fire District at all times with Respect, Leadership, and Integrity.

We will be fiscally responsible, while providing the Fire District residents with highly trained and properly equipped personnel, meeting and exceeding industry standards

**Objectives:**

1. To complete the GIS updated response map books for all Fire District equipment.
2. To complete Standards of Cover Review of the Fire District and its current capabilities.
3. To minimize the interface fire threat.
4. To identify high fire severity zones and complete pre-response and evacuation plans.
5. To identify fuel reduction and fuel modification projects in the high fire severity zones.
6. To keep structure fires to the floor of origin.
7. To treat, package, and transport patients to definitive care within 1 hour.
8. To establish a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in San Martin.
9. To increase staffing at all Fire District Stations
10. To attempt to locate funding using all grant resources

**2005 Vegetation Fuel Reduction Inspections Areas:**

1. Holiday Lake Estates
2. Fernley Ridge
3. Redwood Retreat Road
4. Developed areas East of New Ave.

**2005 Action Plan:**

1. Maintain pre fire plans.
2. Educate the public about the Santa Clara County Fire safe Council.
3. Maintain school and special event programs.
4. Assist Unit VIPs with LE 38 program for PRC 4291.
5. Continue to recruit and retain Paid Call Firefighters.
6. Continue plans reviews and enforcement of PRC 4290
7. To provide employees with the latest Fire and EMS training to support objective 6 and 7.
8. To continue to work with and support all of our cooperators.

**Battalion 9: (Emergency Command Center) Descriptive:**

The Santa Clara Unit Emergency Command Center (SCU ECC) is one of 21 ECC's in California, providing command, and control services for Twelve Forest Fire Stations, (Schedule B), positioned to protect the State Responsibility Areas, (SRA), of Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Western San Joaquin, and Western Stanislaus Counties. The command center's dispatching responsibility also includes areas covered by Schedule A contracts with Alameda County and the South Santa Clara County Fire District. In addition, the SCU Unit has two "Amador" contracts. One at Pacheco Fire Station in Santa Clara County, and the other at Sunshine Fire Station in Contra Costa County.

The SCU ECC is staffed by 4 Fire Captains, 3 Dispatchers, and 1 Battalion Chief. The shifts are staggered to maintain a Fire Captain, and 1 to 2 dispatchers on during the daytime hours, and 1 Fire Captain for night coverage. The Battalion Chief provides oversight 4 days per week. An SCU ECC Fire Captain also fills the role of the Duty Officer to assist the SCU Duty Chief in any all command and control functions. SCU ECC Duty Officer is maintained year round, 24 hrs per day. The Santa Clara Unit Volunteers in Prevention program, (VIP), provides additional Staffing to the SCU ECC with 1 person during the daylight hours. In addition, the SCU ECC has access to 75 Santa Clara Unit VIPs to assist as needed for any and all large incidents. The VIPs are cross trained to assist in answering phones, tracking of incidents, assisting in radio communications, staffing of the SCU Expanded Dispatch Center, and staffing the Communications Van.

The SCU ECC provides Command and Control, Logistics, and CDF Resources to assist the various Local Governments, and Cities, to mitigate wildfires, floods, and earthquake damage in the Local Government Responsibility Areas, (LRA), of Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara Counties. The lands are protected by means of the Mutual Threat Zone Agreements, (MTZs), with the various Cities, and Local Governments within the Santa Clara Unit.

The Santa Clara Unit has 110 MTZs. These MTZs are located in Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara Counties. The MTZs are divided into manageable portions dictated by geography, and structure density. At which time infrastructure is developed in Western portions of San Joaquin, and Stanislaus Counties, additional Mutual Threat Zone Agreements will be established to protect the various assets in these areas.

The SCU ECC has the ability to access, and deploy any and all CDF Resources throughout the state to mitigate a given incident within the Santa Clara Unit, by means of the Statewide Command, and Control Structure. The Statewide Command, and Control Structure are divided into two areas. The Northern Region, which is controlled by the Northern Operational Center,(NOPS), and the Southern Region, which is controlled by the Southern Operational Center,(SOPS). The SCU ECC is located in the Northern Region. The SCU ECC processes requests for additional CDF Resources through NOPS by means of an electronic data terminal called the Multi Incident Reporting System,(MIRPS).

