

SHASTA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT
County Service Area #1

ORGANIZATION OF VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES
& THEIR ACTIVITIES DURING 2013

*(Source: Shasta County Fire Department 2013 Annual Report
CAL FIRE station descriptions are also found in this report)*

BATTALION 1

Under the direct supervision of Battalion Chief Jim Ferguson, Battalion 1 consists of five volunteer fire companies, CAL FIRE Stations 14-Burney and 19-Big Bend, and three independent fire protection districts.

SCFD VFC 10 – Cassel.

This Company is served by seven volunteer firefighters led by Volunteer Chief, Don Chaix. This Company is the primary fire company for the communities of Cassel, Lake Britton, and Burney Falls State Park. The Company serves a population of permanent and seasonal residences, and the area is a popular outdoor recreation area for hunting, fishing, camping, and boating. Within the Company's primary response area are three PG&E power houses along Hat Creek and the Pit River and Lake Britton (Pit 3) dams. They serve two state highways (SR 299E and SR 889), Pacific Crest Train, Burney Falls State Park, several campgrounds two large construction companies, two large PG&E natural gas transmission lines, and multiple main electrical transmission lines. Two Fire Safe Councils have been formed in the service area, and they have identified four separate evacuation collection points within the Company's primary response area: Cassel Volunteer Fire Station, Mountain Christian Academy, Hat Creek Construction, and Burney Falls State Park. In 2013, the volunteer firefighters from Company 10 dedicated many hours for training, emergency response and fundraising. The Company is supported locally by the Cassel Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. There were 67 incidents within the community of Cassel during 2013.

SCFD VFC 11 – Hat Creek.

Ten volunteer firefighters serve Company 11 led by Volunteer Chief, Randy Garner. It serves a community of 500 permanent and seasonal residences. The area is a popular outdoor recreation area for hunting, fishing, camping, and hand gliding. SR 89 runs north and south through the entire response area. It also responds to incidents in Cassel and Old Station. Its service area also falls within the Hat Creek District of the Lassen National Forest. Within the service area is a popular North State hand gliding launch area on the Hat Creek rim; several public and private campgrounds, and the Hat Creek Radio Observatory, a space research facility associated with the University of California and the Search for extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) Institute. The Hat Creek Fire Safe Council serves the entire populated area within Company 11's response area and identified Station 11 as one of its evacuation collection points. In 2013, the volunteer firefighters dedicated over 2,500 hours to training, emergency response, and fundraising. The company raised about \$8,000 which helped the Company to purchase a used Life-Pal 12 cardiac monitor. The volunteers also began a local firefighter training program for area teens to promote future job training and interest in becoming a future volunteer firefighter. There were 66 incidents in the community of Hat Creek.

SCFD VFC 12 – Old Station

Company 12 is served by seven volunteer firefighters led by Volunteer Chief Ray Manley. It serves a community of 51 full-time residences, with another approximately 2,000 summer residences. The area is a popular outdoor recreation area for hunting, fishing, camping, and sledding. State highways 89 and 44 bisect the Company's response area. This Company's response area falls entirely within the Hat Creek

District of the Lassen National Forest, and borders the Lassen Volcanic National Park. Within its response area there are two fishing resorts; three public campgrounds, a gas station/market, and a restaurant. The Hat Creek Valley Fire Safe Council serves the entire response area and has identified the Old Station facilities as one of its evacuation collection points. In 2013 the volunteer firefighters dedicated over 1,600 hours to training, emergency response, and fundraising. The Company is supported by the Old Station Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. Through fundraising efforts the company raised \$6,000. There were 60 incidents in the community of Old Station.

