

**Local Agency Formation Commission  
of Modoc County**

**MODOC LAFCO**

**ADOPTED**

**FIRE PROTECTION**

**MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW**

**April 13, 2010**

**Resolution 2010-0003**

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 LAFCO's Responsibilities**

LAFCOs in California are independent agencies created by the California Legislature in 1963 among whose major purposes include encouraging the orderly formation of local governmental agencies and conserving and preserving natural resources.

Statewide there are 58 LAFCOs working with nearly 3,500 governmental agencies (400+ cities, and 3,000+ special districts). Agency boundaries are often unrelated to one another and sometimes overlap at random, often leading to higher service costs to the taxpayer and general confusion regarding service area boundaries. LAFCO decisions strive to balance the competing needs in California for efficient services, affordable housing, economic opportunity, and conservation of natural resources.

LAFCOs are responsible for coordinating logical and timely changes in local governmental boundaries, conducting special studies that review ways to reorganize, simplify, and streamline governmental structure, preparing a review of services called a Municipal Service Review and preparing a Sphere of Influence thereby determining the future "probable" boundary for each city and special district within each county.

The Commission's efforts are directed toward seeing that services are provided efficiently and economically while agricultural and open-space lands are protected.

Often citizens are confused as to what LAFCO's role is. LAFCOs do not have enforcement authority nor do they have the authority to initiate a city or district annexation or detachment proceeding. LAFCOs may initiate consolidation or dissolution proceedings; however, these proceedings are subject to the voter approval or denial.

The Legislature has given LAFCOs the authority to modify any proposal before it to ensure the protection of agricultural and open space resources, discourage urban sprawl and promote orderly boundaries and the provision of adequate services.

### **1.2 Municipal Service Review Requirements**

The statute as amended by AB1744 and regulations call for a review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the LAFCO. The LAFCO is required to prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

1. Growth and Population
2. Capacity and Infrastructure
3. Financial Ability
4. Shared Facilities
5. Government Structure and Accountability

### **1.3 Preparation of the MSR**

Research for this Municipal Service Review (MSR) was conducted primarily during early 2009. Since that time, several modifications have been made to add additional information.

This MSR is intended to support preparation and update of the Sphere of Influence, in accordance with the provisions of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. The objective of this Municipal Service Review (MSR) is to develop recommendations that will achieve the following:

- Promote more efficient and higher quality public service patterns.
- Identify areas for public service improvements.
- Assess the adequacy of service provision as it relates to determination of appropriate sphere of influence boundaries.

While LAFCO prepared the MSR document, LAFCO did not engage the services of experts in engineering, law enforcement, fire protection, recreation and other specialists in related fields, but relied upon reports and City of Alturas staff for information.

Therefore, this MSR reflects LAFCO's recommendations, based on available information during the research period and provided by City of Alturas staff to assist in its determinations related to promoting more efficient and higher quality service patterns; identifying areas for service improvement; and assessing the adequacy of service provision for the City of Alturas.

This MSR includes relevant information from the various reports. Since the reports were prepared at different times there may be occasional differences in data.

### **1.4 Description of Public Participation Process**

Modoc LAFCO is a legislative body authorized by the California Legislature and delegated powers as stated in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (the Act). The LAFCO proceedings are subject to the provisions of California's open meeting law, the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code Sections 54950 et seq.)

The Brown Act requires advance posting of meeting agendas and contains various other provisions designed to ensure that the public has adequate access to information regarding the proceedings of public boards and commissions. Modoc LAFCO complies with the requirements of the Brown Act.

The State MSR Guidelines provide that all LAFCOs should encourage and provide multiple public participation opportunities in the municipal service review process. Modoc

LAFCO approved MSR Guidelines as part of its Policies, Standards and Procedures, which were adopted on April 14, 2009.

The Commission has discussed and considered the MSR process in open session, and has adopted a schedule for completing the various municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates for Modoc County.

Each Municipal Service Review will be prepared as a Draft, and will be subject to public and agency comment prior to final consideration by the Modoc LAFCO.

### **1.5 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

The Municipal Service Review is a planning study that will be considered by Modoc LAFCO in connection with subsequent proceedings regarding the City of Alturas and the Spheres of Influence. The Sphere of Influence review or update that will follow has not been approved or adopted by LAFCO.

This MSR is funded in the Modoc LAFCO's 2008-2009 Budget. This MSR includes an analysis, to the extent required by Section 15262 of the CEQA Guidelines, of the environmental factors that may be affected by the Municipal Service Review process, but will not include the preparation of an environmental review document.

## **2 COUNTY OF MODOC**

### **2.1 Modoc County Background**

The County's official slogans include, "The last best place," and "Where the West still lives." Modoc County was formed when California Governor Newton Booth signed an Act of the California Legislature on February 17, 1874. Land for the County was taken from the eastern part of Siskiyou County.<sup>1</sup>

The County has 4000 square miles<sup>2</sup> and is surrounded by Lake County Oregon, and Klamath County Oregon to the north, Washoe County Nevada to the east, Lassen County to the south, Shasta County to the southwest and Siskiyou County to the west.

A large portion of Modoc County is Federal reservations. A patchwork of overlapping government agencies form a significant part of the economy and provide services to this rural area.

The Federal presence in Alturas includes the following agencies and departments:

- US Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The northern half of the county is the Modoc Plateau, a one-mile high expanse of lava flows, cinder cones, juniper flats, pine forests, and seasonal lakes. Nearly 1 million acres of the Modoc National Forest lie on the plateau between the Medicine Lake Highlands in the west and the Warner Mountains in the east. The high point in the County is Eagle Peak in the Warner Mountains at 9,906 feet.

The Plateau supports large herds of mule deer (*Odocoileus Hemionus*), Rocky Mountain Elk (*Cervus Canadensis*), and pronghorn antelope (*Antilocapra Americana*). There are also several herds of wild horses on the plateau.

The Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge and Long Bell State Game Refuge are located on the plateau as well. The Lost River watershed drains the north part of the plateau, while southern watersheds either collect in basin reservoirs or flow into the large Big Sage Reservoir, which sits in the center of the County.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modoc\\_County,\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modoc_County,_California)

<sup>2</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.3.

## **2.2 Modoc County Population**

As of the 2000 US Census, there were 9,449 people, 3,784 households, and 2,550 families residing in Modoc County. There were 4,807 housing units.<sup>3</sup>

The median income for a household in Modoc County was \$27,522, and the median income for a family was \$35,978. Males had a median income of \$30,538 versus \$23,438 for females. The per capita income for the county was \$17,285.

About 16.40% of families and 21.50% of the population were below the poverty line, including 29.70% of those under age 18 and 8.60% of those aged 65 or over.<sup>4</sup> Modoc County has the lowest median household income of any county in California.

## **2.3 Modoc County Water Resources**

Modoc County is the only county in Northern District of the State Department of Water Resources that spans three Hydrologic Regions. Hydrologic regions are defined as "major drainage basins" by The California Water Plan.

- The County's north-western watersheds contribute their runoff to the Pacific Ocean by way of the Klamath River through the **North Coast Hydrologic Region**.
- The eastern edge of the County is included in the **North Lahontan Hydrologic Region**, meaning its waters drain to the closed system of alkaline lakes in the North Lahontan Basin and do not drain to the sea.
- The central and south-western portions of the County feed through the **Sacramento River Hydrologic Region** toward the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Notable water resources of Modoc County include the following:

Clear and Goose Lakes  
Upper, Middle, and Lower Alkali Lakes  
Big Sage Reservoir  
Pitt River.<sup>5</sup>

## **2.4 Climate**

According to the Alturas Chamber of Commerce, "Alturas' high desert climate makes for warm, dry summers and cold winters--perfect 'getaway vacation' conditions." Alturas elevation is 4300 feet above sea level.<sup>6</sup> A Climate Summary Table is shown in Appendix A at the end of this report.

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<sup>3</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modoc\\_County,\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modoc_County,_California)

<sup>4</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modoc\\_County,\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modoc_County,_California)

<sup>5</sup>California Department of Water Resources:<http://www.nd.water.ca.gov/IndexFiles/WaterResources/Modoc/>

<sup>6</sup> [www.yippytio.com](http://www.yippytio.com)

## **2.5 Modoc Access and Transportation**

### **2.5.1 Access**

The nearest large cities from Alturas, the County Seat, are as follows:

- Klamath Falls, Oregon (100 miles north)
- Redding California (142 miles southwest)
- Reno, Nevada (186 miles southeast)

The State Capitol, Sacramento is 285 miles southwest of Alturas.

### **2.5.2 Railroad**

According to the “Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan”, *Modoc County has railroad traffic passing through periodically. One line running north-south along the west side of the County accommodates several trains per week. The railroad traffic from Oregon to Alturas to Newell runs a couple of times per week.*<sup>7</sup>

### **2.5.3 Airports**

There are six airports in Modoc County located as follows:

Adin	Alturas
Cal Pines	Cedarville
Ft. Bidwell	Newell

### **2.5.4 Bus**

The Sage Stage (bus) is operated by the Modoc Transportation Agency (PO Box 999, Alturas, 96101, 530-233-6410). The bus service provides both fixed route service and dial-a-ride. The fixed routes serve the following fifteen communities:

1. Alturas
2. Likely
3. Madeline (Lassen County)
4. Termo (Lassen County)
5. Susanville (Lassen County)
6. Reno (Nevada)
7. Canby
8. Adin
9. Bieber (Lassen County)

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<sup>7</sup>“Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan”, May 2008, p.4.

10. Burney (Shasta County)
11. Redding (Shasta County)
12. Klamath Falls (Oregon)
13. Newell
14. Tulelake (Oregon)
15. Cedarville

### **2.5.6 Ambulance Service**

None of the fire protection districts provide ambulance service. Ambulance service is provided by Mercy Modoc Medical Center, 228 McDowell Street in Alturas and the Surprise Valley Hospital District in Cedarville. The ambulance in Adin is provided by Modoc Medical Center. Ambulance services in the Willow Ranch/New Pine Creek area are provided from Lakeview Oregon, Ambulance services provided to the Newell area are provided by Merrill/Tulelake, Oregon area and Ambulance services in the Day area of Modoc County are provided from McArthur.

### **3 FIRE PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ISSUES**

The following is a general discussion of five fire protection issues including Mutual Aid, Dispatch, Response Time, Staffing and Water Supply.

#### **3.1 Mutual and Automatic Aid Issues**

Most of the fire protection and EMS providers primarily serve their own jurisdictions. Given the critical need for rapid response, however, there are extensive mutual aid efforts that cross jurisdictional boundaries.

Mutual aid refers to reciprocal service provided under a mutual aid agreement, a pre-arranged plan and contract between agencies for reciprocal assistance upon request by the first-response agency.

In addition to Mutual Aid, the jurisdictions rely on automatic aid primarily for coverage of areas with street access limitations and freeways. Automatic aid refers to reciprocal service provided under an automatic aid agreement, a prearranged plan or contract between agencies for an automatic response for service with no need for a request to be made.

#### **3.2 Dispatch Issues**

Dispatch for fire and medical calls is increasingly becoming regionalized and specialized. This increased regionalization and specialization is motivated by the following nine factors:

- 1) Constituents increasingly expect emergency medical dispatching (EMD), which involves over-the-phone medical procedure instructions to the 911 caller and requires specialized staff.
- 2) Paramedics increasingly rely on EMD, which also involves preparing the paramedic en-route for the type of medical emergency and procedures.
- 3) Dispatch technology and protocols have become increasingly complex.
- 4) Modern technology has enabled better measurement and regulatory oversight of fire department (FD) response times, and increased pressure for FDs to meet response time guidelines.
- 5) FDs need standard communication protocols due to their reliance on mutual aid.
- 6) Dispatching of calls from cell phones is particularly inefficient due to multiple transfers, length of time the caller spends on hold and lack of location information. Response times are further delayed when callers that are unfamiliar with the area are unable to describe rural locations to the dispatch personnel.

- 7) All new cell phones are now equipped with GPS; however, it will take a few years for all old phones to be replaced by phones with GPS capability and/or construction of specialized cell phone towers.
- 8) NFPA recommends a 60-second standard for dispatch time, the time between the placement of the 911 call and the notification of the emergency responders. The Center for Public Safety Excellence recommends a 50-second benchmark for dispatch time.
- 9) There are clear economies of scale in providing modern fire and medical dispatch services.

### **3.3 Fire Protection Response Time Issues**

Response times reflect the time elapsed between the dispatch of personnel and the arrival of the first responder on the scene. For fire and paramedic service, there are service standards relating to response times, dispatch times, staffing, and water flow. Particularly in cases involving patients who have stopped breathing or are suffering from heart attacks, the chances of survival improve when the patient receives medical care quickly.

Similarly, a quick fire suppression response can potentially prevent a structure fire from reaching the “flashover” point at which very rapid fire spreading occurs—generally in less than 10 minutes.<sup>8</sup>

The guideline established by the National Fire Protection Association<sup>9</sup> (NFPA) for fire response times is six minutes at least 90 percent of the time, with response time measured from the 911-call time to the arrival time of the first-responder at the scene.<sup>10</sup>

Medical Aid and Emergency Fire Dispatch in Modoc County is handled by the Modoc County Sheriff’s department.

The fire response time guideline established by the Center for Public Safety Excellence (formerly the Commission on Fire Accreditation International) is 5 minutes 50 seconds at least 90 percent of the time.<sup>11</sup>

Rural Fire departments may not meet these standards due to the distance from the fire department to the area where service is needed.

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<sup>8</sup> NFPA Standard 1710, 2004.

<sup>9</sup> *The National Fire Protection Association is a non-profit association of fire chiefs, firefighters, manufacturers and consultants.*

<sup>10</sup> *Guideline for a full structure fire is response within ten minutes by a 12-15 person response team at least 90 percent of the time.*

<sup>11</sup> Commission on Fire Accreditation International, 2000.

### **3.4 Fire Protection Staffing Issues**

For structure fires, NFPA recommends that the response team include 14 personnel—a commander, five water supply line operators, a two-person search and rescue team, a two-person ventilation team, a two-person initial rapid intervention crew, and two support people.

