

LASSEN LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

ADOPTED

Susanville/Upper Honey Lake Valley Area

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS AND THE CITY OF SUSANVILLE

FIRE and EMS MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW

and

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

for the

**Susan River Fire Protection District, the Lake Forest Fire Protection District and the
Standish Litchfield Fire Protection District**

Adopted November 10, 2008

Resolution 2008-0007

Resolution 2008-0008

LASSEN LAFCO

Municipal Service Review

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 LAFCO's Responsibilities

This Municipal Service Review (MSR) has been prepared for the Lassen Local Agency Formation Commission (Lassen LAFCO). Local Agency Formation Commissions are quasi-legislative local agencies created in 1963 to assist the State in encouraging the orderly development and formation of local agencies. This MSR consists of a review of fire protection services as provided by districts and agencies in the greater Susanville Area.

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code §56000 et seq.) is the statutory authority for the preparation of an MSR, and periodic updates of the Sphere of Influence of each local agency. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research has issued Guidelines for the preparation of an MSR. This MSR adheres to the procedures set forth in the MSR Guidelines.

A Sphere of Influence is a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the affected Local Agency Formation Commission (Government Code §56076). Government Code §56425(f) requires that each Sphere of Influence be updated not less than every five years, and §56430 provides that a Municipal Service Review shall be conducted in advance of the Sphere of Influence update.

1.2 Municipal Service Review Requirements

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

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

1.3 Sphere of Influence Requirements

In determining the Sphere of Influence for each local agency, LAFCO must consider and prepare a written statement of determinations with respect to each of the following:

1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, which the agency provides, or is, authorized to provide.
4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.

1.4 Preparation of the MSR

Research for this Municipal Service Review (MSR) was conducted over a twelve months period occurring during the March 2007-May 2008. Since that time, several modifications may have been made reflecting dynamic circumstances. This MSR is intended to support preparation and update of Spheres of Influence, in accordance with the provisions of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act. The objective of this Municipal Service Review (MSR) is to develop recommendations that will promote more efficient and higher quality service patterns; identify areas for service improvement; and assess the adequacy of service provision as it relates to determination of appropriate sphere boundaries. While LAFCO prepared the MSR document, LAFCO did not engage the services of experts in engineering, law enforcement, fire protection, recreation and other specialists in related fields, but relied upon reports and district and county staff for information. Therefore, this MSR reflects LAFCO's recommendations, based on available information during the research period and provided by district and county staff to assist in its determinations related to promoting more efficient and higher quality service patterns; identifying areas for service improvement; and assessing the adequacy of service provision for the District.

2. LASSEN COUNTY

2.1 Introduction to Fire Protection in Lassen County

This Municipal Service Review evaluates fire protection and emergency medical services within Lassen County, California for the City of Susanville and the Susanville Area.

In addition to local protection agencies fire protection and emergency medical services are provided by the following federal and state agencies:

Federal Agencies:

1. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
2. National Forest Service
3. National Park Service
4. Sierra Army Depot

State Agencies:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)
Department of Corrections

This Chapter discusses Lassen County characteristics as they relate to fire protection and emergency medical services, including the topography and climate conditions. In addition, the Chapter identifies statutes and regulations that apply to such services, and identifies the various agencies in Lassen County that are involved in providing such services.

2.2 Lassen County Background and General Setting

2.2.1 Lassen County Topography

Lassen County is located in northeastern California. It is bordered on the north by Modoc County, on the south by Plumas and Sierra Counties, on the west by Shasta County, and on the east by the State of Nevada.

Lassen County contains varied topography. The County has a variety of open valleys, forested plateaus, mountain meadows, and high mountain peaks and ranges. Various river and stream courses dominate the landscape, along with Honey Lake and Eagle Lake, the major water features of the County (Eagle Lake is the second largest natural lake located wholly within California).

The total land area in Lassen County is approximately 2,910,080 acres. Of this land area, over 63 percent consists of public lands managed by Federal, state or other governmental agencies. Over 1,025,000 acres in Lassen County are managed by the Bureau of Land Management and approximately 610,000 acres are managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Other public lands include Lassen Volcanic National Park, the Sierra Army Depot, and lands owned by the State of California, including lands managed primarily for wildlife resources by the

California Department of Fish and Game. There are also Indian Lands north and east of Susanville.

Most of the land in Lassen County is underdeveloped. Of the total 2,910,080 acres included within the County, a very large portion consists of wildland areas of forest or brushland.

Lassen County sits in two hydrologic regions, the North Lahonton Hydrologic Region and the Sacramento River Hydrologic Region as described below:

- A. The North Lahonton Hydrologic Region covers approximately 3.91 million acres and includes portions of Modoc, Lassen, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Alpine, Mono, and Tuolumne counties.
- B. The Sacramento River Hydrologic Region covers approximately 17.4 million acres and includes portions of Modoc, Siskiyou, Lassen, Shasta, Tehama, Glenn, Plumas, Butte, Lassen, Sutter, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, El Dorado, Yolo, Solano, Lake, and Napa counties.

2.2.2 Lassen County Climate

The climate of Lassen County is variable but in general is characterized by warm dry summers and cold moist winters. Most of the precipitation falls between October and May. The average annual rainfall ranges from four inches along the Nevada border in the eastern Honey Lake Valley and increases going west to 48 inches near Juniper Lake in Lassen Volcanic National Park. Average daily temperatures range from 69.6 degrees Fahrenheit in July to 20.4 degrees Fahrenheit in January. Wildland fire season varies slightly, but usually runs from late May to late October.

2.2.3 Lassen County Communities

Lassen County includes one incorporated city, the City of Susanville, and various unincorporated communities throughout the county. Unincorporated community centers include Westwood, Clear Creek, Bieber, Johnstonville, Janesville, Standish, Litchfield, Doyle, Herlong, Milford, Leavitt Lake, and Little Valley.

The primary means of access to Lassen County is via automobile, and the roadway system within Lassen County serves as the primary means of movement between communities. The major service routes are as follows:

- A. U.S. Highway 395, which serves as a north-south route connecting Lassen County to points north via Alturas, and points south including the metropolitan area of Reno, Nevada;
- B. State Route 36, which provides regional access to Lassen County from west via the Lake Almanor Basin;
- C. State Route 44, which intersects Highway 36 approximately 7 miles west of Susanville, connects the County to Redding and points north;

- D. State Route 139, which connects Susanville with Lassen Community College and the northern communities of the County via Willow Creek Valley, the north shore of Eagle Lake and State Route 299 in Big Valley;
- E. State Route 299, which connects the area of Big Valley with Alturas in Modoc County to the northeast and with Shasta County, Redding and Interstate 5 to the west;
- F. State Route 147, with less than two miles of this State Route running through Lassen County, connecting with State Route 36 approximately five miles west of Westwood.

Recreational opportunities in Lassen County attract a substantial number of visitors to the area, especially in the summer. The summer population can sometimes exceed the resident population, especially on holiday weekends. This increase in visitor population is largely attributed to second-home ownership in community centers and various recreational attractions such as Eagle Lake, the Lassen Volcanic National Park and the Bizz Johnson trail.

Residential development in Lassen County is sporadic, with approximately 10,000 residents (excluding prison inmates) living in the greater Susanville area (Susanville, Richmond-Gold Run, and Janesville). The population balance is distributed in the smaller communities around the County.

2.3 Lassen County Population and Growth

The 2000 population (including inmates) of Lassen County was 33,828, increasing to 35,757 by 1/1/2008 (State Dept of Finance Table 2: E-5). This is an increase of 5.7%. There were 12,000 housing units in the County in 2000. The January 2008 population of Susanville was 17,570 (including inmates) or 49.1% of the County.

There were 9,625 households in Lassen County in 2000 with 2.59 persons per household. The median Household Income in 2000 was \$36,310. There is an anticipated capacity for an additional 18,300 new housing units countywide over the next 18 years.

The following table sets forth the population projected for Lassen County through 2050:

LASSEN COUNTY PROJECTED POPULATION, 2010-2050 (including inmates)	Year	2010	2020	2030	2040	2050
	Projected Population	37,918	42,394	47,240	51,596	55,989

Source: California Department of Finance, July 2007.

The existing population centers in Lassen County will most likely be the areas in which future population increases will occur. This is a function of Lassen County's topography, and the difficulty of providing municipal services in remote or mountainous areas.

2.4 Lassen County Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Fire protection and emergency medical services are provided in Lassen County by 18 local protection entities, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE), the Sierra Army Depot, the Department of Corrections, the National Park Services, and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). In addition to the 18 fire protection entities in Lassen County, one Fire Department in Shasta County (the McArthur Fire Department) assists the Lassen Northwest Fire Protection District and CALFIRE with wildland fires and structural fires.

The Banner Lassen Medical Center in Susanville offers 24-hour emergency services. SEMSA (Susanville Emergency Medical Service Association) is the ambulance provider for the exclusive Operating Area only, which in part includes the territory covered in this MSR. SEMSA has an ambulance located in Susanville, and offers 24-hour emergency assistance. Modoc Ambulance supplies emergency medical services for the Big Valley Area including Adin, Bieber, Lookout and Nubieber.

2.4.1 Volunteer Role in Fire Protection and Emergency Medical Services

Fire protection efforts throughout Lassen County rely heavily on volunteer efforts in conjunction with State and Federal agencies. Due to the scarcity of financial resources throughout the County, there is a heavy reliance on volunteer personnel in the local Departments (including the City of Susanville).