SCFD VFC 13 – Soldier Mountain

Company 13 is served by seven volunteer firefighters led by Volunteer Chief Greg Mayer. It serves the communities of Pondosa (Siskiyou County), Dana, and Soldier Mountain, with a seasonal and permanent residential population of about 120. Their primary response area is a combination of remote timberland, wetlands, ranch, and agricultural lands. It is also the primary company for roughly 315,745 acres of wildland that falls within Shasta County's Local Responsibility Area (LRA). State Highway 89 runs through the west portion of this Company's response area. Within the area there is a large wild rice processing facility, two large PG&E natural gas pipelines, several large power transmission lines, and fishing resorts. In 2013 volunteer firefighters dedicated many hours to training, emergency response, and fundraising. The Soldier Mountain Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. supports Company 13. There were 60 incidents in the community of Soldier Mountain during 2013.

SCFD VFC 70 – Big Bend

Company 70 is served by six volunteer firefighters led by Volunteer Chief David Green. They serve a community of about 150 permanent and seasonal residences, and is a popular outdoor recreation area (hunting, fishing, camping). Big Bend is in a remote area of Shasta County and is 18 miles from the closest fire company based in Montgomery Creek. The Pit River runs through the entire response area and several small reservoirs are located along the Pit and McCloud Rivers. Three PG&E power houses, two PG&E dams, several PG&E main electrical power lines, the Iron Canyon Reservoir, several private campgrounds, a market/gas station, and a large school are all within Company 70's response area. In 2013 the volunteer firefighters dedicated over 400 hours to training, emergency response, and fundraising. It is supported by the Big Bend Volunteer Fire Company Auxiliary. There were 33 incidents in Big Bend during 2013.

BATTALION 2

Battalion Chief Ken Lowe is responsible for the direct supervision of this unit, which consists of three volunteer fire companies and CAL FIRE Stations 74-Diddy Wells, 75-Hillcrest, and 34-Buckhorn.

SCFD VFC 30 – Oak Run

Volunteer Chief Linda Barneby leads a contingent of four volunteer firefighters, who have spent over 500 hours training on medical emergencies, structure and vehicle fires, vegetation fires, hazardous materials incidents, power line incidents, traffic collisions, structure protection, fire prevention, and equipment operations, including vehicle extrication. Its service area covers Oak Run, Mill Creek Estates, and Whitmore with a population of 800 within 100 square miles. With limited water supplies, fire operations rely on large ranch ponds, running creeks, and water tenders from other fire agencies. Land protection includes significant timber (Roseburg, Sierra Pacific, Beatty Timber) areas and a number of large private ranches. Oak Run has an elementary school, small store with fuel storage, and a post office. A PG&E substation is nearby and a hydropower plant is located at Cow Creek below the Kilarc Reservoir. The Company is also responsible for fire protection around the 500 KV transmission lines that run from north

to south through their response area. The historical Philips Brothers' Saw Mill is served by the company, the last fully steam-powered lumber mill in America, which utilizes 920 acres of surrounding timber to mill and plane lumber and build boxes. Company 30 works side-by-side during fire season with CAL FIRE Buckhorn Station 34, utilizing volunteer support from SCFD Montgomery Creek Company 71 and Whitmore Company 31. CAL FIRE's Shasta College Station 73 and SCFD Palo Cedro (Schedule A) Station 32 assist with fire protection during the winter seasons. There were 51 incidents within Oak Run during 2013.

SCFD VFC 33 – Bella Vista

Housed on Highway 299 East in Bella Vista, Company 33 is served by 18 volunteer firefighters led by Volunteer Chief Ron Smith and Assistant Chief Bob Baker. Company members completed over 3,000 training hours on structure fires, wildland fires, structure protection, medical emergencies, hazardous materials, power line incidents, vehicle accidents and fires, fire prevention, and equipment operations. Members have been working to improve their Red Card status which establishes eligibility for responding to statewide out-of-county assignments. The Company protects 22.4 square miles with a population of 2,800. The Bella Vista Water District, Bella Vista Elementary School, several fuel stations, a restaurant, several grocery stores and a post office are within the Company's response area. Company volunteers also assist with emergencies in Jose Valley, Shasta College, Palo Cedro, Oak Run, Ingot, and occasionally provides cover for Redding Fire Department stations during draw-down of city resources. Company 33 members have been assigned to strike teams on the Hough, Butler, Panther, and Clover fires, along with a hard-cover assignment at Station 73. The company works closely with CAL FIRE Shasta College station 73, CAL FIRE Diddy Wells Station 74, SCFD Jones Valley Company 72, SCFD Montgomery Creek Company 71, and SCFD Palo Cedro Company 32. There were 321 incidents within the Bella Vista area, with Company 33 being dispatched outside of its initial response area for 163 of those calls during 2013.