The NFPA guidelines require fire departments to establish overall staffing levels to meet response time standards, and to consider the hazard to human life, firefighter safety, potential property loss, and the firefighting approach.

NFPA recommends that each engine, ladder or truck company be staffed by four on-duty firefighters, and that at least four firefighters (two in and two out), each with protective clothing and respiratory protection, be on scene to initiate fire-fighting inside a structure. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard requires that when two firefighters enter a structure fire, two will remain on the outside to assist in rescue activities.<sup>12</sup>

For emergency medical response with advanced life support needs, NFPA recommends the response team include two paramedics and two basic-level emergency medical technicians.

Fire protection efforts throughout Modoc County rely heavily on volunteer efforts in conjunction with State and Federal agencies. Due to the scarcity of resources throughout the County, there is a heavy reliance on volunteer personnel in the local Departments in the more remote unincorporated areas (Alturas is the only incorporated City).

Every local fire protection entity in Modoc County (Community Services District/Fire Protection District) relies on volunteer staff—only the City of Alturas relies on paid Firefighter personnel and Calpines CSD has paid positions, yet these departments are primarily staffed by volunteers.

There are increasing training demands for firefighting personnel. Training in firefighting skills is one component, but training also includes the skills required for responding to medical emergencies and hazardous materials events.

The training required for a volunteer is estimated at 200 hours per year, and has become a substantial burden for any individual wishing to maintain a volunteer relationship with a local district or the City.

### **3.5 Mutual and Automatic Aid**

Each of the fire protection districts is a member of a Mutual Aid Agreement with CALFIRE that provides for assistance for wildland fires in State Responsibility Areas (SRA's). Each of the fire protection districts is a member of a Master Agreement that provides for assistance for fire and other emergency events that exceed the capacity of

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<sup>12</sup> 29 CFR 1910.134.

*Adopted 4/13/2010*

*MSR: FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES*

*LAFCO Resolution 2010-0003*

any individual district. Mutual Aid Agreements are standardized throughout the state to ensure assistance can be obtained from outside fire districts across the State.

*Mutual aid* refers to reciprocal service provided under a mutual aid agreement, a pre-arranged plan and contract between agencies for reciprocal assistance upon request by the first-response agency.

*Automatic aid* refers to reciprocal services provided under an automatic aid agreement, a prearranged plan or contract between agencies, for an automatic response for service with no request for approval needed. In addition to mutual aid, jurisdictions may rely on automatic aid primarily for coverage of areas where the closest resources respond to fire or EMS emergencies.

#### **3.4.4 Fire Safe Council**

One Fire Safe Council is in operation within the County. This Council is called the Modoc Fire Safe Council. There is a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (Fire Safe Plan) in place in Modoc County, which was revised in May 2008.

The Fire Safe Council is a voluntary organization formed to enhance the effectiveness of fire protection. The cooperative nature of and educational and outreach efforts of these groups is a critical component for wildland pre-fire planning and mitigation.

The Modoc Community Wildfire Protection Plan is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Forest Service, CALFIRE, Rural Fire Departments in Modoc County, Nor Cal-Neva RC&D, Modoc County Office of Emergency Services, and the Bureau of Land Management.

#### **3.4.5 Hazardous Materials**

Response to hazardous materials events is coordinated with the State Office of Emergency Services (OES), through local emergency service operators.

### **03.5 Fire Protection Water Supply Issues**

For structure fires, NFPA recommends the availability of an uninterrupted water supply for 30 minutes with enough pressure to apply at least 400 gallons of water per minute (gpm).

The minimum criteria for rural fire departments to obtain an ISO rating of 8B includes among other criteria that the water supply must be able to deliver an uninterrupted minimum fire flow of 200 gpm for 20 minutes for all primary and automatic aid departments (Insurance Services Offices, 2009, <http://www.isomitigation.com>).

## **4 ADIN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **4.1 Adin Fire Protection District Background**

#### **4.1.1 Adin Community Background**

According to the "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report",

*Adin is a rural community of approximately 325 persons with an agriculturally-oriented population in the outlying areas. The main industries are the Loveness Lumber Company mill and planing mill. Adin has several services and offices, including a general store, grocery store, motel, bar, service stations, fire hall, post office, State Highway maintenance station, a USDA Forest Service District Ranger Station, Adin Community Park and Adin Airport, the latter two being County facilities.<sup>13</sup>*

Adin is in the Big Valley Joint Unified School District and has one elementary school.

Adin is within Zip Code Tabulation Area (ZCTA), 96006. Because Adin is contained within this ZCTA, it is possible to obtain Census data from the United States 2000 Census for the area.

As of the census of 2000, there were 599 people, 257 households, and 178 families residing in the ZCTA of 96006.

There are 257 households out of which 26.8% have children under the age of 18 living with them, 59.5% are married couples living together, 6.6% have a female householder with no husband present, and 30.7% are non-families. 24.9% of all households are made up of individuals and 8.6% have someone living alone who is 65 years of age or older.

The average household size is 2.33 and the average family size is 2.79. The median income for a household in the town is \$32,250, and the median income for a family is \$34,063. Males have a median income of \$36,250 versus \$30,000 for females. The per capita income for the town is \$20,642. 17.2% of the population and 11.3% of families are below the poverty line. Out of the total population, 27.7% of those under the age of 18 and 7.5% of those 65 and older are living below the poverty line.<sup>14</sup>

The General Plan Background Report states that land in the Big Valley area is severely limited for on-site wastewater disposal systems. Even though Adin has a wastewater collection and treatment facility, the minimum lot size is 15,000 square feet.<sup>15</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006 states that the Community of Adin has 17 available parcels (11.07 acres) which would allow 17 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of a community water system.<sup>16</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 163.

<sup>14</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adin%2C\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adin%2C_California)

<sup>15</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 163.

<sup>16</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.



#### 4.1.4 Adin Volunteers

The Adin FPD reports 15 volunteers with the following qualifications:<sup>18</sup>

- 2 EMT II
- 3 EMT I
- 7 First Responders
- 3 Public Safety First Aid

#### 4.1.5 Adin FPD Finances

The Adin Fire Protection District had an available fund balance of \$35,924 on June 30, 2008. On June 30, 2009, the available fund balance increased to \$43,096.<sup>19</sup>

<b>Adin Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>20</sup></b>
Revenue	\$21,925	\$11,576
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$7,364	\$2,600
Services & Supplies	\$20,410	\$12,900
Total Expenses	\$27,774	\$15,500

This represents a conservative approach to the Budget by conserving fund balances as much as possible.

#### 4.1.6 Adin FPD Board of Directors

The Adin FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>21</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Steven Gagnan	2012
Daran Myers	2012
Lynn Mello	2010

Lynn Mello, Secretary  
P.O. Box 16 Adin, 96006

The Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>18</sup> Adin Fire Protection District, [adinfire@frontiernet.net](mailto:adinfire@frontiernet.net), March 27, 2009

<sup>19</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>20</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>21</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: [stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us](mailto:stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us)

<sup>22</sup> Adin Fire Protection District, [adinfire@frontiernet.net](mailto:adinfire@frontiernet.net), March 18, 2009

## **4.2 MSR for Adin Fire Protection District**

### **4.2.1 Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Adin Area**

1-1) Population within the Adin FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 599.

### **4.2.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Adin FPD**

2-1) The Adin FPD has 2 Type 1 engines and has added 2 Type 2 4000 gallon water tenders for a total of 3 type 2 4000 gallon water tenders making water supply steady.

### **4.2.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Adin FPD**

3-1) The Adin FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.

3-2) The Adin FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.

3-3) Adin FPD, as a fire service provider, is a non-enterprise District.

### **4.2.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for Adin FPD**

4-1) The Adin Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.

4-2) The Adin Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

4-3) The Adin Fire Protection District has mutual aid agreements with the Lookout Fire District, and the Big Valley Fire Protection District in Lassen County as well as with CALFIRE and the USDA Forest Service.

### **4.2.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for Adin FPD**

5-1) The Adin Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.

5-2) The District has an online presence [www.adinfire.org](http://www.adinfire.org) to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **5 ALTURAS RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **5.1 Alturas Rural Fire Protection District Background**

#### **5.1.1 Alturas Rural Area Community Background**

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006 states that the Alturas unincorporated fringe has 17 available parcels (9.88 acres) which would allow 17 additional dwelling units (note: the County Housing Element is being revised in 2009). The primary service constraint to growth is no water or sewer system.<sup>23</sup>

#### **5.1.2 Alturas Rural FPD Description**

The Alturas Rural Fire Department has a web site which describes the Department as follows:

*Alturas Rural Fire Department proudly protects 10,000 people living in an area of 362 square miles. We operate out of 1 station that protects a primarily rural area. Our department is a public department whose members are on a volunteer status.*

*We are a small department of approximately 24 volunteer members. Our annual budget is \$35,000.00. We have mutual aid agreements with USFS, BLM, Cal Pines Community Services District and CDF. Alturas Rural Fire Department provides structure protection for approximately 1,000 homes. We are the largest fire protection district in Modoc County.<sup>24</sup>*

Forest Winkle, Fire Chief, 310 N. Rine Street, Alturas, CA 96101

Phone: 233-3018/cell 640-3018

E-Mail: [arfpd@frontiernet.net](mailto:arfpd@frontiernet.net)

Fax: 530-233-3018

Emergency Dispatch Phone: 911

Business Phone: (530) 233-4416

Department Type: All Volunteer

Services Provided:

- Firefighting
- Hazardous Material Response
- ALS Emergency Medical Service
- Vehicle Rescue (Extrication)
- Search & Rescue

Number of Stations: 1

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<sup>23</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

<sup>24</sup><http://departments.firehouse.com/dept/AlturasCA>

Adopted 4/13/2010

**5.1.3 Alturas Rural FPD Equipment**

The Alturas Rural FPD has seven vehicles used for fire protection service as follows:<sup>25</sup>

4320	H.M.E. Jaws of Live.	2005	750 gal; 750 gpm Aux 5 man cab with foam and
4322	Ford	1987	1250 gal. 500 gpm w/ foam
4323	Pierce	2009	500 gal and 750 gpm w/Aux 5 man cab 4 x 4
4324	International	1987	500 gal 500 gpm w/Aux 5 man cab
4325	International	1988	500 gal 500 gpm Aux 2/250 porta pumps
4332	Ford	1995	2500 gal 1250 gpm Water Tender
4332	Peterbuilt	1967	4000 gal 1250 gpm Water Tender
4350	Chevy	2009	4 x 4 5-man cab Rescue Squad Jaws of Life
4560	Dodge	1996	4 x 4 5-man cab Utility 2/2000 gal porta tanks 1/250 gpm porta pump 1/500 gpm porta pump
43AIR	Scott	2006	500 p.s.i. Air and Light Trailer

**5.1.4 Alturas Rural FPD Finances**

The Alturas Rural Fire Protection District had \$48,521 available on June 30, 2008. The Auditor’s Cash Balance on June 30, 2009 was listed at 19,499.<sup>26</sup> The District anticipated \$70,560 from tax revenue in 2008-2009.<sup>27</sup> The Budget for 2009-2010 is as follows:

<b>ALTURAS RURAL Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>28</sup></b>
Revenue	\$69,450	\$73,145
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$10,700	\$7,500
Services & Supplies	\$46,800	\$64,645
Fixed Assets	\$6,000	0
Total Expenses	\$63,500	\$72,145

This Budget shows that the District is working to increase the Fund Balance as much as possible.

<sup>25</sup> “Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan”, May 2008, p.31.

<sup>26</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>27</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 143.

<sup>28</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

### **5.1.5 Alturas Rural FPD Board of Directors**

The Alturas Rural FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>29</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term End</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Term End</u>
Mike Poindexter	2012	Leta Bethel	2012
Roy Bailey	2010	Walt Davis	2010
Don Cain (mail)	2010		

## **5.2 Alturas Rural Fire Department MSR**

### **5.2.1 Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Alturas Rural Area**

- 1-1) The population within the Alturas Rural FPD may increase at a slow rate if development is allowed by the County of Modoc.

### **5.2.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Alturas Rural FPD**

- 2-1) The Alturas Rural FPD has adequate equipment but will still depend on mutual aid from other districts in most every emergency.

### **5.2.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Alturas Rural FPD**

- 3-1) The Alturas Rural FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Alturas Rural FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Alturas Rural FPD, as a fire service provider, is a non-enterprise District.

### **5.2.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for Alturas Rural FPD**

- 4-1) The Alturas Rural Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Alturas Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

### **5.2.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for Alturas Rural FPD**

- 5-1) The Alturas Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District has an online presence but may also need a Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

<sup>29</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephaniorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

## **6 CALIFORNIA PINES COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

### **6.1 California Pines CSD Background**

#### **6.1.1 California Pines CSD Overview**

The California Pines Community Services District (CSD) is located west of Alturas in Modoc County.

The California Pines CSD was formed in 1969 to serve the needs of the California Pines Subdivision. The subdivided area included 10,700± acres but the District included 24,700± acres. Additional land was annexed to the District in 1970 and 1975 so that the District now includes approximately 80 square miles.

The District serves a population of approximately 350 people. There are 11,000± lots in the hill units and additional vacant lots in the lake units so that the CSD could have a population of over 35,000 but this is not likely to occur in the foreseeable future.

The California Pines CSD overlaps with both the Canby Fire Protection District and the Alturas Rural Fire Protection District. The California Pines CSD funds a fire station in the lake units. Cal Pines CSD has an automatic aid agreement with the Canby FPD.