Every fire protection entity in Lassen County (Community Services District/Fire Protection District) relies on volunteer staff—only the City of Susanville supports a full department of paid Firefighter personnel with volunteer backup (the Sierra Army Depot and the State and Federal agencies also have paid firefighting staff). Westwood CSD and the Clear Creek CSD rely on one paid position, and one half-time paid position, respectively, in addition to volunteers.

There are increasing training demands for firefighting personnel. Training in firefighting skills is one component, but training also includes the skills required for responding to medical emergencies and hazardous materials events. The training required for a volunteer is estimated at 200 hours per year, and has become a substantial challenge for any individual wishing to maintain a volunteer relationship with a local district.

2.4.2 Cooperative Safety Programs in Lassen County

There are several key service areas in which governmental agencies have established cooperative efforts in Lassen County as follows:

A. 9-1-1 Emergency Dispatch

The Susanville Interagency Fire Center (SIFC) was established in 1982 to provide emergency dispatching services for the Lassen National Forest, Norcal BLM, CALFIRE Lassen-Modoc Unit, and Lassen Volcanic National Park. In 1984 a Joint Powers Agreement (Firenet Lassen)

between the local departments was established. Firenet Lassen contracted with CALFIRE to provide 24-hour emergency dispatching services through SIFC (911 calls for all fire related emergencies are routed to SIFC from the Lassen County Sheriff's office). All local departments and the ambulance company (SEMSA) receive these services.

SIFC uses the "closest available resources" concept when dispatching for emergencies. When an emergency occurs anywhere in the 6.5 million-acre SIFC protection area, the closest fire engines, aircraft or crews respond, regardless of jurisdiction. During fire season, SIFC dispatchers can call on 30 fire engines, three helicopters, an air tanker and 18 ground crews. During major incidents, they can summon resources from anywhere in the state or nation. Center managers from the CALFIRE, BLM and Lassen National Forest (NFS) equally share management responsibilities.

Fire Protection Districts and Community Service Districts Served by the Susanville Interagency Fire Center (SIFC):

1. Big Valley FPD
2. California Correctional Center
3. Spaulding FPD
4. Lake Forest FPD
5. Milford CSD
6. Stones-Bengard CSD
7. Susan River FPD
8. Chester FPD (Plumas County)
9. Peninsula FPD (Plumas County)
10. Almanor West FPD (Plumas County)
11. Clear Creek FPD
12. Doyle FPD
13. Janesville FPD
14. Little Valley FPD
15. Sierra Army Depot FD
16. Standish-Litchfield FPD
17. Westwood CSD
18. Hamilton Branch FPD (Plumas County)
19. Prattville FPD (Plumas County)
20. SEMSA

B. Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid Agreements

Each of the fire protection districts is a member of a Mutual Aid Agreement with the CALFIRE that provides for assistance for wildland fires in State Responsibility Areas (SRA). Each of the fire protection districts is a member of a Master Mutual Aid Agreement that provides for assistance for fire and other emergency events that exceed the capacity of any individual district. Mutual aid agreements are standardized throughout the state to ensure assistance can be obtained from outside fire districts across the state.

The local departments rely upon Mutual Aid Agreements for assistance during emergencies (when requested) that exceed the capacity of the requesting department.

A few departments have Automatic Aid Agreements to ensure a more rapid response from neighboring departments.

C. Training

Training exercises are held for the purpose of improving coordination between the various agencies that operate in Lassen County. Historically cooperative training has been coordinated through the Feather River College. However, these training seminars will now be through Lassen Community College located in Susanville.

CALFIRE Lassen-Modoc Unit also does yearly training and assists with the Lassen College training seminars.

D. Fire Safe Councils

Two Fire Safe Councils are in operation within the County, including the Janesville and the Lassen County Fire Safe Councils. The Lassen Co. Board of Supervisors adopted Community Fire Safe Plans throughout the County. Implementation of these plans includes an annual meeting of the Lassen County Fire Safe Council to update projects contained in the plans. The Day Bench Fire Safe Council and the Tionesta Basin Advisory Group also have interests within portions of the County.

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

E. Hazardous Materials

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

F. Lassen County Fire Officer's Association

The Lassen County Fire Officer's Association meets as necessary at the Susanville Fire Department. The Association organizes training opportunities and communication procedures for the districts.

The following organizations are members of the Lassen County Fire Officer's Association:

1. Big Valley Fire Protection District
2. City of Susanville Fire Department
3. Clear Creek Community Services District
4. Doyle Fire Protection District
5. Eagle Lake Fire Department
6. Janesville Fire Protection District
7. Lake forest Fire Protection District
8. Little Valley Fire Protection District
9. Madeline Fire Protection District
10. Northwest Lassen County Fire Protection District
11. Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District
12. Susan River Fire Protection District
13. California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)
14. California Correctional Center Fire Department
15. Sierra Army Depot Fire Department
16. U.S. Forest Service
17. Bureau of Land Management
18. NE California Fire Prevention Council

2.5 Standards in Review of Fire and Emergency Service Adequacy

Standards used for comparison or evaluation are based on a combination of locally adopted thresholds, State and Federal performance measures, or other criteria, as relevant. Following are some of the major criteria and standards used for evaluation of the districts within this Municipal Service Review.

2.5.1 ISO Rating

The Insurance Services Office (ISO) uses a 1-10 rating scale to assess the adequacy of fire services from a particular station or district. A rating of one (1) is the best level of service and a rating of ten (10) is the lowest level of service. These ratings are the basis for setting fire insurance premium costs for local property owners, and thus are of significant importance to residents and property owners within each district.

The rating assigned to a particular district or station is based on three factors: communication (10 percent), water supply (40 percent), and fire department abilities (50 percent). ISO ratings worse than five (5) result in increased insurance premiums, and ratings of nine (9) or ten (10) typically result in premiums twice as high as areas which have a rating of seven (7) or less.

2.5.2 Fire Flow Standards

Fire flow is a measure of the amount of water available for use in firefighting in a particular area. Minimum fire flow standards are typically adopted by local districts, based on local requirements and desires. Where local districts have not adopted standards relative to minimum fire flows, this MSR relies on standards recommended by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) or the California Fire Code as indicated in the following tables:

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION RECOMMENDED MINIMUM FIRE FLOW STANDARDS

PRIMARY LAND USE	RECOMMENDED FIRE FLOW
RURAL, RESIDENTIAL WITH A LOT DENSITY OF TWO OR LESS PER-ACRE, PRIMARILY FOR RECREATIONAL OR PART TIME OCCUPANCY	250 GPM
LOT DENSITY OF LESS THAN ONE SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL UNIT PER ACRE	500 GPM
LOT DENSITY OF ONE OR TWO SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL UNITS PER ACRE	750 GPM
LOT DENSITY OF THREE OR MORE SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL UNITS PER ACRE, INCLUDING MOBILE HOME PARKS	1,000 GPM
DUPLEX RESIDENTIAL UNITS, NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS OF ONE STORY	1,500 GPM
MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL, ONE AND TWO STORIES LIGHT COMMERCIAL OR LIGHT INDUSTRIAL	2,000 GPM
MULTIPLE RESIDENTIAL, THREE STORIES OR HIGHER, HEAVY COMMERCIAL OR HEAVY INDUSTRIAL	2,500 GPM

**2001 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE FIRE –FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR BUILDINGS
MINIMUM REQUIRED FIRE FLOW AND FLOW DURATION FOR SMALLER BUILDINGS**

FIRE AREA SQUARE FEET					FIRE FLOW GPM 20 PSI	DURATION HOURS
TYPE I-FR* II-F.R.	TYPE II ONE-HR* III ONE-HR	TYPE IV-HT* V-ONE HR	TYPE II-N* III-N	TYPE V-N*		
0-22,700	0-12,700	0-8,200	0-5,900	0-3,600	1500	2
22,701-30,200	12,701-17,000	8,201-10,900	5,901-7,900	3601-4800	1750	2
30,201-38,700	17,001-21,800	10,901-12,900	7,901-9800	4801-6200	2000	2
38,701-48,300	21,801-24,200	12,901-17,400	9801-12,600	6201-7700	2250	2
48,301-59,000	24,201-33,200	17,401-21,300	12,601-15,400	7701-9400	2500	2
59,001-70,900	33,201-39,700	21,301-25,500	15,401-18,400	9401-11,300	2750	2
70,901-83,700	39,701-47,100	25,501-30,100	18,401-21,800	11,301-13,400	3000	3
83,701-97,700	47,101-54,9000	30,101-35,200	21,801-25,900	13,401-15,600	3250	3

* Types of construction are based upon the Building Code.

97,701- 112,700	54,901- 63,400	35,201- 40,600	25,901- 29,300	15,601- 18,000	3500	3
112,701- 128,700	63,401- 42,400	40,601- 46,400	29,301- 33,500	18,001- 20,600	3750	3
128,701- 145,900	72,401- 82,100	46,401- 52,500	33,501- 37,900	20,601- 23,300	4000	4

THE MINIMUM FIRE FLOW FOR ONE- AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS HAVING A FIRE AREA, WHICH DOES NOT EXCEED 3,600 SQUARE FEET, IS 1,000 GPM. A REDUCTION IN REQUIRED FIRE FLOW OF 50%, AS APPROVED, IS ALLOWED WHEN THE BUILDING IS PROVIDED WITH AN APPROVED AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEM.

