

HUMBOLDT COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS' ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

2022 Incident Review

A powerful earthquake shows the complexity of services that emergency response agencies in Humboldt County are expected to deliver.

On December 20th, 2022, a 6.4 magnitude earthquake struck at 2:30 am, shaking Humboldt County. In the immediate aftermath, starting at 2:42 am, the Rio Dell Fire Protection District was paged to over 30 calls in the next seven hours for emergency response. These included many medical, hazmat (gas and electrical), and public assist incidents as well as a residential fire at 3:34 am. Overall, Rio Dell Fire logged 153 calls for service between December 20th to the 31st. Then, due to another earthquake on January 1st, they responded to 138 service calls by the 15th, when things began to settle down. During this event 17 people were injured, and two people passed away.



Photo Credit: Lauren Johnson, [Redheaded Blackbelt - News, nature, and community throughout the Emerald Triangle \(kymkemp.com\)](https://www.kymkemp.com)

Immediately after the earthquake, the power went out, with over 70,000 reported outages by 1 pm. Rio Dell city staff members discovered a series of cracks in the main water lines, resulting in a rapidly decreasing water level in the main supply tank. The whole system was temporarily shut off due to worries about fire suppression water storage, even though this posed concerns about availability. There were many reports of gas leaks, and cell phone reception went out around 10:00 am. The copper land line at City Hall, which was supposed to serve as a backup option, had also stopped working. A total of up to 150 homes were damaged or destroyed due to the quake, most of them in Rio Dell. The historic bridge to Ferndale was damaged and temporarily shut down, as were other damaged access roads. All of this added to the challenges that emergency responders were facing.

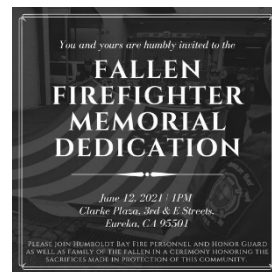
This event is an example of the complexities that fire and emergency response agencies are expected to work around to provide all-risk public safety services. After responding to a potentially traumatic medical call, firefighters are expected to immediately be prepared to put out a residential fire, and then deal with a hazardous material threat. These calls could be stacked back-to-back for many hours. This is what it means to be a “first responder”, and the fire and emergency service does not stop there. Fire departments are also expected to provide strategic and logistical support, as well as community emotional support. Our firefighters consider it an honor to provide this to their communities, but they must not be neglected in their needs. We must stay vigilant in providing the Humboldt County Fire and Emergency Services with the support they need to be fully prepared to provide these essential services.

**To Rio Dell Fire Chief Shane Wilson and the Rio Dell Fire Protection District firefighters, and to all the responders and volunteers who answered the call throughout Humboldt County on December 20th, 2022...
Thank you for your service!**

In Memory



The bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding, go out to meet it.
- Thucydides



Antonio "Tony" Mengual (1945 – 2022)



Briceland Fire Assistant Fire Chief Tony Mengual was a founding member and the longest standing active firefighter on the Department, serving the community of Briceland for 46 years. Over the years, Tony held many positions, including Acting Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Board President and Member, Finance Committee Member, and mentor. His calm, steady presence will be missed by all who had the privilege of working with him. Tony, thank you for your service and dedication to protecting the community of Briceland. RIP Chief 5402.

Mathias Nicklin (1995 – 2022)

Mathias Nicklin was a second generation Telegraph Ridge firefighter, surfer, and lifetime resident of Etersburg Ca. Mathias is appreciated and loved for his positive attitude, and fun loving personality. He was a newer recruit to the Telegraph Ridge Fire Department, and during his time he jumped-in to the training with enthusiasm and responded confidently to the emergency calls. He helped build the crew cohesion with his charisma and good character. He has now joined his parents, Joanne Herbert, and Mike Nicklin, and we envision them happy together on a beautiful beach with nice waves.



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Acronyms

ALS	Advanced Life Support
ARFF	Aircraft Rescue Firefighting
AFFF	Aqueous Film-Forming Foam
AED	Automated External Defibrillator
BLS	Basic Life Support
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
CSD	Community Services District
CAFS	Compressed Air Foam System
CAD	Computer Aided Dispatch
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
EMS	Emergency Medical Service
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
FFP	Federal Fire Policy
FPD	Fire Protection District
GPM	Gallons per minute
LAFCo	Local Agency Formation Committee
Measure Z	Public Safety/Essential Services Measure (half-cent sales tax)
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
OES	Office of Emergency Services
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
TRT	Technical Rescue Team
USAR	Urban Search and Rescue
VFC	Volunteer Fire Company
VFD	Volunteer Fire Department

2022 Annual Report Introduction

This report documents the level of fire and emergency medical services (EMS/rescue services) available to the residents of Humboldt County in 2022. The results will support the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (HCFCFA) and its associated chapters as they work to enhance coordination, communication, and standardization among fire and emergency services providers throughout the county. The report begins with a summary of the role played by the fire chiefs' associations in Humboldt County followed by a page dedicated to each local service provider, organized by Humboldt County Supervisorial District. Local, state, and federal fire service provider pages include department-level response statistics describing the 2022 calendar year. Information about emergency medical services, technical rescue, and disaster response groups are included as well. This report may also be used as a directory—contact details generally reflect current information as of this report's publication in February 2024.

Local fire services are provided year-round in Humboldt County through a variety of different organizations including fire related districts, Tribes, cities, joint powers authorities, nonprofit organizations, contract agencies, and informal associations. Given the diverse range of community characteristics and emergency service needs throughout the county, each fire-service organization provides an emergency response and deployment system that reflects its constituents' expectations, needs, and local risks, within its revenue and support constraints.

Humboldt County's large and rural nature presents several inherent challenges for emergency response. Many roads are unmarked or incorrectly identified; are in poor condition; are too narrow for emergency response vehicles; or provide no alternate means of ingress/egress. The terrain is also rugged and response to remote areas can be slow-going. A lack of cellular reception and internet access can make emergency response that much more difficult. These infrastructural challenges are set in the context of the wildland-urban interface where rural homesteads, often lacking in adequate defensible space, abut large swaths of forest- and grassland that can carry an ignition into communities or into the wildlands beyond. Within this challenging landscape, fire service providers strive to meet the needs of their respective communities while working to overcome their own organizational challenges—many of which are detailed in the following pages of this report.

Service Standards and Common Challenges

This report recognizes that there have been recent and significant improvements in local fire protection organizations' ability to deploy fire and EMS/rescue resources efficiently, effectively, and safely. However, these organizations continue to experience a high degree of variability in their training levels, amount and quality of their equipment, and number of firefighting personnel at their disposal. Such differences make it challenging to identify level of service standards that are realistically achievable for all local fire service providers. This is slowly being addressed by updating standards to consider pragmatic expectations by area type (e.g., rural, suburban, or urban).

Many local fire departments continue to face common challenges, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Limited volunteer recruitment and retention programs and incentives.
- Inadequate local training facilities, levels, and types of training opportunities, including fire academy (particularly with state accreditation), driver-operator training, and other ongoing skill building.
- Ever increasing mandatory requirements and standards.
- Limited administrative capacity to address growing organizational requirements.
- Limited pre-fire planning resources such as response-area maps and pre-fire attack plans.
- Barriers to seamless coordination and communication.
- A lack of capital to cover growing expenses, including:

- The replacement of aging safety equipment and apparatus,
- Dispatch fees and communication infrastructure improvements,
- Insurance and worker's compensation,
- Training, and
- Maintaining and establishing fire stations.

The top need identified by local service providers is a more robust and ongoing volunteer recruitment and retention strategy. All local fire departments in the county depend fully or partially on volunteers. Many departments indicated that recruiting and retaining these volunteers is their biggest challenge. A shrinking roster of firefighters makes it difficult to maintain current levels of service. This challenge includes:

- Ever increasing training and performance demands on volunteers,
- An increasing volume of calls that put volunteers in dangerous situations, threatening their physical safety and mental health,
- Uncertainty about a stable local economy, and
- Limited community awareness and support.

The challenges listed above are exacerbated by the fact that significant developed and populated areas of the county are located outside the boundaries of any fire related district responsible for providing community fire protection and rescue services. Fire related districts were formed to provide structure fire and all-risk services within a specific jurisdictional boundary where services are supported by revenue from a combination of taxes, fees, and fundraising. Many of these jurisdictional boundaries were created as far back as the 1930's. Since that time, neighborhoods, scattered subdivisions, and rural residential development have emerged outside of district boundaries. Fire related districts and volunteer fire companies (VFCs) not associated with districts are commonly dispatched and respond to calls within most of these areas. However, they are not legally responsible for or obligated to provide such service and do not receive funding from property taxes, a special tax, or an assessment to do so. Providing what is commonly referred to as "goodwill service" to these out-of-district areas can put additional strain on already overburdened resources. Furthermore, property owners within the district and district commissioners/board members may question why the services funded through taxes collected from within the district's jurisdiction are benefiting out of district residents, particularly if a special tax or benefit assessment is collected specifically to support fire protection.

HCFCFA Strategic Planning and Progress

None of the challenges facing local service providers will be easily overcome, but the HCFCFA and its associated chapters have made steady progress. An important milestone was reached when the HCFCFA completed the [2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan](#). The Plan is designed to guide continued improvement under a shared vision for the future state of the organization and articulates key initiatives based on two primary strategic goals: 1) "Collaborate with the County" and 2) "Clarify Communication". Increasing the capacity of the HCFCFA will help the organization play a positive role in addressing many of the department-specific challenges detailed above.

The Public Safety/Essential Services Sales Tax (commonly referred to as Measure Z) continues to provide much needed revenue to support efforts to bring all service providers up to a common standard commensurate with demand in their respective areas. To that end, the funds have supported dispatch services, the delivery of training, the construction of or improvements to facilities such as fire stations and training towers, upgraded safety equipment, fire hydrant repairs, and more.

Measure Z funds have also been used to pay for services provided to a large out-of-district area between the Blue Lake, Willow Creek, and Kneeland fire protection districts. This area includes the HWY 299 corridor between Willow Creek and Blue Lake where an average of nearly 60 calls per year occurred between the years 2010 and 2015 (years

for which data is readily available). Over 50 percent of these calls are traffic collisions. The number of calls increased nearly every year, with an average increase of 20 percent per year. Measure Z support for providing services to this “no man’s land” was intended to be a temporary arrangement acting as a stopgap while an appropriate long-term and sustainable solution is implemented. As the amount of Measure Z funding decreases and the Chiefs’ Association prioritizes how it is invested, a sunset was put on these stopgap payments and the impacted districts evaluated other options ranging from expanding district boundaries where appropriate, working with other agencies, including the County and CAL FIRE to identify solutions, to the possibility of being forced to limit response to these areas outside of their jurisdictional boundaries. This work is ongoing.

To help address fire service and jurisdictional challenges, the HCFCFA annually commits a portion of their allocated Measure Z funding to provide ongoing support for countywide fire service planning. Planning is guided by a committee of the HCFCFA in collaboration, where applicable, with a Fire Services Ad Hoc committee of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors which was formed in April 2019. Grant funds are used to support a technical team comprised of staff members from the Humboldt County Public Works departments who are affiliated with the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council as well as key staff from the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo). Strategies are continually sought to create new fire districts where appropriate and feasible, and to expand the boundaries of existing districts in others. The HCFCFA is working closely with the county and property owners to ensure these changes are backed by a sustainable source of revenue. In 2019, the county agreed to permanently transfer property tax revenue at varying levels to fire related districts that are willing to annex out-of-district areas and to fire companies that are willing to become districts. Property tax revenue is the main source of revenue for most fire related districts. Tax exchange agreements are being offered until April 2027 on a sliding scale contingent upon a set of specific expectations fire service providers are willing and able to meet. The tax exchange agreements and meeting of specific expectations are intended to support efforts to:

- Match locations where services are being demanded with jurisdictional boundaries,
- Build regional fire service capacity, and
- Address service and funding needs on a countywide basis.

The first effort to benefit from this opportunity was the consolidation of Redcrest, Shively, and Scotia volunteer departments with the Rio Dell Fire Protection District through the strategic use of annexation. This achievement is precedent setting, and others have been incentivized to take similar steps. For instance, significant progress was made in 2022 on a Garberville Fire Protection District annexation/consolidation and a Salmon Creek Fire Protection District formation.

Despite the many challenges before them, fire and emergency responders are working together and as hard as ever to prepare themselves and their equipment to ensure continued community fire and rescue services and coordinated wildfire prevention and suppression within Humboldt County and beyond.

As part of the Annual Report process, the HCFCFA collects and maintains a comprehensive fire agency contact database. You can access or update contact information in the HCFCFA Fire Agency Directory at:

humboldt.gov/FireDirectory

Geographic Descriptions and Maps

Local Fire Protection Map Description

The map on the following page illustrates the boundaries of different types of local fire and rescue service providers throughout Humboldt County. For an interactive map, visit: www.humboldt.gov/FireServicesMap.

- **Structure Locations** are shown as black dots. Generally, the highest demand for fire and EMS/rescue services is in areas of high density and along highway corridors and primary roads.
- The special district service providers are identified in the map legend as **“District”** and are shown on the map in green. These districts were formed to provide services within a specific jurisdictional boundary and are supported by revenue from a combination of taxes, fees, grants, and fundraising. Many of these jurisdictional boundaries were created as far back as the 1930’s. Since that time, neighborhoods, scattered subdivisions, and rural residential development have emerged outside of district boundaries. This newer development requires year-round fire protection and emergency services, which it receives in a variety of ways.
- There are still many areas outside the boundaries of an established district that receive local fire and EMS/rescue services from district resources. This type of uncompensated service, often referred to as “goodwill service”, is identified in the map legend as **“Goodwill Response Area”** and is shown on the map in red.
- Many populated areas outside the boundaries of an established district receive community fire and EMS/rescue services from a volunteer fire company (VFC); VFCs are not affiliated with a district and, consequently, do not receive direct tax revenue. The survival of VFCs depends on revenue generated from community donations, fundraisers, and grants. This type of service area is illustrated on the map in yellow and identified in the map legend as **“Non-District Response Area”**.
- Locations primarily served by **Tribal** fire and EMS/rescue agencies and organizations are shown on the map in purple.
 - The local service needs of the Hoopa and Upper Yurok Reservations are provided by a combination of Tribal fire departments and volunteer companies at varying levels. Hoopa Volunteer Fire and Rescue is a VFC that provides services to the Hoopa Valley Reservation. The Yurok Volunteer Fire Department is a local fire company which, when active, provides fire and EMS/rescue services to the Upper Yurok Reservation. An update to the Yurok Volunteer Fire Department page is not included in this report because its activity status is unknown. In addition, the Hoopa and Yurok Tribes, each has a chartered stand-alone fire department that is solely operated and managed by their respective Tribe and are both national resources responding across the nation to assist local, state, and federal agencies when requested.
 - Other tribal communities receive local fire and EMS/rescue services in a variety of ways.
 - Some rancherias are within the jurisdictional boundaries of an existing special district. This includes the Bear River Band of the Rohnerville Rancheria and the Table Bluff Rancheria (served by Loleta FPD) and the Big Lagoon Rancheria (served by County Service Area #4-CAL FIRE Amador).

- Others are located within “Goodwill Response Areas” and receive service from neighboring fire related districts without charge; contract for services from a neighboring district; and/or receive services from a non-tribal VFC and/or their own Tribal fire crews. This includes the Trinidad Rancheria (County Service Area #4/CAL FIRE Amador, the City of Trinidad Fire Department, and Westhaven VFC); the Blue Lake Rancheria (some tribal resources with response support from the Blue Lake FPD); and the Karuk Tribe (Orleans VFC and a fire and fuels crew supported by the Karuk Department of Natural Resources). The Karuk fire and fuels program operates in Orleans (Humboldt) as well as Happy Camp and Yreka (Siskiyou County). The associated Wildland Fire Crew is dispatched by the Klamath National Forest for any federal emergency and reimbursed through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The Karuk program is primarily based outside of Humboldt and is not considered a primary local fire and rescue resource in this Report.