#### **6.1.2 Cal Pines CSD Contact Information**

Cal Pines CSD Fire Department  
Ronnie Sherer, Fire Chief  
HCR4 Box 1003  
Alturas, CA 96101

Phone: 233-1151/cell 640-0024      District Phone: 530-233-2766

E-Mail: [calpinesgm@frontiernet.net](mailto:calpinesgm@frontiernet.net) or [calpinesfd@frontiernet.net](mailto:calpinesfd@frontiernet.net)

#### **6.1.3 California Pines CSD Fire Protection Equipment**

The Cal Pines CSD has eight vehicles available for fire protection/EMS as follows:<sup>30</sup>

4121	International, 1997	Type III Engine
4122	International 2009	Type 1,2,3 Engine
4123	International, 2002	Type III Engine
4150	Dodge, 2001	Medical Unit
4131	Peterbuilt, 1994	4000 Gallon Tender
4132	K.W., 1978	4000 Gallon Tender
4124	Dodge, 1979	125 gallon; medical
4131	Chevy, 1986	Quick Attack Vehicle

#### **7.1.4 Cal Pines CSD**

<sup>30</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan," May 2008, p.31.

## **Finances**

The State of California reports that California Pines had \$136,771 in Revenue for Fire Protection and \$60,731 in Expenses for Fire Protection in Fiscal Year 2006-07.<sup>31</sup> The Independent Audit reports that \$287,922 was spent for Fire Protection Services in 2007-2008.<sup>32</sup> The 2008-2009 Budget for Fire Protection was \$153,560.<sup>33</sup>

A mailed ballot election held on May 5, 2009, approved a special tax of \$20.00 per year for fire protection for the Hill Units 1-5, Lake Units 1a, 1b, 2, 3, and 4; and the Mobile Home Park. The vote was 88 in favor with 41 opposed so the measure was approved by 68.22% of the voters. There are 272 voters in the District however only 129 voted.<sup>34</sup>

The Independent Audit reports that \$287,922 was spent for Fire Protection Services in 2007-2008.<sup>35</sup> The 2008-2009 Budget for Fire Protection was \$153,560.<sup>36</sup>

### **6.1.5 Cal Pines CSD Board of Directors**

The Cal Pines CSD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>37</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Henry "Hank" Drury	2010
Stanley Ehlinger	2010
Bruce Rodgers	2010
Charles Coiner	2012
Durward Fields	2012

Vera Sphar, Secretary  
HCO4 Box 43002 Alturas, 96101

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<sup>31</sup> State of California, State Controller, "Special District Annual Report Fiscal Year 2006-07."

<sup>32</sup> California Pines CSD, "Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report, June 30, 2008"; Carlos E. Soler, CPA, 910 Florin Road, Suite 200, Sacramento CA 95381, 916-424-6233, www.solercpa.com.

<sup>33</sup> California Pines CSD, Final Budget 2008-2009.

<sup>34</sup> Modoc County Clerk Recorder, Tracy Sides, 204 S. Court Street, Alturas, CA 96101, 530-233-6205, Fax 530-233-6666, July 1, 2009.

<sup>35</sup> California Pines CSD, "Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report June 30, 2008" Carlos E. Soler, CPA 910 Florin Road Suite 200, Sacramento CA 95381, Phone: 916-424-6233, www.solercpa.com.

<sup>36</sup> California Pines CSD, Final Budget 2008-2009.

<sup>37</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

**6.2 MSR California Pines CSD Fire Protection Service**

**6.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the California Pines Area***

- 1-1) The population within the California Pines CSD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 350 in the near future.

**6.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the California Pines CSD***

- 2-1) The California Pines CSD has adequate equipment and some access to a water system but will still depend on mutual aid from other districts in most every emergency.

**6.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the California Pines CSD***

- 3-1) The California Pines CSD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The voters recently approved a Special Tax of \$20.00 per year per unit for a portion of the District. The California Pines CSD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future in areas not subject to the this special Tax.

**6.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for California Pines CSD***

- 4-1) The California Pines CSD needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The California Pines CSD participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.
- 4-3) The California Pines CSD works with the Canby FPD and the Alturas Rural FPD to provide fire protection for the areas in those districts.

**6.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for California Pines CSD***

- 5-1) The California Pines CSD has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **7 CANBY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **7.1 Canby Fire Protection District Background**

#### **7.1.1 Canby Community Background**

Canby is located west of Alturas. There is a Modoc Joint Unified School District elementary school and USDA Forest Service Fire Crew in Canby.<sup>38</sup>

##### **A. Canby Population Data**

Canby has a population of 413 people.<sup>39</sup> The median age in Canby is 39 years of age. The median income is \$48,125 per year.<sup>40</sup> The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006 states that the Community of Canby has 16 available parcels (20.54 acres) which would allow 19 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and sewer systems.<sup>41</sup>

##### **B. Canby History**

*The Canby area was settled in 1869 by the Hess family followed by the Pope's in 1870. At that time it was called Warm Springs Valley, probably for the nearby hot springs. In 1874, the name was changed to Canby with the appointment of James Pope as the first postmaster. General E. R. S. Canby, for whom the town was named, was killed in 1873 during the Modoc Indian War at the Lava Beds.*

*This was and still is a ranching community, but in the middle 1930's the timber industry played an important factor in the growth of the town, and it became more than just "a wide spot in the road." At one time there were two mills operating here, along with two logging camps, sixteen miles of rail logging and a gandy dancer crew, and Canby was on its way. The population grew to nearly 700 and there were over 100 students enrolled in the Arlington School. There was a cook and boarding house for the workers, a hotel, two stores, a service station, two bars and a community hall.*

*In 1966, the mill, then owned by Loveness Brothers, was destroyed by fire and Canby's heyday was over. Families moved away in search of employment, but to those old timers who still live here, they have their memories of those days gone by. (Velma McCrary, 1997)<sup>42</sup>*

#### **7.1.2 Canby FPD Contact Information**

Contact information for the Canby Fire Protection District is as follows:

Ron Sherer, Fire Chief, PO Box 313, Canby, CA 96015

Phone: 233-4804/cell 640-1040

E-Mail: [canbyvfd@hdo.net](mailto:canbyvfd@hdo.net) or [rsherer@hdo.net](mailto:rsherer@hdo.net)

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<sup>38</sup> County of Modoc, Ron Sherer, Canby Fire Chief.

<sup>39</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canby%2C\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canby%2C_California)

<sup>40</sup>[http://realestate.yahoo.com/California/Canby/neighborhoods;\\_ylt=AvErqpt0fc8PQdhddYvPHnykF7kF](http://realestate.yahoo.com/California/Canby/neighborhoods;_ylt=AvErqpt0fc8PQdhddYvPHnykF7kF)

<sup>41</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

<sup>42</sup><http://www.californiagenealogy.org/modoc/townsmodoc.htm>

### 7.1.3 Canby FPD Equipment

Canby FPD has four vehicles for fire protection services as follows:<sup>43</sup>

4222 Ford	1980	750 gal Type 1 engine
4225 Chevy	1986	250 gal 4x4 type 6 engine
4223 International	1978	4x4; 500 gal Type 3
4250 Ford	2004	4x4 Type 3 medical unit
4230 Ford	1980	4000 Gallon Water Tender

The Canby fire station is funded by Special Taxes.

### 7.1.4 Canby FPD Finances

The Canby FPD had a Fund Balance of \$7,714 on June 30, 2008.<sup>44</sup> The Auditor's Cash Balance as of June 30, 2009 was \$4,736.<sup>45</sup> The District expected \$25,000 in tax revenue for 2008-2009. The Budget for 2009-2010 is as follows:

<b>CANBY Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>46</sup></b>
Revenue	\$20,990	\$20,921
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$5,552	\$5,200
Services & Supplies	<u>\$15,300</u>	<u>\$15,721</u>
Total Expenses	\$20,582	\$20,921

### 7.1.5 Canby FPD Board of Directors

The Canby FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>47</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Daniel Stossmeister	2012
Charlie Sherer	2012
William Welsh	2010

Sara Marchessault, Secretary, P.O. Box 313, Canby, CA 96015

<sup>43</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.31.

<sup>44</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 145.

<sup>45</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>46</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>47</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorhtrup@co.modoc.ca.us

## **7.2 MSR Canby Fire Protection District**

### **7.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Canby Area***

1-1) The population within the Canby FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 413.

### **7.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Canby FPD***

2-1) The Canby FPD has limited equipment and no water system so will depend on mutual aid from other districts in most every emergency. However, the district has a water tender and provides more aid to others than it receives.

### **7.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Canby FPD***

3-1) The Canby FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.

3-2) The Canby FPD as with other districts may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.

3-3) Canby FPD, as a fire service provider, is a non-enterprise District.

### **7.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Canby FPD***

4-1) The Canby Fire Protection District works with other fire protection districts and has joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.

4-2) The Canby Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

4-3) The Canby Fire Protection District has an Automatic Aid Agreement with the California Pines CSD.

### **7.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Canby FPD***

5-1) The Canby Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.

5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **8 CEDARVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **8.1 Cedarville Fire Protection District Background**

#### **8.1.1 Cedarville Community**

The unincorporated community of Cedarville is located in the Surprise Valley area of Modoc County, approximately 257 miles north of Lake Tahoe on State Route 299. The Community is located on the western shore of Middle Alkali Lake and is in close proximity to the Warner Mountains and the Modoc National Forest.

#### **A. Cedarville Population**

Cedarville is an agricultural community, the largest in Surprise Valley. The Federal Census does not identify Cedarville as a census-designated place, but is defined as Zip Code Tabulation Area 96104. As of the 2000 census, there were 849 people and 457 housing units for the 96104 zip code. However, not all of these residents are being served by the Cedarville CWD. For the purposes of this MSR, the residential active connection count will be used as a residential dwelling figure (232 active connections as of May, 2007).

There were 381 households out of which 22.3% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 53.3% were married couples living together, 2.4% had a female householder with no husband present, and 34.6% were non-families. 29.9% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 2.17. For every 100 females there are 98.4 males. The Cedarville population was spread out in age as follows:

Under the age of 18	21.6%
18 to 24 years of age	5.1%
25 to 44 years of age	19.7%
5 to 64 years of age	29.9%
65 years of age or older	23.7%

The median income for a household in the town was \$32,159, and the median income for a family was \$36,938. Males had a median income of \$37,136 versus \$19,083 for females. The per capita income for the town was \$20,412. 18.5% of the population and 14.1% of families were below the poverty line.

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006 states that the Community of Cedarville has 17 available parcels (4.74 acres) which would allow 17 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of a community wastewater collection and treatment system.<sup>48</sup>

#### **B. Cedarville Services**

Cedarville Hospital, operated by the Surprise Valley Hospital District is located in the heart of Cedarville on Main Street, and the Cedarville Airport is located along Surprise

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<sup>48</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

Valley Road, 1.5 miles north of State Route 299. Cedarville is considered the center of retail trade for the Valley, with services such as groceries, gas stations, café, fire hall, bank, library and motel. Although agriculture is the dominant economic force, service employment has gradually increased.

Cedarville is served by a variety of entities, including the Modoc County Sheriff Department for law enforcement, the Cedarville Fire Protection District for fire protection, the Cedarville Hospital District for health care and ambulance services, and the Cedarville Cemetery District. The Cedarville CWD provides municipal water service, though no sewer system exists currently to serve the residents in the Cedarville area.

### **8.1.2 Cedarville Fire Protection District Contact Information**

The contact information for the Cedarville Fire Protection District is as follows:

Cedarville Fire Protection District, Ray Gorzell, Fire Chief  
PO Box 39, Cedarville, CA 96104

Phone/Fax: (530) 279-2311                      E-Mail: cvfpd@frontiernet.net

### **8.1.3 Cedarville County Water District**

Although the Cedarville CWD has the power to provide fire protection, the Cedarville Fire Protection District provides fire protection to Cedarville and encompasses a much greater area than the Cedarville CWD. The Cedarville FPD is governed by a five member Board of Directors and has a volunteer fire department with two active (insured) firefighters, and a large volunteer force.

The ISO rates the District as a 6 within the Cedarville CWD area (the area served with fire hydrants) and 7 out to five miles from Cedarville and a 9 in the remainder of the District. The Cedarville CWD cooperates with the Cedarville FPD by providing a water supply for fire suppression and maintaining fire hydrants in the water district hydrant service area. The Cedarville FPD does not operate an ambulance; historically this function has been associated with Valley medical facilities, however, provides BLS services within its district.

### **8.1.3 Cedarville FPD Equipment**

Cedarville FPD has nine vehicles for fire protection as follows:<sup>49</sup>

5420 Ford                      1964 F800, ICS Type 2 pumper , 750 gal tank, 750 gpm pump  
master stream and foam

5421 IH                              1969 IH2110A, ICS Type 1 pumper, 1000 gal tank; 1000gpm  
pump, master stream and foam.

5422 White                      1951 ICS Type 2 pumper, 750 gal tank; 750 gpm pump.

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<sup>49</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.32.

5423 GMC 1980 ICS Type 1 pumper, 900 gal tank, 1500gpm pump, master stream and foam, flood lights.

5424 IH 1992 ICS Type 3 wild land pumper, 500 gal tank, 500 gpm pump with foam

WT5430 Freightliner 1977 ICSType 1 Water Tender 5000 gal w/ 300 gpm pump

WT5431 GMC 1968 ICS Type 1 water tender, 5000 gal, 300 gpm pump, w/spray bars

WT5432 Kenworth 1965 ICS Type 1 water tender, 3200 gal, 500 gpm, 3000 gal porta-tank

5440 IH 1974 300 gal; 250 gpm pump 4 x 4 fast attack with foam

5441 GMC 1992 K2500 4 x 4 , 150 gal 250gpm pump

5442 IH 1959 150 gal; 250 gpm pump, gen w/flood lights 4 x 4

Rescue 5450 Chevy 1992 K3500 4 x 4 light rescue, jaws, lifting bags, saws, ropes, jacks, full BLS medical supplies and generator with flood lights.

Note: All engines and fast attacks have full equipment and full compliment of SCBA's

### **8.1.4 Cedarville FPD Finances**

The Cedarville FPD had a Fund Balance of \$44,708 on June 30, 2008.<sup>50</sup> This increased to \$45,916 by June 30, 2009.<sup>51</sup> The District expected \$41,500 in Tax Revenue in 2008-2009. The 2009-2010 Budget is as follows:

<b>CEDARVILLE Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>52</sup></b>
Revenue	\$39,700	\$40,412
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$6,900	\$6,300
Services & Supplies	\$39,800	\$26,400
Total Expenses	\$46,700	\$32,700

The Budget shows that the District is planning to increase the Fund Balance.