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The MIRPS system is linked statewide. The SCU ECC has 4 terminals on the main floor, and 5 terminals in the Expanded Dispatch Center. All SCU ECC personnel are cross trained to dispatch, and utilize MIRPS. In the case of large fires, flooding, or earthquake, or other Natural Disaster, the SCU ECC can rapidly access the available resources throughout the state by means of the MIRPS system via NOPS. NOPS then coordinates, and tracks the resources fills to monitor drawdown, and track resource commitments. NOPS coordinates with SOPS to then reassign the remaining CDF resources that have not been committed to Santa Clara's Incident(s), as to provide ample coverage throughout the state. This system gives the SCU ECC the ability to assist any of the 52 Cooperating Fire Agencies.( Cooperators), within the Santa Clara Unit in a timely manner. Rapid augmentation has proven to be the foundation for success when dealing with large, damaging, and/ or multiple Incidents.

The MIRPS system is enhanced by a microwave link called the NOPS, and SOPS intercoms. The intercom system allows all 21 ECCs in the state to talk to each other, and allows for critically needed aircraft to be ordered prior to placing the order in MIRPS, thus reducing lag time for both ordering, and cancellation of aircraft.

The SCU ECC works hand in hand its Cooperators by means of Mutual Aid, and Auto Aid. On a day to day basis the SCU ECC provides assistance to adjoining jurisdictions by means of our Auto Aid Agreements. These agreements allow CDF, and its Cooperators to respond the closest available resource to any given incident. On a broader scale, if a given entity determines the incident they are responding to will exceed, or has exceeded their capabilities, CDF will assist as needed to mitigate the incident.

The SCU ECC is well versed as it applies to the utilization the OES Fire, and Rescue System. The Santa Clara Unit has three counties that lie within OES Region II ( Alameda, Contra Costa, and Santa Clara). The Santa Clara Unit also has portions of Western San Joaquin, and Western Stanislaus Counties, which lie within the boundaries of OES Region IV. Requests for resources to mitigate the given incident are processed through the Operational Area Coordinators (OAC) for the county in which the incident is taking place. Great care must be taken to insure the correct ordering process is followed, to insure the integrity of the system, and the ability of the OAC's to track resources. During the declared Fire Season, the SCU ECC works closely with the OAC's to maintain these ordering processes, and to further strengthen our working relationships. With the abundance of MTZs within the Santa Clara Unit, and the eminent structure threat in these MTZs, it is imperative that the SCU ECC provides leadership to the OACs. This is accomplished by joint training, site visits by the SCU ECC Battalion Chief, open dialog, and consistent ordering processes by SCU ECC personnel.

The SCU ECC provides a leadership role in the monitoring of fire weather conditions within the Santa Clara Unit. The issuing if Red Flag Warnings, and Fire Weather Watches are the foundation for success. The SCU ECC works closely with the Monterey Fire Weather Office, to anticipate such weather events, which allows the SCU ECC to augment staffing prior to the barrage of fire activity that accompanies these weather events. The SCU ECC also works closely with the SCU Duty Chief, and the NOPS Duty Chief as it pertains to pre-positioning of CDF resources in the critical areas of the Santa Clara Unit, and tracking of costs associated with these augmentations. The SCU ECC strives to be ever prudent, but still be ever ready. Always keeping in mind the needs of our neighboring CDF Units.

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The SCU ECC maintains 5 Remote Weather Stations,( RAWs), and monitors these stations on a daily basis to set the appropriate dispatch level. A Standard Response Level is pre-determined for each dispatch level for timely activation in the event of a wildfire, or other type fire which is threatening to burn the wildland.

The SCU ECC maintains an electronic Emergency Resource Directory, (ERD) which allows us to support any given incident, within the Santa Clara Unit. The SCU ERD contains information such as the ICS qualifications for SCU personnel, supplies, vendors, private resources available for hire, call when needed rosters,( Dozers, Helicopters, Watertenders,etc), Local Government Cooperator information., and much, much more. The SCU ERD is linked to MIRPS, and has everything needed to support a given incident. The SCU ERD is updated yearly.