3. CITY OF SUSANVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Susanville Fire Department was formed in 1900 (at the time Susanville was incorporated), and is governed by the five-member City Council. The Susanville Fire Department is the only paid local protection entity in Lassen County.

The City Fire Department provides fire suppression, fire prevention, and first responder emergency medical services. The Department is also responsible for the enforcement of local ordinances and State laws. In addition, the Fire Department has aided all businesses in developing pre-suppression/pre-attack plans for their facilities. SEMSA provides ambulance service for the City of Susanville.

The Susanville Fire Department was given an ISO Class Rating of 4, which is considered better than average.

Average response time for the City of Susanville Fire Department (within Susanville) is approximately 3 minutes, with a maximum of 6 minutes to remote parts of the City; response times for the other fire agencies including Susan River, Doyle and Westwood vary from 2 to 45 minutes respectively.

Access problems include tree limbs in the roadways and blocked alleyways due to inadequate parking. Access during winter months is adequate, with no added limitations to provide service. Overall the Susanville Fire Department's ability to provide service can be characterized as good. The Fire Department is working to improve their access time to 3 minutes for fire protection service and 2 minutes for EMS service. The total service area served (City of Susanville) is approximately 5.9 square miles (not including mutual aid service calls).

Contact Information for the City of Susanville Fire Department is as follows:

City of Susanville Fire Department
1505 Main Street
Susanville, CA 95963

Phone: 530-527-3212

Web Site:
www.cityofsusanville.org/firedepartment.html

3.1 City of Susanville Population

As of the census of 2000, there were 13,541 people, 3,516 households, and 2,250 families residing in the City. The Census data includes the residents of the State Prison.

As of January 1, 2008 the City of Susanville had a population of 17,570 persons and 4,107 households. (population/housing figures were prepared by the Department of Finance, Table 2:E-5 City/County Population Estimates 1/1/2008).

3.2 Fire Department Service Calls

Total calls for service are listed in below:

City of Susanville Fire Department Service Calls 2001-2006

Situation	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006/ 2007
Fire	72	84	70	73	82	96/ 89
Over-pressure	7	3	1	2	0	2/ 2
Rescue/ems	468	689	731	754	956	1028/ 986
Hazar-dous Condition	17	35	31	33	33	32/ 30
Service Call	124	138	146	160	150	166/ 183
Good Intent	124	138	146	160	150	54/ 54
False Alarm/ False Call	29	66	58	59	48	29/ 28
Special Incident	7	1	1	1	1	0/ 0
Year End Total Incidents	738	1098	1067	1087	1311	1405/ 1387

Source: City of Susanville Fire Department

Although the number of calls has increased, the number of EMS calls remains by far the highest percentage. The City of Susanville has gone through multiple reorganizations since its incorporation. The City is planning for future annexations. The Northside Area Annexation in 1993 included approximately 900 acres.

3.3 City of Susanville Fire Department Personnel

The Susanville Fire Department is managed under Fire Chief Stuart Ratner. The Fire Department operates 24-hours a day with at least 2 EMS personnel (at least 3-4 during the day

with at least one technician with EMT or First Responder status at all time. The Fire Chief and Battalion Chief work 5 days a week, 8am to 5pm, and the remaining department staff works 56-hour workweek with 24-hour shift.

Total personnel for the City of Susanville Fire Department consists of eight career personnel, including the Chief, Battalion Chief and one administrative position. The paid staff has an accumulated total of more than 100 years of public safety experience.

The Department is complemented by a group of volunteers, whose authorized membership numbers 30. In addition, the Department offers 20 EMS personnel and a Fire Prevention/Code Enforcement Official (one of the Captains). The Department also maintains a close relationship with a Fire Explorer Post 2911 of the Boy Scouts of America. There are ten Fire Explorer Scouts.

3.4 City of Susanville Fire Department Facilities and Equipment

The Fire Department operates one full fire station at 1505 Main Street in Susanville and currently operates a temporary station at Lassen College at an abandoned co-generation plant. The City of Susanville Fire Department uses a wide variety of equipment in the provision of fire protection.

The Table below lists all City Fire Department equipment:

City of Susanville Fire Department Equipment					
Kind	Type	Capacity	Make	Year	Pumping Capacity
Engine	1	1250 gpm	International	2001	750 gal
Engine	1	750 gpm	Spartan	1993	1500 gal
Engine	2	500 gpm	International	1987	500 gal
Engine	2	800 gpm	International	1976	1000 gal
Engine	2	800 gpm	International	1975	1000 gal
Engine	3	300 gpm	Dodge 3500	1996	250 gal
Truck Co.	1		Oshkosh	1976	
Engine	1	750 gpm	Weststates HME	2005	1000 gal
Utility Transport	2		Ford F-250	2001	
Utility Transport	2		Chevrolet ½ ton	1990	
Utility Transport	2		Ford Explorer 4x4	1996	

Source: City of Susanville Fire Department, 2008.

3.5 City of Susanville Fire Department Training

City of Susanville Fire Department staff is considered to be “very well trained” and capable of providing excellent fire suppression and life support services. EMS training including protocols for Basic Life Support (BLS) is provided by NORCAL and fire protection training including National Incident Management System (NIMS) meets the OSFM (Office of State Fire Marshall) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards.

3.6 City of Susanville Fire Department Water Supply

The City of Susanville provides the Department with fire flows up to 3,500 gpm for the largest structures. The Department is able to use 4 million gallons total combined storage for fire suppression needs. Hydrant spacing is considered adequate with 394 total hydrants spaced at 300 feet.

3.7 City of Susanville Fire Department Finances

The Susanville Fire Department is financially supported by the City's General Fund. Mitigation Impact fees for new development include \$0.81 per square foot of covered space for Residential buildings and \$1.01 per square foot of covered space for Commercial buildings (City Resolution No. 06-4088 effective July 1, 2006).

All finances are handled exclusively by the City Finance Department (Fire Chief Stu Ratner, March 2007).

3.8 City of Susanville Fire Department Mutual Aid Agreements

The City of Susanville Fire Department has an automatic aid agreement with the Susan River Fire Protection District. The City has mutual aid agreements with all the Lassen County fire departments as well as various state agencies including the California Department of Forestry (CALFIRE), the California Correctional Center, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the California Office of Emergency Services (OES).

The Fire Department shares equipment and personnel as part of this mutual aid agreement, and is obligated to respond to emergencies within the State of California with its OES engine. This agreement is formal and can be terminated only through a written request (Fire Chief Stu Ratner, March 2007).

3.9 City of Susanville City Council

The City of Susanville was incorporated in 1900 and is a general law city. The five-member elected City Council is the legislative and policy-making body of the City. The City Council consists of five Council members who represent the City at large. The Mayor is selected by the City Council from among its members. Regular Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

3.10 MSR City of Susanville Fire Department Determinations

3.10.1 Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area MSR Determinations

- 1-1) The City of Susanville is expected to grow and will have approximately 10,054 persons (excluding the State Prison population) by the year 2010.

**3.10.2 Capacity and Infrastructure
MSR Determinations**

- 2-1) The City of Susanville Fire Department has adequate equipment for fire protection.
- 2-2) The City of Susanville has adequate water for fire protection.

3.10.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations

- 3-1) The City of Susanville has a good financial position to support the Fire Department.
- 3-2) The City of Susanville supplements the paid fire fighting staff with volunteer fire fighters according to the ISO standard of three volunteers to one paid fire fighter.
- 3-3) The Susanville Fire Department is financially supported by the City's General Fund.
- 3-4) Mitigation Impact fees for new development include \$.81 per square foot of covered space for Residential buildings and \$1.01 per square foot of covered space for Commercial buildings (City Resolution No. 06-4088 effective July 1, 2006).

3.10.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations

- 4-1) The City of Susanville Fire Department has an automatic aid agreement with the Susan River Fire Protection District and has agreed to provide emergency medical services to territory within the Susan River FPD.
- 4-2) The City has mutual aid agreements with all the Lassen County fire departments and districts.
- 4-3) The City has mutual aid agreements with various state agencies including the California Department of Forestry (CALFIRE), the California Correctional Center, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the California Office of Emergency Services (OES).

3.10.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations

- 5-1) The City is the best form of government for this area.
- 5-2) A joint powers agreement with the Susan River FPD for fire and EMS services could be examined as an option.
- 5-3) The City of Susanville Fire Department is run in an efficient and cost effective manner.
- 5-4) The City of Susanville Fire Department sends out an employee newsletter and maintains a website at www.cityofsusanville.org.

4. LAKE FOREST ESTATES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

4.1 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Background

The Lake Forest Estates community is located approximately two miles west of the intersection of State Route 36 and Lassen County Road A-1. This intersection is two miles west of Susanville. Total land within the District's Service Area is approximately 160 acres with an elevation of 5000 to 5120 feet above sea level.

The Lake Forest Estates community (designated as a "Residential Center" in the Lassen County General Plan) is a developed subdivision consisting of 241 parcels of which 204 have constructed dwellings. The community is predominantly comprised of year-round residences with a few seasonal dwellings, or second homes, as well. The majority of community members commute to Susanville for employment (Lake Forest Estates Fire Safe Plan, January 2004).

The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District was formed February 7, 1984 by LAFCO Resolution No. 83/84-63. The subdivision was created in 1969 and 1971. The Volunteer Fire Department started operating in 1975 and built a 2000 square foot fire hall in 1977.

The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District (LFFPD) is located within State Responsibility Area (SRA) with wildland fire protection provided by CALFIRE. The LFFPD provides fire protection with a district fire station located in the community. Their primary mission is response to structure fires and medical assistance, however they respond to wildland fires as well.