### **8.1.5 Cedarville FPD Board of Directors**

<sup>50</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 146.

<sup>51</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>52</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

The Cedarville FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>53</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Scott Conklin(mail)	2012
Jerry Minto	2012
Leale Harris	2010
Garth Jeffers	2010
John Benner	2010

P.O. Box 338 Cedarville, 96104

According to Director Scott Conklin, meetings are set once a quarter (unless a special meeting is needed), all meetings are advertised to the public at least 2 weeks in advance.<sup>54</sup>

The Cedarville FPD provides BLS medical services within its district and has mutual aid agreements with all Surprise Valley Departments including BLM and the USFS through the Surprise Valley Fire CO-OP. The Cedarville FPD provides mutual aid for northern Washoe County, Nevada.

The Cedarville FPD is on automatic aid for structural fires to the communities of Lake City, 10 miles to the north and Eagleville, 17 miles to the south.

The Cedarville FPD provides extrication services for all of Surprise Valley and northern Washoe County, Nevada

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<sup>53</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

<sup>54</sup> Cedarville FPD, Scott Conklin, Director, March 17, 2009

*Adopted 4/13/2010*

## **8.2 MSR for Cedarville Fire Protection District**

### **8.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Cedarville Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Cedarville FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 849.

### **8.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Cedarville FPD***

- 2-1) The Cedarville FPD has adequate fire protection equipment and access to a community water system in the Community of Cedarville.

### **8.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Cedarville FPD***

- 3-1) The Cedarville FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Cedarville FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.

- 3-3) Cedarville FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

### **8.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Cedarville FPD***

- 4-1) The Cedarville Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Cedarville Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.
- 4-3) The Cedarville Fire Protection District has automatic aid agreements with the Communities of Eagleville and Lake City for structural fires and mutual aid agreements with all Surprise Valley departments and the BLM and USFS

### **8.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Cedarville FPD***

- 5-1) The Cedarville Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **9 DAVIS CREEK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **9.1 Davis Creek Fire Protection Background**

#### **9.1.1 Davis Creek Community**

Davis Creek is an unincorporated community. The town's population is at least 100 with up to 439<sup>55</sup> in the surrounding area. There is a post office, service station, and mini-mart housed in a single structure.<sup>56</sup>

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report estimated that the population of Davis Creek would be 185 in 2000. There were 25 houses in 1985.<sup>57</sup> The median age in Davis Creek is 47 years of age and the median income is \$42,826.<sup>58</sup>

The Davis Creek area gets 22 inches of rainfall per year and 85 inches of snowfall per year.

#### **9.1.2 Davis Creek FPD Contact Information**

Contact information for the Davis Creek Fire Protection District is as follows:

Davis Creek Fire Protection District  
137 County Rd 133b  
Davis Creek CA 96108

There are ten volunteer fire fighters.<sup>59</sup>

#### **9.1.3 Davis Creek FPD Equipment**

Davis Creek FPD has three vehicles available for fire protection services as follows:<sup>60</sup>

4520	Chevy	1972	1300 gal
4521	GMC	1969	750 gal
4540	Dodge	1985	300 gal; pro/pak foam

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<sup>55</sup>[http://realestate.yahoo.com/California/Davis\\_Creek/neighborhoods;\\_ylt=AvErqpt0fc8PQdhddYvPHnykF7kF](http://realestate.yahoo.com/California/Davis_Creek/neighborhoods;_ylt=AvErqpt0fc8PQdhddYvPHnykF7kF)

<sup>56</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Davis\\_Creek%2C\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Davis_Creek%2C_California)

<sup>57</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 174.

<sup>58</sup>[http://realestate.yahoo.com/California/Davis\\_Creek/neighborhoods;\\_ylt=AvErqpt0fc8PQdhddYvPHnykF7kF](http://realestate.yahoo.com/California/Davis_Creek/neighborhoods;_ylt=AvErqpt0fc8PQdhddYvPHnykF7kF)

<sup>59</sup> Davis Creek FPD, Floyd Cornet, Fire Chief, 530-233-3696, April 7, 2009.

<sup>60</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.31.

#### **9.1.4 Davis Creek FPD Finances**

The Davis Creek Fire Protection District had a Fund Balance of \$5,489 on June 30, 2008.<sup>61</sup> This was decreased to \$4397 by June 30, 2009.<sup>62</sup> The District expects 9,850 in Tax Revenue. The Budget for 2009-2010 is as follows:

<b>DAVIS CREEK Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>63</sup></b>
Revenue	\$8,675	\$8,716
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$2,700	\$3,900
Services & Supplies	<u>\$5,100</u>	<u>\$4,816</u>
Total Expenses	\$7,800	\$8,716

Although the District has a relatively small Fund Balance they are trying to increase. A problem for the District is that they are required to pay for Workman's Compensation Insurance and the cost is \$8,000, which is more than the fund balance for the District.<sup>64</sup>

#### **9.1.5 Davis Creek FPD Board of Directors**

The Davis Creek FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>65</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Jenny Jayo	2012
Leslie "Don" Blair	2012
Fred Ingraham	2010

Beverly Palmer, Secretary  
P.O. Box 71 Davis Creek, CA 96108

The volunteers meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Board meets as needed following the volunteer training.<sup>66</sup>

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<sup>61</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 147.

<sup>62</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>63</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>64</sup> Davis Creek FPD, Floyd Cornet, Fire Chief, 530-233-3696, April 7, 2009.

<sup>65</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephaninorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

<sup>66</sup> Davis Creek FPD, Floyd Cornet, Fire Chief, 530-233-3696, April 7, 2009.

**9.2 MSR Davis Creek Fire Protection District**

**9.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Davis Creek Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Davis Creek FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 185.

**9.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Davis Creek FPD***

- 2-1) The Davis Creek FPD has adequate fire protection equipment for a small district.

**9.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Davis Creek FPD***

- 3-1) The Davis Creek FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Davis Creek FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Davis Creek FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

**9.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Davis Creek FPD***

- 4-1) The Davis Creek Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Davis Creek Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

**9.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Davis Creek FPD***

- 5-1) The Davis Creek Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **10 EAGLEVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **10.1 Eagleville Fire Protection District Background**

#### **10.1.1 Eagleville Community**

##### **A. Eagleville History**

Tome Bare, believed to be the first homesteader in Surprise Valley, settled near Eagleville. The bald eagles that gave the town its name can still be seen each spring roosting high in the cottonwood trees. Once an important stage stop on the road north from Reno; Eagleville is home to a community center that was once the general store. The area is dotted with hot springs. Excellent fishing is found at East Creek, Sworinger Reservoir and Bare Creek.<sup>67</sup>

##### **B. Eagleville Population**

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report estimated that Eagleville would have a population of 300 in 2000. There were 50 dwelling units in 1985.<sup>68</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006 states that the Community of Eagleville has 15 available parcels (4.83 acres) which would allow 15 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>69</sup>

#### **10.1.2 Eagleville FPD Contact Information**

The contact information for the Eagleville Fire Protection District is as follows:

Eagleville Fire Protection District  
Alan Berryessa, Fire Chief, 13730 Co. Rd. 1 (Main St.)  
HC-07 Box 18-A, Eagleville, CA 96110

Phone: 640-0387      E-Mail: alan@HDO.net

There are 11 volunteers in the Eagleville Fire Department.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>67</sup><http://www.californiagenealogy.org/modoc/townsmodoc.htm>

<sup>68</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 182.

<sup>69</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

<sup>70</sup> Eagleville Fire Protection District, Alan Berryessa, Fire Chief, 13730 Co. Rd. 1 (Main Street, Eagleville, Ca 96110, April 9, 2009.

### 10.1.3 Eagleville FPD Equipment

Eagleville FPD has four vehicles available for fire protection services as follows:<sup>71</sup>

5222	750-1000 gal engine		
5230	Chevy	1977	2000 gal tender w/foam
5240	International	1975	250 gal
5244	Dodge	1970	150 gal

### 10.1.4 Eagleville FPD Finances

The Eagleville FPD had a Fund Balance of \$13,903 on June 30, 2008.<sup>72</sup> This had decreased to \$11,665 by June 30, 2009.<sup>73</sup> The District expected \$7,102 in Tax Revenue in 2008-2009. The Budget for 2009-2010 is as follows:

<b>EAGLEVILLE Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>74</sup></b>
Revenue	\$7,583	\$7,184
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits (Worker's Comp and Insurance)	\$850	\$3,100
Services & Supplies	<u>\$6,700</u>	<u>\$4,084</u>
Total Expenses	\$7,550	\$7,184

The District does not have paid employees. All personnel are volunteers. The main expenses are Worker's Compensation and Insurance.

### 10.1.5 Eagleville FPD Board of Directors

The Eagleville FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>75</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Jesse Harris	2012
Fred Beeman	2012
Jerry "Link" Grove	2010

Secretary  
P.O. Box 15 Eagleville, 96110

The meetings are held every Friday morning at 7:30 a.m.<sup>76</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.33.

<sup>72</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 148.

<sup>73</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>74</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>75</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

Adopted 4/13/2010

## **10.2 MSR for Eagleville Fire Protection District**

### **10.2.1 Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Eagleville Area**

- 1-1) The population within the Eagleville FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 300.

### **10.2.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Eagleville FPD**

- 2-1) The Eagleville FPD has adequate fire protection equipment for a small district.

### **10.2.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Eagleville FPD**

- 3-1) The Eagleville FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Eagleville FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Eagleville FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

### **10.2.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Eagleville FPD**

- 4-1) The Eagleville Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Eagleville Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

### **10.2.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Eagleville FPD**

- 5-1) The Eagleville Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

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<sup>76</sup> Eagleville Fire Protection District, Alan Berryessa, Fire Chief, 13730 Co. Rd. 1 (Main Street, Eagleville, Ca 96110, April 9, 2009.

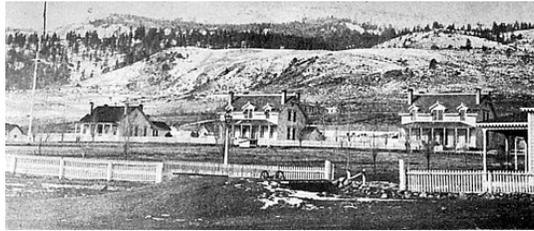
## **11 FORT BIDWELL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **11.1 Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District Background**

#### **11.1.1 Fort Bidwell Community**

##### **A. Fort Bidwell History**

Located near the north end of Surprise Valley in what is now Modoc County, Fort Bidwell was built in 1863. Strategically located in the northwestern corner of the state, its purpose was to protect the travel routes from Oregon and Idaho, including the Applegate and Lassen Trails.



Fort Bidwell in 1865

Fort Bidwell was named in honor of an early pioneer, General John Bidwell. The fort encouraged businesses such as sawmills, stores, and hotels. About 1905 gold was discovered in the northern Warner Mountains. A mining town called High Grade sprung up in a canyon above Ft. Bidwell and a short-lived rush was on. The Fort closed in 1892 and was used by the Department of Interior as an Indian School.

The Fort Bidwell Native American community hosts an annual Cultural Gathering Pow Wow. Many historic sites remain in Fort Bidwell. Fort Bidwell Church, was erected circa 1885. Fort Bidwell General Store was built in 1874 of stone from Bidwell Canyon, a virtual fireproof fortress, and remains one of the longest continuously operating stores in the state.

Fort Bidwell Hotel and Restaurant opened in the early 1900s and is now a private residence. At the north end of Main Street is a stone schoolhouse erected in 1917. Students now attend school in Cedarville. Remnants of the bank vault, established in 1907 are seen on Main Street next to Kober's Dry Goods Store. Fort Bidwell is the gateway to the North Warner Mountains.

Four miles south of Fort Bidwell is Fandango Pass Road, following the emigrant trail over the Warner Mountains to Goose Lake. Surprise Valley views are spectacular. Northwest from Fort Bidwell is County Road 2, winding through the historic Highgrade mining area, past recreation areas of Cave and Lily Lakes and west to New Pine Creek.

Also accessible from Fort Bidwell are Lake Annie and Fee Reservoir, which offer fine fishing.<sup>77</sup>

**B. Fort Bidwell Population**

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report states that Fort Bidwell would have a population of 465 in 2000. There were 78 housing units in 1985.<sup>78</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006 states that the Community of Fort Bidwell has 17 available parcels (10.99 acres) which would allow 17 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>79</sup>

**11.1.2 Fort Bidwell FPD Contact Information**

The contact information for the Ft. Bidwell Fire Protection District is as follows:

Ft. Bidwell Fire Protection District, Dean Anderberg, Fire Chief  
PO Box 296, Fort Bidwell, CA 96112

Phone: 279-2045

E-Mail: sooner521@frontiernet.net

**11.1.3 Fort Bidwell FPD Equipment and Volunteers**

The Fort Bidwell FPD has four vehicles available for fire protection services as follows:<sup>80</sup>

5320	Ford Type 6	1994	500 gal pumper
5340	Ford Type 6	1978	300 gal Wildland Engine
5330	Ford Type 2	1993	3200 gal Water Tender
5331	Kaiser Type 3	1965	1000 gal Water Tender

The district also has two inactive vehicles including a type 6 wildland engine and a type 2 3200 water tender.

There are eight volunteer fire fighters in the Fort Bidwell Fire Department.<sup>81</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> <http://www.californiagenealogy.org/modoc/townsmodoc.htm>

<sup>78</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 168.

<sup>79</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

<sup>80</sup> [gsmall.us/FBVFD/Operations/FireTrucks/index.html](http://gsmall.us/FBVFD/Operations/FireTrucks/index.html)

<sup>81</sup> Fort Bidwell FPD, Stuart Benner, 530-640-0642, April 2, 2009.