Federal and State Fire Protection Map Description

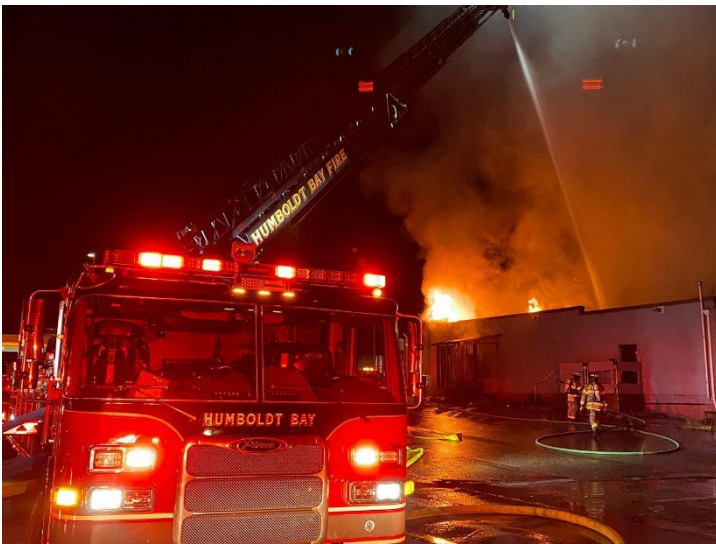
Under a cooperative agreement, federal and state agencies have exchanged wildfire responsibilities in specific areas. These areas are known as Direct Protection Areas, or DPAs (see the map on page xvi for an illustration). Wildfire protection on most Federal Responsibility Areas (“**FRA**” – **shown in green on the map**) is provided by federal agencies and the Hoopa Tribe on the Hoopa Valley Reservation, except for the King Range National Conservation Area and other scattered Bureau of Land Management lands including the Headwaters Forest Reserve, which is in the DPA of CAL FIRE (**red crosshatch**). Additionally, the communities of Willow Creek and Orleans are within the DPA of the Six Rivers National Forest for wildfires (**gray crosshatch**), even though these communities are in State Responsibility Area (“**SRA**”– **shown in orange on the map**). State and federal firefighters also respond to a broad array of emergencies beyond wildfire— depending on their availability—with their primary responsibility being protecting federal and state wildland areas. Tribal fire stations are shown on the map in purple. The Hoopa Tribe is one of only two Indian Reservations in California that have a legal DPA for wildland fires on their lands. It is recognized that the fire departments, operated and managed by Tribal governments, are a national resource. However, these departments are introduced in more detail above in the Local Fire Protection Map Description and within their respective pages below.

Local fire service in Humboldt County, although primarily responsible for community fire protection, plays a pivotal role in wildfire management within the SRA and FRA. Local firefighters train and are equipped for wildfire response, often being called to assist CAL FIRE during wildfires. Local firefighting resources respond from over fifty locations throughout the county, so they can be well situated to supplement CAL FIRE, which may have a longer response time. Local firefighters are frequently the first at scene and able to assume command of the incident, provide initial assessment, and initiate suppression actions until CAL FIRE arrives. This helps keep the fires to a manageable size. Many local fire organizations provide station coverage for CAL FIRE when they are called away to wildfires outside of the county. During station coverage assignments, local firefighters fill CAL FIRE’s wildfire management role.

CAL FIRE also hires a local-government Type-3 Engine Strike Teams composed of several local fire organizations to supplement their resources during wildfire events, both inside and outside the county. Local fire department equipment is also rented by the state and operated by CAL FIRE personnel when needed. The local fire service financially benefits from this arrangement, both to the participating fire department and individual firefighters, and by circulating the funds into the local economy. Indirect benefits to local firefighters, including volunteers, include gaining valuable wildfire management experience, which also benefits local communities by developing

more confident, capable local firefighters. Firefighters learn about wildfire management strategies, emergency radio communications, working together, training needs, and the physical demands and expectations required by CAL FIRE and the USFS. This experience increases the ability of local firefighters to organize resources quickly and efficiently, should a large wildfire event happen here in Humboldt.

Only a small portion of the county is classified as Local Responsibility Area (“LRA” – shown in gray on the map). Most local fire agencies contain SRA lands within their jurisdictional boundaries; many are made up entirely of SRA lands. Fire related districts are responsible for structural fire protection and wildland fires in the LRA. CAL FIRE is responsible for wildfires in the SRA. CAL FIRE also assists local districts with the management of wildfires in the LRA based on mutual-aid agreements.



Humboldt County

Fire Services Map

Web Map:

[humboldt.gov.org/
FireServicesMap](http://humboldt.gov.org/FireServicesMap)



"District" denotes the jurisdictional boundary for special districts that provide fire service, including fire protection districts, community services districts, a resort improvement district, and a county service area.

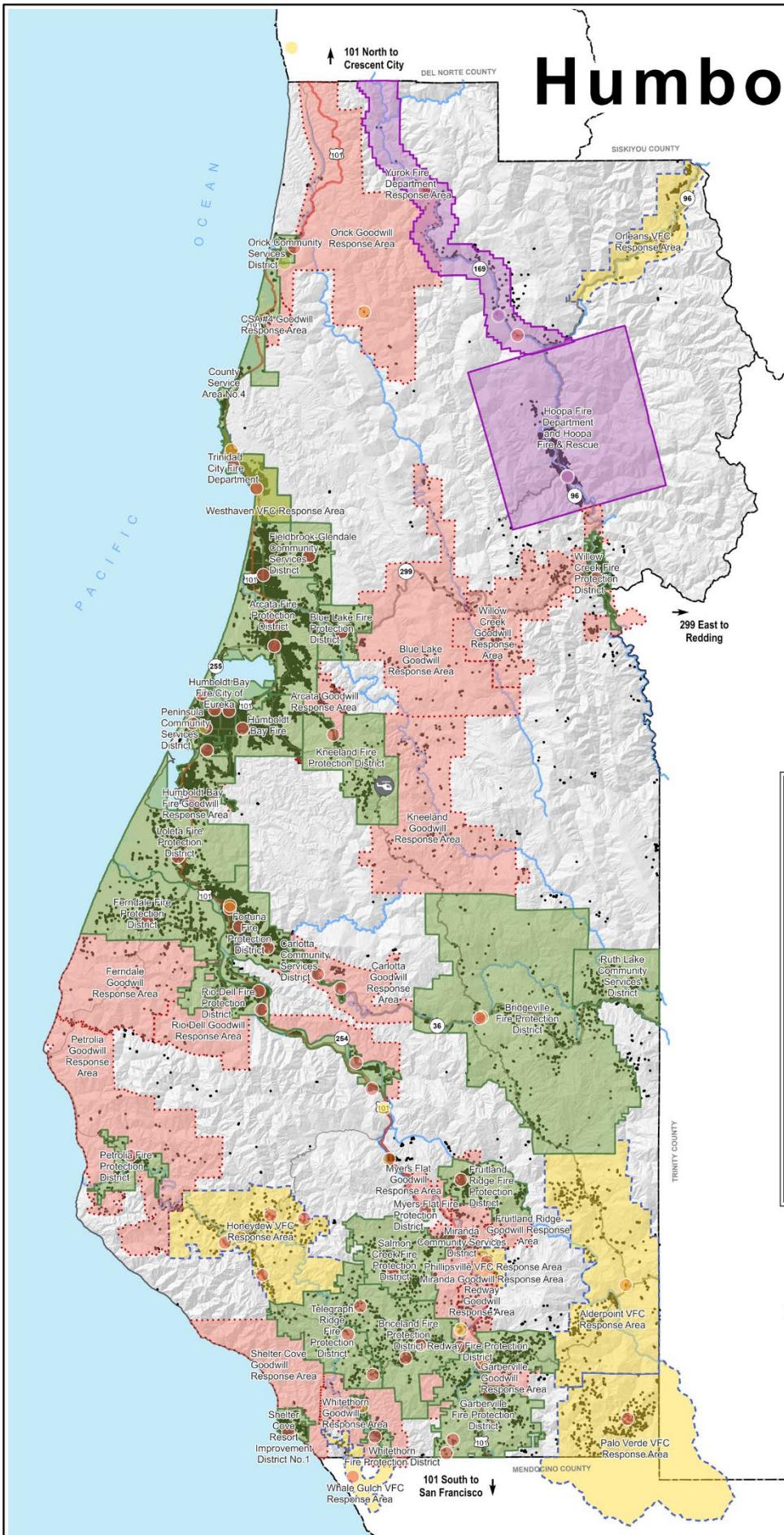
"Goodwill Response Areas" are areas outside of district boundaries to which fire departments, associated with a district, currently respond. Fire districts do not receive funding for these areas and are not legally obligated to respond.

"Non-District Response Areas" are covered by Non-Governmental Organizations, usually Volunteer Fire Companies (VFC) not associated with a district. Such organizations do not receive tax-based funding and instead rely on donations, fundraisers, and grants.

"Tribal" areas are served by volunteer or combination (paid and volunteer) departments under tribal leadership.

This map is intended for planning purposes only and is not intended for legal property boundary determinations or precise measurement.

Map updated in 2024 by the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association Fire Services Planning Team and the County of Humboldt, Natural Resources Planning. Contact: rspeas@co.humboldt.ca.us



Legend

Fire Service Agency Boundaries

- District
- Goodwill Response Area
- Non-District Response Area
- Tribal

Building Footprints

- Building Footprints

Fire Stations

- Federal
- Tribal
- CAL FIRE
- CAL FIRE Con. Camp or Fire Center
- Local

Aerial Attack Bases

- Air Attack Base
- Helitack Base



RF: 1:860,000



Humboldt County

Federal and State Fire Protection



Legend

Responsibility Areas

- State Responsibility Area (SRA)
- Federal Responsibility Areas (FRA)
- Local Responsibility Area (LRA)

Direct Protection Areas

- State
- Federal

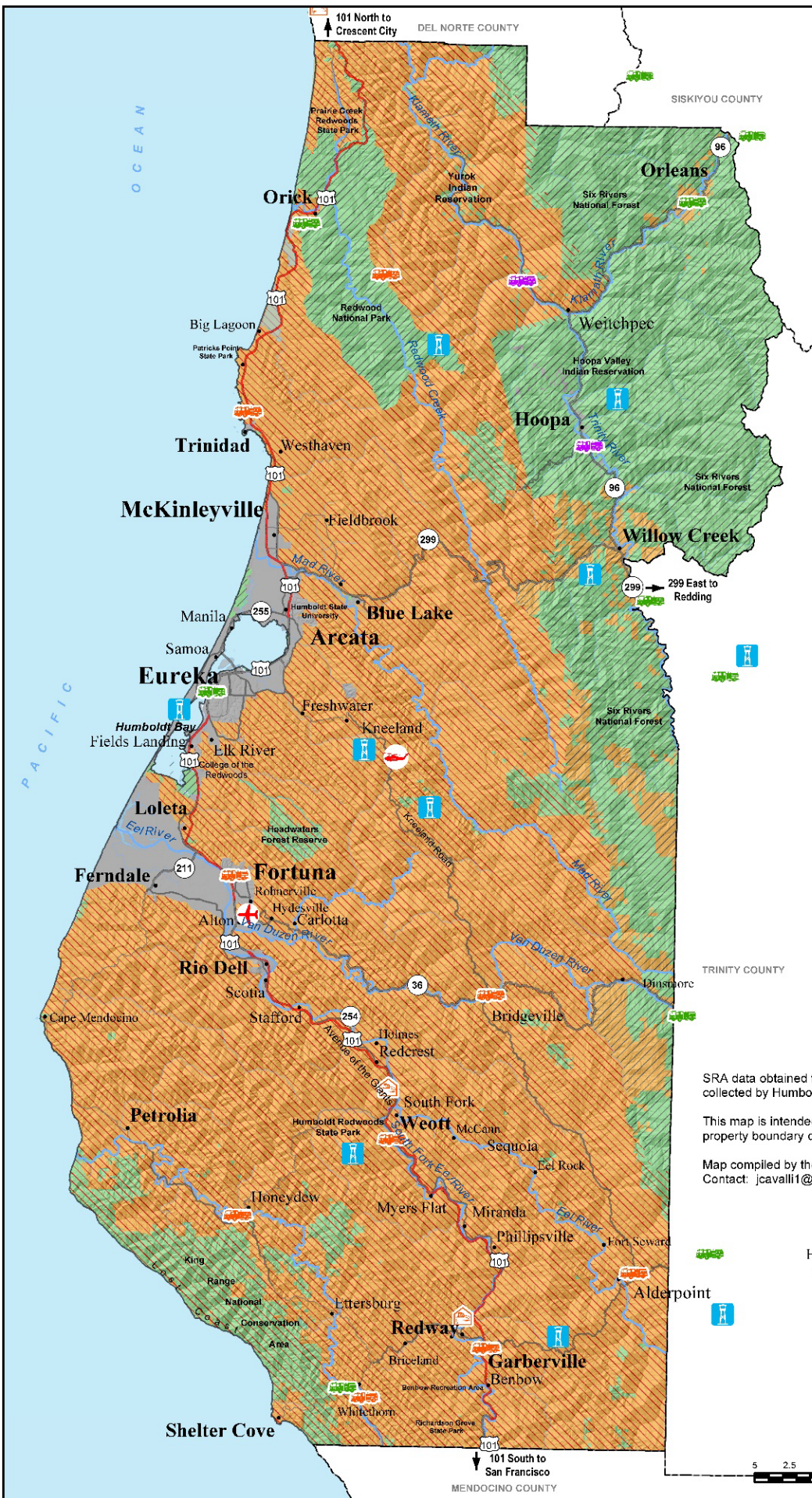
Emergency Response

- Federal Fire Station
- Tribal Fire Station
- CAL FIRE Station
- CAL FIRE Conservation Camp or Fire Center
- Air Attack Base
- Helitack
- Lookout

SRA data obtained from FRAP, April 2021. Stations and Public Lands data collected by Humboldt County, 2000 - 2017.

This map is intended for planning purposes only and is not intended for legal property boundary determinations or precise measurement.

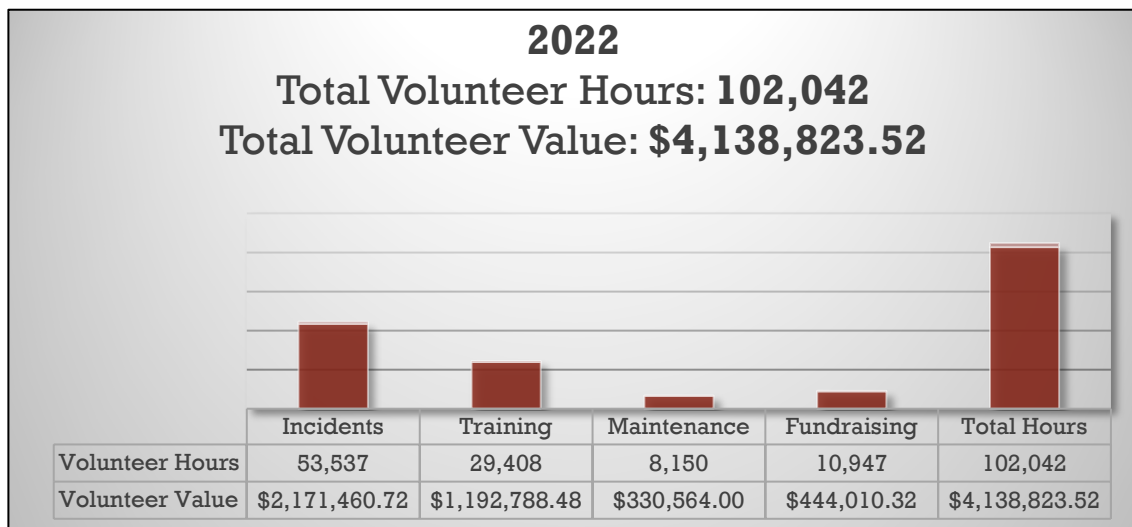
Map compiled by the County of Humboldt, August 2021.
Contact: jcavall1@co.humboldt.ca.us



Incident Response Summary

The following page provides graphic illustrations of types of responses provided during the 2022 calendar year. There are two pie charts—one for local agencies and one for state and federal agencies—which illustrate total 2022 fire service responses with percentages for each recorded category. It is interesting to note that, for local agency fire service calls, **60 percent** were medical emergency dispatches (including vehicle accidents). This underscores the fact that most of the local fire departments and companies provide “all-risk” protection which includes much more than fire response.