Large forested parcels surround the Lake Forest Estates Community. The primary landowner is Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI). The subdivision of Lake Forest itself as well as the surrounding land is privately owned. Other ownerships in the vicinity of the community include Shasta Forests, a large non-industrial private landowner whose lands are managed by W.M. Beatty and Associates (WBA), Inc., and Lassen National Forest (LNF).

The District has an ISO rating of 5, which was rated in 2005.

Contact information for the Fire District is as follows:

Lake Forest Estates
Fire Protection District
691200 Janet Way
Susanville, CA

Phone 530-257-9593

4.2 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Personnel

The Lake Forest Estates FPD fire station is staffed by 10 volunteer fire fighters according to the "Lake Forest Estates Community Fire Safe Plan."

4.3 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Facilities and Equipment

The LFFPD operates with the following equipment (Susanville Interagency Fire Center):

<u>Equipment Type</u>		<u>Gallons</u>	<u>GPM</u>	<u>Drive</u>	<u>Other</u>
Engine	2	750	1,000	2x4	
Engine	3	300	125	2x4	
Engine	2	600	500	4x4	
Rescue				4x4	Extrication

4.4 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Water Supply

The Lake Forest Estates community is also serviced by a community water district with a central water system that includes 26 fire hydrants off 6-inch mains within 800 feet of every residence (Lake Forest Estates Fire Safe Plan, January 2004). This water system is serviced by two water storage tanks with a total storage capacity of approximately 420,000 gallons and two wells. The system includes a 160,000 gallon water tank fitted for water tenders. This tank is to be used for fire suppression only. Fire flow within the district is 487 gallons per minute.

4.5 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Finances

The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District had \$18,874 in the Unrestricted Fund Balance as of June 30, 2005. The income for 2005-2006 was \$9,582, a decrease from the 2004-2005 income of \$11,787. The 2005-2006 expenses were \$10,122. The voters recently approved a fire tax for the District. As a result, actual income in 2006-2007 increased to \$21,081. The approved 2007-2008 budget was \$20,200.

4.6 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Mutual Aid Agreements

The LFFPD has mutual aid agreements with CALFIRE, Susan River FPD, USDA Forest Service, BLM and Westwood CSD.

4.7 Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Board

The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District has a five-member elected Board of Directors.

4.8 MSR Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District Determinations

4.8.1 Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area MSR Determinations

- 1-1) There are 37 vacant lots within the Lake Forest Estates subdivision so the population will grow slightly.

4.8.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations

- 2-1) The Lake Forest Estates FPD fire protection equipment is adequate for a small district in a rural area.
- 2-2) The Lake Forest Estate FPD has an adequate water supply for fire protection.

4.8.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations

- 3-1) The Lake Forest Estates FPD appears to have a limited budget and limited opportunities for increased tax revenue.
- 3-2) The Lake Forest Estates FPD uses volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-3) The Lake Forest Estates FPD has approved a special tax for fire protection.
- 3-4) Lake Forest Estates FPD, as a fire service provider, is a non-enterprise District.

4.8.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations

- 4-1) The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District needs to work with other fire protection districts as much as possible to have joint training sessions and to coordinate fire protection efforts.
- 4-2) The Lake Forest Estate FPD should consider merging with a larger fire protection district such as the Susan River Fire Protection District or participating in an area-wide Joint Powers Agreement.

4.8.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations

- 5-1) The District could develop more programs aimed at improving customer service such as development of a Mission Statement, safety training workshops, distribution of a District Newsletter, or development of a website for increased dissemination of District information (such as meeting times, projects, etc.).
- 5-2) The District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-3) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

5. STANDISH-LITCHFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Standish and Litchfield communities lie 15 miles south and east of Susanville on US Route 395. US Route 395 and the Susan River bisect the communities. The population of this area in 2000 was 764 (increased from 363 in 1990). The Shaffer Elementary School, grades K to 8 is located in Litchfield. There are 154 houses in Litchfield and 165 houses in Standish. The vacancy rate is low which would indicate that most of the homes are occupied year-around.

Contact information for Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District is as follows:

Standish-Litchfield
Fire Protection District
472 Chappuis Lane
Susanville, CA

Phone: 530-254-6601

5.1 Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Personnel

The Standish-Litchfield FPD has ten volunteer firefighters.

5.2 Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Facilities and Equipment

Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection Equipment					
Equipment	Type	Gallons	GPM	Drive	Other
Engine	1	750	1250	4x4	
Engine	3	400	250	4x4	Foam
Engine	2	1000	1000	2x4	
Engine	2	750	1000	2x4	
Engine	3	650	500	2x4	
Water Tender		4,000	800		4000 Gallon porta-tank
Water Tender		2,500	250		

5.3 Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Water Supply

According to the "Standish-Litchfield Community Fire Safe Plan", "All residents are on wells for water as there is no central water system within the community. Power and telephone service is above ground." In addition to the equipment listed above, the district has access to three agricultural wells with hookups to use in fire protection activities. There are no water systems in the district boundary so no existing fire flow data exists.

5.4 Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Finances

The Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District has \$19,005 in the Unreserved Fund Balance as of June 30, 2005 and \$54,518 in Developer Fees as of the same date. The revenue of the District was \$74,449 in 2004-05 and \$95,545 in 2005-06. The expenses were \$74,409 in 2004-05 and \$135,461 in 2005-06. According to the 2007-2008 Budget the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District had \$28,612 in unreserved funds and \$56,835 in developer fees.

5.5 Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Mutual Aid Agreements

The Standish-Litchfield FPD has mutual aid agreements with CALFIRE, BLM, USDA Forest Service, Susan River FPD, Janesville FPD and the California Department of Correction's fire department.

5.6 Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Board

The Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District has an elected five-member Board of Directors.

5.7 MSR Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District Determinations

5.7.1 Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area MSR Determinations

- 1-1) There are 19 vacant housing units in Standish and 15 vacant housing units in Litchfield so the population will grow slightly.

5.7.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations

- 2-1) The Standish-Litchfield FPD has limited equipment and depends on mutual aid from other districts in most every emergency.

5.7.3 Financial Ability MSR Determinations

- 3-1) The Standish-Litchfield FPD has an active group of volunteers.
- 3-2) Standish-Litchfield FPD, as a fire service provider, is a non-enterprise District.
- 3-4) The Standish-Litchfield FPD does receive developer fees, which can be used for new equipment.

5.7.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations

- 4-1) Fire protection services will require extensive cooperation with other agencies if not shared facilities.

5.7.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations

- 5-1) The Board of Directors should work with the Board of Supervisors, the Local Agency Formation Commission and other districts in the County to see if a County-wide or regional fire protection district would be a benefit.
- 5-2) The District could explore the possibility of merging or entering into a region-wide Joint Powers Agreement for Fire Protection.
- 5-3) If merging districts were to be considered, a joint powers authority structure may be used to coordinate efforts and develop consensus for the idea prior to the actual merger.
- 5-4) The District could develop more programs aimed at improving customer service such as development of a Mission Statement, safety training workshops, distribution of a District Newsletter, or development of a website for increased dissemination of District information (such as meeting times, projects, etc.). Perhaps the District could work with other fire protection districts to do this for several districts together.
- 5-5) The District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-6) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

6. SUSAN RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

6.1 Susan River FPD Background

The Susan River Fire Protection District surrounds the city of Susanville. The Richmond/Gold Run and Johnstonville communities are a fast growing area due to employees associated with recent prison expansion. The Susan River Fire Protection District also provides fire protection to Leavitt Lake Subdivision, Rice Canyon, the Golf Course, and the Susanville airport. The population of the District is approximately 4,789.

The Susan River alluvial plain is the area's dominant physical feature. Irrigated crops are grown in the area. The elevation ranges from 4,100 feet at the surface of Lake Leavitt to the peaks of the Diamond Mountains exceeding 8,000 feet in elevation.

In 2001 the Susan River FPD responded to 103 calls, in 2005 they responded to 109 incidents.

Contact Information for Susan River Fire Protection District is as follows:

Phone 530-257-7477

6.2 Susan River Fire Protection District Personnel

The Fire Chief operates the District with 25 volunteer fire fighters, including one Assistant Chief, 3 Captains and one Administrative Officer.

6.3 Susan River Fire Protection District Facilities and Equipment

The Susan River Fire Protection District has three fire stations as follows:

Susan River Station #1 on Richmond Road and

Susan River Station #2 in Johnstonville.

Susan River Station #3 in Leavitt Lake

The Susan River FPD has the following equipment:

Equipment	Type	Gallons	GPM	Drive	Other
Engine	1	1500	1250	2x4	Foam
Engine	3	500	350	4x4	
Engine	2	750	1200	2x4	Foam
Engine	3	500	350	4x4	Foam
2-Engines	2	800 ea	1000ea	2x4	
Water Tender	1	2800	750	2x2	Trailer
2-Water Tenders	1	3800 each	800	6x4	Foam
Water Tender	1	2750	750	6x4	Trailer

6.4 Susan River Fire Protection District Water Supply

There is no central water system serving the entire Richmond-Gold Run- or Johnstonville community area. The new subdivisions have fire hydrants served by their own water system sources. A recently completed water well at the Johnstonville station will supply water to that station.

The Leavitt Lake Community Services District supplies water to 19 fire hydrants with a fire flow of 500 gallons per minute (gpm). The fire hydrants are flushed once each year along with the distribution system as a whole. The CSD is within the Susan River Fire Protection District.