#### **11.1.4 Fort Bidwell FPD Finances**

The Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District had a Fund Balance of \$10,028 on June 30, 2008.<sup>82</sup> This was reduced to \$7,972 on June 30, 2009.<sup>83</sup> The District expected \$6,985 in Tax Revenue in 2008-2009. The Budget for 2009-2010 is as follows:

<b>FT. BIDWELL Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>84</sup></b>
Revenue	\$7,715	\$8,090
Expenses		
Services & Supplies	<u>\$6,873</u>	<u>\$6,875</u>
Total Expenses	\$9,439	\$6,875

The District's Fund Balance will probably be maintained if some of the budget is not totally spent. However, the main expenses are Worker's Compensation Insurance and Insurance.

#### **11.1.5 Fort Bidwell FPD Board of Directors**

The Fort Bidwell FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>85</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
John Drew	2010
Greg Small(mail)	2012
Stuart Benner	2012

P.O. Box 296 Ft. Bidwell, 96110

The Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Civic Building in Fort Bidwell at 7:00 p.m.<sup>86</sup>

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<sup>82</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 144.

<sup>83</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>84</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>85</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorhtrup@co.modoc.ca.us.

<sup>86</sup> Fort Bidwell FPD, Stuart Benner, 530-640-0642, April 2, 2009.

**11.2 *MSR Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District***

**11.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Fort Bidwell Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Fort Bidwell FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 465.

**11.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Fort Bidwell FPD***

- 2-1) The Fort Bidwell FPD has adequate fire protection equipment for a small district.

**11.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Fort Bidwell FPD***

- 3-1) The Fort Bidwell FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Fort Bidwell FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Fort Bidwell FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

**11.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Fort Bidwell FPD***

- 4-1) The Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

**11.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Fort Bidwell FPD***

- 5-1) The Fort Bidwell Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider has an online presence to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **12 LAKE CITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **12.1 Lake City Fire Protection District Background**

#### **12.1.1 Lake City Community**

##### **A. Lake City History**

Lake City is located in the Surprise Valley between Cedarville (to the south) and Fort Bidwell (to the north). Lake City founded in 1864, was the first organized community in the area, and had the first saw mill, the first grist mill, the first school and the first wedding in the county. The flouring mill, constructed in 1867 still stands. The "49er" emigrant trail passed near Lake City and wagon tracks remain in some places.

Geothermal activity is present around Lake City and offers a potential source of clean power. In 1951 there was an eruption spewing debris thousands of feet up from the mud volcanoes in the area. There is access to the Warner Mountains via Lake City Canyon Road along the scenic creek.<sup>87</sup>

An election was held on May 5, 1874, to elect county officials and to select a county seat for Modoc County. Lake City received the highest votes as to being the county seat; however, the county fathers decided to Make Dorris Bridge (now Alturas) the county seat, as it contained the majority of people.<sup>88</sup>

##### **B. Lake City Population**

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report states that Lake City would have a population of 285 by 2000. In 1985 there were 37 dwelling units.<sup>89</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006, states that the Community of Lake City has 14 available parcels (4.25 acres) which would allow 14 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>90</sup>

#### **12.1.2 Lake City FPD Contact Information**

Contact information for the Lake City Fire Protection District is as follows:

John Erquiaga, Fire Chief

Bill Bostic, Asst. Chief/Ambulance Coordinator

Mail: Lake City Fire Protection District, Star Route Box 5, Lake City, CA 96115

Phone: 279-6364/279-2079

E-Mail: [bbostic@citlink.net](mailto:bbostic@citlink.net)

Fax: 279-8309

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<sup>87</sup><http://www.californiagenealogy.org/modoc/townsmodoc.htm>

<sup>88</sup> <http://www.californiagenealogy.org/modoc/>

<sup>89</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 186.

<sup>90</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

There are eight volunteer fire fighters. The fire fighters meet on the first Thursday of each month for training.<sup>91</sup>

**12.1.3 Lake City FPD Equipment**

Lake City FPD has six vehicles available for fire protection services as follows.<sup>92</sup>

5130	Ford	1968	1500 gal tender
5131	GMC	1966	1500 gal tender; 4x4
5133	Ford	1964	1500 gal tender
5140	Chevy	1979	Pickup w/50 gal slip-on pumper
5141	Ford	2000	F-350 300 gal foam
5121	Ford	1975	Class A Pumper and foam
5133	Freightliner	1985	4000 gal Water Tender

**12.1.4 Lake City FPD Finances**

The Lake City Fire Protection District owes the County of Modoc \$39,322.<sup>93</sup> The Auditors' Cash Balance as of June 30, 2009 is listed as zero.<sup>94</sup> The District expected \$5,634 in Tax Revenue in 2008-2009.

<b>LAKE CITY Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>95</sup></b>
Revenue	\$3,610	\$6,020
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$4,411	\$2,420
Services & Supplies	<u>\$1,400</u>	<u>\$3,600</u>
Total Expenses	\$5,811	\$6,020

So at the end of the 2008-2009 fiscal year; the District owed the County of Modoc \$45,246.<sup>96</sup> The main expenses are Workers Compensation Insurance and Insurance.

**12.1.5 Lake City FPD Board of Directors**

The Lake City FPD Board of Directors is as follows.<sup>97</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Lee Gorzell	2012
James Harris	2012
John Erquiaga (mail)	2010

Star Rt. Box 5, Lake City, CA 96115

<sup>91</sup> Lake City FPD, Star Route Box 5, Lake City CA 96115, John Erquiaga, Fire Chief, April 3, 2009.

<sup>92</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.32-33.

<sup>93</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 149.

<sup>94</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>95</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>96</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 149.

<sup>97</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanielnorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

The Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month.<sup>98</sup>

## ***12.2 MSR for Lake City Fire Protection District***

### ***12.2.1 Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Lake City Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Lake City FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 285.

### ***12.2.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Lake City FPD***

- 2-1) The Lake City FPD has adequate fire protection equipment for a small district.

### ***12.2.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Lake City FPD***

- 3-1) The Lake City FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Lake City FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Lake City FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

### ***12.2.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Lake City FPD***

- 4-1) The Lake City Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Lake City Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

### ***12.2.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Lake City FPD***

- 5-1) The Lake City Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

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<sup>98</sup> Lake City FPD, Star Route Box 5, Lake City CA 96115, John Erquiaga, Fire Chief, April 3, 2009.

## **13 LIKELY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **13.1 Likely Fire Protection District Background**

#### **13.1.1 Likely Community**

##### **A. Likely History**

Likely is a small community located 20 miles south of Alturas. Located 6 miles north-northwest of Likely Mountain, it is somewhat sheltered from prevailing southwesterly winds, and its microclimate is noticeably dryer and less stormy than surrounding areas.

Likely now occupies what was originally an Achumawi (Pit River) village known as Hamawe. The town was initially known as South Fork, named after the South Fork of the Pit River, and was renamed at the insistence of the United States Post Office, which insisted at that time that Post Offices could only have one-word names.

One of the last of the American Indian Wars was fought at Infernal Caverns, a short distance from Likely.

The Likely Peat Moss Company claimed that Likely was the Peat Moss capital of the United States until 1987, when Likely first lost the services of Southern Pacific Railroad, because shipping by rail was much less expensive than by truck. The company's largest clients insisted upon shipping by rail, and when they discovered that the reason why their train cars, loaded with Peat, never arrived was that they were still sitting on the siding in Likely, and that Southern Pacific had no intention of picking them up, they understandably took their business elsewhere.<sup>99</sup>

South Fork Elementary School is located in Likely. There are 28 students in grades Kindergarten through seven.<sup>100</sup>

##### **B. Likely Population**

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report states that Likely would have a population of 238 by 2000. In 1985 there were 46 dwelling units.<sup>101</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006, states that the Community of Likely has 5 available parcels (5.55 acres) which would allow 6 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>102</sup>

<sup>99</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Likely,\\_California](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Likely,_California)

<sup>100</sup> [http://educationseek.com/schools/USA/CA/MODOC/LIKELY/SOUTH\\_FORK\\_ELEMENTARY](http://educationseek.com/schools/USA/CA/MODOC/LIKELY/SOUTH_FORK_ELEMENTARY)

<sup>101</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 186.

<sup>102</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

### **13.1.2 Likely FPD Size and Contact Information**

The Likely FPD is 335 square miles in size.

The contact information for the District is as follows:

Likely Fire Protection District  
Dewayne Mathews, Fire Chief  
PO Box 515  
Likely, CA 96116

Phone: 530-233-4817  
Fax: 530-233-5190  
E-Mail: [likelyfiredept@frontiernet.net](mailto:likelyfiredept@frontiernet.net)

### **13.1.3 Likely FPD Equipment**

The Likely FPD has six vehicle available for fire protection services as follows:<sup>103</sup>

4421	Ford	1949	300 gal; 500 gpm
4422	LaFrance	1969	500 gal; 1250 gpm
4423	LaFrance	1970	500 gal; 1250 gpm
4425	LaFrance	1979	750 gal; 1250 gpm
4430	Peterbilt	1995	3500 gal; 1000 gpm tanker
4450	Ford	1995	200 gal; 250 gpm Medical/Jaws
4451	Dodge	1976	Medical and Support equipment

All vehicles with water have portable foam equipment

### **13.1.4 Likely FPD Volunteers**

According to Fire Chief, Dewayne Mathews,

*The Likely Fire Department currently has 26 members on its roster; all of which are volunteer. We operate 2 fire stations and cover structure protection of a 396 square mile district. We also offer BLS medical assistance to not only our District but part of Lassen County as well.*<sup>104</sup>

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<sup>103</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.31.

<sup>104</sup> Likely FPD, Dewayne Mathews, [likelyfiredept@frontiernet.net](mailto:likelyfiredept@frontiernet.net), March 18, 2009

### 13.1.5 Likely FPD Finances

The Likely Fire Protection District had a \$40,692 Fund Balance on June 30, 2008.<sup>105</sup> This was decreased to \$31,855 on June 30, 2009. The Budget for 2009-2010 is as follows:

<b>LIKELY Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>106</sup></b>
Revenue	\$28,290	\$26,644
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$1,600	\$0
Services & Supplies	<u>\$26,690</u>	<u>\$26,917</u>
Total Expenses	\$28,290	\$26,917

The District is keeping the salaries low and preserving the Fund Balance as much as possible.

### 13.1.6 Likely FPD Board of Directors

The Likely FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>107</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Rich Hamel	2012
Rodney Weed	2012
Ken McGarva	2010

Dan Travertini, Secretary/Treasurer  
P.O. Box 515 Likely, CA 96116

The Likely Fire Protection District has its regular business meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.<sup>108</sup>

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<sup>105</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p.150.

<sup>106</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>107</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: [stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us](mailto:stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us)

<sup>108</sup> Likely FPD, Dewayne Matthews, [likelyfiredept@frontiernet.net](mailto:likelyfiredept@frontiernet.net), March 13, 2009.

**13.2 MSR for Likely Fire Protection District**

**13.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Likely Area***

1-1) The population within the Likely FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 238.

**13.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Likely FPD***

2-1) The Likely FPD has adequate fire protection equipment for a small district.

**13.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Likely FPD***

3-1) The Likely FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.

3-2) The Likely FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.

3-3) Likely FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

**13.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Likely FPD***

4-1) The Likely Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.

4-2) The Likely Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

**13.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Likely FPD***

5-1) The Likely Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.

5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **14 LOOKOUT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **14.1 Lookout Fire Protection District Background**

#### **14.1.1 Lookout Community Background**

##### **A. Lookout History**

Lookout is located on the west bank of the Pit River in the Big Valley Area of Modoc County. Lookout was site of the Infamous Lookout Lynching, one of the most publicized cases ever tried in the west, when five men were hung in the spring of 1901. Over 25 men from the Lookout area were charged with the murder of the five men. In November 1901, one man was chosen to be indicated by the Grand Jury as a test case. His trial lasted over 90 days, and brought much unfavorable publicity to Modoc County. A “Not Guilty” verdict was rendered, after some extenuating circumstances were pointed out. All other indictments were dismissed after the one trial.<sup>109</sup>

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report states that “Lookout is a small town of about 120 persons with an equal number in its service area. Along with basic services there is a County Road Department Maintenance Station.”<sup>110</sup> There is a branch of the Modoc County Library in Lookout.

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report explains that a deterrent to growth in the Big Valley area is severe limitations for on-site sewage disposal systems (septic tanks). The minimum parcel size for a well and a septic tank is three acres.<sup>111</sup> The Background Report estimated that the population of Lookout would be 262 in 2000 and there were 40 dwelling units in 1985.<sup>112</sup>

##### **B. Lookout Population**

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006, states that the Community of Lookout has 17 available parcels (9.43 acres) which would allow 18 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>113</sup>

#### **14.1.2 Lookout FPD History and Contact Information**

The Lookout Fire Protection District was formed in 1947. There are six volunteer fire fighters in the Lookout Fire Department.<sup>114</sup> Contact information for the District is as follows:

Brian West

Mail: PO Box 135, Lookout, CA 96054

Phone: 294-294-5773/c. 260-0466 Fax: 530-294-1002

E-Mail: [end@hdo.net](mailto:end@hdo.net)

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<sup>109</sup><http://www.californiagenealogy.org/modoc/townsmodoc.htm>

<sup>110</sup> County of Modoc, “Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report” P. 163.

<sup>111</sup> County of Modoc, “Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report” P. 163.

<sup>112</sup> County of Modoc, “Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report” P. 167.

<sup>113</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

<sup>114</sup> Lookout FPD, Rick Endicott, Chief, [end@hdo.net](mailto:end@hdo.net), March 31, 2009.

### 14.1.3 Lookout FPD Equipment

Lookout FPD has six vehicles available for fire protection as follows:<sup>115</sup>

4820	International	1968	700 gal
4821	Ford	1976	500 gal
4830	Utica	1966	1000 gal
4831	GMC	1968	1000 gal
4840	International	1965	500 gal
4841	Dodge	1978	250 gal Quick Response

### 14.1.4 Lookout FPD Finances

The Lookout Fire Protection District had a Fund Balance of \$10,270 on June 30, 2008.<sup>116</sup>  
18,049

<b>LOOKOUT Fire Protection District Budget</b>	<b>2008-2009</b>	<b>2009-2010<sup>117</sup></b>
Revenue	\$7,647	\$9,232
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$2,000	\$5,450
Services & Supplies	<u>\$5,600</u>	<u>\$3,782</u>
Total Expenses	\$7,600	\$9,232

The District will probably maintain its Fund Balance if the other budget categories are not fully expended. The main expenses are Workers Compensation Insurance and Insurance.