Volunteer hours contributed by all local service providers are also summarized by various categories including time spent responding to incidents, training, maintaining equipment and facilities, and fundraising. A total of **102,042** volunteer hours were reported in 2022. This is likely an underestimate of what is actually contributed by the hundreds of volunteers who support the network of active local fire departments, fire companies, and technical rescue groups in Humboldt County. The Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates the hourly value of a firefighter in CA as \$40.56. It is important to note that calculated at this value, volunteer emergency responders have provided **\$4,138,823.52** in services to Humboldt County in 2022 alone. A review of the past annual reports will show that this is not unusual. This value must not be taken for granted, and instead should be seen as a match contribution.

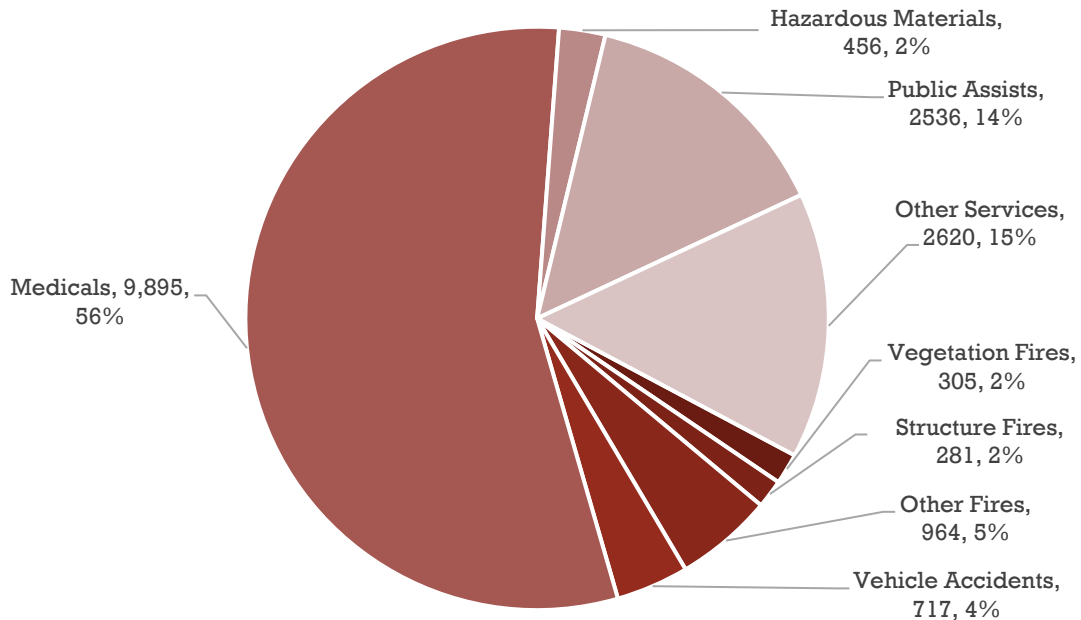


Please note: Volunteer hours and the incident response data are sourced from the CAL FIRE CAD (computer-aided dispatch) system and from the agencies themselves. This year, special effort was taken to analyze the incoming report data. The process of data collection was reviewed, and suggested procedures are being developed to increase the accuracy and dependability of this data. The authors have confirmed that the process to confirm, synthesize, and filter the data is as functional as currently possible in order to get the best picture of the demand placed on Humboldt County fire organizations. It is hoped that the data collection will continue to improve, however, due to the nature of the complexities in collecting and reporting, the data may in some cases, over- or underestimate actual numbers.



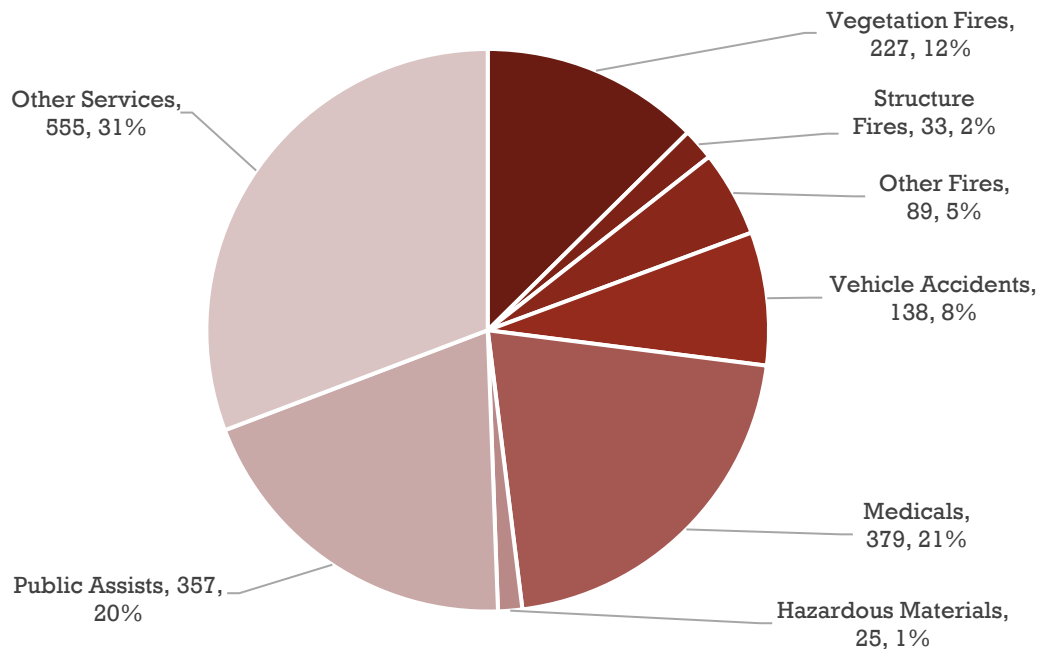
2022 Local Agency Incident Responses

Total Incident Responses: 17,774



2022 Tribal, State, & Federal Agency Incident Responses

Total Incident Responses: 1,803



*Other Services include Prescribed Fire; Search & Rescue; Law Enforcement; Emergency Standby; and Miscellaneous.

Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Associations: Working Together

Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association

President: Dale Unea

Phone: 707-443-9042

Email: samoavfd@gmail.com

Vice President: Rick Nicholson

Phone: 707-786-9909

Email: rnicholson@ferndalefire.org

***Meetings:** The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association meets from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on the 4th Wednesday of each month at various locations throughout the county, generally with a Zoom option.*



The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association (Fire Chiefs) works hard to improve the level of service throughout the county by increasing coordination, communication, standardization, and support. The desire to work together to improve interoperability is the driving force behind the efforts of the Fire Chiefs. At their monthly meetings, the group receives regular reports from committees and/or subgroups of the Association including fire instructors/trainers, fire prevention officers and a fire/arson investigation unit. Cal OES, CAL FIRE, Cal Chiefs, County OES, North Coast EMS, the Humboldt County Fire Safe Council (HCFSC), and others as available also contribute valuable information. These meetings provide a venue for sharing information about training, prevention, standards, legislation, grants, and new initiatives and innovations. Collaboration with these and other agencies has enabled the growth of productive and effective relationships that have proven to be beneficial to all parties.

The Fire Chiefs coordinate and sustain several programs and innovations that work together to support an ever-increasing level of fire service in Humboldt County. In order to provide quick and adequate response to fires, the Fire Chiefs developed and maintain a countywide mutual aid agreement in the form of a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The MOU was made and entered into by and between all local fire service providers in the

county as well as CAL FIRE. It states that the equipment, facilities, and trained personnel of each fire department are available to the other participants in the agreement on an as requested basis, which allows for a quick, decisive dispatch of resources. This agreement has been put to the test many times since its inception and has proven to be of great value.

The on-going collaboration between the many fire agencies in Humboldt County has resulted in the development and adoption of standardized response and safety protocols which include firefighter training standards, personnel accountability, roadway response/traffic safety, and reporting of "close call" incidents which include illness, injuries, near miss and LODD (line of duty death) and BHO (Butane Hash Oil) Lab response. The Association also maintains a countywide protocol to address CMCI (Criminal Multi-Casualty Incidents) pertaining to an active shooter in which the fire service, law enforcement, and EMS (Emergency Medical Services) all play a role.

The theme of "working together" has also become particularly ingrained over the last few years of Measure Z funding. By facilitating acquisition of this funding, the Fire Chiefs' Association has shown support for rural fire agencies in need of personal protective equipment, newer apparatus, fire hose, and sustainability planning. The County Fire Service faces numerous challenges that are inherent in the rural nature of the area in which we live. We continually struggle with financial hardship, volunteer recruitment and retention, and providing services beyond jurisdictional boundaries; however, the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs and the departments they serve, are determined to continue to work with the Board of Supervisors and County staff to find solutions. As Humboldt County's Fire Service, we do not take lightly the responsibility of providing high quality emergency services to our communities and we appreciate and value the opportunity to provide these services.

Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association

President: Chief Nick Pape
Shelter Cove Fire Department
707-986-7507
nick@sheltercove-ca.gov

Vice President: Assistant Chief Alfred Williams
Garberville Fire Department
Secretary: Cheryl Antony, Shelter Cove VFD
Treasurer: Chris Fisher, Palo Verde VFD

Meetings: The Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association meets at 6:00 pm on the 4th Monday of every month at the Redway Fire training classroom.

The Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association (SHFCA) is a venue for 18 fire and emergency response agencies from the Southern Humboldt region to collaborate for preparedness. The SHFCA is a chapter of the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association, a 501(c)3, and functions as the primary central organization of the combined Southern Humboldt resources. The initial purpose of the SHFCA was to provide a stronger voice for fire departments that would help bring more training opportunities to the southern part of the county, increase communication between local departments and with CAL FIRE, and create a stronger fire department identification and numbering system. Successful implementation of those goals over the last 20 years has grown the SHFCA to include representatives from the Southern Humboldt Fire Safe Council, Humboldt County Fire Safe Council, Red Cross, Southern Humboldt Emergency Preparedness Team (SHEPT), County Radio Dispatch Co-op, CAL-EMA, Humboldt County OES, and other emergency preparedness groups.



2022 Annual RT-130



Meeting with Senator McGuire

agencies replace aging apparatus. This is one of the most important and costly needs of many of the Southern Humboldt Fire Departments. For too long, local emergency response agencies have been forced to use old and potentially unsafe apparatus due to funding and support shortcomings. The SHFCA looks forward to increased organization around consolidated strategic planning in the next year, to address the challenges and needs of the member agencies. It is imperative that the County of Humboldt supports the first responders who volunteer their precious time and energy to deliver essential safety services to every corner of this county, regardless of how remote.

The SHFCA sponsors the Southern Humboldt County Technical Rescue Team (SHCTRT). The SHCTRT is comprised of firefighters from the local departments who specialize in rope, water, and wilderness rescue. Team members are highly dedicated firefighters who train and respond to rescues in addition to the normal training and duties of their respective fire departments.

In 2022, efforts were focused on lobbying for increased funding and support for the member departments. These efforts included the beginning of negotiations with Senator

McGuire for state funding to help local



Eel River Valley Fire Chiefs' Association

Todd Calvo, Carlotta CSD

Rus Brown, Fortuna FPD: 707-725-5021

Dennis DelBiaggio, Ferndale FPD: 707-786-9909

Jeff Robison, Loleta FPD: 707-733-5407

Shane Wilson, Rio Dell FPD: 707-764-3329

Scott Katzdorn, Bridgeville FPD: 707-777-3244

The Eel River Valley (ERV) Fire Chiefs' Association represents nine volunteer fire agencies in six fire districts within the Eel River Valley consisting of Ferndale, Loleta, Fortuna, Carlotta, Bridgeville, Rio Dell Fire Protection District (Rio Dell, Redcrest, Scotia and Shively.)

The Chiefs meet quarterly to discuss and improve emergency response and training within the Eel River Valley and along Highway 36, east to Bridgeville. These discussions and planning sessions have led to various auto-aid agreements, communications plans, and fire pre-plans throughout the area. The recent expansion of the Rio Dell Fire Protection District which now includes Scotia, Shively, and Redcrest has enabled the group to see a successful working model that could likely be incorporated into a much bigger picture for all departments in the Valley Region. In addition, and currently in development is a "Shared Services Agreement" that is intended to allow these districts to share services on an as needed basis.

The ERV Chiefs are responsible for the development and direction of the Eel River Valley Technical Rescue Team. All departments utilize the ERV Fire Academy, an 80-hour basic firefighting course, to accomplish entry level firefighter training for new members. In addition, the group hosts annual courses for driver-operator and company officer.

The ERV training facility is now a reality and being utilized, it is centrally located in Fortuna and includes a Measure Z-funded, state-of-the-art training tower complete with live fire training burn rooms as well as many other props used for various firefighter training evolutions.

The ERV Chiefs continue to work towards the goal of improving and streamlining administrative and operational objectives, with the major focus being interoperability throughout the immediate area as well as supporting the Humboldt County Fire Chief's Association.



ERV Training Tower

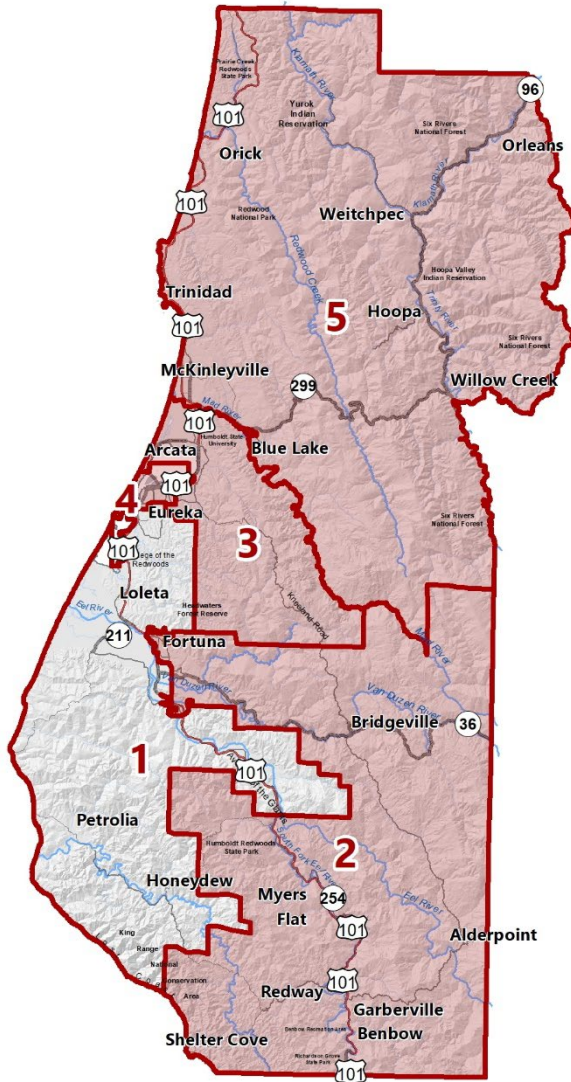
Humboldt County First District

Supervisor Rex Bohn

825 5th Street

Eureka, California 95501

Phone: 707-476-2391



Fire Departments:

Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department

Honeydew Volunteer Fire Company

Loleta Volunteer Fire Department

Petrolia Volunteer Fire Department

Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department (FEN)

Chief 7300: Dennis DelBiaggio
Asst. Chief: Rick Nicholson
Asst. Chief: Jerry Lema

436 Brown Street
 PO Box 485
 Ferndale, CA 95536

707-786-9909
chief@ferndalefire.org
ferndalefire.org



The Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) provides firefighting and medical services for the Ferndale Fire Protection District (FFPD). The FFPD is 44 square miles containing the City of Ferndale and outlying areas. FFPD also provides an all-hazards response to an additional 116 square miles adjacent to our district that is not protected by any neighboring fire districts. The FVFD was founded in 1897 and in 2022 the department will have 125 years of community service. For the year 2022 the department has 26 active members including a Chief, Two Assistant Chiefs and Company officers. The department's equipment and meeting hall is housed in two buildings, both on Brown Street. The historic Fire Hall, built in 1910 and a newer equipment bay across the street from the original hall.

FVFD has one Rescue Truck, two Type-1 engines, one Type-2 engine, two water tenders, a quick attack truck and two Polaris UTV's. The members of FVFD are dedicated to providing the best service to the community it serves by volunteering their time to answer all service requests and staying current on their training and fire protection skills. The department also maintains an active role in the community by hosting blood drives, prevention programs at the schools, lighting the community Christmas tree, and other outreach programs.