6.5 Susan River Fire Protection District Finances

According to the 2007-08 Budget the Susan River Fire Protection District had \$162,815 in the unreserved fund balance on June 30, 2007 and \$84,241 in Developer fees. The total available financing was \$115,608 for the Fire Protection District and \$115,518 for the Developer fees fund.

6.6 Susan River Fire Protection District Mutual Aid Agreements

The Susan River Fire Protection District has mutual aid agreements with the City of Susanville, the Janesville Fire Protection District, the Standish-Litchfield FPD, CALFIRE, BLM, and the US Forest Service.

In addition to the mutual aid, SRFD, Susanville Fire and Janesville FPD have an automatic aid agreement . All three districts automatically respond to an incident in any one of the districts.

6.7 Susan River Fire Protection District Board

The Board of Directors for the District as of June 2005 was as follows:

Jim McCarthy	President
Jim Hardy	Vice-President
Randy Darrow	Commissioner
Thomas Mower	Commissioner
John Wilczynski	Commissioner

6.8 MSR Susan River Fire Protection District Determinations

6.8.1 Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area MSR Determinations

1-1) The Susan River FPD is the most rapidly growing area of Lassen County.

6.8.2 Capacity and Infrastructure MSR Determinations

2-1) The Susan River FPD has adequate equipment for fire protection.

- 2-2) In addition to its own tank truck, the Susan River FPD relies on other special district's or tank trucks for water supply.

**6.8.3 Financial Ability
MSR Determinations**

- 3-1) The Susan River FPD has an excellent financial position.
- 3-2) The Susan River FPD had \$119,608 in the Unrestricted Fund Balance on June 30, 2005 and an additional \$115,518 in developer fees on the same date.
- 3-3) The Susan River FPD relies on volunteer fire fighters.
- 3-4) The Susan River FPD needs to make sure that the developer fees pay the true cost of development.

6.8.4 Opportunities for Shared Facilities MSR Determinations

- 4-1) The Susan River FPD works closely with the City of Susanville Fire Department.
- 4-2) The Susan River FPD should help the other, smaller, fire protection districts in the County as much as possible.
- 4-3) The Board of Directors should work with the Board of Supervisors, the Local Agency Formation Commission and other districts in the County to see if a County-wide or a regional fire protection district would be beneficial.
- 4-4) The District could explore the possibility of having the Janesville (and) or Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection Districts merge.
- 4-5) Prior a merging districts, a joint powers authority structure may be used to coordinate efforts and develop consensus for the idea.
- 4-6) The Susan River FPD has recently entered into an agreement with the City of Susanville for Emergency Medical Services.

6.8.5 Government Structure and Accountability MSR Determinations

- 5-1) The Susan River FPD may wish to contract with the City of Susanville to provide for more participation regarding emergency response, training or EMS from paid staff.
- 5-2) The District could develop more programs aimed at improving customer service such as development of a Mission Statement, safety training workshops, distribution of a District Newsletter, or development of a website for increased dissemination of District information (such as meeting times, projects, etc.). Perhaps the District could work with other fire protection districts to do this for several districts together.
- 5-3) The Susan River FPD Board of Directors meets in public and is available to the citizens as needed.

- 5-4) The District has made reasonable efforts to maintain a public dialogue regarding the provision of fire protection services through regularly held public meetings.
- 5-5) The District should consider an online presence or Newsletter to help disseminate vital fire protection information and to inform voters of meetings and recent events.

7. OTHER FIRE PROTECTION AGENCIES

7.1 Public Land Managed by the Federal Government

7.1.1 National Forest Lands

Portions of Lassen County include Lassen National Forest, Plumas National Forest and Modoc National Forest. Portions of these forests are located in the surrounding Plumas and Modoc Counties. The Lassen, Modoc, and Plumas National Forests administer the USDA Forest Service Lands (610,000 acres total). These lands are managed under the multiple-use concept, which includes recreation, watershed and wildlife uses, timber growing and harvesting, and grazing.

Fire Protection within and adjacent to the Lassen County portions of the Lassen, Plumas and Modoc National Forests is provided through cooperative agreements for mutual aid between the U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE), Bureau of Land Management and local districts within Lassen County.

A. Lassen National Forest

The Lassen National Forest Headquarters is located at 2550 Riverside Drive, Susanville, CA 96130, Phone: (530) 257-2151. The Forest is located in the western part of Lassen County. The Forest is divided into three districts: Eagle Lake-Susanville, Almanor-Chester, and Hat Creek.

According to the Forest Service,

The Lassen Fire Organization includes an Airbase in Chester, a Dispatch Center in Susanville, a Hotshot Crew at Bogard and a Helitack Crew in Chester. In addition, there are 15 fire engines with crews, three ten person handcrews, three water tenders staffed, six fire-lookout towers staffed, six fire prevention technicians, five fuels officers, and six fire management officers/assistants stationed at one of three districts on the Forest.

Dave Rameriz, Fire Officer for the Eagle Lake Ranger District, has the following staff and equipment:

Type III Fire Engine
Type I Water Tender
Type I Handcrew
Type II Handcrew
Two fire prevention technicians

B. Modoc National Forest

The Modoc National Forest Headquarters are at 800 West 12th Street, Alturas, CA 96101, Phone (530) 233-5811. The Modoc National Forest includes a small part in Lassen County along the Modoc County Line.

C. Plumas National Forest

The Plumas National Forest Headquarters are at 159 Lawrence Street, Quincy, CA 95971, Phone: (530) 283-2050. The Plumas National Forest includes a small part in Lassen County along the Plumas County Line.

7.1.2 Bureau of Land Management

The Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management administers a large area of Federal lands (1,025,000 total acres), especially in the non-timbered central and eastern portions of Lassen County. These lands are also managed under the multiple use concept. BLM is also a member of the California Fire Alliance that assists other federal and local agencies in fire management programs.

The National Fire Plan (NFP), prepared following the 2000 fire season, outlined a comprehensive strategy with a commitment to funding for a continued level of "Hazardous Fuel Reduction" and new funding for a "Community Assistance/Community Protection Initiative."

The intent of the initiative is to provide communities interfacing with federal lands an opportunity to get technical assistance and funding to reduce the threat of wildfires. The NFP directed federal agencies to "work directly with communities to ensure adequate protection from wildfires, and to develop a collaborative effort to attain the desired future condition of the land." The key wildland fire management agencies in California have chosen to accomplish this effort through the California Fire Alliance.

According to the Lassen County Fire Plan, Department of the Interior funding will be used to provide technical assistance, training, supplies, equipment, and public education support to rural fire departments, thus enhancing firefighter safety and strengthening wildland fire protection capabilities.

The Doyle BLM Fire Station is staffed seasonally, March to November, with a full staff of seven to eight personnel during the peak fire season. Equipment includes one Type 3 Engine (500 gallon) and one Type 6 Engine (300 gallon). This station is administered out of the BLM Office in Carson City, Nevada.

There are also BLM stations in Ravendale with engines and a Helicopter, and in Susanville with engines and a Hot Shot Crew (the Diamond Mountain Hotshots).

7.1.3 National Park Service

The National Park Service is responsible for fire protection within the Lassen Volcanic National Park. The Fire Officer for the Park is Scott Isaacson, Fire Information Prevention and Education, Phone: 530-595-4444 x5162, Email: scott_isaacson@nps.gov.

7.1.4 United States Sierra Army Depot (SIAD) Fire Department

The SIAD Fire Department has responsibility for providing fire protection with the Depot. However, they will also respond to fire within a twelve-mile radius of the Depot, which includes

the community of Herlong. The Susanville Interagency Fire Center reports the following equipment in service at the Sierra Army Depot:

Equipment	Type	Gallons	GPM	Drive	Other
Engine	1	500	1000		
Engine	1	660	1000		JAWS
Engine	3	250	250		
Engine	3	250	250		
Water Tender	2	1200	250		

The SIAD Fire Department will provide mutual aid to the BLM, CALFIRE, USDA Forest Service, Milford FPD, West Patton Village and the Doyle FPD on a call by call basis.

For over thirty years the Base Commander has authorized the SIAD Fire Department to respond to incidents outside the base. During the period from May 2000 to May 2001, the Depot Fire Department reported the following off-base responses:

- 36 medical aid
- 6 vehicle (extrication)
- 7 wildland fires
- 3 structure fires
- 2 vehicle fires
- 1 false alarm
- 1 flue fire
- 2 smoke checks
- 1 gas leak (hazardous material)
- 3 public service.

However, the primary mission of the SIAD Fire Department is fire and medical aid incident responses within the base. The SIAD Fire Department could be tied up by a major incident within the Depot and not be able to respond to a call for assistance for an incident outside the Base. Funding cutbacks by the military and the recent downsizing of the Depot could also jeopardize this role.

7.1.5 Bureau of Indian Affairs

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has fewer than 1,000 acres within Lassen County located north and east of Susanville. During the fire season, CALFIRE is dispatched by the Susanville Interagency Fire Center(SIFC) (the local responders are also dispatched by SIFC) in response to calls for service for fire or medical emergencies. BIA is one of the members of the California Fire Alliance. In addition, the Alliance provides funding for fire management practices within the entire state. BIA has also arranged verbal agreements with the Lassen, Plumas and Modoc National Forests and local districts within Lassen County to help protect such lands from fire.