SCFD VFC – 71

Located on Highway 299 East in Montgomery Creek, Company 71 is served by 12 volunteer firefighters and is led by Volunteer Chief Theresa Carroll and Assistant Chief Rick Danielson. It actively protects the communities of Round Mountain, Montgomery Creek, Hillcrest, Big Bend, Oak Run, and Ingot, serving a population of roughly 1,420 over an approximately 300 square mile area. Protection is afforded to two post offices, two elementary schools, a PG&E substation and 500 KV transmission lines, Hatchet Mountain Wind Farm, a heavy-equipment repair shop, a café, two hydroelectric dams, a medical clinic, and timberlands belonging to Roseburg and Sierra Pacific timber companies. During 2013 over 4,473 volunteer firefighter hours were spent training on structure and vegetation fires, medical emergencies, vehicle fires, hazardous materials, power line incidents, vehicle accidents, structure protect, fire protection and equipment operations. Company members are working to improve their Red Card status for statewide out-of-county assignments. There were 244 incidents within this service area.

SCFD (Amador) Station 73 – Shasta College

Station 73 provides emergency services for northern Shasta County in the communities of Bella Vista, Jones Valley, Lakehead, and the areas in and around the Shasta College Fire District. It is located within the Shasta College campus and is staff year-around under a contract with CAL FIRE. Its emergency response have more than doubles during the past five years. Station 73 staff are responsible for training and staffing the Shasta County Boat Operations Program, and is instrumental in delivering the mandatory Basic Wildland Training certification and Battalion 2 multi-company drills at the college training grounds. It works closely with the Shasta College Fire Academy program, and the Jones Valley, Bella Vista and Lakehead volunteer fire companies. Its protection response area covers 300 square miles, with the Station responding to structure, vehicle, and vegetation fires; medical incidents, and traffic collisions along the I-5 Corridor and Highway 299 East. Within the service area is the college campus, local fuel

stations, grocery stores, PG&E substations, elementary schools, Foothill High School, large private ranches, and the lands surrounding Lake Shasta. It also shares a Mutual Threat Zone (MTZ) with the City of Redding Fire Department. During 2013 the Company managed 890 emergency incidents.

BATTALION 3

This unit is under the direct supervision of Battalion Chief Keith White, and oversees two volunteer fire companies and CAL FIRE Station 22-Shingletwn (Amador) and 35-Whitmore.

SCVFC 20 – Shingletown

VFC 20 utilized three separate stations located at Shasta Forest Village, Alward Way at Highway 44, and the Starlite Pines subdivision. Twelve volunteers, along with four new recruits in training, and is led by Volunteer Chief Justin Tavalero. They maintain two structure engines, one wildland engine, two 3,000 water tenders, and three rescue vehicles, one of which is fully equipped with extrication rescue tools. Critical infrastructure within and around the community includes PG&E natural gas lines, PG&E and WAPA high-voltage transmission lines, Volta power house, a medical clinic, Black Butte Elementary and Middle schools, numerous churches, multiple private camp/recreational facilities, and commercial timberland. Shingletown has many commercial business, including two grocery stores, several restaurants, a small business park and other businesses; protection of this commercial category covers a total of 115,000 square feet. Roughly 1,800 residential structures are in and around Shingletown, including 250 summer homes and cabins which are often vacant most of the year. The resident population is estimated at 4,500. VFC experienced 468 incidents in and around the Shingletown area.