The final piece of the puzzle lies with the SCU ECC Expanded Operation (SCU Expanded). The SCU ECC Expanded building is a state of the art resource ordering operation with 5 MIRPS terminals, 3 printers, of which two are linked to MIRPS, fax phone, 14 additional computer terminals, 20 phone jacks, and ample space for 30 people. The SCU Expanded Operation is fully functionalized (Crews, Equipment, Overhead, Supplies, and General Information). When an Initial Attack Incident occurs that has the potential to become an Extended Attack, or Major Incident, the SCU ECC immediately staffs SCU Expanded with a VIP, and a Fire Captain. Once SCU Expanded is up and running, all ordering for the given incident takes place within this building. The only exception is the ordering, and control of aircraft, which stays on the main ECC Floor. The given incident is assigned a separate Command Frequency, to allow the SCU ECC to go back to processing any new incidents, thus freeing up the SCU ECC main floor for business as usual. If the given incident continues to grow additional personnel are assigned from within SCU, or an order is placed in MIRPS for fill. The properly staffed Expanded Operation allows for timely resource ordering, cancellation, or reassignment, of resources, overhead, and equipment while taking the load of supporting the incident off the SCU ECC main floor.

- In 2004, the SCU ECC processed 6783 Incidents.
- The call volume for the SCU ECC increased by 15% from the previous year.
- The SCU ECC dispatches year round, 24 hrs/ day to process Medical Aids, Vehicle Accidents, Structure Fires, Hazardous Material Incidents, Law Enforcement Activities,( For the CDF Peace Officers), Wildland Fires, Flooding, Earthquakes, Cliff Rescues, River Rescues, Trench Rescues, Helicopter Rescues, Evacuations, Fire Prevention Activities, Terrorist Threats, Industrial Accidents, Other Natural Disasters, and Public Service Requests.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the SCU ECC is to provide professional, consistent, accurate, timely, and coordinated command and control functions to all who depend on our services.

The secondary mission is to pursue all avenues of funding to maintain the proper staffing levels in the SCU ECC in relation to the increasing call volume in the Santa Clara Unit.

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Objectives:

- To provide accurate, and timely dispatching services to the population served by the Santa Clara Unit.
- To provide aggressive dispatching of CDF resources to all wildfires in the Santa Clara Unit.
- To provide the proper dispatch level based upon current weather conditions.
- To provide the proper response level for the call at hand.
- To maintain a positive working relationship with all Fire Agencies within the Santa Clara Unit.
- To maintain a positive working relationship with all Public Service Agencies we encounter.
- To maintain a staffing level within the SCU ECC, which will allow for timely processing of calls, accurate tracking of resources, and professional radio edicate.
- To hold public, and fire service personnel safety as the number one priority when dispatching calls.
- To maintain a professional demeanor with all persons we encounter.
- To pursue the newest technology which will enable the SCU ECC to better serve the public, and carry out our command and control objectives.
- To attend, and maintain the training needed to effectively carry out all command, and control functions.
- To stay proficient at all tasks required, and perform them in a timely manner.

Objectives: ( continued)

To learn, and maintain proficiency in the use of the new Altaris Computer Aided Dispatch System,( Altaris CAD).

- To achieve the needed compliance level, as it pertains to the Altaris CAD Geo layer, so we can proceed to the Dynamic Mode by January 2006.
- To upgrade our phone system to provide a user friendly environment at the main floor dispatch panel, and pursue all avenues of funding to achieve this objective.
- To maintain a clean healthy environment in the SCU ECC.
- To maintain a positive attitude towards all personnel working in the SCU ECC, and to always treat each other with respect, no matter how trying the situation may be.
- To continue our leadership role in the early recognition of Extreme Fire Weather Conditions within the Santa Clara Unit, and to pass this information to our Cooperators in a timely manner.
- To appropriately initiate the FMAG process when a given wildland fire which is damaging, or threatening to damage infrastructure within the Santa Clara Unit.

Action Plan 2005:

- To customize the Altaris CAD to fully meet the needs of the SCU ECC.
- To achieve 80 % compliance as it pertains to the GEO Layer so we can be functioning in the Dynamic Mode by January 2006.

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- To pursue all avenues of funding to upgrade the SCU ECC phone system which is 15 years old.
- To host a MIRPS class in May, as to further develop a pool of qualified expanded personnel from SCU, and Local Government.
- Seek outside funding- on going.