7.2 Public Land Managed by the State of California

7.2.1 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE)

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) has a legal responsibility to provide fire protection on all State Responsibility Area (SRA) lands. The State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection identifies SRA areas in which the primary financial responsibility for preventing and suppressing fires is that of the state. These include: lands covered wholly or in part by timber, brush, undergrowth or grass, whether of commercial value or not; lands which protect the soil from erosion, retard run-off of water or accelerated percolation; lands used principally for range or forage purposes; lands not owned by the Federal government; and lands not incorporated.

CALFIRE has SRA responsibility for the protection of over 31 million acres of California's privately owned wildlands. The CALFIRE unit responsible for emergency and fire protection services in the Lassen County area is the Lassen-Modoc Unit. CALFIRE Lassen-Modoc Unit, Unit Chief Brad Lutts, 697-345 Highway 36, Susanville, California 96130, Phone: 530-257-4171.

Local protection agencies/districts are responsible for the Local Responsibility Areas (LRA). LRAs are made up of densely populated areas, agricultural lands, or lands administered by the federal government for which CALFIRE does not have responsibility. All Local Responsibility areas within Lassen County are within the existing boundaries of the fire districts in the County, except for a parcel of land in the immediate vicinity of Honey Lake and the SIAD. The West Patton Village CSD has expanded its Service Area to include this unprotected area. The Herlong Volunteer Fire Department will provide fire protection services when fully set up.

Beyond its wildland fire-fighting role, CALFIRE responds to an average of more than 286,000 non-wildland emergencies throughout the state each year. The Department responds to medical aids of all types, hazardous material spills, swiftwater rescues, search and rescue missions, and civil disturbances. Because of the Department's size and major incident management experience, it is often asked by fire districts to assist or take the lead in disasters. Each of the Lassen County Fire Protection entities has a mutual aid agreement with CALFIRE, which allows the Fire Protection Districts within the County to call on CALFIRE for assistance in major fires that are beyond the control of that particular Fire Protection District.

The State Board of Forestry and CALFIRE have drafted a comprehensive update of the fire plan for wildland fire protection in California. The planning process defines a level of service measurement, considers assets at risk, incorporates the cooperative interdependent relationships of wildland fire protection providers, provides for public stakeholder involvement, and creates a fiscal framework for policy analysis. The overall goal is to reduce total costs and losses from wildland fire in California by protecting assets at risk through focused pre-fire management prescriptions and increasing initial attack success.

The Lassen-Modoc Unit has eight State funded forest fire stations, including one helitack base, five lookouts, three conservation camps, the Susanville Training Center and the Susanville Interagency Fire Center. Five of the eight Lassen-Modoc Unit fire stations are located in Lassen County as follows:

- Bieber Station,

- Eagle Lake Station,
- Susanville Station,
- Grasshopper Station, and
- Westwood Station.

The Little Valley community is located within State Responsibility Area (SRA) with wildfire protection provided by CALFIRE. The initial response CALFIRE engines are dispatched from Bieber and will respond to a fire in Little Valley with two type III engines. Other CALFIRE equipment available for dispatch includes one helicopter, one bulldozer, and four fire crews.

CALFIRE works with volunteer fire departments to provide structure fire protection within the Unit, with paid departments in Susanville City and Herlong. The Lassen Modoc Unit works closely and cooperates with the State Department of Fish and Game, Transportation, California Highway Patrol, and county and city agencies.

The Lassen-Modoc Unit operates the following facilities and equipment (Lassen-Modoc Unit website, www.CALFIREImu.org/about.html):

8 Fire Stations
 13 front line fire engines
 2 reserve fire engines
 5 lookouts
 3 Conservation camps
 Susanville Training Center
 3 medium bulldozers
 1 medium helicopter

The CALFIRE Station at Bieber has two 4-WD Type III engines, one helicopter, and one bulldozer. The level of service provided is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during fire season which is generally the months of June to October. During the remainder of the year the station is staffed as personnel are available.

The CALFIRE station near Stones-Bengard (Grasshopper Fire Station at State Route 139). The level of service provided is 24 hours a day, 7 days a week during fire season which is generally the months of June to October. This station is assigned two 4-WD Type-III fire engines each having a crew of 4 firefighters.

The CALFIRE station at Gallatin located 12 miles south of Spaulding. (South Eagle Lake) is equipped with one Type III 4-WD engine during the fire season with a crew of 4.

The CALFIRE station in Susanville has two type III 4WD engines during the fire season (4 firefighters per engine). During the off-season, one of the engines is staffed with the minimal amount of personnel. This station also has one dozer and miscellaneous administrative personnel.

The CALFIRE station in Westwood has two Type III 4-WD engines during the fire season and one Type III 4-WD engine during the winter months.

7.2.2 California Department of Corrections

The Intermountain Conservation Camp, located north of State Route 299 at the base of Big Valley Mountain, has four 17-person fire crews available for quick response if needed.

The Antelope Conservation Camp located east of Leavitt Lake on Lake Leavitt Road. This camp has five crews with each crew consisting of 12-16 personnel.

Conservation camps are a joint operation between the Department of Corrections and CALFIRE.

7.3 Mutual and Automatic Aid Agreements

Fire departments in Lassen County have written mutual aid agreements whereby equipment may be requested by a department. Under a mutual aid agreement there is a delayed response time since a fire department needs to make a request for the aid. Under a written automatic aid agreement immediate response is provided among departments. Standish-Litchfield, Janesville and the Susan River Fire Departments have automatic an aid agreement for water tenders. The City of Susanville also has an automatic aid agreement with the Susan River Fire Department and CALFIRE.

SUMMARY

District	Population (estimate)	Budget	ISO	Vehicles	Paid Staff	Volunteers	Calls	Water
1. City of Susanville Fire Department	9,303*		4	12	8	30	738	yes
2. Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District	600	2007-08 \$16,680	5	4	0	10		yes
3. Standish - Litchfield Fire Protection District	764	2007-08 \$38,315		7	0	10		
4. Susan River Fire Protection District	4,789	2007-08 \$192,800	8/5	10	0	25	109	Yes, Leavitt Lake CSD only

**Excludes inmates. January 1, 2008 Department of Finance Estimates for the incorporated limits is 17,570 persons*

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 LAFCO's Responsibilities

This Sphere of Influence Update has been prepared for the Lassen Local Agency Formation Commission (Lassen LAFCO). Local Agency Formation Commissions are quasi-legislative local agencies created in 1963 to assist the State in encouraging the orderly development and formation of local agencies. This SOI Update consists of a review of fire protection services as provided by districts and agencies in the greater Susanville Area.

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code §56000 et seq.) is the statutory authority for the preparation of an MSR, and periodic updates of the Sphere of Influence of each local agency. The Governor's Office of Planning and Research has issued Guidelines for the preparation of an MSR. This MSR adheres to the procedures set forth in the MSR Guidelines.

A Sphere of Influence is a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the affected Local Agency Formation Commission (Government Code §56076). Government Code §56425(f) requires that each Sphere of Influence be updated not less than every five years, and §56430 provides that a Municipal Service Review shall be conducted in advance of the Sphere of Influence Update.

1.2 Sphere of Influence Requirements

In determining the Sphere of Influence for each local agency, LAFCO must consider and prepare a written statement of determinations with respect to each of the following:

1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.
2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services which the agency provides, or is authorized to provide.
4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.

2. CITY OF SUSANVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Susanville Fire Department provides 24-hour fire protection and suppression services to the citizens of Susanville. The City Fire Department provides fire suppression, fire prevention, and first responder emergency medical services. The Department is also responsible for the enforcement of local ordinances and State laws. The Department's activities and objectives include the following:

- 1) safety programs for the schools,
- 2) continuous in-service training to upgrade the standards of the fire fighting personnel and volunteers,
- 3) administration of the City's weed abatement program,
- 4) fire extinguisher provisions,
- 5) operation of a fire safety trailer and robot,
- 6) fire station tours,
- 7) health fair demonstrations,
- 8) industrial programs.

The Fire Department has also aided all businesses in developing pre-suppression/pre-attack plans for their facilities. Sierra Emergency Medical Service Alliance SEMSA provides ambulance service for the City of Susanville.

2.1 City of Susanville Fire Protection Personnel

The Susanville Fire Department is managed under Fire Chief Stuart Ratner. The Fire Department operates 24-hours a day with at least 2 EMS personnel (at least 3-4 during the day) with at least one technician with EMT or First Responder status at all times. The Fire Chief and Battalion Chief work 5 days a week, 8am to 5pm, and the remaining department staff works 56-hour workweek with 24-hour shifts.

Total personnel for the City of Susanville Fire Department consists of eight career personnel, including the Chief, Battalion Chief and one administrative position. The paid staff has an accumulated total of more than 100 years of public safety experience.

The Department is complemented by a group of volunteers, whose authorized membership numbers 30. In addition, the Department offers 20 EMS personnel and a Fire Prevention/Code Enforcement Official (one of the Captains). The Department also maintains a close relationship with a Fire Explorer Post 2911 of the Boy Scouts of America. There are ten Fire Explorer Scouts.

2.2 Mutual and Automatic Aid Agreements

The City of Susanville Fire Department has an automatic aid agreement with the Susan River Fire Protection District. The City has mutual aid agreements with all the Lassen County fire departments as well as various state agencies including the California Department of Forestry (CALFIRE), the California Correctional Center, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and the California Office of Emergency Services (OES).

The Fire Department shares equipment and personnel as part of this mutual aid agreement, and is obligated to respond to emergencies within the State of California with its OES engine. This agreement is formal and can be terminated only through a written request (Fire Chief Stu Ratner, March 2007).

