

SIGNATURES

Unit Strategic Fire Plan developed for Siskiyou

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.

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Unit Chief

Date

Bernie Paul

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Pre-Fire Engineer

Date

Steve Wilson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SISKIYOU UNIT

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's (CAL FIRE) Siskiyou Unit covers over 6,347 square miles which is larger than three of the U.S. States. CAL FIRE has the primary wildland fire responsibility for 1,269,672 acres. Siskiyou County has nine incorporated cities Yreka, Fort Jones, Etna, Weed, Mt. Shasta, Dorris, Dunsmuir, Montague and Tulelake and all have local responsibility for fire protection within the cities. The area outside the cities that falls within the Local Responsibility Area (LRA) is very small and includes the valley floors within the Butte Valley, Shasta Valley and Scott Valley. Siskiyou County has 44,900 residents and 24,292 of these residents live in the unincorporated areas of the county. CAL FIRE maintains all State Responsibility Area (SRA) and is responsible for the wildfire protection. Within the Unit 7 CAL FIRE Stations house 13 state engines and two dozers. Deadwood Camp is located at the north end of the Scott Valley and has four Fire Crews and 90 Inmates are housed there. CAL FIRE has PRC 4290 enforcement as a whole for all of Siskiyou County within the SRA. Siskiyou County has no county statute for fire safe regulations.

The Siskiyou Unit Administrative office is in the City of Yreka at the south end of town. The address is 1809 Fairlane Rd. The office consists of all administrative functions including, the Unit's warehouse, resource management functions, the Yreka Interagency Command Center (YICC), equipment repair shop, DGS radio repair shop, all prevention personnel, Pre-Fire Engineer and our Fire Prevention Specialist. Yreka is also the location of the Battalion II office and Yreka CAL FIRE Station. The Yreka CAL FIRE Station has two CAL FIRE engines and a dozer. The YICC dispatches all 30 local government fire departments and six ambulance services, CAL FIRE and all of the Klamath National Forest resources. This Dispatch Center is a true Interagency between the USFS and CAL FIRE.

Siskiyou's Fire Plan is about reducing ignitions and making Siskiyou County a fire safe Unit. The main goal is reducing loss of life, property and resource damage that fire causes. Siskiyou has a long history of lightning fires and has been successful in keeping them small. All of the Siskiyou Unit fire safe projects are designed to protect life, reduce damage to property and natural resources. The Siskiyou Unit works with local government as cooperators. We train together and utilize each others resources to enhance each others emergency response. The Unit uses the closest resource concept when dispatching to wildland fires.

Siskiyou's assets at risk from wildfire within the county are life, property, timber, graze land and watershed. We collaborate with stakeholders, Fire Departments and local Fire Safe Councils when proposing any projects. With only one Conservation Camp within the Unit we have to look outside to the private sector and other agencies to achieve the many projects identified within the Unit.

Siskiyou County is the last frontier of California and many of the residents live here for that reason. I personally take great pride along with the Siskiyou Unit in working for the public and educating the residents of Siskiyou County on the proper care and maintenance of a fire safe home. Our Fire Plan will be diligently implemented and reassessed yearly allowing us to adapt to the ever changing needs of Siskiyou County.

Bernie Paul
Siskiyou Unit Chief