### **Battalion Twenty: (Fire Prevention Bureau)**

The Santa Clara Fire Prevention Bureau falls under the direction and supervision of the East Bay Division Chief. The Bureau is staffed by a Battalion Chief, one Fire Captain Specialist, one Pre-Fire Engineer who also doubles as a fire Captain Specialist, and a Fire Prevention Specialist II. The Bureau is involved in all areas of prevention and is broken down into three separate, but related functions handled by the individuals assigned to the Bureau, education, engineering and enforcement.

The Volunteers in Prevention program is administered and coordinated by the FPS II. The VIP's currently have 92 members and in 2003 conducted 352 public outreach and education program making 406,590 personal contacts, 45 news releases, 1965 PRC- 4291-6 inspections, and when combined with other projects donated a total of 8900 hours of personnel time to fire prevention engineering and education to the unit.

The Law Enforcement branch of the Bureau includes; fire investigation, issuing citations, processing criminal complaints with local District Attorneys, and civil cost collections, which are returned to the States General Fund. The Bureau maintains membership in the Santa Clara and Alameda County Fire Prevention Officers, and Fire Investigation groups, and is currently working to establish an interdisciplinary fire investigation team in Contra Costa County. In addition to these groups the Bureau is actively fostering working relationships with the over 40 other Law Enforcement agencies within the units boundaries.

Pre Fire Engineering and Fire Protection Planning are also handled by the Bureau. The bulk of the Public Resources Code 4290 inspections are conducted by the counties in cooperation with the local CDF Battalion Chief. Pre Fire Engineering includes GIS mapping of assets at risk, wildland fuel belts, and the maintenance of various other GIS data layers for use in planning and implementing fuel reduction projects. The Bureau also provides technical support to for two Fire Safe Council's active in the unit, Santa Clara Fire Safe, Diablo Fire Safe, and to the Hills Emergency Forum, a working group formed after the Tunnel Fire to address projects in the LRA and interface areas of the East Bay Hills and surrounding communities. With input and cooperation from these groups, and the associated stake holders, the Pre-Fire Engineer establishes goals and projects in the Unit Fire Management plan to reduce the threat of large damaging fires. This document is the units' template for fuels reduction projects to pending, completed, and for general public review, and comment. The units Fire Plan allows us to respond to the needs and concerns of the public and identifies projects to be funded through cooperative grants and donations.

Through these three functions the goal of the Santa Clara Fire Prevention Bureau is working to reduce unplanned ignitions within the unit, limit damage caused by uncontrolled fires, through the use of education, pre fire mitigation projects, patrol, and law enforcement to meet the mission statement of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

### **Training and Safety Battalion**

The Santa Clara Unit's sphere of influence includes portions of Santa Clara, Stanislaus, Alameda, San Joaquin and Contra Costa Counties. It shares jurisdictional boundaries with: 35 separate city fire departments and fire protection districts; Mount Diablo and Henry Coe State Parks; East Bay Regional Parks District (EBMD); and Santa Clara County parks. Joint training is

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held with the: State EMS; the AMR Ambulance Company; 5 different Sheriff Offices; California Highway Patrol and various city police departments.

The SCU Training and Safety Battalion personnel actively participate in the Santa Clara County, Contra Costa, and Alameda Counties Training Officer's Associations. In addition, the SCU Battalion Chiefs participate in regular meetings with the: Santa Clara County Fire Safe Counsel; East Bay Regional Parks District; Mount Diablo and Henry Coe State Parks; Morgan Hill Police Department; Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office and other responding agencies. The battalion chiefs assist these agencies with live-fire, wildland training, and provide the Training and Safety Battalion with a list of training needs so joint operations may take place. This provides for cost effective operations and allows for enhanced interagency partnerships.

The battalion oversees the quarterly Training and Safety Committee meetings: to discuss training issues; 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.

To accomplish the Training and Safety Battalion's objectives in 2004, the battalion provided a total of: 3178 hours of training to 71 company officers and administrative staff; 1580 hours of staff time to coordinate students, courses, and instructors; recording and tracking training; and ensuring those newly qualified trainees are listed in the statewide Multi-Incident Resource Processing System (MIRPS). The battalion staff provided a total of 8760 hours of dedicated Safety Officer service to the Santa Clara Unit.