### 14.1.5 Lookout FPD Board of Directors

The Lookout FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>118</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Norah Harper (mail)	2012
Chester Stansberry*	2012 * Fire Chief
Beatrice Hetrick	2010

P.O. Box 174 Lookout, CA 96054 Phone: 530-294-1002

The Board Meetings are held the first Friday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Lookout Fire Hall located at the corner of Main Street and County Road 93A in Lookout, California.<sup>119</sup>

<sup>115</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.32.

<sup>116</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 151.

<sup>117</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>118</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorhup@co.modoc.ca.us

<sup>119</sup> Lookout FPD, PO Box 174, Lookout CA 96054, 3/24/2009.

## **14.2 MSR Lookout Fire Protection District**

### **14.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Lookout Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Lookout FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 262.

### **14.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Lookout FPD***

- 2-1) The Lookout FPD has limited equipment and no water system so will depend on mutual aid from other districts in most every emergency.

### **14.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Lookout FPD***

- 3-1) The Lookout FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Lookout FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.

- 3-3) Lookout FPD, as a fire service provider, is a non-enterprise District.

### **14.2.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for Lookout FPD***

- 4-1) The Lookout Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Lookout Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.
- 4-3) The Lookout Fire Protection has a mutual aid agreements with the Adin Fire Protection District and with the Big Valley Fire Protection District in Lassen County as well as with the State and Federal agencies.

### **14.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for Lookout FPD***

- 5-1) The Lookout Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **15 TULELAKE MULTI-COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **15.1 Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District Background**

#### **15.1.1 Newell Community**

Newell is a small unincorporated community about 4,000 feet above mean sea level. The community was named for Frederick H. Newell, chief engineer with the U.S. Reclamation Service.

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background report describes Newell as follows:

*For the purposes of this report, the Newell area encompasses the entire northwest portion of Modoc County, consisting of about 105 square miles of private land. Isolated tracts of private land, including Tionesta, are scattered within the northwest area of the Modoc National Forest, lying to the south and east and effectively isolating the Newell area from the rest of the County. The Tulelake National Wildlife Refuge, located west of Newell and extending into Siskiyou County, is located in this area. The Lava Bed National Monument, southwest of Newell, also extends into Siskiyou County.*

*The Newell area is located in the Tulelake Groundwater Basin, one of five major groundwater basins in the County. The Lost River drainage of the Klamath River Basin supplies ground and surface water. The area's rich grain lands, once part of the 100,000 area Tulelake bad, were drained in the early 1900s by the US Bureau of Reclamation. Only 13,000 acres of the lake remain, of which some 7,080 acres lie within Modoc County, consisting of the Wildlife Refuge and Tule Lake Sump.*

*Situated about 65 miles northwest of Alturas, the unincorporated town of Newell is the main population center of the area within Modoc County. Located just east of State Highway 139, Newell is approximately seven miles southeast of Tulelake, Siskiyou County and thirty miles southeast of Klamath Falls, Oregon. In the town of Newell services and agencies include general grocery and gasoline, fire hall, State Highway and County Road Maintenance stations, potato packing plants, grain elevator and potato storage buildings.*

*Population in the Newell area was fairly stable between 1940 and 1970, but declined from 1325 in 1970 to 850 persons in 1980. During that decade the population increased 15% county-wide. While Newell had about 300 persons in 1980, the census indicated an additional 550 person resided in the surrounding area. Population increases seasonally according to the migrant agricultural labor, utilizing the County-operated 49 unit migrant labor camp. From 1975 through 1997, 21 housing units were constructed in the Newell area.<sup>120</sup>*

There are many grain and horseradish storage facilities in or near Newell.

Newell Elementary School, operated by Tulelake Basin Joint Unified School District, is a local landmark.

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<sup>120</sup>County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 156.

Tulelake Municipal Airport, features a 3,500-foot paved runway.

The site of the World War II U.S. Army facility named Tule Lake Relocation Center is near the north end of the community. The center was a prison camp for interned Japanese nationals, and U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry, during a portion of the war.

The Union Pacific Railroad Modoc Subdivision tracks run along the west side of town and parallel to SR139.



Just south of Newell, at the top of the ancient caldera lies this sleeping man. His head is to the right and feet are at the left.

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report estimated that there would be 1107 people in Newell by 2000 and there were 151 dwelling units in 1985.<sup>121</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006, states that the Community of Newell has 17 available parcels (4.25 acres) which would allow 17 additional dwelling units. The community has both water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>122</sup>

### **15.1.2 Tulelake FPD History and Contact Information**

The Tulelake Multi-County FPD was formed in September 1938. The District includes approximately 100 square miles within Siskiyou County and 75 square miles within Modoc County. The District provides ambulance service into Oregon and has one ambulance stationed in Hatfield, Oregon.

No other fire protection districts in Modoc County directly adjoin this District. Other special districts in the area include the Tulelake Irrigation District, the Newell County Water District and the Stronghold-Newell Pest Abatement District.

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<sup>121</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 161.

<sup>122</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

Contact Information for the Tulelake Multi-County FPD is as follows:

Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District  
P O Box 352  
Tulelake, CA 96134

Steve Scott, Fire Chief  
Mike Hickmen, Asst. Chief  
PO Box 392  
Tulelake, CA 96134

Chief's Phone: 667-5350/cell 598-1676  
Assistant Chief 667-5169/233-6842  
Fax 667-2923  
[tvfd@cot.net](mailto:tvfd@cot.net)

There are 25 volunteers including the Chief and Asst. Chief in the Fire Department.<sup>123</sup>

### **15.1.3 Tulelake Multi-County FPD Equipment**

The Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District has nine vehicles available for fire protection services as follows:<sup>124</sup>

4911	International	1964	750 gal pumper/ladder
4912	FMC/GMC	1980	1200 gal foam pumper/ladder
4921	International	1973	750 gal pumper/ladder
4940	Ford	1982	Rescue w/light medical, Jaws, liftbags
4931	Ford	1974	Utility w/porta power
4951	Ford	1982	250 gal w/foam
4952	International	1970	250 gal; Jaws
4961	K.W.	1973	4000 gal tender
4962	Pete	1971	4000 gal tender

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<sup>123</sup> Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District, [tvfd@cot.net](mailto:tvfd@cot.net), March 29, 2009.

<sup>124</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.32

#### **15.1.4 Tulelake Multi-County FPD Finances**

The Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection Budget is managed under the County of Siskiyou. The District had a Fund Balance of \$187,297 on June 30, 2008. The District gets \$45,000 from secured taxes. The Budget for 2008-2009 is as follows:<sup>125</sup>

Salaries & Benefits	\$12,000
Services and Supplies	\$55,000
Fixed Assets	\$40,000
Fund Balance	<u>\$146,747</u>
Total	\$253,747

Although the Fund Balance is decreased it is because funds are invested in fixed assets.

#### **15.1.5 Tulelake Multi-County FPD Board of Directors**

The Tulelake Multi-County FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>126</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Nick Macy	2010
Richard Takacs	2010
John Prosser	2012
Earl Danosky	2012
Craig Bettendorff	2012

Steve Scott, Fire Chief (mail)  
P.O. Box 274 Tulelake, 96134

The Board meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month starting at 6:00 p.m.<sup>127</sup>

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<sup>125</sup> County of Siskiyou, Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District for Fiscal Year 2008-2009.

<sup>126</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: [stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us](mailto:stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us)

<sup>127</sup> Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District, [tvfd@cot.net](mailto:tvfd@cot.net), March 12, 2009.

**15.2 MSR for Tulelake Fire Protection District**

**15.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Tulelake Multi-County Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Tulelake Multi-County FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 3,000.

**15.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Tulelake Multi-County FPD***

- 2-1) The Tulelake Multi-County FPD has adequate fire protection equipment and shows the advantage of a larger district.

**15.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Tulelake Multi-County FPD***

- 3-1) The Tulelake Multi-County FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Tulelake Multi-County FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Tulelake Multi-County FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.
- 3-4) The Tulelake Multi-County FPD shows the financial advantage that a larger district has and could be a model for other districts in the area.

**15.3.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Tulelake Multi-County FPD***

- 4-1) The Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.

**15.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Tulelake Multi-County FPD***

- 5-1) The Tulelake Multi-County Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **16 WILLOW RANCH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### **16.1 Willow Ranch Fire Protection District Background**

#### **16.1.1 Willow Ranch Community**

##### **A. Willow Ranch History**

*Willow Ranch was originally called "Sniderville" named after the ranch owned by Charles and Andrew Snider. It in turn received its name from the willow bordered creek which flowed through it...Old Willow Ranch was located about three miles from its present site on Willow Creek. It was first a stage stop, and later became a trading post for the area's ranchers for miles around because there was no Lakeview or New Pine Creek.*

*Actually a very old settlement, having been settled before 1869 by Andrew Snider. In the 1940s and 1950s it was home to a large sawmill and a sizable population, however not much remains there now, one old sawmill burner and remnants of the old Grammar School. It was serviced by the NCO Railroad and later the Southern Pacific.... Today this Railroad is owned by the City of Lakeview and is still in operation.<sup>128</sup>*

##### **B. Willow Ranch Population**

The Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report states that New Pine Creek is in the Goose Lake Basin and "traverses the California-Oregon Border identifying more closely with Oregon than Modoc County." There is an elementary school in New Pine Creek.<sup>129</sup> The population of New Pine Creek was expected to be 197 in 2000 and there were 33 dwelling units in 1985.<sup>130</sup>

The County of Modoc Housing Element 2003-2008 adopted May 9, 2006, states that the Community of New Pine Creek has 17 available parcels (4.25 acres) which would allow 17 additional dwelling units. The primary service constraint to growth is the lack of community water and wastewater collection and treatment systems.<sup>131</sup>

#### **16.1.2 Willow Ranch FPD Size and Contact Information**

The Willow Ranch FPD is 108 square miles in size. Ambulance services in the New Pine Creek and Willow Ranch areas come from Lakeview Oregon. The contact information for the Willow Ranch FPD is as follows:

Willow Ranch Fire Protection District  
Fire Chief: James F Safford, Patti Carpenter, Commissioner  
PO Box 152/ PO Box 4, New Pine Creek, OR 97635

Phone: 946-4252/946-4188/ E-Mail: [jmsafford@hotmail.com](mailto:jmsafford@hotmail.com)

<sup>128</sup> <http://www.alturaschamber.org/communities/willow-ranch.htm>

<sup>129</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 168.

<sup>130</sup> County of Modoc, "Modoc County General Plan 1988 Background Report" P. 176.

<sup>131</sup> County of Modoc, Housing Element 2003-2008, May 9, 2006, P. 29.

### **16.1.3 Willow Ranch FPD Equipment**

The Willow Ranch FPD has four vehicles available for fire protection services as follows:<sup>132</sup>

5520	Van Pelt	1977	1000 gal
5530	Van Pelt	1951	1100 gal
5540	Chevy	1986	4x4. 150 gal; Type 6
5541	Chevy	1980	4x4, sm brush/medical response

### **16.1.4 Willow Ranch FPD Finances**

The Willow Ranch Fire Protection District had a Fund Balance of \$1,936 available on June 30, 2008.<sup>133</sup> This was increased to \$2,713 on June 30, 2009.<sup>134</sup>

#### **WILLOW RANCH Fire Protection District Budget 2008-2009      2009-2010<sup>135</sup>**

Revenue	\$5,995	\$6,764
Expenses		
Salaries & Benefits	\$2,800	\$2,800
Services & Supplies	<u>\$3,195</u>	<u>\$3,964</u>
Total Expenses	\$5,995	\$6,764

The Fund Balance may not be decreased as much as is shown if the other budget categories are not fully expended.

### **16.1.5 Willow Ranch FPD Board of Directors**

The Willow Ranch FPD Board of Directors is as follows:<sup>136</sup>

<u>Director</u>	<u>Term Ends</u>
Linda Perry	2012
Herb Jasper	2012
Richard Lawson	2012
Patti Carpenter (mail)	2010
Ray Cloud	2010

P.O. Box 41, New Pine Creek, OR 97635

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<sup>132</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.33.

<sup>133</sup> County of Modoc, Summary of Budget 2008-2009, p. 152.

<sup>134</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>135</sup> County of Modoc, Special District Budgets 2009-2010.

<sup>136</sup> County of Modoc, Clerk's Office, Stephanie Northrup: stephanienorthrup@co.modoc.ca.us

## **16.2 MSR for Willow Ranch Fire Protection District**

### **16.2.1 *Growth and Population Projection MSR Determinations for the Willow Ranch Area***

- 1-1) The population within the Willow Ranch FPD is not expected to increase from the existing population of 197.

### **16.2.2 *Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations for the Willow Ranch FPD***

- 2-1) The Willow Ranch FPD has adequate fire protection equipment for a small district.

### **16.2.3 *Financial Ability MSR Determinations for the Willow Ranch FPD***

- 3-1) The Willow Ranch FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-2) The Willow Ranch FPD may need to ask for a special tax for fire protection in the future. The District should develop a cost of services study to determine the amount of the special tax.
- 3-3) Willow Ranch FPD, as a fire service provider, is not an enterprise District.

### **16.3.4 *Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations for the Willow Ranch FPD***

- 4-1) The Willow Ranch Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Willow Ranch Fire Protection District participates in the Modoc Fire Chiefs Association.
- 4-3) The Willow Ranch Fire Protection District has an interstate agreement with New Pine Creek, Oregon.

### **16.2.5 *Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations for the Willow Ranch FPD***

- 5-1) The Willow Ranch Fire Protection District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-2) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

## **17 CITY OF ALTURAS FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **17.1 Alturas City Fire Department Background**

The Alturas Fire Department has one paid Fire Marshal and 35 volunteer fire fighters. The volunteers have a Chief, two Assistant Chiefs, two Captains, and four Lieutenants. They would like to add an additional five volunteers. There are two members trained as Emergency Medical Technicians, one EMT I trained in Basic Life Support and one EMT II trained in Advanced Life Support.