SCVFC 31 – Whitmore

Volunteer Chief Bill Ellis leads ten volunteers and one recruit-in-training, and utilizes one structure engine, one wildland engine, two 2,000-gallon water tenders, and one rescue unit. Critical infrastructure within and around the community includes PG&E natural gas lines, PG&E and WAPA high-voltage transmission lines, Kilarc power house, Whitmore Elementary School, Whitmore Community Center, a private church camp/school, public recreation sites, and large areas of commercial timber land. Commercial business in Whitmore include a general store, post off, private winery, and an antique store; protection area of these businesses covers 20,000 square feet. About 350 residential structures are in and around Whitmore, including roughly 20 summer homes/cabins, which are often vacant. VFC 31 serves a resident population of 700, and responded to 54 incidents within the community of Whitmore.

BATTALION 4

Battalion Chief Mike Weaver provides supervision to two volunteer fire companies, one Shasta County Fire Department Station, and CAL FIRE Station 43 in central Redding.

SCFD 32 – Palo Cedro

VFC 32 is the only career staffed and fully-funded county fire station within this battalion's area of responsibility, and is located in the community of Palo Cedro, about eight miles east of downtown Redding. Under a Schedule A contract with CAL FIRE, VFC 32 supported one structure engine with a minimum of two personnel. In 2010 a SAFER grant from FEMA providing funding one additional structure engine staffed with two personnel for a two year period. It was stationed in Redding at CAL FIRE Station 43 to support increased fire protection needs in the south-central area of Shasta County. This funding expired in December 2013, and the firefighters were laid off and equipment placed out of service.

SCVFC 32 – Palo Cedro

VFC 32 fluctuates between 5 to 17 volunteer fire fighters throughout the year. Population of Palo Cedro is estimated at 1,269. The area is largely comprised of residential, agricultural, commercial, and highway uses. Within the core of the community, located near Deschutes Road and State Highway 44, is a mix of commercial properties that includes a supermarket, strip mall retail centers, and four educational institutions (Foothill High School, Bishop Quinn Catholic Center, North Cow Creek School, and Junction Elementary School). VFC 32 responded to 399 incidents within this community.

SCVFC 55 – West Valley

The West Valley Volunteer Fire Company is supported by nine volunteer firefighters, seven of which are full responders and two who are recruit-in-training status. While socially considered a part of the community of Cottonwood for census purposes, it is estimated that 750 residents are served by VFC 55. The area boasts a mix of mainly residential and agricultural uses, with small commercial facilities, and the West Valley High School. During 2013 the Company responded to 147 incidents within this service area.

BATTALION 5

Battalion Chief Dave Hotchkiss supervises four volunteer fire companies, and CAL FIRE Stations 57-Ono and 58-Shasta (Amador). The Clover Fire was a significant incident within Battalion 5 during 2013. Firefighters from VFC 50-Igo/Ono battled the blaze while their homes and those of their neighbors were being damaged and/or destroyed.

SCVFC 50 – Igo/Ono

This volunteer company is supported by twelve volunteer firefighters, nine of which are full responders and three who are in recruit-in-training status. The community area includes approximately 625 residents in Igo and is comprised of mainly rural residences, ranches, and wildlands. The City of Redding/Shasta County operate a landfill within this service area, and VFC 50 also serves the Northern California Veterans Cemetery located south of town. VFC 50 has a station in Igo and a satellite station in Ono, and utilizes two structure engines, one wildland engine, one water tender, and one rescue vehicle which responded in 2013 to 138 incidents within these communities. The 2013 Clover arson fire was initiated within VFC 50's service area, just south of Clear Creek Road. This very fast moving fire destroyed over eight square miles of residential and wildland area in just a few hours, including the volunteer fire chief's residence, who left his home unattended in order to respond and protect the property, citizens, and residences of other citizens from this major threat.