The first priority of the Santa Clara Training and Safety Battalion Staff is to provide for the overall safety of the Santa Clara Unit's 100 permanent personnel and 76 seasonal employees. The Training and Safety Battalion's second priority is to: facilitate; ensure coordination for the unit-wide training plan; match training courses with approved personnel training requests; maintain a central location for updated training records; and utilize CDF's statewide software Training Tracker II to account for all employees.

The Battalion Staff comprises of: one battalion chief, one fire captain: and two Smith Creek Amador Contract fire captains. The two Smith Creek Amador Contract Fire Captains are funded only for November through May and designated for training Volunteer Fire Company's. The Staff continually strive to provide creative, cost effective, innovative training, and always providing the highest commitment to safety. The state-funded training operations, which are divided into 19 separate program areas, are a seven-day a week operation, and listed below are:

- Fire Prevention Bureau
- Alma Helitack
- SCU Emergency Command Center
- Automotive Fleet Maintenance Administrative and Office staff
- Battalion Chiefs and Company Officers Structure and Wildland Protection
- Schedule A and Schedule B Programs
- Santa Clara and Alameda County's Paramedic Programs
- Training and Safety staff
- Weapons of Mass Destruction Training Homeland Security

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- Vegetation Management
- Pre-fire Engineering
- Joint Apprenticeship Program
- Volunteer Fire Departments
- Volunteers-in-Prevention
- Fire Safe Counsels
- Joint-Agency Operations

**Mission Statements**

**Primarily:**

The SCU Training and Safety Battalion is to provide the most current national industry standards for training in all mentioned program areas with the highest attention given to providing safety in the work environment. The battalion tracks certification for the Santa Clara Unit employees and ensures that each individual will be able to respond and operate jointly within all mutual aid agencies with their expected minimum level of training.

**Secondarily:**

The secondary mission of the SCU Training and Safety Battalion is to: enhance fire department operations by seeking creative and alternative training mechanisms; seeking additional funding sources, encouraging each employee to be part of a team and to share their individual areas of expertise by participating as instructors.

**Objectives:**

1. Provide a 24 hour, seven days a week, Safety Officer on all major incidents in the Santa Clara Unit.
2. Examine, re-evaluate and recommend changes in SCU's Field Accountability Tracking System (FATS). System changes are needed to effectively protect response personnel during a possible terrorist attack.
3. Identify the legal state and federal requirements for training and safety in each program area.
4. Identify training and safety requirements for contract programs.
5. Meet or exceed those training standards identified in the CDF State Training handbook.
6. Identify training priorities set by the Unit's senior management.
7. Identify the needs of each of the 19 program areas to meet the training requirements established by the program managers.

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8. Identify projected vacancies and the training requirements necessary to help those personnel filling those vacancies function successfully.
9. Identify the needs of each employee to help achieve career development goals.
10. Identify CDF's new training programs in the early stages of development, project their impact and develop an implementation plan.
11. Identify the training needs of our partner agencies.
12. Examine the current tracking and delivery systems. Identify system deficiencies. Implement corrective solutions necessary to meet the goals of the Training Plan.
13. Develop control mechanisms to monitor program efficiency and correct deficiencies.
14. Establish a communication system, using current electronic technologies, to deliver information on training programs available.
15. Seek alternative funding sources in the form of grants, participation with universities and sharing courses with other agencies.
16. Work towards enhancing the knowledge and skill levels necessary for safe and effective response to possible weapons of mass destruction incidents.
17. Compile information derived from objectives listed above. Establish a training priority list. Develop a Training Plan with achievable goals for the Training and Safety Battalion. Set timeframes necessary to meet those goals.

**Action Plan – 2005**

1. Meet with the senior staff review and receive authorization to implement the updated Training Plan – February 2005.
2. Meet with the supervisors from each program area to provide background information that necessitated the development of the Training Plan. Present the plan and provide for discussion to ensure that implementation is supported, coordinated and unified – March 2005.
3. Present the plan to the field and begin implementation – March 2005.
  - A. The key element to the plan is to transfer all employees' training records to an electronic database. All training records will be sent to individual employees. The Train Tracker II program (recently revised) will be designated data base program. The database will connect individual employees within each program area to their individual development plan and will allow the Training and Safety Battalion staff to project future