The Sheriff's Office manages the Dispatch for the entire County. There is a County Fire Chiefs Association but it is not active. Training for the volunteers is offered twice per month.

In 2007, the Fire Department responded to 225 calls (181 medical calls and 44 fire calls).<sup>137</sup> The greater number of medical calls is similar to most fire departments in California.

Ambulance Service is provided by the Modoc Medical Center.

Water for fire protection is available throughout the City with fire flows of 3000 gpm.

The ISO rating for the Alturas Fire Department is 4. If the Department had a seventy-five foot ladder truck this would help to lower the ISO rating and the homeowners and businesses would have lower-cost insurance. The response time within the City for the Department is approximately five minutes.

The Department maintains mutual aid agreements with the National Forest Service, The Alturas Rancheria and the County Hospital.

### **17.2 Alturas City Fire Department Equipment**

The Fire Department has the following six vehicles in addition to other miscellaneous equipment:

Engine 7125: 1988,  
Pierce Pumper,  
Type One, 1250 gpm pumper,  
750-gallon booster tank

Engine 7126: 1976,  
International Pumper,  
Type One,  
1000 gpm pumper

Engine 7129: 1969,  
International Pumper Type One

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<sup>137</sup> City of Alturas, Stephen J. Jacques, Fire Marshal, meeting with John Benoit, Aril 24, 2008.

1000 gpm pumper/ladder truck

Engine 7147: 1973  
International 4X4 Quick Attack/wildland/brush patrol  
250 GPM pump,  
350-gallon booster tank.

Engine 7148: 1990  
International Wildland Apparatus, 500 GPM pump, 750-gallon booster tank.

Rescue 7150: 1996  
Kodiak Rescue, Type Three, light-duty rescue/service company<sup>138</sup>

### **17.3 Alturas City Fire Department Financing**

The City of Alturas Fire Department is funded by the City General Fund. There are no special taxes, assessments or Development Impact fees to offset the impacts of growth upon fire protection.

### **17.4 City of Alturas Contact Information**

Alturas City Fire Department  
Keith Jacques, Fire Chief  
103 S. Howard  
Alturas, CA 96101

Phone: 233-5596/cell 640-0550

E-Mail: [keithj@citlink.net](mailto:keithj@citlink.net)

Fax: 233-3559

Note: The Governing Body is the Alturas City Council.

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<sup>138</sup> City of Alturas, Fire Department, 102 South Howard, Alturas CA 96101, April 24, 2008.  
Adopted 4/13/2010 59  
MSR: FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES  
LAFCO Resolution 2010-0003

## **18 OTHER MODOC FIRE PROTECTION AGENCIES**

### **18.1 Federal Fire Protection Agencies**

#### **18.1.1 Alturas Indian Rancheria**

*The Alturas Indian Rancheria is a federally recognized tribe of Achomawi Indians in California.*

*The tribe controls 20-acre reservation near Alturas, California in Modoc County. Tribal enrollment is estimated at 15. Paul Del Rosa is currently serving as the elected Chairman. The tribe operates the Desert Rose Casino and the Rose Cafe in Alturas.*

*The Rancheria in Fort Bidwell has its own Fire Department.*

*The Achomawi are also known as the Pit River Indians. They traditionally spoke the Achumawi language.<sup>139</sup>*

Alturas Rancheria  
Post Office Box 340, Alturas CA 96101

Ph: (530) 233-5571

Fax: 530-233-4651

Alturas Indian Rancheria OES  
Shawn Normington  
PO Box 910, Alturas, CA 96101

Phone: 233-3141/c.640-0598  
Fax 530-233-3170

E-Mail: [chiefnormington@yahoo.com](mailto:chiefnormington@yahoo.com)

#### **18.1.2 Modoc National Forest**

*The Modoc National Forest includes mountains, pine forests and meadows, lakes, streams, rugged canyons, wetlands, lava beds and high desert plateaus. The Modoc offers beautiful scenery, varied terrain, abundant wildlife and a memorable visitor experience.*

*The Forest is named for the county in which the greater part of the Forest is situated. The county, in turn, is named after the warlike Indian tribe, the Modocs, who fought at the lava beds from 1872-1873. The lava beds are a national monument located within the boundaries of the Forest.*

*The Modoc National Forest is composed of two original units-the Warner Mountains Forest Reserve and the Modoc Forest Reserve. Both were created by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1904. Four years later he consolidated them into the Modoc National Forest.<sup>140</sup>*

*The Modoc National Forest consists of 1,979,407 acres of which 1,654,392 acres are administered by the Modoc National Forest.*

<sup>139</sup> [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alturas\\_Rancheria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alturas_Rancheria)

<sup>140</sup> USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/modoc/about/index.shtml>

**Elevation:** 4,300 feet to 9,934 feet above sea level

**Precipitation:** Precipitation ranges between 4.94 inches to 20.80 inches per year  
Average annual precipitation of 12"

**Average Temperatures**

Summer daytime high is 89 degrees Fahrenheit

Summer nighttime low is 42 degrees Fahrenheit

Winter daytime high is 46 degrees Fahrenheit

Winter nighttime low is 20 degrees Fahrenheit

Record High 106 degrees Fahrenheit

Record Low -35 degrees Fahrenheit<sup>141</sup>

The Forest has four Ranger Districts supervised by three District Rangers as follows:<sup>142</sup>

Forest Supervisor's Office

Devils Garden Ranger District

800 West 12th Street

Alturas, CA 96101

(530) 233-5811

Doublehead Ranger District

49870 Highway 139

P.O. Box 369

Tulelake, CA 96135

(530) 667-2246

Warner Mountain Ranger District

385 Wallace Street

P.O. Box 220

Cedarville, CA 96104

(530) 279-6116

Big Valley Ranger District

508 South Main Street

P.O. Box 159

Adin, CA 96006

(530) 299-3215

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<sup>141</sup> USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/modoc/about/index.shtml>

<sup>142</sup> USDA Forest Service: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/modoc/about/index.shtml>

The Modoc National Forest has the following fire protection resources:<sup>143</sup>

Buck Creek: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Cedarville: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Alturas: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Canby: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Crowder Flat: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Dry Lake: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Lava Beds National Monument (Coordinated with Department of Interior National Park Service) 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Adin: 1 Type III Wildland Engine with 5 person crew

Long Bell: 2 Type III Wildland Engines with 5 person crews

### **18.1.3 Bureau of Land Management**

The Bureau of Land Management has two fire stations in Modoc County as follows.<sup>144</sup>

West Valley Fire Station:

2 Type III Wildland Engines  
1 Prevention Patrol Vehicle

Surprise Valley Fire Station:

2 Type III Wildland Engines  
1 BIA Brush Truck  
1 Prevention Patrol Vehicle

## **18.2 CALFIRE**

### **18.2.1 CALFIRE Equipment**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection formerly known as CDF is now called CALFIRE.

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<sup>143</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.34.

<sup>144</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.34.

CALFIRE resources in Modoc County include the following:<sup>145</sup>

Deer Springs:  
E-2265 Model 5 Wildland Engine

Happy Camp:  
E-2266 Model 5 Wildland Engine

Alturas:  
E-2268 Model 14 Wildland Engine  
E-2269 Model 14 Wildland Engine

Devils Garden:  
Five Hand Crews, Dozer 2231 D-6  
Mobile Food Unit-Prepared at camp then brought to incident, steam table.

### **18.2.2 CALFIRE Battalions**

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Fire Suppression Units in Modoc County consist of Battalion 3 (Bieber Battalion) and Battalion 4 (Alturas Battalion). These are described below.

#### **A. CALFIRE Battalion 3**

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

*State Highways 299 and 139 traverse the Battalion. Approximately 17,260 acres of this Battalion are State Responsibility Lands; Local Responsibility Land is located in the Big Valley area around the towns of Bieber, Nubieber and in the Pittville area. The population within the Battalion is found in Bieber, Nubieber, Lookout, Day, Little Valley and Adin. Approximately 1400 people make the communities of Battalion 3 their home.*

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

*Fire Weather: Fire weather in Battalion 3 is wetter than that of Battalion 4, which is located in the rain shadow of the Sierra/Cascade Mountains. The precipitation total for 2003 was 16.66 inches, which was 113.3% of normal.*

*Assets at Risk: Many of the homes in Battalion 3 are located in the wild land urban interface area. The Lookout ranchettes and homes along Day Road are prime examples.*

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<sup>145</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, p.33.

*These homes are within standing timber and with an under story of grass and sage forest fuels.*

*The timber lands in the Battalion are owned by Sierra Pacific Industries and W.M. Beatty and Associates. The Modoc National Forest and the Lassen National Forest have common borders with the Battalion. Much of the National Forest land is leased out during the summer and fall for cattle grazing.*

*The Lava Beds National Monument and Lassen Volcanic National Park are close by and many people travel through this area en-route to these locations. The entire area is well known for its hunting and fishing.*

*This is an important watershed area. The water that is collected from the snow and rainfall during the winter finds its way into the rivers and lakes, which provide hydro-electric plants along the Pitt River and is a source for domestic water for several communities along the Sacramento River.*

#### *Battalion 3 Resources:*

*Bieber Station  
2-Fire Engines  
1 Helicopter and crew  
Snag Hill Lookout*

*Happy Camp Station  
1-Fire Engine  
Intermountain Conservation Camp is located just outside of Nubieber and has four Fire Crews available.<sup>146</sup>*

#### *B. CALFIRE Battalion 4*

*Battalion 4 (Alturas Battalion) is located in the northeastern portion of the Lassen-Modoc Unit. It is located in the east half of Modoc County with Oregon to the north and Nevada to the east. The most southern end of the Battalion is within the northeastern part of Lassen County. The communities of Alturas, Canby, Likely, and Madeline are located within its boundaries. Highways 395, 299 and 139 traverse the Battalion. Approximately 21,500 acres of this Battalion are State Responsibility Lands; Local Responsibility Land surrounds the community of Alturas and runs south to Likely. Approximately 1800 people live within the boundaries of Battalion 4.*

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

*Fire Weather: Fire weather in Battalion4 is drier, being in the rain shadow, than that of Battalion 3, which is located to the west and near the top of the Sierra/Cascade*

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<sup>146</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, pp.34-36.

mountain range. During 2003, Alturas received 10.135 inches of rain, which is 83.3% of normal.

*Assets at Risk: Many of the homes in Battalion 4 are located in the wild land-urban interface area in the Cal Pines development south of Alturas and in the Modoc Estates subdivision which is located within Alturas. These homes are surrounded by standing timber and/or juniper with an understory of grass and sage forest fuels.*

*The Modoc national Forest and the Warner Wilderness Area have common borders with the Battalion. In the southeast portion of the Battalion much of the land is managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Much of the National Forest and BLM land is leased out during summer and fall for grazing of cattle.*

*The Warner Wilderness Area is a popular area for hikers and explorers and holds a wealth of natural resources for the area. The entire area is well known for its hunting and fishing. Its trails have not been maintained for some time and access may be difficult.*

*This is an important watershed area. The water that is collected from the snow and rainfall during the winter finds its way into the rivers and lakes, which provide hydro-electric power along the Pitt River and is a source for domestic water for several communities along the Sacramento River.*

*Battalion 4 Resources:*

*Alturas Station:*

*2-Fire Engines*

*Likely Mountain Lookout*

*Bulldozer and service unit*

*Deer Springs Station*

*1-Fire Engine<sup>147</sup>*

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<sup>147</sup> "Modoc County Community Wildfire Protection Plan", May 2008, pp.36-7.

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

ALS/BLS	Advanced Life Support/Basic Life Support
AWWA	American Water Works Association
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
CALFIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CKH Act	Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000
CSA	County Service Area
CSD	Community Services District
CWD	County Water District
EMS	Emergency Medical Service
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
FPD	Fire Protection District
FRA	Federal Responsibility Area
gpm	gallons per minute
GPS	Global Positioning System
ISO	Insurance Service Organization
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission
LRA	Local Responsibility Area
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
MSR	Municipal Service Review
OES	Office of Emergency Services

psi	pounds per square inch
PPE	personal protective equipment
PUD	Public Utility District
RACs	Resource Advisory Committees
SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
SOI	Sphere of Influence (LAFCO)
SRA	State Responsibility Area
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
ZCTA	Zip Code Tabulation Area (US Census)

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Agriculture:** Use of land for the production of food and fiber, including the growing of crops and/or the grazing of animals on natural prime or improved pasture land.

**Aquifer:** An underground, water-bearing layer of earth, porous rock, sand, or gravel, through which water can seep or be held in natural storage. Aquifers generally hold sufficient water to be used as a water supply.

**Bond:** An interest-bearing promise to pay a stipulated sum of money, with the principal amount due on a specific date. Funds raised through the sale of bonds can be used for various public purposes.

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA):** A State Law requiring State and local agencies to regulate activities with consideration for environmental protection. If a proposed activity has the potential for a significant adverse environmental impact, an environmental impact report (EIR) must be prepared and certified as to its adequacy before taking action on the proposed project.

**Chaparral:** Spanish word meaning “where the scrub oak grows”. A diverse plant (shrub) community with some of the more common species being chamise, manzanita, Christmasberry, California scrub oak, mountain mahogany, and many species of ceanothus.

**Community Facilities District:** Under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 2082 (Section 53311, et seq.) a legislative body may create within its jurisdiction a special tax district that can finance tax-exempt bonds for the planning, design, acquisition, construction, and/or operation of public facilities, as well as public services for district residents. Special taxes levied solely within the district are used to repay the bonds.

**Defensible Space:** That area which lies between a residence and an oncoming wildfire where the vegetation has been modified to reduce the wildfire threat and which provides an opportunity for fire fighters (and the homeowner) to safely defend the residence.