Challenges & Needs:

Maintaining a strong volunteer base with increasing training requirements and an increasing number of calls each year.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
0	3	9	12	170	12	31	1
Total Responses							238
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
3,402	1,200	200	125	25		15	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Honeydew Volunteer Fire Company (HDV)

Chief 6500: Peter Marshall

Asst. Chief: Lars Samuels

PO Box 74

Honeydew, CA 95545

707-499-2061

honeydew@asis.com

www.honeydewfire.com



Established in 1987 as a 501c3 non-profit corporation, the Honeydew Volunteer Fire Company (HVFC) serves a response area of nearly 100 square miles. Our Area of Responsibility is rugged and isolated, presenting challenges to wildland firefighting, structure defense, and the delivery of emergency medical and rescue services. To keep response times to a minimum, we maintain three strategically located fire stations, and are in the process of establishing a fourth in Panther Gap. We respond with a 6-wd water tender, a 1967 Kaiser engine (Federal Excess Property Program 4wd from the Vietnam War era), and three Type 6 engines: a 2003 Ford F-550, 2000 Ford F-450, and a 2008 Ford F-550. Our community is approximately 400 strong and has consistently supported us financially. With their collaboration, we have constructed three first-rate single-purpose stations, the third adjacent to the CAL FIRE Mattole Station.

Annually, HVFC has produced the "Roll on the Mattole," an all-day music, crafts, and family-fun fundraiser that includes the Mattole Wildland Firefighters' Challenge, though Covid 19 prevented our holding the event in 2020 and 2022. HVFC has also collaborated with members of the local community to help make Honeydew a nationally recognized Firewise Community. Honeydew has been Firewise since 2011 and has, with our community's engagement, continued to maintain this status. The Fire Company is an Organizational Member of the Humboldt County Prescribed Burn Association, participating in several projects, assisting in the successful and beneficial burning of hundreds of acres, and gaining invaluable experience.



Challenges & Needs:

Our community is small in population but large in area. Keeping our roster of volunteer firefighters and providing adequate training is always a challenge. New training requirements call for increased class time and costs. The cost of complete insurance coverage for our company and board of directors keeps us striving for grant funds and donations, which is constant and time-consuming. Raising money for the next newer fire truck competes for the money we raise each year. Completing the construction of the Panther Gap engine station is the primary focus for our fundraising now.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
6	1	3	3	14	1	2	0
Total Responses							30
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
240	1,460	1,000	2,000	14		7	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Loleta Volunteer Fire Department (LOL)

Chief 7500: Jeff Robison
Asst. Chief: Ken Nielsen
Asst. Chief: Chase Rocha

567 Park St.
 PO Box 766
 Loleta, CA 95551

707-499-9747
loletavfd@gmail.com



The Loleta Volunteer Fire Department provides firefighting services to the Loleta Fire Protection District, which was formed in 1900 and currently has 21 active members. We have one paramedic, and we are registered as an Advanced Life Support (ALS) Department. We serve over 1,500 community members by utilizing the district's Type 1 Engine, two Type 2 Engines, one Type 3 Engine, one quick attack Gator with slide in pump and tank for off road use, and one water tender.

We are continuing to maintain operating funds but are researching and coming up with different avenues of funding. Measure Z has provided us with up-graded extrication tools which are interoperable with most departments in the county.

Challenges & Needs:

We are still trying to recruit volunteers for our department. The core group that we have is strong but need for younger members for succession is a top priority.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
7	1	10	25	177	6	15	5
						Total Responses	246
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
1,914	400	250	100	18		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Petrolia Volunteer Fire Department (PET)

Chief 6600: Chris Gilda
Captain: Drew Barber

58 Sherman Street
 PO Box 169
 Petrolia, CA 95558

707-629-3558
PetroliaFire@frontiernet.net
www.petroliafire.org



The Petrolia Volunteer Fire Department (PVFD) provides firefighting services to the Petrolia Fire Protection District (PFPD) and outlying areas. Our apparatus includes one 2,000-gallon water tender, three Type-3 engines, a Type-1 engine, an ambulance-type medical rescue vehicle, and an ATV with a winch and side-by-side setup for medical rescue. We recently acquired a SCBA air compressor making it possible for us to refill our own and the other departments near us SCBA tanks. We are currently fundraising to purchase a new 4-wheel drive water tender.

The PVFD has also collaborated with members of the local community to help make Petrolia a nationally recognized Firewise Community. Petrolia has been Firewise since 2011 and has maintained this status through implementation of the community's Firewise Action Plan. Firewise actions reduce the community's vulnerability to damage from wildfire.

Challenges & Needs:

It has been challenging to stretch resources to cover a large response area, including areas located outside of the PFPD boundary. Our community has gotten even smaller over the last year which makes fundraising and volunteer retention very difficult.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
6	0	1	0	20	1	10	4
Total Responses							42
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
383	1,568	182	212	19		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

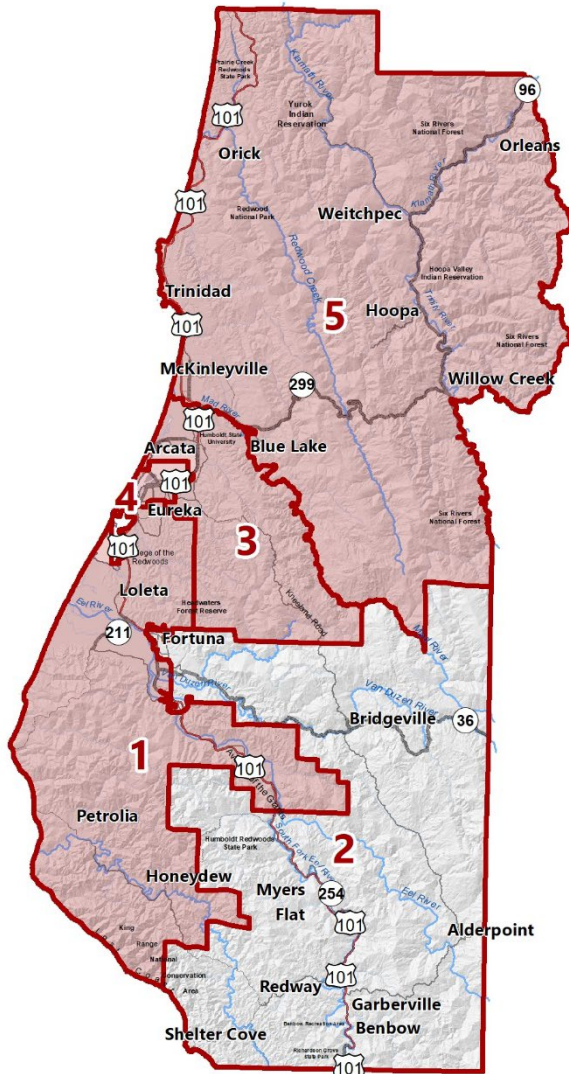
Humboldt County Second District

Supervisor Michelle Bushnell

825 5th Street

Eureka, California 95501

Phone: 707-476-2392



Fire Departments:

- Alderpoint Volunteer Fire Company**
- Briceland Volunteer Fire Department**
- Bridgeville Fire Protection District**
- Carlotta Volunteer Fire Department**
- Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department**
- Fruitland Ridge Volunteer Fire Department**
- Garberville Fire Protection District**
- Miranda Volunteer Fire Department**
- Myers Flat Volunteer Fire Department**
- Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Company**
- Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Company**
- Redway Fire Protection District**
- Rio Dell Volunteer Fire Department**
- Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Company**
- Shelter Cove Volunteer Fire Department**
- Sprovel Creek Volunteer Fire Company**
- Telegraph Ridge Volunteer Fire Company**
- Whale Gulch Volunteer Fire Company**
- Whitethorn Volunteer Fire Department**

Alderpoint Volunteer Fire Department (ADP)

Chief 7700: Sterling W. Kercher

Asst. Chief: Michael Joe Valk

Asst. Chief: Robin Craig

PO Box 164

Alderpoint, CA 95511

707-599-0079

sanster83@yahoo.com



The Alderpoint Volunteer Fire Department (APVFD) was established in November 2007. The Company has 17 dedicated volunteers, which includes nine first responders and three EMTs. We have a coverage area of 128 square miles in Southern Humboldt. Our apparatus include a three-passenger Ford 900 Type-2 engine with 750-gallon capacity and a five passenger 1990 Ford F-800 Type-3 engine with 500-gallon capacity. We received a 1991 Ford F-800 4WD Type-3 engine with 500-gallon capacity from the Federal Excess Program. All engines are equipped with firefighting and medical emergency supplies including oxygen and Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs). We also have Jaws-of Life and a ropes rescue kit. We provide mutual aid to Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Company, Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Department, Kettenpom-Zenia Volunteer Fire Department, Garberville Volunteer Fire Department, and aid California Highway Patrol in traffic control. APVFD proudly serves our coverage area to the best of our abilities.



Challenges & Needs:

We are in need of a vehicle specifically for medical calls. Transport to medical calls in the firetruck is very time consuming so we tend to take personal vehicles for faster response times. Our biggest challenge is that GPS doesn't work well in our area, so the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system tends to send us to the wrong place.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
1	0	1	1	4	0	0	2
						Total Responses	9
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
324	352	100	250	15		3	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Briceland Volunteer Fire Department (BCL)



Chief 5400:
Aurora
Studebaker

4438 Briceland Road
PO Box 1249,
Redway/Briceland,
CA 95560

Office: 707-923-7204

Cell: 707-834-1432

bricelandfire@gmail.com

www.bricelandfire.org



Briceland Volunteer Fire Department (BCL) provides emergency services for the Briceland Fire Protection District (BFPD) in the greater Redwood Creek watershed and surrounding areas of Southern Humboldt County. Our 18-member crew excels in wildland and urban interface fire suppression and technical rescue and includes 3 emergency medical technicians. We also strive to maintain a strong response readiness for lower frequency/higher risk structure fire and vehicle extrication calls. BCL members meet and train twice monthly and complete additional special trainings to maintain certifications and hone/develop new skills. We are committed to utilizing our resources and trained personnel to provide needed trainings to all Southern Humboldt fire departments; we now host an annual Wildland Academy to provide the basic firefighter certifications for new firefighters and the RT-130 Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher needed by all wildland firefighters. BCL works closely with the Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association, participates in both the Humboldt County and California mutual aid agreements, and provides personnel to the Southern Humboldt Technical Rescue Team. We also play an integral part in regional prescribed and cultural burn projects, providing operational support to the CalFire HUU Vegetation Management Program, filling operational and leadership roles for the Humboldt County Prescribed Burn Association, and actively supporting the development of local Wailaki burn crews. BCL operates one type-1 structure engine, three type-3 and one type-6 wildland engines, and a type-1 tactical water tender, all 4WD. The Department is financially supported by community contributions, fundraising events, CalFire and OES assignment income, and revenue from the BFPD special tax.

Challenges & Needs:

Our greatest need right now is to raise the funds needed to finish outfitting and to pay the debts from construction of our new fire station.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
4	7	2	9	20	0	3	13
Total Responses							58
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
425	949	100	100	25		22	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Department (BRD)

Chief 7600: Randall (Scott) Katzdorn
Asst. Chief: Danielle Hallway

P.O. Box 4
 Bridgeville, CA 95526

707-599-8048
bridgevilleVFD@gmail.com



The Bridgeville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) began operating in 2005 providing fire suppression, rescue services, emergency medical services, and hazardous material response to the community of Bridgeville and the Van Duzen Watershed. In August 2012, the Bridgeville Fire Protection District (BFPD) was formed to establish an ongoing revenue source to support the delivery of fire protection and emergency services by BVFD, The Bridgeville



Fire Protection District covers approximately 200 square miles of rural Humboldt County, making it the largest district in Humboldt County. The Bridgeville Fire Protection District is filled with micro communities, a dangerous stretch of state highway, natural gas main line, and bordering Forest Service land and Bureau of Land Management properties which produce a risk for wildland fires. BVFD currently has 12 trained firefighting personnel with Basic Life Support medical training. The Department has two Type 2 engines in active service, one Type 6, and one Rescue Type 7.



Challenges & Needs:

BVFD is in need of apparatus better designed for our rural mountainous terrain. Access is often an issue or concern. Having an engine and rescue better suited with 4-wheel drive to traverse the hills and mud would mean faster response times and less risk of loss of life and property.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medicals	Haz-Mat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
3	4	6	17	50	2	2	7
Total Responses							91
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
728	340	125	45	10		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Carlotta Volunteer Fire Department (CAR)

Chief 7200: Todd Calvo

Asst. Chief: Rebecca Hartman

Captain: Rob Hayes

PO Box 33

Carlotta, CA 95528

707-768-1714

hartmanCarlottafire@gmail.com



The Carlotta Volunteer Fire Department (CVFD) provides firefighting services through the Carlotta Community Services District. The CVFD serves the community as an all-risk fire agency with a current roster of 12 volunteers. Our first-out engine is a 2001 E-One pumper (purchased with Measure Z funds, THANK YOU!) with 1,000 gallons. For medical/rescue, we have a 2008 F350 4x4 Super-Duty Rescue Truck outfitted with a state-of-the-art Hurst Portable Jaws/Ram/Cutter equipment, and a new portable air-bag stabilization system. A 1986 GMC ¾-ton rescue vehicle contains rope and rescue gear. Our backup fire truck is a 1977 Ford Van Pelt Pumper with 850 gallons of water. For wildland fires, rope rescues, and traffic control duties, we use a 2000 Ford F350 4x4 Utility Truck that carries rope gear, 150 gallons of water and foam. We also have two water tenders: a 1977 Ford Van Pelt Pumper/Tender Combo with 2,000 gallons, and a 1985 converted Military 6-wheel drive truck with 3,000 gallons.

Challenges & Needs:

One of our main challenges is trying to keep up with the increased medical training requirements (initial and recertification). The increase in required training hours for first responders makes it difficult to retain volunteers.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
1	0	3	9	53	2	1	4
Total Responses						73	
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
584	282	180	100	12		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department (FRT)

Chief 7400: Rus Brown
Div. Chief-Safety: Jim Hinrichs
Div. Chief-Training: Garrett Petersen
Div. Chief-Staffing: Kyle Kertscher

320 S. Fortuna Blvd.
 Fortuna, CA 95540

707-725-5021
info@fortunafire.com



Since 1904, the Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department has been honored to be a part of this community. Our unpaid volunteers endeavor to provide the best fire protection possible for your families, homes, and businesses. Our volunteers come from all walks of life and give the gift of their time to protect our community.

The Fortuna Volunteer Fire Department is comprised of five fire companies which respond to Fortuna, Fernbridge, Palmer Creek, Hydesville, Alton, and the Metropolitan area. The eighty-member roster is comprised of one Chief, three Division Chiefs, a Chaplain, five Captains, ten Lieutenants, and sixty Firefighters. Volunteers respond from three fire stations—Hydesville, Campton Heights (being replaced by the new Rohnerville station) and Fortuna, which houses five municipal fire engines, two wildland engines, one ladder truck, two water tenders, two rescue trucks, and six support vehicles.

Challenges & Needs:

Fortuna Fire, like most departments in the volunteer fire service is struggling to recruit and retain our firefighters. We need community help in offering incentives (i.e. to employers when their employees volunteer and local apartment owners to offer reduced rent to volunteers). Anything that makes it a little easier to volunteer. Costs for everything continues to rise, causing us to make decisions on what is the very least we can get by with and still provide our community with the best fire service possible. The fire service as a whole in Humboldt County needs a dedicated funding source if we are going to be able to continue the level of service that we currently provide.

Always Ready – Always Willing



Incident Responses						
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Other Services
29	21	66	99	884	46	356
					Total Responses	1501
Volunteer Hours				Personnel		
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Career	Volunteer	Auxiliary
12,008	2,794	200	150	4	70	20

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Fruitland Ridge Volunteer Fire Department (FLV)

Chief 6200: Jimi Hensley

75 Kelsey Lane
PO Box 87
Myers Flat, CA 95554

707-932-1484

fruitlandfirechief@yahoo.com



The Fruitland Ridge Fire Protection District (FRFPD) is an all-volunteer department that provides firefighting and emergency services to Fruitland Ridge. Fruitland Ridge is a village approximately three miles east of Highway 254 (the Avenue of the Giants), located between Myers Flat and Miranda. The community contains 223 residences. The FRFPD has a service area that is approximately 35 square miles, spanning west to Elk Creek Road, east to Whitlow Road, north to McCann, and south to Eel Rock Road. Apparatus used are a 2010 Ford 550 4X4 Quick Attack and Rescue Vehicle, 1974 900-gallon International Fire Engine Pumper, and 1994 2,250-gallon Freightliner Water Tender.