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- training needs on an individual and unit-wide basis. It will be used to support the Unit's participation in the California Incident Command
4. Review and update the Unit's Emergency Resources Directory (ERD) for data entry into the Multi-Incident Resource Processing System (MIRPS) – prior to May 2005
  5. Finalize the review of the 2004 fiscal year budget expenditures. Project the fiscal year 2005 budget. Make recommendations to the senior staff on how best to plan for future training and safety operations, when anticipated contract agreements take effect.
  6. Determine the training needs for the northern region training allocations meeting using data retrieved from the Train Tracker II database – October 2005.
  7. Make student selections to fill the allocated training slots and advise the program managers for their planning purposes – November 2005.
  8. Enhance electronic dissemination of training announcements – on going.
  9. Seek outside funding sources – on going.

**Automotive Battalion:**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection -- Santa Clara Unit's (SCU) Automotive Battalion, encompasses portions of five counties, Santa Clara, Contra Costa, Alameda, San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties. SCU has five program areas that have assigned automotive equipment. They are the South Santa Clara County Fire District Schedule A program, the Sunol Schedule A program, the Sunshine Amador Contract and the State funded fire equipment. To maintain this mobile equipment there are three automotive repair shops. They are located in Morgan Hill, Pleasanton and Patterson. This placement reduces travel times, fuel costs and allows for repairs or maintenance on multiple pieces of mobile equipment simultaneously. Each shop is operated by two Heavy Fire Equipment Operators (HFEO). The HFEOs assist the Unit's Heavy Equipment Mechanics (HEM) with automotive repairs, maintain state fire breaks and roads, and participate in vegetation management projects when not assigned to incidents. The Fleet Equipment Manager (FEM) supervises the SCU's automotive program. The FEM manages the automotive budget, assigns projects, projects future automotive needs and coordinates equipment replacement.

**CDF Santa Clara Unit Automotive Policy**

It is the policy of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to maintain each piece of mobile equipment in a condition consistent with the work for which it was designed. This will be accomplished through the uniform application of an effective, preventive maintenance program in accordance with all state automotive and fiscal requirements. Repairs shall be made and parts replaced as necessary to keep the equipment functional, with priority being given to those items contributing to personnel safety. Mobile equipment shall not be altered or modified except, as outlined in the CDF Mobile Equipment Handbook: 6820 –

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MODIFICATIONS. Approval for modifications or alteration is granted in writing by the appropriate level.

Regular inspections of all mobile equipment shall be made as outlined in the preventive maintenance procedure and record. Accurate records shall be maintained of maintenance and repairs on all mobile equipment. As much as possible, major repairs shall be scheduled during the time of least expected incident activity. The Type 3 fire apparatus will have the majority of maintenance performed during the winter months and construction equipment used in the winter months will be maintained during summer. This will reduce occurrences of breakdown during those times when the equipment is needed most.

### Automotive Equipment Statistical Data

Santa Clara Unit has seventy-three pieces of equipment:

17	Type 3 (Wildland Engines)	3	Fire Suppression Bulldozers
5	Type 1 (Structural Engines)	3	Transports
1	Mobile Breathing Support Unit	2	Low Bed Trailers
1	OES Type 1 Engine	1	Grader
1	1200 gallon Heli-tender (helicopter support vehicle)	1	Front End Loader
1	Helitack Van (personnel transport)	1	Stakeside
1	Helitack Trailer	1	Dump Truck
20	Utility vehicles (four wheel drive)	1	Forklift
2	Service Units (Mobile repair vehicles)	1	Portable Cement Mixer
1	Mobile Communications Unit (VIP)	1	Portable Air Compressor
4	Sedans	2	Water Tenders
1	Supply Van		
2	Dozer Tenders (bulldozer service units)		

The majority of the automotive fleet is aging rapidly. Current statistics show:

*Seventy one percent of the fire apparatus are 10 years and older.*

*Fifty percent of the utility vehicles are 10 years and older.*

*Sixty seven percent of the fire suppression bulldozers are 25 years and older.*

*Thirty three percent of the transports for hauling heavy equipment are 20 years and older.*

*One hundred percent of the miscellaneous construction / rehab equipment are 15 years and older.*

The combined mileage for the fire equipment and support vehicles assigned to the Santa Clara Unit averages **882,689** miles per year. This is equivalent to traveling around the earth's equator 3.5 times. This exacts a much heavier toll on the equipment than what would normally occur though out the industry.