2.3 City of Susanville Service Calls

Average response time for the City of Susanville Fire Department (within Susanville) is approximately three minutes, with a maximum of six minutes to remote parts of the City; response times for the other fire protection districts vary from 2 to 45 minutes respectively. Access problems include tree limbs in the roadways and blocked alleyways due to inadequate parking. Access during winter months is adequate, with no added limitations to provide service.

Overall the Susanville Fire Department's ability to provide service can be characterized as good. The Fire Department is working to improve their access time to 3 minutes for fire protection service and 2 minutes for EMS service (Fire Chief Stu Ratner, November 2004).

Total calls for service are listed below:

City of Susanville Fire Department Service Calls 2001-2006

Situation	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Fire	72	84	70	73	82	96
Overpressure	7	3	1	2	0	0
Rescue/EMS	468	689	731	754	956	1028
Hazardous Condition	17	35	31	33	33	32
Service Call	124	138	146	160	150	166
Good Intent	124	138	146	160	150	54
False Alarm/ False Call	29	66	58	59	48	
Special Incident	7	1	1	1	1	29
Year End Total Incidents	738	1098	1067	1087	1311	1405

Source: City of Susanville Fire Department

2.4 City of Susanville Fire Protection Equipment

The Fire Department operates one full fire station at 1505 Main Street in Susanville and currently operates a temporary station at Lassen College at an abandoned co-

generation plant. The City of Susanville Fire Department uses a wide variety of equipment in the provision of fire protection.

City of Susanville Fire Department Equipment

Kind	Type	Capacity	Make	Year	Pumping Capacity
Engine	1	1250 gpm	International	2001	750 gal
Engine	1	750 gpm	Spartan	1993	1500 gal
Engine	2	500 gpm	International	1987	500 gal
Engine	2	800 gpm	International	1976	1000 gal
Engine	2	800 gpm	International	1975	1000 gal
Engine	3	300 gpm	Dodge 3500	1996	250 gal
Truck Co.	1		Oshkosh	1976	
Engine	1	750 gpm	Weststates HME	2005	1000 gal
Utility Transport	2		Ford F-250	2001	
Utility Transport	2		Chevrolet ½ ton	1990	
Utility Transport	2		Ford Explorer 4x4	1996	

Source: City of Susanville Fire Department, 2004.

The Susanville Fire Department follows standards set by the following entities:

- 1) Northern California EMS (NORCAL EMS),
- 2) State of California,
- 3) International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA),
- 4) State Fire Marshall (OSFM)

The Susanville Fire Department has an excellent safety track record, the Department follows two Emergency Response plans, including a Hazmat and natural gas Emergency Response Plan, and Lassen County's Emergency Response Plan.

The Susanville Fire Department is financially supported by the City's General Fund. Mitigation Impact fees for new development include \$.77 per square foot of covered space for Residential buildings and \$.96 per square foot of covered space for Commercial buildings (City Resolution # 05-3912 effective August 8, 2005). All finances are handled exclusively by the City Finance Department (Fire Chief Stu Ratner, Nov 2004).

The Fire Department maintains and operates approximately 334 hydrants total spaced at 600 feet. Desired fire flow of 3,500 gpm for bigger building, but 1,500 gpm is generally what is needed. The City can attain these fire flow requirements. The department is able to utilize 3 million gallons total combined water storage for fire suppression needs.

North City (this area is located north of Lassen College) residential and medical park slated to be developed and will have a large impact on fire protection service in Susanville, specifically on personnel and equipment needs. Increased budgeting may be required to accommodate a project of this scale, though it appears that the City's Fire Department will be able to accommodate the development. The City's Mutual Aid

agreement with the county and surrounding districts will benefit them in lieu of this project and the resulting fire protection needs (Fire Chief Stu Ratner, Nov 2004).

Water supply outside of the area served by City of Susanville can be provided by water tenders, and static sources or some fire hydrants if available.

Fire Department sends out an employee newsletter and maintains a website at www.cityofsusanville.org. The City Council, City Administrator and Fire Chief oversee the Fire Department. The City Council meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month.¹

2.5 City of Susanville Sphere of Influence

The City of Susanville Sphere of Influence will remain the same as previously adopted by Resolution 2007-0010 on December 10, 2007 and will not be changed at this time.

¹Lassen Local Agency Formation Commission, "Municipal Service Review for the City of Susanville" Adopted LAFCo Resolution # 2006-0003, MARCH 13, 2006.

3. LAKE FOREST ESTATES FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

The Sphere of Influence for the Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District will be the same as the District Boundary.

3.1 Land Use

The Lake Forest Estates community is located approximately two miles west of the intersection of State Route 36 and Lassen County Road A-1. This intersection is two miles west of Susanville. Total land within the District's Service Area is approximately 160 acres with an elevation of 5000 to 5120 feet above sea level.

The Lake Forest Estates community (designated as a "Residential Center" in the Lassen County General Plan) is a developed subdivision consisting of 241 parcels of which 204 have constructed dwellings. The community is predominantly comprised of year-round residences with a few seasonal dwellings, or second homes, as well. The majority of community members commute to Susanville for employment (Lake Forest Estates Fire Safe Plan, January 2004).

3.1.1 Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open Space Lands

Large forested parcels surround the Lake Forest Estates Community. The primary landowner is Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI). The subdivision of Lake Forest itself as well as the surrounding land is privately owned. Other ownerships in the vicinity of the community include Shasta Forests, a large non-industrial private landowner whose lands are managed by W.M. Beatty and Associates (WBA), Inc., and Lassen National Forest (LNF).

3.1.2 SOI Determinations Present and Planned Land Use

- 1-1] The Lake Forest Estates community is not expected to grow so the Sphere of Influence the same as the District Boundary is appropriate.
- 1-2] The zoning for Lake Forest Estates is single-family residential.
- 1-3] The land around Lake Forest Estates is used for timber production.

3.2 Municipal Services: Present and Probable Need

3.2.1 Service Need

There are 37 vacant lots within the Lake Forest Estates subdivision so the population will grow slightly. The 204 existing homes have an estimated population of 528 based on the U.S. Census estimate of 2.59 persons per household. There clearly is a need for continued fire protection services. The district's ISO rating is 5.

3.2.2 SOI Determinations for Facilities and Services: Present and Probable Need

- 2-1] There is both a present and future need for the services provided by the Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District.
- 2-2] The Sphere of Influence does not need to be enlarged because there is no demand for urban fire services for the surrounding area.

3.3 Public Facilities Present and Future Capacity

3.3.1 Facilities and Capacity

The Lake Forest Estates FPD has facilities and capacity as follows:

1) Volunteers

The Lake Forest Estates FPD fire station is staffed by 10 volunteer fire fighters according to the "Lake Forest Estates Community Fire Safe Plan.

2) Equipment

The LFFPD operates with the following equipment (Susanville Interagency Fire Center):

<u>Equipment</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Gallons/GPM</u>		<u>Drive</u>	<u>Other</u>
Engine	2	750	1,000	2x4	
Engine	3	300	125	2x4	
Engine	2	600	500	4x4	
Rescue				4x4	Extrication

3) Water system

The Lake Forest Estates community is also serviced by a community water district with a central water system that includes 26 fire hydrants off 6-inch mains within 800 feet of every residence (Lake Forest Estates Fire Safe Plan, January 2004). This water system is serviced by two water storage tanks with a total storage capacity of approximately 420,000 gallons. The district has a 160,000 gallon tank reserved exclusively for fire suppression fitted for water tenders (Marily Devlyne pers. comm. 8.28.08). District fire flows are 487 gallons per minute.

4) Finances

The 2007-2008 Budget shows an unreserved fund balance as of June 30, 2007 of \$33,574 with total available financing of \$53,774.

3.3.2 SOI Determinations for Public Facilities Present and Future Capacity

- 3-1] The present facilities are generally adequate for fire protection in a rural area. However, as more growth occurs in the subdivision or the district fire flow should be increased to ensure that capacity will be available to serve expected development within the Sphere of Influence.
- 3-2] The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District needs to maintain good communication with the Lassen County Planning Department regarding proposed development within the District.
- 3-3] The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District needs to maintain good communication with the water provider to ensure adequate water for fire protection.

3.4 Social or Economic Communities of Interest

3.4.1. Lake Forest Estates

The Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District was formed February 7, 1984 by LAFCO Resolution No. 83/84-63. The subdivision was created in 1969 and 1971. The Volunteer Fire Department started operating in 1975 and built a 2000 square foot fire hall in 1977. The Fire Protection District and the Volunteer Fire Department clearly provide the social focus for this community.

3.4.2 SOI Determinations for Social or Economic Communities of Interest

- 4-1] Lake Forest Estates is a separate community and the Sphere of Influence for the Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District should be maintained the same as the District Boundary.
- 4-2] While a regional fire protection district could be considered, Lake Forest Estate Fire Protection District and the Susan River Fire Protection District have differing communities of interest which may be an obstacle to merging with another District so a separate Sphere of Influence should be maintained for this District at this time.

4. STANDISH-LITCHFIELD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

The Sphere of Influence Update for the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District will not be changed from the October 18, 1984 Sphere of Influence the sphere update which includes a 2,560.00 acre area in the Karlo Road and Ward Lake Road area north of the existing district boundary as well as the Wendel area east of the existing district boundary to include territory abutting the northernmost boundary of the West Patton Village CSD.