Challenges & Needs:

Needs: The Fire Hall requires repairs for the heating and water systems. The fire hall kitchen needs to be upgraded for commercial use during disasters.

Challenges: Recruitment and retention of volunteers and auxiliary personnel.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medicals	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
1	0	0	0	18	2	1	1
Total Responses						23	
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
220	780	200	40	12		10	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Garberville Fire Protection District (GAR)



Chief 5700:

Tim Tietz

Asst. Chief:

Josh Terrell

PO Box 288
Garberville, CA

707-923-3196

GFDPublic@gmail.com



Garberville Fire Protection District (GFPD) is an independent, single purpose special district formed in 1937. GFPD is governed by a board of three Directors who are elected by registered voters that live within the boundaries of the district, which is authorized to provide the following community fire protection services within its jurisdictional boundary: fire protection, rescue, emergency medical and other services relating to the protection of lives and property pursuant to the Fire Protection District Law of 1987. The majority of calls for service are for vehicle accidents and

medical aid. Services provided by the GFPD are supported by a portion of the property tax revenue paid by property owners located within the boundaries of the district. Any services currently provided outside of the district boundary are based on availability and supported by the taxes paid by property owners within the district. Because of the demand for service from outside of this jurisdiction, GFPD spent 2022 working to annex these existing goodwill, out-of-district service areas. The consolidation of operations with the Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Company and the development of an additional fire station in the Benbow area are also part of this annexation/consolidation plan.

Challenges & Needs:

Garberville Fire, along with most volunteer departments struggle to recruit and retain qualified personnel.

Securing funding through community support, along with local and state agencies has, and will continue to boost and help sustain local fire districts with rapidly increasing costs and operational expenditures.



The success of this plan depends on voter approval in a special election that will take place in 2023.

GFPD response vehicles include:

- Two Command Vehicles, Chief 5700 and Utility 5705.
- Two Type 2 Fire Engines.
- 3400-gallon 6x6 Tactical Water Tender.
- Rescue 4wd Type 6.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
8	5	99	20	148	4	137	7
Total Responses							428
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer	Career	Auxiliary	
3200	700	400	1500	20	3	4	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Miranda Volunteer Fire Department (MIR)

Chief 6000: David Felt

PO Box 160
Miranda, CA 95553

707-672-3506

dfelt@gmail.com



The Miranda Volunteer Fire Department (MVFD) provides firefighting services through the Miranda Community Services District (MCSD). The MVFD is made up of 16 responders. Specialized equipment consists of a Jaws-of-Life. MVFD has very strong support from the MCSD and the citizens of Miranda. MVFD works with CAL FIRE for mutual response inside and outside the MCSD boundaries.

The engine fleet includes:

- Engine 6039: 4x4 Type-3, 1999 international; 500 gpm, 500-gallon tank
- Engine 6036: 4x4 Type-3, 1994 international; 500 gpm, 500-gallon tank
- Engine 6016: Type-1, 2004 Spartan; 1250 gpm, 750-gallon tank
- Engine 6046: 4x4 Type-6, 2005 Dodge; 250 gpm, 250-gallon tank
- Wt 6066: 4x4 water tender, 1997 Freightliner; 375 gpm, 2,070-gallon tank



Challenges & Needs:

Our needs for the future include an addition to our main hall so all trucks can be housed in one location indoors. We need more volunteers and additional funding to support our ability to meet increased call volumes.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
1	1	3	4	28	2	2	3
Total Responses							44
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
352	968	182	120	16		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Myers Flat Volunteer Fire Department (MYR)

Chief 6900: Tom Mulder

PO Box 131
Myers Flat, CA 95554

707-350-3813

myersflatvfd@gmail.com



The Myers Flat Volunteer Fire Department (MFVFD) provides firefighting services to the Myers Flat Fire Protection District (MFFPD). The MFVFD serves approximately 200 residents at its peak and 100-150 full-time. Apparatus include Engine 6931, a Type-3 engine, and Engine 6930, a Type-3 engine with Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS), which was purchased in 2006. We recently complemented our emergency equipment with a full set of RESCUE 42 stabilization struts, cribbing, a new state-of-the-art Sager Emergency Fracture Response System (which can splint any extremity fracture in the position it is found), and a portable 2000-lumen LED scene light, an AED Unit as well as other medical equipment. Measure Z provided funding for SCBAs and wildland gear.

Challenges & Needs:

The station is in need of repairs, especially a new roof. We have acquired the property next door and are exploring funding options to be able to build a new station.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
1	3	1	4	27	0	2	2
						Total Responses	40
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
320	150	50	10	5		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department (PVV)

Chief 5200: Christoph Fisher

Asst. Chief: Chad Gonsalves

PO Box 1381

Redway, CA 95560

707-499-7570

707-498-0182



The Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department (PVVFD) is a non-district fire company established in 1983. The department operates a fleet of three vehicles, which serve of population approximately 1,200 across 115 square miles in Humboldt, Trinity, and Mendocino Counties. Additionally, the PVVFD has strategically placed a total of 50,000-gallons of water storage tanks throughout our response area. Our department has grown over the years into a professional year-round fire department, operated by a membership of 30 wildland firefighters, of whom, 15 are first responders. The August Complex Fire of 2020 has inspired the community to form a Community Emergency Response Team as well as a Fire Safe Council and has motivated many homeowners to increase the defensible space on their lands. The incredible support of the community is what makes the PVVFD continue to function.



Challenges & Needs:

Future needs of the PVVFD include continued support by Measure-Z funding to update and maintain existing equipment and fleet vehicles, in addition to, training opportunities for vehicle operation, medical response, vehicle extrication, and wildland firefighting.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Total Responses							3
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
100	900	100	500	30		20	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Company (PHL)

Chief 6300: Hank Toberg

PO Box 39
Phillipsville, CA 95559

707-616-3107
ruger@asis.com



The Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Company (PVFC) was formed in March of 1973. We provide medical and fire services for the town of Phillipsville and surrounding areas along the southern portion of the Avenue of the Giants. Using our water tender pictured above, the PVFC also responds to wildland fires throughout Southern Humboldt.

The PVFC does not have a tax-based fire district and exists solely on fundraising efforts by members of the community and the company for continued operations. We are always eager to recruit additional volunteers.

Starting in 1989, the Phillipsville Community Services District (PCSD) began supplying water to the town and the PVFC. In 1998, the PVFC and the PCSD constructed a building to house equipment for the PVFC and the offices for the PCSD, also pictured above.

Challenges & Needs:

Help wanted! With just two volunteers, PVFC was unable to respond to calls in 2022. The Fire Chief hopes that by keeping trucks minimally maintained and actively pursuing volunteers, the Company will come back to serve the community. Anyone that is interested in joining the PVFC please contact Chief Toberg.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Responses							0
Volunteer Hours (Not Reported)				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
-	-	-	-	0		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Redway Fire Protection District (RDW)

Chief 5800: Brian Anderson | 155 Empire Avenue
Asst. Chief: Pete Genolio | PO Box 695
Asst. Chief: Dolan Dillan | Redway, CA 95560

707-923-2617
rvfd95560@gmail.com



Established in 1958, the Redway Fire Protection District serves the unincorporated town of Redway located in southern Humboldt County. Our all-volunteer department is responsible for providing emergency medical, fire suppression and rescue services within our district, and when needed to our neighboring local and state public safety partners. The RFPD is funded by a percentage of property taxes generated within our district, partial reimbursement from Proposition 172 funding, and our annual deep pit BBQ. The RFPD fleet includes one utility pickup, two Type 1 structure fire engines, one Type 6 quick attack engine and one 2000-gallon water tender.

Our Measure Z funded state-of-the-art modular training facility continues to enhance personnel training opportunities. RFPD will be hosting the second basic firefighter training academy in the Winter of 2023. The members of the Redway FPD wish to thank the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors for their continued support of local fire services.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
39	19	16	17	44	13	37	32
						Total Responses	217
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
1,736	2,046	468	490	17		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Rio Dell Fire Protection District (RIO)

Chief 7100: Shane Wilson
1st Asst. Chief: Ryan Heussler
2nd Asst. Chief: Vacant
3rd Asst. Chief: Vacant

50 West Center St.
 Rio Dell, CA 95562

707-764-3329



The Rio Dell Fire Protection District (RDFPD) was officially formed in 1941 as the “Wildwood Fire District” and later changed to its current title in 1963. In 2020, the RDFPD expanded its boundaries through annexation to include Scotia, Redcrest, Shively, Larabee, and Price Creek. The Rio Dell FPD provides fire protection, rescue, emergency medical, hazardous material emergency response, and all other services relating to the protection of lives and property. The RDFPD currently serves a population of nearly 4,700 people in the communities of Rio Dell, Scotia, Price Creek, Stafford, Pepperwood, Holmes, Shively, Larabee, and Redcrest with a District boundary of approximately 45 square miles.

The RDFPD operates under the direction of a 5-person elected Board of Commissioners. The Board manages and oversees the property tax allocation and special assessment revenue budget. The board appoints the executive staff of the RDFPD including the Fire Chief, three Assistant Chiefs, and the District Secretary. The Fire Chief oversees the day-to-day operations of the RDFPD and directs staffing assignments. The RDFPD is divided into four Battalions based on geographical areas: Rio Dell, Scotia, Redcrest, and Shively. Each Battalion is managed by a Battalion Chief who oversees the station staff, apparatus, and equipment. The RDFPD is 100% volunteer with 38 firefighters who respond to approximately 600 calls per year.

Challenges & Needs:

Station Needs
 New Shively Station
 Rio Dell Station Expansion to two bays
 Scotia Station Bay Expansion
 Generator Installations at Rural Stations

Apparatus Replacement
 WT 7155 – 1976 Kenworth
 E7123 – 1972 International
 E7114 – 1985 Peirce
 E7134 – 1994 Freightliner

Equipment Needs
 New Water Tender for Redcrest
 New Sawmill Industrial Rescue Equipment

<u>Main Office</u>	<u>Rio Dell Station</u>	<u>Scotia Station</u>	<u>Redcrest Station</u>	<u>Shively Station</u>
715 Wildwood Ave	50 West Center Street	145 Main Street	115 Sorenson Road	1245 Shively Flat Road
1 – Fire Command	28 – Volunteers	7 – Volunteers	4 – Volunteers	3 – Volunteers
1 – Duty Chief Utility	1 – Rescue	1 – Rescue	1 – Rescue	1 – Utility/ Quick Attack
1 – Asst. Chief Utility	3 – Engine Pumpers	1 – Quick Attack Type 6	1 – Utility/ Quick Attack	1 – Engine Pumper
	1 – Water Tender	2 – Engine Pumpers	1 – Engine Pumper	1 – Water Tender
		1 – ATV Rescue		
		2 – Tech Rescue Trailers		

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
8	13	182	27	442	55	403	58
Total Responses							1188
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
9,720	1,450	175	1,160	42		9	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department (SCV)

Chief 6100: Dan Gribi
Asst. Chief: Julian King

PO Box 662
 Miranda, CA 95553

707-358-0000
salmoncreekfire@gmail.com
salmoncreekfireprotectiondistrict.com



Salmon Creek is a remote community that is west of Miranda in Southern Humboldt County. We serve an area covering approximately 35 square miles, around 300 homes, and a private school. We are an all-volunteer fire department and have a crew of seventeen dedicated volunteers. Two of our members participate on the Southern Humboldt Technical Rescue team. Our operational equipment consists of a 1980 GMC 2wd Type-3 pumper, a 1989 Pierce 2wd Type-1 municipal pumper, a 1990 International Type-1 2,000-gallon water tender, a 2006 Ford 4wd Type-6 Quick Attack, and a 2005 International 4wd Type-3 pumper.

Humboldt LAFCo approved the proposal to form the Salmon Creek Fire Protection District in 2022. The Board of Supervisors called for the election at the October 25th, 2022, regular meeting and was scheduled to be held in March, 2023.

Salmon Creek became a nationally recognized Firewise Community site in 2022. The Firewise Committee is comprised of local residents and members of the Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department. In collaboration with CAL FIRE, the Firewise Committee conducted and authored a Community Wildfire Risk Assessment. Based on this assessment, the group developed a Three-Year Action Plan to address the identified safety concerns. Residents are now working together to implement that plan, taking specific actions to reduce their vulnerability and enhance fire safety.

Challenges & Needs:

We need more Type-6 Quick Attack engines distributed throughout our large area. More off-road and over-the-bank rescue capability is also needed to serve our rural and rugged area. Lastly, with an aging population, Salmon Creek needs more medically trained people to join the department as well as more medical equipment. Becoming a fire district with a sustainable revenue source will help us meet these changes.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
4	2	2	2	7	0	0	0
Total Responses							17
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
212	652	825	100	17		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Shelter Cove Volunteer Fire Department (SHE)

Chief 5100: Nick Pape

Asst. Chief: Cheryl Antony, Frank Wilson

Captains: Jac Hargrave, Cassidy Etter,
Logan Edwards

9126 Shelter Cove Road
Whitethorn, CA 95589

707- 986-7507

scfd@sheltercove-ca.gov

sheltercove-ca.gov/fire/fire.htm



The Shelter Cove Fire Department provides Firefighting, Technical Rescue, and Ocean Rescue as well as advanced EMS services to the Shelter Cove Resort Improvement District. The immediate District covers 49 square miles with extensive response well beyond district boundaries. Around 700 homes, numerous businesses, 9 hotel/motels, 2 popular beaches, and a public airport can be found within this district. The Shelter Cove Fire Department protects this District with 4 fire engines, 1 ALS/BLS ambulance, 2 ATV rescue units, and 3 ocean rescue units. The Shelter Cove Fire Department is dedicated to providing the upmost level of emergency medical care and fire rescue services to the residences and visitors of Shelter Cove. This is only possible through our 22 dedicated firefighters, SC CERT Team, and support from the community. Our 24/7 Duty Officer program ensures a fire officer is at the station during the day and allows them to take a fully equipped type 6 engine home at night providing response times of less than 5 minutes.

2022 saw the members of the Shelter Cove Fire Department tested on land and sea, as the community responded to a record number of rescues and weather-related calls for service. Just this year alone department members rescued 4 people out of the ocean, and another 6 from the mountains, and beaches of the Lost Coast. The department continued to be heavily involved in local hazard mitigation planning, grant funding, and implementation projects in 2022 bringing in just under \$2,000,000 for wildfire mitigation efforts. 2022 was also a record year for recruitment and retention as the expansion of the department's sleeper program, and multiple levels of volunteer opportunities paid off with a 28-person active Fire/EMS responder roster.

Challenges & Needs

Shelter Cove is at a high risk of a deadly and devastating wildfire event. We have one way in and one way out. Due to declining road conditions, including poor culvert conditions, temporary single lane bridges installed as a quick fix can lead to evacuation issues. Challenges we continue to have include convincing absentee property owners to reduce the fuel loads on undeveloped lots and preventing illegal grows that become toxic dumps when abandoned. Without a county wide vegetation maintenance policy for vacant parcels, unincorporated fire districts have no authority to fine property owners or remove fuels within large areas of the county. With home prices doubling, young firefighters are being priced out of the fire district. Without affordable housing firefighters will have to move away.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
3	0	7	6	65	5	62	3
Total Responses							151
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
1096	2398	88	115	22		37	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Company

Chief: Matt Kempe

707-223-3399

PO Box 2122

Asst. Chief: Nate Kempe

707-223-1070

Redway, CA 95560

President of the Board: Bruce Proctor

707-223-1449



Incorporated in 1998 as a non-profit corporation, the Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Company serves the Nielsen Ranch Subdivision in Garberville—a response area of 4 square miles. Our area of responsibility is rugged and isolated. To keep response times to a minimum, we presently maintain three, strategically located fire stations. Plans are in the works for adding one more fire station. Our response apparatus includes two 4WD fire engine pumpers, each with a 300-gallon capacity; two 2WD fire engine pumpers, with capacities of 350 and 700 gallons, and two newer 4WD trucks that work for rough terrain. The equipment is old but well-maintained. We fund ourselves by selling ice cream at Summer Arts Fair and Reggae on the River. We have 20+ active volunteer members. In 2022 the Sprowel Creek VFC continued to work on the Garberville Fire Protection District consolidation/annexation efforts.