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Each year the ability to purchase parts has become more difficult. Repair parts, average around 1.5% to 2.5% percentage higher than the previous year. This increases equipment down time and hinders efficient shop operations. Replacement of equipment is not keeping pace with the expected wear out dates. The FEM is seeking additional revenue sources to assist with equipment replacement. When automotive equipment has been replaced with new models, training and enhancing repair skills for this equipment becomes necessary. Certification in these types of repairs is a requirement in order to maintain a cost effective and safe repair program. In addition to repair skills, road maintenance and fire suppression training must also occur. Prioritizing and coordinating the operation becomes problematic since the budget for the Automotive Battalion has not increased since 1985.

An aging automotive fleet is not the only focus for the Automotive Battalion, the replacement of the forty five year old headquarters shop in Morgan Hill initiated several years ago, has been delayed by design problems and increasing construction costs. Delays in the project impact the ability of the Unit to provide an efficient repair operation and increases costs by “farming out” repair projects. The FEM is committed to working with the Department of General Services to construct a professional automotive repair facility.

#### **FIVE-YEAR OBJECTIVES**

1. Enhance skills and certifications of the automotive staff in order to stay current with automotive technology changes.
2. Maintain the Unit’s emergency response equipment in a safe, incident ready status.
3. Continue to operate a cost effective and efficient automotive operation.
4. To pursue a timely construction of the new Santa Clara Unit Headquarters shop.
5. Coordinate with the Unit’s Vegetation Management Program manager to maintain fuel breaks and fire roads.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2004 – 2005**

1. The Unit’s Heavy Equipment Mechanics attended the State Fire Marshal’s Office Heavy Fire Equipment Mechanics training. The HEMs attended electrical chassis class for heavy fire apparatus equipment. The HFEO for the Morgan Hill shop attended the Fire Line Suppression training. The automotive staff have become members of the Northern California State Fire Mechanic association.
2. The annual maintenance for the automotive fleet has been completed and all fire suppression engines have been pump tested. The Unit has spent over \$150,000 in repairs.
3. The blue prints for the new shop have been reviewed, approved and a second bid process is anticipated in the near future.

4. The Pacheco Peak road repair project has been completed. Improvements to the Loma Chiquita and Loma Prieta firebreaks were made during the winter months. The HFEOs are improving the fuel breaks on the eastern and western boundaries of Henry Coe Park.

## **Appendix A - East Bay Regional Parks:**

### **Purpose Statement:**

The East Bay Regional Park District provides fire services to 96,000 acres of park property in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Of these acres approximately 30,000 acres in Alameda County and 35,000 acres in Contra Costa County are in the State Responsibility Area (CDF DPA). Three of the parks under management of the district are State Recreation Areas, owned by the State of California, under a contractual agreement. The park district maintains its own police department and dispatch services are provided from the Lake Chabot Public Safety Headquarters in Castro Valley. The Fire Department is a full service fire agency operating out 10 fire stations are; nine type 4 engines, four type 3 engines, and one water tender. In addition the districts two helicopters have water dropping capabilities, are on line as ALS providers on most days, and on high fire danger days are staffed with 3 to 4 fire fighters to form a small helicopter hand crew. EBRPD is a full member of the Hills Emergency Forum and Diablo Fire Safe Council as well as membership on the state wide Fire Safe Council. The District is a full member of the Chiefs association in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

### **Fire Management Objectives:**

1. Maintain five remote fire weather stations (RAWS). These will be located at Black Diamond, Briones, Las Trampas, Sunol Regional, and Calaveras Road. In addition the District will monitor five other RAWS in Livermore, Oakland South, Oakland North, Mallory Ridge and Mt. Diablo to determine fire restrictions and potential closures in the park system and dispatch levels during fire season.
2. Continue to review and provide input on new construction projects within the Parks
3. Participate in both the Hills Emergency Forum and Diablo Fire Safe Councils
4. Maintain current fuel breaks in the East Bay Hills. This covers approximately 625 acres and stretches 23 miles within and around the cities of Oakland, Berkeley, Richmond, El Cerrito, Kensington, and Castro Valley.