SCVFC 52 – Centerville

The fire chief of this company oversees twenty volunteer firefighters, fourteen of which are full responders and six who are recruits-in-training status. The service area is comprised of mainly residential subdivisions scattered throughout the wildland area. There are numerous houses of worship, a feed store, a mini-storage facility, and the Grant Elementary and Middle School campuses, all of which are specialized target hazard facilities within the service area. VFC 52 operates one structure engine and one wildland engine. In 2013, VFC 52 responded to 169 incidents in and around the Centerville service area.

SCVFC 53 – Keswick

The fire chief of VFC 53 has a roster of sixteen volunteer firefighters, ten of which are full responders and six that are in recruit-in-training status. The service area is primarily comprised of rural residential

subdivisions, light commercial, electrical power infrastructure, and wildland. The Shasta Dam and powerhouse, Keswick Dam and powerhouse, and the Spring Gulch powerhouse, Keller Lumber Company, and the Iron Mountain Mine are all located within VFC 53's service response area. The Company operates one structure engine, one wildland engine, one water tender, and one rescue vehicle. In 2013, VFC 53 experienced 144 incidents within the Keswick community service area.

SCVFC 59 – French Gulch

With a roster of five volunteer firefighters, three of which are full responders, the chief of this Company responds to an area with over 346 residents. The service area is mainly rural residential, historical commercial business, and wildland area. The French Gulch Hotel is a historic business built in 1885 during the gold mining era. Carr Creek powerhouse near Whiskeytown Park is located within VFC 59's service response area. They operate one structure engine, one wildland engine, and one rescue vehicle, and responded to 92 incidents in the community of French Gulch during 2013.

BATTALION 18

Located in central Shasta County, Battalion 18 is supervised by Battalion Chief Jim Ferguson who supervises two volunteer fire companies. There is a fair amount of critical infrastructure within this service area, including the main line of the Union Pacific Railroad, 500KV power lines, PG&E power substation, and a PPL power substation. Multiple marinas and resorts are also within the service area.

SCVFC 54 – Lakehead

VFC 54 serves the greater Lakehead area, including the community of Lakehead which is about ten miles north of Redding adjacent to the I-5 freeway and along the northern shore of Shasta Lake. There are approximately 800 homes and 900 full-time residents within the service area, and a significant increase in both visitors and part-time residents during the summer months which can boost the service population up to 2,500 or more. Eight volunteer firefighters under the leadership of Volunteer Chief Nikki Howard operate one structure engine, one wildland engine, one rescue, one water tender, and two fire/rescue boats. During 2013 VFC 54 personnel trained for over 600 hours on emergency medical services, boat operations, hazardous materials response, technical rescues, structure and wildland firefighting, forcible entry, ground ladders and more. VFC 54 responded to 224 incidents in and around the community of Lakehead.

SCVFC 72 – Jones Valley

Volunteer Chief Michael Eliassen supervises fifteen active volunteers who operate the following equipment: one structure engine, one wildland engine, one rescue unit, one water tender, and one fire/rescue boat. This Company serves the community of Jones Valley and the surrounding areas. There are approximately 400 homes and 800 full-time residents within this VFC's service area. VFC 72 also protects the community of Silverthorn, an area which poses a significant wildland fire threat due to it having only one access/egress route for the community. There are multiple marinas, resorts, and commercial establishments within this Company's response area. During 2013, VFC 72 personnel responded to 219 incidents, and trained over 1,000 hours on emergency medical services, boat operations, hazardous materials response, technical rescues, structure and wildland firefighting, forcible entry, ground ladders and more. There were 202 incidents within the community of Jones Valley.

Detailed information about the CAL FIRE stations will be found in their 2013 Annual report located on the Shasta County Fire Department website. Please contact Chief Mike Hebrard for further information about Shasta County Fire and/or CAL FIRE operations within Shasta County.