Incident Responses					
Vegetation Fires		Structural Fires		Other Fires	
0		0		0	
				Total Responses	0
Volunteer Hours				Personnel	
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer	Auxiliary
0	240	240	1,032	20+	0

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Telegraph Ridge Volunteer Fire Department (TEL)

Chief 5500: Peter Lawsky
Asst. Chief: Will Rogers
Asst. Chief: Tanner Speas

PO Box 1152
 Redway, CA 95560
 (707) 223-3262

telegraphridgefpd@gmail.com
www.telegraphridgefire.com



The Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District provides fire and emergency response services through the Telegraph Ridge Volunteer Fire Department. TRVFD has 11 volunteer responders and 6 response vehicles: 5549: Command Type 7 (1997), 5547: Brush / Wildland Type 7 (1986), 5548: Mini Pumper Type 6, 5539: Wildland Type 3 (2006), 5533: Wildland Type 3 (1985) 55xx: Water Tender (age)

In 2022, TRVFD responded to 31 calls, that included medical incidents, structure fires, and multiple wildland fires. One of these wildland fires took place in the beginning of September in a populated neighborhood of Ettersburg and threatened multiple structures. The Telegraph Ridge Fire Department responded with three apparatus and 10 personnel and was able to provide initial attack and structure protection. Without the quick response that included mutual-aid local government departments, and CAL FIRE resources, this fire had the potential to turn into a significant threat.

In May 2022, the Ettersburg Fire Safe Council was founded as the fire prevention and education Branch of the Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District. The Telegraph Ridge Fire Department worked with the EFSC to organize community meetings where residents worked on emergency planning, district mapping, and other fire preparedness projects.

Challenges & Needs:

Engine maintenance and repair continue to be a primary challenge due to the age of our apparatus. Therefore, a long-term apparatus replacement plan is needed. We continue to work to address our equipment shortcomings as well, including radio and communication equipment.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
3	2	3	3	11	2	0	7
Total Responses							31
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
248	584	42	128	11		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Whale Gulch Volunteer Fire Company (WGF)

Fire Chief 5900: Mike Leskar
Asst. Chief: Kyle Umina
Administrator: Syreeta Lux
Administrator: Jessi Langston
Training Officer: Sascha Kissell

76850B Usal Road
 Whitethorn, CA 95589
whalegulchvfc@gmail.com
whalegulchfiresafecouncil@gmail.com
wildwithin1083@gmail.com

707-986-1219 (Mike)
 707-986-9949 (Kyle)
 707-986-7317 (Syreeta)
 609-289-5126 (Jessi)
 937-272-8263 (Sascha)



The Whale Gulch Fire Company is a bi-county organization, with our response area covering a portion of both Mendocino and Humboldt counties. We were founded in 1973 (after the Finley Creek Fire) and trained in wildland fire hand line construction from our nearby Thorn CAL FIRE Station. Our equipment has evolved from a small tool shed in our community meadow created by Nancy Peregrine, to a firehouse with three engines and a side-by-side: two Type-3 engines, both carrying 500 gallons, and a newer Type 6 Quick Attack, which carries 280 gallons.

WGFC has 15 active members, 9 of whom are PSFA certified. We serve 85 residents, and respond to the King Range NCA, and the Sinkyone Wilderness State Park. We have also created a fire safe council engaging more community members and a fuel reduction crew out of our volunteers. Our volunteers continue training, in structure and wildland firefighting, and emergency medical response.

Challenges & Needs:

We need to upgrade our full-size engines (1986 & 1987). We would like to purchase another Type-6 Quick Attack. We would like to make improvements on our existing fire house and improve the driveway and fuels around the driveway. We would like to make a substation out of our old community center where a good amount of our community water is stored. We received a grant from the California Fire Foundation to outfit our side by side with water pump and patient extrication support for hard-to-reach areas and also to pay for a portion of a chipper and for fuel reduction around our water storage. We will continue our annual bake sale, but you can also purchase our merchandise at Whitethorn Construction or you can send donations to our address listed above.



Incident Responses						
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Public Assistance	Other Services
0	0	1	2	4	0	1
Total Responses						8
Volunteer Hours				Personnel		
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer	Auxiliary	
150	150	75	250	15	0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Whitethorn Volunteer Fire Department (WHT)

Chief 5300: Robert Puno
Asst. Chief: Kent Grigsmiller

PO Box 485
 Whitethorn, CA 95589

707-986-4103
whitethorn.fire@gmail.com



Whitethorn Fire Protection District is an all-volunteer department. We are located in the upper Mattole Valley and provide service to approximately 300 residents in our district.

Our department consists of eleven volunteers and two fire stations. Station #1 is located at 16312 Briceland Thorn Road. It houses a wildland Type-3 (E5331), a Quick Attack pickup (E5346), and a BLS/Rescue ambulance (R5370). Station #2 is located approximately 4 miles north at 498 Shelter Cove Road and houses a wildland Type-3 (E5330) and an 800-gallon Type-1 pumper (E5320).



We are funded by district property tax, fundraising, and donations. Our annual Dinner & Dance fundraiser is held the third weekend of August.

In 2022 we continued to work with community members in our Community Fire Safe Group to identify residents addresses, water sources, special needs in the event of an emergency situation. This includes evacuation staging areas, radio communications, and accountability plan for residents in and around our district.

Challenges & Needs:

We are challenged with recruiting volunteers and raising enough funds for everyday operations and keeping equipment up to date while trying to save for a water tender/tactical tender.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
2	0	0	2	11	1	0	1
Total Responses							17
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Fundraising	Volunteer	Auxiliary			
136	250	150	11	0			

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

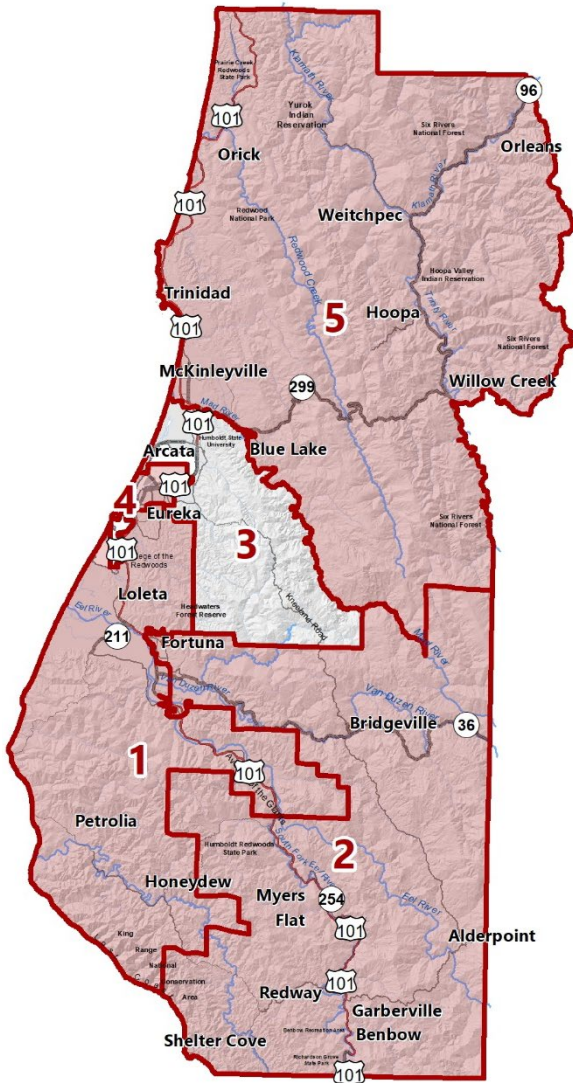
Humboldt County Third District

Supervisor Mike Wilson

825 5th Street

Eureka, California 95501

Phone: (707) 476-2393



Fire Departments:

Arcata Fire Protection District

Blue Lake Volunteer Fire Department

Kneeland Volunteer Fire Department

Arcata Fire Protection District (ARF)

Chief 8200: Justin McDonald

Assistant Chief: Chris Emmons

2149 McKinleyville Ave

McKinleyville, CA 95519

707-825-2000

info@arcatafire.org

www.arcatafire.org



The Arcata Fire District (AFD) is one of the larger fire districts in the county and covers 62 square miles of the north Humboldt Bay region. The District serves the 36,000 residents living in the city of Arcata and the communities of McKinleyville, Bayside, Manila and Jacoby Creek. AFD operates three fire stations with two firefighters on-duty at each location; the Arcata Station, the Mad River Station, and the McKinleyville Station.

Challenges & Needs:

Due to the increasing population of the District, call volume is going up. As staffing is limited, AFD relies heavily on CALFIRE, HBF and all local volunteer agencies to provide mutual aid in times of need. Costs are increasing across the department, and several engines are in varying states of disrepair.

This past year, 2022, was an impactful year for the District including the employees, volunteers, and community members. For the last several years, the District has worked hard to maintain staffing levels despite hurdles from Covid-19. This resulted in the District being more reliant on the neighboring agencies who have continued to support our incident responses through mutual aid agreements.

In 2022 the District continued to work on the annexation of upper Fickle Hill and Jacoby Creek areas, which are currently considered unprotected. The District also managed to recover costs to fund the prevention team of Fire Marshall Ed Laidlaw and Fire Inspector Matt Knowles.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
48	57	157	104	1,912	62	494	913
						Total Responses	3747
Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Vol. Intern Shift	Volunteer	Career	Auxiliary		
2866	2253	90.2	1	20	10		

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Blue Lake Volunteer Fire Department (BLU)

Fire Chief 8500: David Vainuku
Asst. Chief: Jason Lewis

PO Box 245
 Blue Lake, CA 95525

707-668-5765
bluelakefire@gmail.com



The Blue Lake Volunteer Fire Department provides service to the Blue Lake Fire Protection District which includes the City of Blue Lake, the communities of West End Road, Liscomb Hill, and Glendale Drive. Our district area is just under 14 square miles. We have 17 volunteers and one full-time employee. This year we have a new facility to house our equipment that we have had to park outside. This could not have been possible without the help of Measure Z and the additional funding we have received from fees for services.

Our equipment includes Rescue A-8546, Engine 8511-Type-1, Engine 8514-Type-1, Engine 8537-Type-3; two water tenders (2,200 gallons and 1,800 gallons), two sets of Jaws-of-Life, five defibrillators, BLS medical and low-angle rope rescue gear.

Challenges & Needs:

Our biggest challenge is having to continuously search for outside funding to maintain the current level of service. Until funding at the local level can be achieved, the future of the current level of service will be at risk.



Incident Response							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
10	11	17	14	136	7	32	149
Total Responses:							376
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer	Career	Auxiliary	
3,008	715	200	198	18	1	0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Kneeland Volunteer Fire Protection District (KFD)

Fire Chief 8900: Wesley Row

6201 Greenwood Heights Drive
Kneeland, CA 95549
kneelandfire.org

Office: 707-442-3252

Cell: 707-599-4985

wrow@kneelandfire.org



Kneeland Fire Protection District is an all-volunteer organization that provides Fire, Medical, and Rescue services to the community of Kneeland as well as surrounding areas of Greenwood Heights, Maple Creek, upper Fickle Hill, and areas east of Kneeland including Showers Pass and Mountain View roads. The total district size is currently 38 square miles, with a total response area of approximately 120 square miles. Kneeland Fire's



core mission is to provide the highest level of service possible to our community and its visitors. We work hard to develop a culture within our department that focuses on training and community service so that we are better prepared to save lives and property whenever called upon to do so. More than half of our staff are certified Emergency Medical Technicians or Paramedics as well as being certified in many other areas with California State Fire Training or other training programs as available. Kneeland Fire currently operates out of one station with three Type 1 Fire Engines, 1 Water Tender, one Type 6 Rescue/Wildland Engine, and 1 Duty Officer Pickup.



Challenges & Needs:

Personnel are a department and community's most valuable asset for providing emergency responses service and like most other agencies we need volunteers. Maintaining sufficient funding is also a continuing challenge for us as the firefighting business is only getting more expensive. Cost of insurances, personnel protective equipment, fleet replacement and repair, and training put a heavy burden on our budget.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medicals	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
1	0	7	2	15	4	0	10
Total Responses							39
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Chief's Admin.	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
402	806	200	598	12		1	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

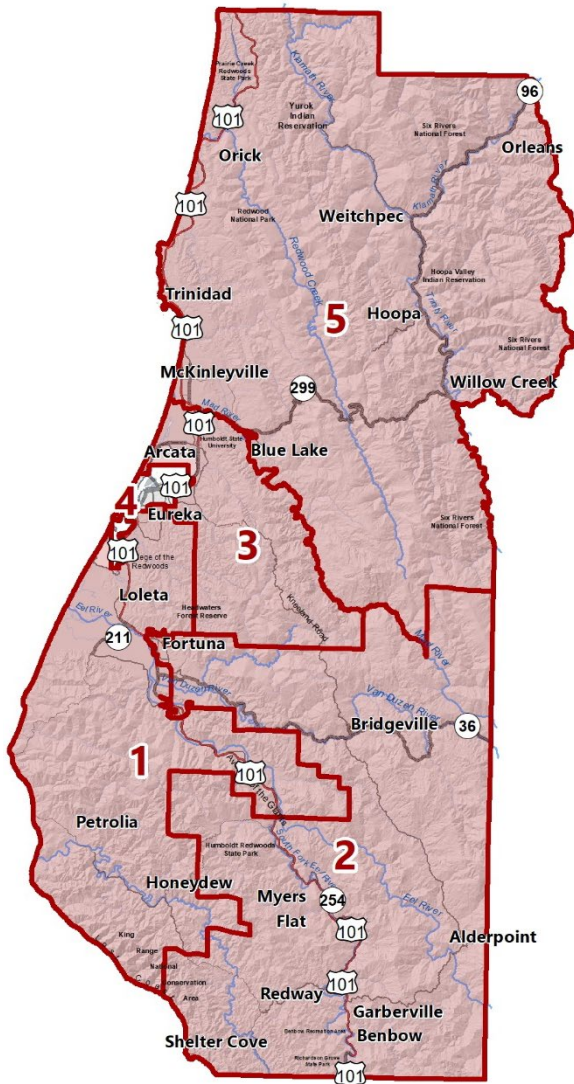
Humboldt County Fourth District

Supervisor Virginia Bass

825 5th Street

Eureka, California 95501

Phone: 707-476-2394



Fire Departments:

Humboldt Bay Fire

Samoa Peninsula Volunteer Fire Dept.

Humboldt Bay Fire (HBF)

Fire Chief 8100: Sean Robertson

533 C Street
Eureka, CA 95501

707-441-4000

info@HBFire.org

HBFire.org



Humboldt Bay Fire Joint Powers Authority provides service to approximately 55,000 residents within the City of Eureka and the Greater Eureka Area. We are an all-risk fire department that responds to a wide variety of emergencies. Humboldt Bay Fire (HBF) continues to maintain its level of medical care from BLS to ALS at our five stations. We have several specialty teams including HazMat, USAR, and Water Rescue. In addition to responses for service, HBF offers a wide range of public education programs, including CPR and First Aid classes, school presentations, disaster preparedness, fire extinguisher training, in-home safety inspections and an annual Fire Prevention Open House. HBF

inspects properties and businesses annually to ensure fire and life safety and reviews and approves plans for new construction or remodeling within our jurisdiction in conjunction with City and County agencies.

Apparatus used includes seven Type-1 fire engines, one Type-3 fire engine, two 100' ladder trucks, one 2,000-gallon water tender, one hazardous materials response unit, one Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) truck, one inflatable rescue boat (IRB), and a California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) USAR Trailer.

Challenges & Needs:

We are enhancing and our career development outreach into schools and colleges through a cadet firefighter and junior firefighter programs. Recruiting local qualified firefighters has been a challenge that can be greatly improved by the development of a local accredited fire academy. HCFC and HCFIA have been working diligently with College of the Redwoods and CalFire to make this happen.

Additionally, we need to exercise our regional disaster preparedness plans with all allied agencies and partners. An important component of these plans is to get all regional fire agencies upgraded to P25 digital radio compliance.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
50	49	177	212	4,999	208	863	1,343
						Total Responses	7,901
Volunteer Hours				Personnel (Professional Training Hours = 8,312)			
Incident		Training		Volunteer/Cadet		Career	
50 (Fire Support)		26		8		56	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Samoa Peninsula Volunteer Fire Department (SAM)

Chief 8600: Dale Unea
Assistant Chief: Troy Smith

1982 Gass St.
 Fairhaven, CA 95564

707-443-9042
samoafire.org
samoavfd@gmail.com



The Samoa Volunteer Fire Department is an all-volunteer department that provides fire and emergency medical services to the Peninsula Community Services District (formally Samoa Peninsula Fire Protection District.) Services are provided to the communities of Samoa, Fairhaven, and Finntowne, as well as a K-8 grade school, the Samoa Cookhouse, DG Fairhaven Power, an airport, a Coast Guard base, a county RV campground, several light industrial business parks, and over 6 miles of recreational beach and Humboldt Bay front.