**Environmental Impact Report (EIR):** A report required pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act that assesses all the environmental characteristics of an area, determines what effects or impact will result if the area is altered or disturbed by a proposed action, and identifies alternatives or other measures to avoid or reduce those impacts. (See California Environmental Quality Act.)

**Federal Responsibility Area (FRA):** Area that is the appropriate Federal agency’s financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires (e.g. National Forest, National Park Service, Department of defense, etc.).

**Firebrand:** Any burning material such as leaves, twigs, glowing embers that is carried aloft by the convective heat in a smoke column and falls some distance away from the main fire front that could start another fire.

**Firebreak:** An existing barrier, or one constructed before a fire occurs, from which all of the flammable materials have been removed; designed to stop or check creeping or running but not spotting fires.

**Fire Hazard:** Fuel complex, defined by volume, type, condition, arrangement, and location, that determines the degree of both ease of ignition and of fire suppression difficulty.

**Fire Season:** The period of mid-May through October when vegetation cures, dries out, and is most flammable.

**Impact Fee:** A fee, also called a development fee, levied on the developer of a project by a county, or other public agency as compensation for otherwise-unmitigated impacts the project will produce. California Government Code Section 77000, et seq., specifies that development fees shall not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service for which the fee is charged. To lawfully impose a development fee, the public agency must verify its method of calculation and document proper restrictions on use of the fund.

**Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO):** A five- or seven-member commission within each county that reviews and evaluates all proposals for formation of special districts, incorporation of cities, annexation to special districts or cities, consolidation of districts, and merger of districts with cities. Each county's LAFCO is empowered to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve such proposals. The LAFCO members generally include two county supervisors, two city council members, and one member representing the general public. Some LAFCOs include two representatives of special districts.

**Local Responsibility Area (LRA):** Land which is not under State or Federal financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing fires such as the incorporated area of a city.

**Mello-Roos Bonds:** Locally issued bonds that are repaid by a special tax imposed on property owners within a community facilities district established by a governmental entity. The bond proceeds can be used for public improvements and for a limited number of services. Named after the program's legislative authors.

**Sierrian Mixed Conifer Forest:** A forest type found throughout the Sierra-Nevada Mountain Range consisting of a wide variety of tree species, including ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, sugar pine, white fir, Douglas-fir, California red fir and incense cedar.

**Slash:** Debris such as tree tops, branches, leaves and bark generated from tree cutting or other vegetation manipulation practices.

**Snag:** Standing dead tree or section thereof.

**Spotting:** Behavior of a fire producing sparks or embers that are carried by the updraft and wind and start new fires beyond the main fire. Spotting usually occurs with low humidity.

**State Responsibility Area (SRA):** Areas of the State in which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires has been determined by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to be primarily the responsibility of the State.

**Urban Intermix:** An intermingling of structures and natural forest fuels within a forest setting.

**Wildfire:** Any unwanted fire occurring in a wildland setting.

**Wildland:** Uncultivated land, other than fallow, neglected or maintained for such purposes as wood or range-forage production, wildlife, recreation, protective watershed cover, wilderness.

**Wildlife Habitat:** Vegetation, climate and other natural conditions suited to the life needs for an animal species to survive and reproduce.

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**APPENDIX A ALTURAS CLIMATE SUMMARY**

A climate summary table for Alturas is shown below:<sup>148</sup>

<b>Normal</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Annual</b>
Minimum Temp	18.1	21.4	25.3	28.2	34.1	39.8	43.8	42	35.8	28.1	23.3	17.7	29.8
Maximum Temp	43.2	47.4	52.7	59.8	68.8	78.6	88.1	87.6	79.5	67.3	51	43.1	63.9
Mean Temp	30.7	34.4	39	44	51.5	59.2	66	64.8	57.7	47.7	37.2	30.4	46.9
Precip.	1.32	1.28	1.55	1.11	1.32	0.79	0.3	0.37	0.66	0.73	1.47	1.23	12.13
HDD	1066	856	806	630	423	203	74	73	232	537	835	1073	6808
CDD	0	0	0	0	2	29	102	68	11	0	0	0	

*Climate Table Notes:*

*Heating degree day (HDD) and cooling degree day (CDD) are quantitative indices designed to reflect the demand for energy needed to heat or cool a home or business. These indices are derived from daily temperature observations, and the heating (or cooling) requirements for a given structure at a specific location are considered to be directly proportional to the number of heating degree days at that location.*

*More specifically, the number of heating degrees in a day is defined as the difference between a reference value of 65°F (18°C) and the average outside temperature for that day. The value of 65°F is taken as a reference point because experience shows that if the outside temperature is this value then no heating or cooling is normally required. Occupants and equipment within a building usually add enough heat to bring the temperature up to a more comfortable level.*

*Suppose, for example, that the average temperature for a given day is 55°F. Since this value is ten degrees lower than the reference point of 65°F then one would say this is a ten degree-day. Obviously, the outside temperature is not always constant, so one needs a method to determine the average temperature. A simple way to do this is to*

<sup>148</sup>[http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/hafoo/csc/climate\\_data/sacriver.cfm](http://www.water.ca.gov/floodmgmt/hafoo/csc/climate_data/sacriver.cfm)

*compute the arithmetic mean of the high and low temperatures for the day. While not always correct, this is sufficiently accurate for most purposes and is done for practicality because these temperatures are always recorded by the weather bureau. Thus, in the previous example, if the high temperature were, say, 65°F and the low 45°F, then the average would still be 55°F for a ten degree-day.*

*65°F is known as the "base temperature" of the degree days. Degree days are commonly found with a base temperature of 65°F or 18°C, and 15.5°C is common in many countries such as the UK. However, heating and cooling degree days can actually be calculated using any base temperature - the most appropriate base temperature to use depends on the application (e.g. the temperature that the building is heated to and the amount of heat supplied by people and equipment).*

*Heating and cooling degree days can be added over periods of time to provide a rough estimate of seasonal heating and cooling requirements. In the course of a year, for example, the number of heating degree-days for New York City is around 5,000 whereas that for Barrow, Alaska is over 20,000. Thus, one can say that, for a given home of similar structure and insulation, four times the energy would be required to heat that home in Barrow than in New York.<sup>149</sup>*

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<sup>149</sup>[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heating\\_degree\\_day](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heating_degree_day)

## **APPENDIX B LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISSUES**

### **1 Municipal Financial Constraints**

Municipal service providers are constrained in their capacity to finance services by the inability to increase property taxes, requirements for voter approval for new or increased taxes, and requirements of voter approval for parcel taxes and assessments used to finance services. Municipalities must obtain majority voter approval to increase or impose new general taxes and two-thirds voter approval for special taxes.

Limitations on property tax rates and increases in taxable property values are financing constraints. Property tax revenues are subject to a formulaic allocation and are vulnerable to State budget needs. Agencies formed since the adoption of Proposition 13 in 1978 often lack adequate financing.

#### **1.1 California Local Government Finance Background**

The financial ability of the cities to provide services is affected by financial constraints. City service providers rely on a variety of revenue sources to fund city operating costs as follows:

- Property Taxes
- Benefit Assessments
- Special Taxes
- Proposition 172 Funds
- Other contributions from city general funds.

As a funding source, property taxes are constrained by Statewide initiatives that have been passed by voters over the years and special legislation. Seven of these measures are explained below:

##### **A. Proposition 13**

Proposition 13 (which California voters approved in 1978) has the following three impacts:

- limits the ad valorem property tax rate
- limits growth of the assessed value of property
- requires voter approval of certain local taxes.

Generally, this measure fixes the ad valorem tax at one percent of value, except for taxes to repay certain voter approved bonded indebtedness. In response to the adoption of Proposition 13, the Legislature enacted Assembly Bill 8 (AB 8) in 1979 to establish property tax allocation formulas.

##### **B. AB 8**

Generally, AB 8 allocates property tax revenue to the local agencies within each tax rate area based on the proportion each agency received during the three fiscal years preceding adoption of Proposition 13. This allocation formula benefits local agencies, which had relatively high tax rates at the time Proposition 13 was enacted.

C. Proposition 98

Proposition 98, which California voters approved in 1988, requires the State to maintain a minimum level of school funding. In 1992 and 1993, the Legislature began shifting billions of local property taxes to schools in response to State budget deficits. Local property taxes were diverted from local governments into the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund (ERAF) and transferred to school districts and community college districts to reduce the amount paid by the State general fund.

Local agencies throughout the State lost significant property tax revenue due to this shift. Proposition 172 was enacted to help offset property tax revenue losses of cities and counties that were shifted to the ERAF for schools in 1992.

D. Proposition 172

Proposition 172, enacted in 1993, provides the revenue of a half-cent sales tax to counties and cities for public safety purposes, including police, fire, district attorneys, corrections and lifeguards. Proposition 172 also requires cities and counties to continue providing public safety funding at or above the amount provided in FY 92-93.

E. Proposition 218

Proposition 218, which California voters approved in 1996, requires voter- or property owner-approval of increased local taxes, assessments, and property-related fees. A two-thirds affirmative vote is required to impose a Special Tax, for example, a tax for a specific purpose such as a fire district special tax.

However, majority voter approval is required for imposing or increasing general taxes such as business license or utility taxes, which can be used for any governmental purpose.

These requirements do not apply to user fees, development impact fees and Mello-Roos districts.

F. Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act

The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 allows any county, city, special district, school district or joint powers authority to establish a Mello-Roos Community Facilities District (a "CFD") which allows for financing of public improvements and services. The services and improvements that Mello-Roos CFDs can finance include streets, sewer systems and other basic infrastructure, police protection, fire protection, ambulance services, schools, parks, libraries, museums and other cultural facilities. By law, the CFD is also entitled to recover expenses needed to form the CFD and administer the annual special taxes and bonded debt.

A CFD is created by a sponsoring local government agency. The proposed district will include all properties that will benefit from the improvements to be constructed or the services to be provided. A CFD cannot be formed without a two-thirds majority vote of residents living within the proposed boundaries. Or, if there are fewer than 12 residents, the vote is instead conducted of current landowners.

In many cases, that may be a single owner or developer. Once approved, a Special Tax Lien is placed against each property in the CFD. Property owners then pay a Special Tax each year. If the project cost is high, municipal bonds will be sold by the CFD to provide the large amount of money initially needed to build the improvements or fund the services.

The Special Tax cannot be directly based on the value of the property. Special Taxes instead are based on mathematical formulas that take into account property characteristics such as use of the property, square footage of the structure and lot size. The formula is defined at the time of formation, and will include a maximum special tax amount and a percentage maximum annual increase.

If bonds were issued by the CFD, special taxes will be charged annually until the bonds are paid off in full. Often, after bonds are paid off, a CFD will continue to charge a reduced fee to maintain the improvements.

There are no special taxes levied for fire and EMS services within Modoc County excepting a recently passed \$20.00 special tax in a portion of the Calpines CSD (May 2009).

#### *G. Development Impact Fees*

A county, cities, special districts, school districts, and private utilities may impose development impact fees on new construction for purposes of defraying the cost of putting in place public infrastructure and services to support new development.

To impose development impact fees, a jurisdiction must justify the fees as an offset to the impact of future development on facilities. This usually requires a special financial study. The fees must be committed within five years to the projects for which they were collected, and the district, city or county must keep separate funds for each development impact fee.

### **1.2 *Financing Opportunities that Require Voter Approval***

Financing opportunities that require voter approval include the following:

- special taxes such as parcel taxes,
- increases in general taxes such as utility taxes,
- sales and use taxes,
- business license taxes, and
- transient occupancy taxes.

Communities may elect to form business improvement districts to finance supplemental services, or Mello-Roos districts to finance development-related infrastructure extension. Agencies may finance facilities with voter-approved (general obligation) bonded indebtedness.

### **1.3 *Financing Opportunities that Do Not Require Voter Approval***

Financing opportunities that do not require voter approval include imposition of or increases in fees to more fully recover the costs of providing services, including user fees and Development Impact Fees to recover the actual cost of services provided and infrastructure.

Development Impact Fees and user fees must be based on reasonable costs, and may be imposed and increased without voter approval. Development Impact Fees may not be used to subsidize operating costs. Agencies may also finance many types of facility improvements through bond instruments that do not require voter approval.

Water rates and rate structures are not subject to regulation by other agencies. Utility providers may increase rates annually, and often do so. Generally, there is no voter approval requirement for rate increases, although notification of utility users is required. Water providers must maintain an enterprise fund for the respective utility separate from other funds, and may not use revenues to finance unrelated governmental activities.

### **4.2 Public Management Standards**

While public sector management standards do vary depending on the size and scope of an organization, there are minimum standards. Well-managed organizations do the following eight activities:

1. Evaluate employees annually.
2. Prepare a budget before the beginning of the fiscal year.
3. Conduct periodic financial audits to safeguard the public trust.
4. Maintain current financial records.
5. Periodically evaluate rates and fees.
6. Plan and budget for capital replacement needs.
7. Conduct advance planning for future growth.
8. Make best efforts to meet regulatory requirements.

Most of the professionally managed and staffed agencies implement many of these best management practices. LAFCO encourages all local agencies to conduct timely financial record-keeping for each city function and make financial information available to the public.

### **3 Public Participation in Government**

The Brown Act (California Government Code Section 54950 et seq.) is intended to insure that public boards shall take their actions openly and that deliberations shall be conducted openly. The Brown Act establishes requirements for the following:

- Open meetings
- Agendas that describe the business to be conducted at the meeting
- Notice for meetings
- Meaningful opportunity for the public to comment
- Few exceptions for meeting in closed sessions and reports of items discussed in closed sessions.

According to California Government Section 54959

*Each member of a legislative body who attends a meeting of that legislative body where action is taken in violation of any provision of this chapter, and where the member intends to deprive the public of information to which the member knows or has reason to know the public is entitled under this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor.*

Section 54960 states the following:

*(a) The district attorney or any interested person may commence an action by mandamus, injunction or declaratory relief for the purpose of stopping or preventing violations or threatened violations of this chapter by members of the legislative body of a local agency or to determine the applicability of this chapter to actions or threatened future action of the legislative body,...*