4.1 Land Use

The Standish and Litchfield communities lie 15 miles south and east of Susanville on US Route 395 in the honey Lake Valley. US Route 395 and the Susan River bisect the communities.

The population of this area in 2000 was 764 (increased from 363 in 1990). The Shaffer Elementary School, grades K to 8 is located in Litchfield. There are 154 houses in Litchfield and 165 houses in Standish. The vacancy rate is low which would indicate that most of the homes are occupied year-around.

4.1.1 Present and Planned Land Uses in the Standish-Litchfield Area, Including Agricultural and Open Space Lands

4.1.2 SOI Determinations Present and Planned Land Use

- 1-1] It is appropriate and compatible with Lassen County land use plans to maintain the SOI for the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District as shown on the SOI map.
- 1-2] Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District should maintain good communication with the Lassen County Planning Department regarding any plans for additional development in the area.

4.2 Municipal Services: Present and Probable Need

4.2.1 Service Need

There are 19 vacant housing units in Standish and 15 vacant housing units in Litchfield so the population will grow slightly. The Mountain Resort area is not included in this Sphere of Influence Update. This area included 9, 440 additional acres and currently has no structural fire protection service. There will be a need for fire protection services prior to development in this area known as the Belfast Area.

Development is limited in the Wendel Area plan to the Wendel area, which contains some town center land use designation. For the most part land use in the Standish-Litchfield portion of the Wendel Area Plan is public, intensive and extensive agricultural and open space.

**4.2.2 SOI Determinations for Facilities and Services:
Present and Probable Need**

2-1] There is a need for the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District now and in the future.

4.3 Public Facilities Present and Future Capacity

4.3.1 Facilities and Capacity

The Standish-Litchfield FPD has ten volunteer firefighters.

Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection Equipment

Equipment	Type	Gallons	GPM	Drive	Other
Engine	1	750	1250	4x4	
Engine	3	400	250	4x4	Foam
Engine	2	1000	1000	2x4	
Engine	2	750	1000	2x4	
Engine	3	650	500	2x4	
Water Tender		4,000	800		4000 Gallon porta-tank
Water Tender		2,500	250		

In addition to the equipment listed, the district has access to three agricultural wells with hookups to use in fire protection activities. According to the “Standish-Litchfield Community Fire Safe Plan”, “All residents are on wells for water as there is no central water system within the community.

According to the 2007-2008 Budget the Standish-Litchfield Fire Protection District had \$28,612 in unreserved funds and \$56,835 in developer fees.

4.3.2 SOI Determinations for Public Facilities: Present and Future Capacity

3-1] The facilities are adequate at this time.

3-2] The District will have to work with the landowners and the County Planning Department to make sure that future development will contribute to future fire protection capacity.

4.4 Social or Economic Communities of Interest

4.4.1. Standish and Litchfield

The school in Litchfield and the Volunteer Fire Department are the social focus of the community.

4.4.2 SOI Determinations for Social or Economic Communities of Interest

4-1] Standish and Litchfield are considered as a community and are also considered a planning area by Lassen County.

5. SUSAN RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

The Susan River Fire Protection District Sphere of Influence will be enlarged by 17,241 acres.

5.1 Land Use

The Susan River Fire Protection District surrounds the City of Susanville. The Richmond/Gold Run and Johnstonville communities are a fast growing area due to employees associated with recent prison expansion. The Susan River Fire Protection District also provides fire protection to Leavitt Lake Subdivision, Rice Canyon, the Golf Course and the Susanville Airport. The population of the District is approximately 4,789.

The Susan River alluvial plain is the area's dominant physical feature. Irrigated crops are grown in the area. The elevation ranges from 4,100 feet at the surface of Lake Leavitt to the peaks of the Diamond Mountains exceeding 8,000 feet in elevation.

The "Lassen County General Plan 2000" states that the land use designations for the Susan River Fire Protection District SOI expansion area are shown in the area plans. The "Susanville Vicinity Area Plan", December 1984; the "Johnstonville Area Plan", August 1987; and the "Richmond/Gold Run Area Plan", May 1993 all show that some additional areas can be developed for urban residential and estate residential development.

5.1.1 Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open Space Lands

5.1.2 SOI Determinations Present and Planned Land Use

1-1] The planned land use for the area to be included in the Susan River Fire Protection District SOI could be developed in the future for residential development.

5.2 Municipal Services: Present and Probable Need

5.2.1 Service Need

There is a need for fire protection services in the Susan River Fire Protection District and this need will extend into the future. The Susan River Fire Protection District includes several communities and thus provides a good use of resources.

5.2.2 SOI Determinations for Facilities and Services: Present and Probable Need

2-1] There will be a continuing need for fire protection services in the Susan River Fire Protection District and in the Sphere of Influence area.

5.3 Public Facilities Present and Future Capacity

5.3.1 Facilities and Capacity

The Susan River Fire Protection District has two fire stations as follows:

- 1) Susan River Station #1 on Richmond Road and
- 2) Susan River Station #2 in Johnstonville.

The Susan River FPD has the following equipment:

Equipment	Type	Gallons	GPM	Drive	Other
Engine	1	1500	1250	2x4	Foam
Engine	3	500	350	4x4	
Engine	2	750	1200	2x4	Foam
Engine	3	500	350	4x4	Foam
Engine	2	800ea	1000	2x4ea	
Water Tender	1	2800	750		Trailer
Water Tender	2	3800ea	800	6x4	Foam
Water Tender	1	2750	750		Trailer

There is no central water system serving the entire Richmond-Gold Run- or Johnstonville community area. The new subdivisions have fire hydrants served by their own water system sources. A recently completed water well at the Johnstonville station will supply water to that station.

According to the 2007-08 Budget the Susan River Fire Protection District had \$162,815 in the unreserved fund balance on June 30, 2007 and \$84,241 in Developer fees. The total available financing was \$115,608 for the Fire Protection District and \$115,518 for the Developer fees fund.

5.3.2 SOI Determinations for Public Facilities Present and Future Capacity

- 3-1] The Susan River Fire Protection District has adequate facilities and will be able to improve the facilities as necessary to meet future requirements.
- 3-2] The Susan River Fire Protection District needs to maintain good communication with the water providers to ensure adequate water for fire protection.

5.4 Social or Economic Communities of Interest

5.4.1. Susan River Fire Protection District Area

Although the Susan River Fire Protection District includes several smaller communities, the area is essentially focused on Susanville but with the determination to maintain a life-style suited to the unincorporated area of Lassen County.

4-1] The Susan River Fire Protection District provides a focus and a community for the area around Susanville.

4-2] The Susan River Fire Protection District should maintain good communication with the Lassen County Planning Department regarding future development within the Sphere of Influence.

5.4.2 SOI Determinations for Social or Economic Communities of Interest

4-1] The Susan River Fire Protection District provides a focus and a community for the area around Susanville.

4-2] The Susan River Fire Protection District should maintain good communication with the Lassen County Planning Department regarding future development within the Sphere of Influence.

ABBREVIATIONS

ALS/BLS	Advanced Life Support/Basic Life Support
AWWA	American Water Works Association
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BLS	Basic Life Support
CALFIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CKH Act	Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000
CSD	Community Services District
CSDFD	Community Services District Volunteer Fire Department
EMS	Emergency Medical Service
EMT	Emergency Medical Technician
FCI	Federal Correctional Institution
FPD	Fire Protection District
FRA	Federal Responsibility Area
gpm	gallons per minute
HUC	Herlong Utilities Cooperative
ISO	Insurance Service Organization
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
LAFCO	Local Agency Formation Commission
LFFPD	Lake Forest Estates Fire Protection District
LNF	Lassen National Forest

LRA	Local Responsibility Area
MSR	Municipal Service Review
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NIMS	National Incident Management System
OES	Office of Emergency Services
OSFM	Office of State Fire Marshall
psi	pounds per square inch
PNF	Plumas National Forest
PPE	personal protective equipment
PUD	Public Utility District
RACs	Resource Advisory Committees
SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
SIFC	Susanville Interagency Fire Center
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SPI	Sierra Pacific Industries
SRA	State Responsibility Area
WBA	W.M. Beatty and Associates
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

DEFINITIONS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mello-Roos Bonds: Locally issued bonds that are repaid by a special tax imposed on property owners within a community facilities district established by a governmental entity. The bond proceeds can be used for public improvements and for a limited number of services. Named after the program's legislative authors.

Sierrian Mixed Conifer Forest: A forest type found throughout the Sierra-Nevada Mountain Range consisting of a wide variety of tree species, including ponderosa pine, Jeffrey pine, sugar pine, white fire, Douglas-fir, California red fire and incense cedar.

Slash: Debris such as tree tops, branches, leaves and bark generated from tree cutting or other vegetation manipulation practices.

Snag: Standing dead tree or section thereof.

Spotting: Behavior of a fire producing sparks or embers that are carried by the updraft and wind and start new fires beyond the main fire. Spotting usually occurs with low humidity.

State Responsibility Area (SRA): Areas of the State in which the financial responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires has been determined by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to be primarily the responsibility of the State.

Urban Intermix: An intermingling of structures and natural forest fuels within a forest setting.

Wildfire: Any unwanted fire occurring in a wildland setting.

Wildland: Uncultivated land, other than fallow, neglected or maintained for such purposes as wood or range-forage production, wildlife, recreation, protective watershed cover, and wilderness.

Wildlife Habitat: Vegetation, climate and other natural conditions suited to the life needs for an animal species to survive and reproduce.

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