Our apparatus includes: 8600- 2002 Ford f350, 8601- 2005 Toyota 4x4, 8612- 1987 Ford C8000 Type 1, 8614- 2004 Pierce Type 1, 8635- 1989 International Type 3, and 8676- Beach Rescue.

Challenges & Needs:

We continue to work to overcome challenges associated with transitioning from a fire protection district to a community services district. However, during the challenging times of implementing the formation of the Peninsula Community Services District, the Samoa Volunteer Fire Department moved on without missing a beat.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medicals	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
15	15	79	13	61	0	0	0
Total Responses							183
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
1,464	453	300	75	12		5	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

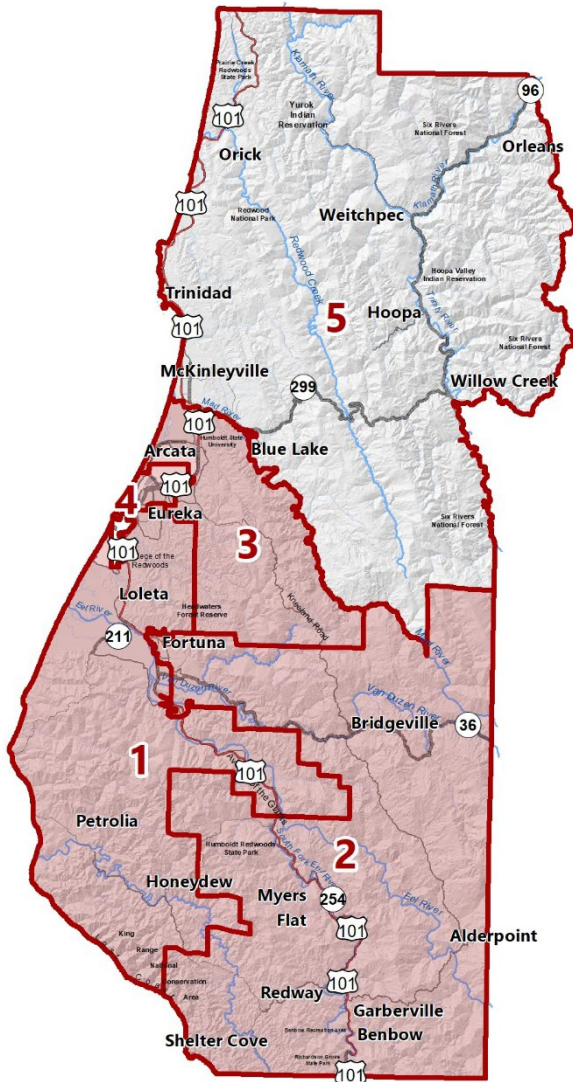
Humboldt County Fifth District

Supervisor Steve Madrone

825 5th Street

Eureka, California 95501

Phone: 707-476-2395



Fire Departments:

Fieldbrook Volunteer Fire Department

Hoopa Fire Department

Hoopa Volunteer Fire and Rescue

Orick Volunteer Fire Department

Orleans Volunteer Fire Company

Trinidad Battalion CSA #4 (Amador Program)

Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department

Westhaven Volunteer Fire Company

Willow Creek Volunteer Fire Department

Yurok Fire Department

Fieldbrook Volunteer Fire Department (FBR)

Chief 8700: Chris Appleton

4584 Fieldbrook Road
Fieldbrook, CA 95519

707-839-0931

fieldbrookfire.org

fieldbrookfd@gmail.com



The Fieldbrook Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) was established in 1955 and provides fire protection and emergency medical services through the Fieldbrook-Glendale Community Services District (CSD). The FVFD serves approximately 1,235 residents. In addition, a mutual aid agreement has been established with multiple neighboring districts to allow sharing of resources when necessary.

Through a State Farm Insurance grant along with other local donations, we were able to purchase a new compressor cascade system for refilling our SCBA bottles. Prior to this purchase we were restricted on how often we could train or work an incident while flowing air since empty bottles had to be loaded and transported to and from neighboring departments for refill (thank you BLFD & AFD). With the ability to refill our SCBA bottles at our station after every use, it has created nearly infinite opportunities to train "on air", while also giving us the option to refill bottles during an extended incident when needed.

The Department is staffed by 20 firefighters, 8 of which have completed their EMT course. The Department is equipped with the following apparatus: a 2006 Rosenbauer Quick Attack truck (8747), a 1996 International Becker Pumper (8715), a 1990 Beck Pumper (8717), a 2007 Peterbuilt water tender (8756) and a 2017 F-150 Duty/Chief pickup (8700).

Challenges & Needs:

In our effort to stay NFPA compliant, the department will be in need of many new sets of PPE and SCBA bottles, as their end of service date closes in.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
15	20	15	11	50	2	9	28
Total Responses						150	
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
450	1068	175	200	20		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Hoopa Fire Department and Office of Emergency Services (HIA)

Chief of Fire 9900:
Raldon Brown

**Multi-Hazard
Mitigation Officer**
Serene White

530-625-4366
PO Box 369
Hoopa, CA 95546
hoopafd@gmail.com
hoopaoes@gmail.com



Established in 1987, the Hoopa Fire Department is a chartered stand-alone organization within tribal government and is solely operated and managed by the Hoopa Valley Tribe. The Hoopa Fire Department is a national resource and responds across the nation to provide assistance to local, state, and federal agencies when requested. The Department functions with 7 engines: three Type-3, three Type-6, and one Type-4, a Type-2 water tender, plus various overhead. The Department not only responds to fires but provides assistance for other all-risk response areas. The Hoopa Fire Department also has the pleasure of hosting the Tribal Office of Emergency Services within its organization. The Office of Emergency Services is an all-risk program that is responsible for disaster planning, response, preparedness, and recovery from disasters. Both programs are under the leadership of the Chief of the Department and are tasked with operational responsibilities year-round. Some all-risk Public Assistance and Other Services responses include Tribal Elder and Medically Vulnerable population welfare checks. Welfare checks include site visits, electrical generator set ups during power outages and heating checks that involve responders providing fuel during emergency storms.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
53	0	0	0	0	0	310	53
Total Responses							416
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Full Time	Temporary	Seasonal	
-	-	-	-	7	18	10	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Hoopa Volunteer Fire and Rescue (HOO)

Fire Chief 9600: Amos Pole
Asst. Chief: Daniel Mott
Battalion Chief: James McCovey

PO Box 1321
 11233 Hoopa, CA 95546

707-951-6844
hoopavfd@gmail.com



Hoopa Volunteer Fire and Rescue (HVFR) is a community-based volunteer organization. It was established in the late 1970s by the Hoopa Valley Tribal Council and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) as an all-risk organization, with the primary mission of structural fire suppression.

Our department strives to provide our community members and traveling sightseers with dedicated, professional firefighters certified in medical and technical ropes rescue. The HVFR provides protection services to approximately 4,400 people within a 144 square mile area and a portion of the southeastern most area of the Yurok reservation on Hwy 169. HVFR also assists Orleans VFD and Willow Creek VFD through mutual aid agreements. Our members are from all walks of life, some being police officers and local dispatcher workers, medical and health care workers, HUD housing employees, electrical linemen, EPA scientists, fish habitat technicians, social services workers, and Office of Emergency Services employees.



Our numerous certified Swiftwater rescue technicians, high/low angle rope rescue operators, and extensive knowledge of our surrounding backcountry and rivers helps us provide a faster response to any incident that may arise.

Apparatus available are two Type-1 fire engines, a Ford Utility F150 Rescue vehicle, a Ford Excursion Command vehicle, and a 16-foot outboard jet boat unit. We also have a retired ambulance vehicle as our new rescue-2 support unit. The department is funded partly by donations from our small community and from the Hoopa Valley Tribe, Indian Health Services, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Challenges & Needs:

As all volunteer fire departments know, the lack of funding to properly operate is a huge challenge. Built in the 1970s, the fire house (which also serves as the tribe's utilities central office) is in desperate need of rebuilding. Also, the second out engine is on its last leg! Of the two type-1 engines we operate, one has major problems, which puts our community and businesses at risk. Two of our rescue vehicles, are housed off-site due to the lack of building space.

Incident Responses*						
Search & Rescue	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Traffic Collision	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance
11	16	13	19	7	4	8
					Total Responses	78
Volunteer Hours				Personnel		
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary
788	315	156	24	14		9

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Orick Volunteer Fire Department (ORK)

Chief 9000: Steven Baker
Captains: Judy Hagood
 Tim Dunkin

101 Swan Road
 Orick, CA 95555

707-498-4637
OrickChief@gmail.com
www.orkfire.com



The Orick Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD) provides fire protection and medical aid services to the community of Orick and the surrounding area through the [Orick Community Services District](#) (OCS D). The OVFD responds to calls within the OCS D boundary, which is 2.3 square miles, and beyond, with a total response area of 123.8 miles. Apparatus used include one water tender, one engine (1991 Pierce Engine Pumper), a Type 3 engine, and a type-3 ambulance. The OVFD is made up of 9 volunteers and has mutual aid agreements with CAL FIRE, Redwood National Park and Klamath Fire Department. OVFD would like to thank the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs’ Association and Measure Z for the much-needed addition to our Hall, and the generator. We are looking forward to making new partnerships in training over the year.

Challenges & Needs:

Orick VFD would like to add an additional water tender, as well as a rapid response vehicle to the fleet. Training opportunities have been a challenge due to our remote location and balancing time between the department and outside obligations.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
0	1	7	11	41	1	0	0
Total Responses							61
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
488	150	175	200	9		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Orleans Volunteer Fire Department (OLN)

Chief 9700: Eric Nelson
Assistant Chief: George Vest
Med. Training Officer:
 Travis King

PO Box 312
 166 Ishi Pishi Road
 Orleans, CA 95556
Main POC: Penny Eckert
 425-241-0415, pjeckert@gmail.com

Dept. Phone: 530-627-3344
Chief Phone: 530-627-3434



The Orleans Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD) provides fire, rescue, and medical services to the lower-middle Klamath River communities. Organized in 1968, our 198 square mile response area extends from two miles north of Weitchpec, north through Orleans and Somes Bar to Ti-Bar in Siskiyou County and serves about 1,600 residents. The OVFD's fleet is comprised of a Measure Z-funded 2007 Type-1 pumper (E-9711), a 1985 Type-4 Wildland Engine (E-9741), a FEMA-funded 2018 Wet-Rescue (R-9771), and a FEMA-funded 2020 3,000-gallon Type-2 Water Tender (WT-9751). The OVFD has been a Firewise Partner with the Orleans Community since 2011. In 2022 OVFD collaborated with Firewise community partners to produce a short film depicting

the importance of fire safety and wildfire preparation including prescribed burning. This film will be used in the local elementary schools.

OVFD worked towards completion of the interior of our new fire station in 2022, including insulation, drywall, stairs to the mezzanine, and an extended round of responses to Building Inspection requirements not found in the plans. In 2023, OVFD anticipates completing the installation of the generator, meeting ADA requirements, and completing all other Building Inspection requirements to finalize the permits issued.



Challenges & Needs:

We were able to resume fundraising at the end of 2022, after the pandemic eased, but were unable to hold our weekly fundraising, further reducing our savings as we covered increasing operating costs. Basic liability, building, and apparatus insurance costs have risen, and may become prohibitive as they have for other VFDs. We hope the state will consider covering insurance or requiring insurance companies to cover VFDs in California at a reasonable fee. OVFD worked on a Mutual Aid Agreement with USFS but was unable to reach agreement. This has been a financial burden on the OVFD and other VFDs for over two years that cannot be sustained. We continue to look for, train, and engage new volunteers for active duty and for fundraising assistance.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medicals	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
15	5	13	5	76	3	2	2
						Total Responses	121
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Support	
756	220	700	1,365	15		2	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Trinidad Battalion CSA #4 (Amador Program)

Battalion Chief 1214: Josh Smith

923 Patrick's Point Drive,
PO Box 749
Trinidad, CA 95570

707-672-4755

josh.smith@fire.ca.gov



County Service Area (CSA) #4 was established in 1986 and is a dependent special district governed by the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. Fire protection is provided by CAL FIRE through an "Amador" contract where the County pays for a portion of the actual fire protection costs (non-fire season costs). The CSA #4 boundary starts at Clam Beach and runs to the north end of Freshwater Lagoon. CSA #4 serves the coastal communities of Crannell, Westhaven, Patrick's Point, Big Lagoon, Kane Road, and Stone and Freshwater Lagoons. It does not include the City of Trinidad or the Trinidad Rancheria.

The CSA #4 resources work hand-in-hand with the local volunteer agencies on a variety of incidents throughout the year. We utilize two Type-3 fire engines, which carry a variety of fire suppression equipment as well as complementary medical gear, including a life-saving defibrillator. Our engines are also equipped with auto extrication gear including two sets of the Jaws-of-Life, a full complement of rope rescue equipment, and a thermal imaging camera.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medicals	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
0	3	15	15	41	10	3	15
				Total Responses			102
Station Hours (Career)				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Fulltime	Volunteer	Auxiliary	Seasonal
550	1,200	1,250	0	11	0	0	21

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department (TRN)

Chief 9100: Tom Marquette
Asst. Chief Dick Kieselhorst

409 Trinity St./PO Box 390
 Trinidad, CA 95570

707-677-0224

trinidad.ca.gov/volunteer-fire-department

tvfdchief@gmail.com



The Trinidad Volunteer Fire Department provides fire protection, medical, and rescue services to the City of Trinidad, as well as aid to CAL FIRE and the Westhaven Volunteer Fire Company. Our apparatus include a Type-1 fire engine, a Type-4 4x4, and a Type-7 rescue vehicle.

Our original fire house was constructed in 1917 with volunteer labor and materials. In 1958, an addition was built to house a new Type-1 vehicle of that era. In 2017, we modified the firehouse to accommodate larger Type-1 vehicles.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other Services
0	2	2	1	65	1	5	3
						Total Responses	79
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
632	120	150	0	5		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Westhaven Volunteer Fire Company (WVF)

Chief 8400: Shawn Worth
Asst. Chief: Jeff Hesseltine

Mailing: PO Box 2143,
 Trinidad, CA 95570
 Physical (no mail service):
 446 6th Avenue
 Westhaven, CA 95570

Station: 707-677-0388
Chief: 707-498-5137
8400@suddenlinkmail.com



Established in 1950, the Westhaven Volunteer Fire Department continues to be staffed completely by all unpaid volunteers and funded by community donations. We serve the greater Westhaven area from Crannell and Clam Beach in the south to Trinidad city limits in the north. We also provide mutual and auto aid all the way from Eureka to Klamath. We have been serving our area as the main fire defense long before CDF/CalFIRE arrived at scene.



Challenges & Needs:

Our main challenge is growing and retaining our membership. We have definitely noticed the national trend of declining volunteerism locally as our membership over the past decade and a half has dropped under our normal roster. We have options both for those interested in firefighting/first responding and those interested in less intense volunteering like administrative and periodic maintenance helping -- no prior fire department experience necessary – just give the Chief a call!

Incident Responses						
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance/Other
7	10	6	5	48	3	28
					Total Responses	107
Volunteer Hours				Personnel		
Incident	Training	Maint./Admin	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary
856	65	270/272	25	10		3

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Willow Creek Volunteer Fire Department (WCR)

Chief 9200: Samantha Smith
Asst. Chief: Jacques Neukom
Captain: Cory Hicks
Captain: Mike Avelar
Captain: Cameron Smith

Mailing: PO Box 51
 51 Willow Road
 Willow Creek, CA 95573

Phone: 530-629-2229
Fax: 530-629-1979
wcvfd1959@gmail.com



The Willow Creek Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1957 after two major business fires in downtown Willow Creek. The original fire department consisted of nine members who responded to 10-15 calls per year. The Willow Creek Fire Protection District was established two years later, in 1959. WCVFD serves approximately 1,800 people within the town of Willow Creek and a large portion of Eastern Humboldt. WCVFD is an all-risk fire department, and we are dedicated to serving our community with integrity and professionalism.

Following 2 major disasters in 2022, the Knob Fire and the winter snowstorm, Willow Creek had another disaster, even closer to home, with the Six Rivers Lightening Complex. WCVFD working with USFS were patrolling the night of the lightning storm, and spent the next few months working either on the fire, assisting with evacuations or staged at the Helibase for crash rescue. The volunteers took time off from their regular jobs and from their families to take care of their community, including driving through evacuation areas feeding and caring for all the pets and livestock left behind during the rush of evacuation. All of this was in addition to the 432 calls logged for the year, 700+ hours of training, and maintenance of the gear and equipment. WCVFD is hopeful 2023 will allow the time needed to secure funding for a much needed firehall upgrade.

Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Others
6	13	54	48	283	7	18	19
Total Responses							448
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer		Auxiliary	
3,500	700	100	20	16		0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Yurok Fire Department (YIA)

Chief 9400: Rod Mendes
Division Chief: Blaine McKinnon
Engine Captain: Andrew Lamebear
Engine Captain: Fermin Sanchez
Engine Captain: Talbert Alvarado
Fire Planner: Kim Mamaradlo
Administrative Assistant: Alissa Myers

Mailing: HC 67 Box 196
 23001 State Hwy 96
 Hoopa, CA 95546
Physical: 123 Owl Creek Rd

530-784-7870
rmendes@yuroktribe.nsn.us



The Yurok Fire Department is the tribes regulatory fire agency and a nationally recognized fire organization within the Yurok Tribal government, solely operated and managed by the Yurok Tribe. The Yurok Fire Department under a Cooperative Agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs is considered a federal fire resource when on assignment. Responding across the nation to aid local, state, and federal agencies when requested. The Department functions with one Type-3 and two Type-6 engines, plus various qualified overhead, and support equipment The Department not only responds to wildland fires but also provides assistance when requested for other all-risk response incidents.



Incident Responses							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assistance	Other
25/3	3	3	0	0	0	5	30
25 off reservation 14-day assignments/ 3 on reservation				Total Responses			69
Volunteer Hours				Personnel			
Incident	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Full Time	Temporary	Seasonal	
0	0	0	0	17	0	0	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

County, State, and Federal Fire Services in Humboldt County

Arcata/Eureka Airport Fire Hall

(Humboldt County Aviation Department)

**Supervisor Airport
Service Workers:**
Curtis Eikerman
Thomas Waterhouse
Bret Allen
Thomas Sobehrad

3561 Boeing Avenue
McKinleyville, CA 95519

707-839-4239 & 707-496-0102
ceikerman@co.humboldt.ca.us
twaterhouse1@co.humboldt.ca.us
tsobehrad@co.humboldt.ca.us
blallen@co.humboldt.ca.us



The Arcata/Eureka Airport Fire Hall provides firefighting services to the travelling public of Humboldt County's regional airport. The Airport Fire Hall operates as part of the Humboldt County Aviation Department. The Airport Fire Hall has a 2008 Oshkosh 1500 Stryker and a specialized Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) vehicle. It carries 1,500 gallons of water and 210 gallons of Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF), which creates a barrier over fuel spills, removing the oxygen and smothering the fire. The truck also carries 500 lbs. of dry chemical. It has a Caterpillar C-16 engine; the truck can accelerate from 0-50 MPH in under 25 seconds. It can pump 750 gpm at high flow and 300 gpm at low flow. A second ARFF vehicle is a Ford F-450 truck that carries 150 gallons of water/AFFF mix and 500 lbs. of dry chemical.

The Airport Fire Hall staff is also responsible for all the maintenance and fueling at the Arcata/Eureka Airport and the maintenance at the five other general aviation airports in the county (Murray Field, Kneeland, Rohnerville, Dinsmore, and Garberville).

Challenges & Needs:

Our top need is replacing our old Quick Dash F-450 vehicle with a new vehicle that has an updated water/foam delivery system. We also need more personnel, as we are critically shorthanded.

Incident Responses		
Vegetation Fire:	Medical/Public Assistance:	Emergency Standby:
0	0	1
Personnel:	13	Total Responses: 1

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

CAL FIRE Humboldt-Del Norte Unit

Unit Chief: Kurt McCray

118 South Fortuna Blvd.
Fortuna, CA 95540

707-725-4413



The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) serves and safeguards the people and protects property and resources in State Responsibility Areas, as well as portions of federal lands in Humboldt and Del Norte counties. The Humboldt–Del Norte Unit (HUU) is comprised of Fire Control and Resource Management. The Unit’s Resource Management program operates out of four offices and is focused on sustainability of all natural resources including timber, education and research on forest pests, and fuel reduction programs to reduce fire danger. The Fire Protection program is comprised of fire suppression equipment, personnel, and support staff at eleven stations, three conservation camps, an Interagency Emergency Command Center, an Air Attack base, and a Helitack base. Programs within the HUU include a Fire Prevention Bureau, a Fleet Management Division, Pre-Fire Planning Battalion, and a Training Bureau.

Unit employees work closely with other local emergency responders from all agencies and disciplines through mutual- and automatic-aid agreements and provide services and education to many local communities. CAL FIRE is committed to working cooperatively with the Humboldt County Fire Chiefs’ Association, the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors, Fire Safe Councils, and other community and government organizations.

[Strategic Fire Plan, Humboldt-Del Norte Unit 2022](#)

Incident Responses (within Humboldt County)							
Vegetation Fires	Structure Fires	Other Fires	Vehicle Accidents	Medical	Hazmat/ Menace	Public Assists	Other Services
79	27	71	123	338	15	25	195
CAL FIRE Humboldt/Del Norte Unit Personnel				Total Responses			873
Conservation Camps/Fire Center	Fire Stations	Emergency Command Center	Air Program	Resource Management	Law Enforcement	Admin Staff	Seasonal Positions
32	33	11	9	14	2	17	180

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

US Forest Service Six Rivers National Forest

Forest Supervisor: Ted O McArthur
Deputy Forest Supervisor: Vacant
Interagency Fire Chief: Josh Eichamer
Deputy Interagency Fire Chief: Rick Young

1330 Bayshore Way
 Eureka, CA 95501

707-442-1721
www.fs.usda.gov/srnf
www.nps.gov/redw



The Six Rivers National Forest and Redwood National Park protect both federal direct protection areas and state protection areas. Redwood National Park and Six Rivers National Forest are a “service first” organization and by agreement work together as one fire management organization, supporting each unit’s fire and land management objectives. The Six Rivers National Forest protects the wildland while managing fire on the landscape considering land management objectives, multiple uses, the Forest Service mission, and the Federal Fire Policy (FFP). In accordance with our goals from the FFP, we seek to create resilient landscapes and fire adapted communities through effective, risk-based decision-making for wildfire response. We work closely with CAL FIRE Humboldt-Del Norte Unit, Hoopa Wildland Fire Department, other federal agencies, neighboring National Forests, tribal governments, and multiple volunteer and local fire departments throughout a four-county boundary area.



Incident Responses				
Agency	Wildland Fires	Smoke Checks	Law Enforcement	Public Assistance
SRF/ RWNP	67	75	187	14
		Total Responses		343
Six Rivers NF and Redwood NP Fire Personnel (Approximate)				
Full Time	Temporary		Seasonal	
228	85		-	

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Humboldt County Emergency Medical Services, Technical Rescue, and Disaster Response Groups

Eel River Valley Technical Rescue Team

Team Commander: Scott Katzdorn

Squad Leaders:

NA – Carlotta
Robert Anderson – Ferndale
Phil Mullins – Fortuna
NA – Scotia

NA – Loleta
Ryan Heussler – Rio Dell
Scott Katzdorn – Bridgeville



The Eel River Valley Technical Resource Team (ERVTRT) was formed in 2010 and consists of members from the fire departments of Scotia, Rio Dell, Ferndale, Loleta, Fortuna, Carlotta, and Bridgeville. The team covers emergency response for the Eel River Valley and the Highway 36 corridor to the Dinsmore area. The ERVTRT functions under the guidance of the Eel River Valley Fire Chiefs and acts as a resource to assist fire jurisdictions in providing a higher level of rescue operations to our communities. These operations include low and high angle rope rescue, confined space and trench rescue, collapse and water rescue, as well as providing additional manpower and equipment as needed during any emergency event. The ERVTRT has the capacity to assist other rescue teams

throughout the county, including the Southern Humboldt County Technical Rescue Team and the Humboldt Bay Urban Search and Rescue Team. ERVTRT is trained and equipped to USAR Level 3. Operations and training are overseen by one team leader, while each department has a squad leader who oversees their individual squads, in turn. The ERVTRT is dispatched by CAL FIRE.

Please note: The developers of this report were not able to confirm updated details with representatives from ERVTRT. Incident response numbers and all other content is based on information reported in 2020 or earlier.

Incident Responses (2020)			
Traffic Collision (MTX- Vehicle Accident with extrication required)	Water Rescue	Traffic Collision (MTC- Vehicle Accident or incident involving moving equipment)	Medical Aid (Technical rescue, rope, over the bank, etc.)
4	1	6	4
Total Responses			15
Volunteer Hours (2020)		Personnel	
Incidents	Training	Volunteer	Auxiliary
120	800	30	0

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Southern Humboldt County Technical Rescue Team

Chief: Kai Ostrow

Captains: Aurora Studebaker, Rheanna Campbell, Teamo Tenorio-Gregori

PO Box 458
Redway, CA
95560

707-223-0042

SoHumTechRescue@gmail.com



The Southern Humboldt County Technical Rescue Team (SHCTRT) provides rescue services to an area of roughly 1,000 square miles that includes the King's Range, 35 miles of the Lost Coast, 35 miles of Highway 101, portions of both the South and Main Fork of the Eel River, and the entire length of the Mattole River. The Team is responsible for operations on all High and Low Angle Rope Rescue and Swift Water and Flood Rescue emergencies and supports the Humboldt County Sheriff's Department on Wilderness SAR. Our crew is made up of volunteer firefighters from various Southern Humboldt fire departments. Members of the SHCTRT are highly dedicated men and women with specialized training who respond to rescues in addition to the normal duties of their respective fire departments. Our governing board is the Southern Humboldt Fire Chiefs' Association, and we are funded by their annual donations, as well as fundraising by team members.

Apparatus include a 4x4 Light Rescue Truck, a Wilderness SAR Truck, and a Swiftwater Rescue Trailer, housed at our new rescue station co-located with the Garberville CAL FIRE Station. Thank you to our supporters and the taxpayers who fund Measure Z, who together provided us with our long-awaited facility!

Challenges & Needs:

Our primary goal this year is to secure reliable funding, allowing us to acquire much-needed equipment & apparatus, and cover our routine operating expenses. Please encourage your representatives to dedicate a minimum of 20% of the Measure Z Public Safety/Essential Services fund to Fire & Rescue Services. Thanks for your support!

Incident Responses					
Rope Rescue	Swift Water/Flood	Search and Rescue	Extrication	Aircraft	Others
10	1	2	0	0	1
				Total Responses	14
Volunteer Hours				Personnel	
Incidents	Training	Maintenance	Fundraising	Volunteer	Auxiliary
700	720	150	200	10	12

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Humboldt Urban Search and Rescue

**Team Coordinator,
Humboldt Bay Fire:**

Nathan Baxley
707-441-4000

For dispatch resource requests:

707-441-4044

nbaxley@hbfire.org



Challenges & Needs:

1. Increase awareness of our Team capabilities for other agencies in the region
2. Specialized training
3. Member recruitment

The Humboldt Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) Team is a group available by request for emergencies related to building collapse, shoring, concrete breaking, and breaching, lifting and rope rescue. HUSAR was formed in 2011 when Cal-OES provided a medium cache of rescue equipment to Humboldt Bay Fire as well as 17 other locations with the goal that no California location would be more than 2 to 3 hours away from a US&R Rescue Unit. A HUSAR crew is available locally or able to respond anywhere in the state with the medium cache trailer RT-32. For a state response, the trailer will meet with other regional teams and combine forces and equipment. Training requirements for the HUSAR team include: Rescue Systems 1 and 2, Low Angle Rope Rescue, Trench Rescue, and Confined Space.

HUSAR worked with Pacific Gas and Electricity in 2016/2017 to provide consulting and technical rescue services for the Humboldt Bay Power Plant Decommissioning Project. HUSAR participated in planning meetings and quarterly hands-on drills.

Hazardous Materials Response Team

Team Coordinator,
Humboldt Bay Fire:
 Chris Mitchell

707-441-4000 for consultation
 707-441-4044 for Dispatch resource requests

cmitchell@hbfire.org



Since inception in the early 1990's, the Hazardous Materials Response Team (HMRT) had been staffed exclusively by Eureka Fire Department personnel. The HMRT has evolved into a multi-agency structured team. The multi-agency model allows individuals from public safety and private sector from different agencies to participate in HMRT activities including response, training, and coordination. Currently, the HMRT has team members from Humboldt Bay Fire, Yurok Tribe, Humboldt Waste Management Authority, California Highway Patrol and Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department. The goal is to geographically diversify the HMRT with available personnel located throughout Humboldt and Del Norte Counties to provide support and response in a timely manner.

The HMRT achieved a Cal OES Type II rating in April 2010. The Team Typing recognizes the HMRT as a state resource if mutual aid to an affected area is needed. The Team Typing project requires the HMRT to meet and maintain strict standards in equipment and training.

Throughout the year, HMRT members help local, state, and federal agencies develop and implement training for Humboldt and Del Norte Counties. Bi-annual hazardous material response drills were conducted for the US Post Office, Arcata/Eureka Airport, County of Humboldt, and area public safety agencies. The HMRT also assists Humboldt County Environmental Health with updates to the Humboldt County Hazmat Response Plan.

Challenges & Needs:
 Increase level of training to reduce turnover rates, educate the other county departments on hazmat and decontamination.

HMRT outreach instructors provide state-certified training for First Responder Awareness, First Responder Operations, First Responder Decontamination, and Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness. To schedule a training or for general questions, please contact Chris Mitchell.

Incident Responses	
HMRT provided assistance with product identification and mitigation	Individual HMRT members provided assistance to agencies with mitigation and identification
3	5

*Most of the assistance provided is phone consultations to determine if the incident requires response or clean up.

North Coast Emergency Medical Services

Executive Director: Larry Karsteadt
Associate Director: Wendy Chapman
EMS Coordinator: Kayce Hurd

3340 Glenwood Street
 Eureka, CA 95501

707-445-2081
www.northcoastems.com



North Coast Emergency Medical Services (NCEMS) has provided local EMS agency services for the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, and Lake since 1976. Our overall responsibility is to provide coordinated medical oversight for all aspects of the three-county EMS system. NCEMS serves as the primary coordinating entity for this life saving EMS system, which is made up of hundreds of pre-hospital and hospital personnel. This system includes dispatch providers, fire districts and departments, first responder agencies, public and private ambulance services, emergency departments and hospitals.

NCEMS responsibilities include, but are not limited to, activities such as:

- Development of policies, protocols, and procedures for establishing and supervising the medical direction of EMS services
- Authorization of First Responder and ALS providers
- Monitoring and approval of numerous training programs (First Responder, EMT, Paramedic, Mobile Intensive Care Nurse, Field Training Officer)
- Certification, authorization, and accreditation of hundreds of EMS personnel, including EMT, Paramedics and Mobile Intensive Care Nurses
- Participation in the process to develop statewide EMS standards, particularly from the rural perspective
- Oversight of the Regional Trauma System

Resources and Programs					
Certified EMTs	Accredited Paramedics	Approved EMT Training Programs	Approved 1 st Responder Training Programs	Advanced Life Support Agencies	Paramedic Programs
333	64	1	6	5	1

*Due to the nature of available data, the incident responses reported above may over or underestimate actual responses.

Prepared for:



The Humboldt County Fire Chiefs' Association

Prepared by:



HUMBOLDT
Local Agency Formation Commission

Humboldt County Public Works, Natural Resources Planning
Humboldt County Fire Safe Council
Humboldt LAFCo

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Special Acknowledgements and Funding Recognition

All of the fire service representatives who took the time to provide information for this report. There would be no Fire Services Annual Report without your contributions. Funding for this report, provided in part by the Public Safety/Essential Services Sales Tax (Measure Z) and the California Fire Safe Council County Coordinator Program.

The [HCFA 2019 – 2024 Strategic Plan](#) and the [2019 Humboldt County Community Wildfire Protection](#) Plan were both referenced and excerpted in this Report.
