

Appendix B: Fire Organization Survey Summaries

Fire Organization Survey #1

This survey was developed with the assistance of the Humboldt County Fire Chief's Association and was mailed to all known local fire departments in the County. Forty-two local and two federal agency fire departments in Humboldt County responded to the first Fire Organization Survey. The survey was first mailed out in February 2003, and surveys were returned as late as September 2003. Some of the fire departments chose to complete the survey through telephone interviews.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

This question asked fire departments to report their organization structure. The information received by departments is best described in other sections of this Plan; however, it is important to note that volunteer fire departments associated with most special districts have their own organizational structure. Many volunteer fire departments are formally organized as non-profit corporations, whether or not they are associated with a local government organization. Volunteer fire departments often have separate budgets from the underlying special district and in some cases even apply for grant funds separate from the fire district.

FIRE SERVICE ORGANIZATION STAFF

This question included numerous sub-categories of total personnel and firefighters (full-time vs. part-time, paid vs. volunteer, employees vs. firefighters, etc.) The format for this question may have been somewhat confusing to survey respondents because the manner in which the question was answered varied significantly. The categories most often responded to were full-time volunteer and full-time paid firefighters. The total number of firefighters associated with local departments in Humboldt County is 436, 357 of whom are volunteers and 79 are paid (or career). The average number of firefighters (volunteer and career) per department is approximately 10.5. The department with the largest number of firefighters is Fortuna with 65 and the department with the fewest is Salmon Creek with 5.

FIRE FIGHTING/EMERGENCY RESPONSE EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING

This question asked departments to briefly describe their organization's available fire and emergency response equipment, training routines, and the equipment and training needs that are currently unmet. Departments listed the apparatus that they have, and included some description as to the age, capacity, and condition, and also reported some of the firefighting equipment possessed by the department. The needs most often listed by departments were apparatus maintenance, "newer" apparatus (since most departments received their apparatus used), new self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), personal protective clothing, and communications equipment.

Departments reported having everything from set training routines and regularly scheduled training drills, to ad hoc training. For the most part, volunteer fire departments regularly train twice per month and vary the subject of the drill. Most departments reported having significant training needs. The Eureka Fire Department (the local fire department with the greatest resources and capacity to provide service) best characterized the response to training needs with the following, "the scope of our needs would overwhelm such survey." The training needs reported by departments are profound and include everything from medical, technical rescue, wildland firefighting, and structure firefighting.

FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE GAPS.

This question asked for departments to identify any known fire protection service gaps, particularly unmet structural fire protection needs. Responses to this question ranged widely, but there were several notable trends:

1. Districts noted that they had difficulty providing service beyond their boundary – response times were unacceptably long and they receive no funding for the service;
2. Water for fire protection is an issue, especially in outlying areas;
3. fire department staffing and recruitment is inadequate, especially staffing during normal work hours;
4. Lack of personal protective gear and other essential equipment and skills (coupled with the fact that this condition puts departments in jeopardy with respect to NPFA and OSHA standards);

LOCAL GEOGRAPHIC AREA FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE REPORTING DATA & FIRE AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE HISTORY INFORMATION.

Many departments provided response information for multiple years. Survey responses, and other available data, indicate that most calls for service are medical related. Based on a combination of data sources, including the first and second surveys, there are approximately 8,173 fire related calls for service to local agencies in Humboldt County. The average number of calls per department is 272 calls, with Eureka Fire Department reporting the most calls (2,002) and Sprowel Creek VFD reporting the least number of calls (2).

DISPATCHING SYSTEM.

This question asked departments to briefly describe their fire service organization’s dispatching system, including how it works, equipment used, who manages it, and what agreements or coordination is involved. Most departments reported that the CDF operated Humboldt Fire Dispatch Cooperative provides their dispatching services. Departments also described some of the communications systems that they possess (i.e., handheld and mobile radios, and pagers.)

Several departments reported that they do not participate in the Humboldt Fire Dispatch Cooperative or other local police dispatch services. For instance, the Sprowell Creek VFD has 24 households in which they use a phone tree, C.B. radios and vehicle horns, Willow Creek FPD self dispatches and receives calls through 911, CDF, and Hoopa dispatch, and the Yurok VFD currently self dispatches but is joining the Humboldt Fire Dispatch Cooperative.

PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED “FIRE SERVICE AREA MAP” TO IDENTIFY THE FOLLOWING:

Survey respondents made edits to maps provided by Humboldt County Community Development Services, indicating items such as: primary service area jurisdiction and sphere of influence; mutual or backup fire service response capabilities; fire access route mapping; fire hydrants and water access sites; hazard sites; gated roads; fire service facilities. In addition, departments were asked to list the location of fire facilities by address.

The mapping information provided by fire departments is available on the Humboldt County Community Development Services website at www.co.humboldt.ca.us/planning/maps/fire_map03.asp.

MUTUAL OR BACKUP FIRE SERVICE RESPONSE CAPABILITIES.

Survey respondents were asked to list all the entities with which they have mutual aid agreements or interagency protection agreements, and briefly explain any special conditions. Most departments have

mutual aid agreements with neighboring departments and with CDF. Departments that are located near National Forest and Recreation Area lands also have agreements with the U.S.F.S. and B.L.M. Most local fire department agreements are informal and not written.

8. PLEASE SHARE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR FEEDBACK

Arcata FPD:	See attached letter.
Eureka Fire Dept.:	Refer to survey response for firefighting class specs.
Ferndale Fire Protection District:	Check mapping: our district follows Eel River, map doesn't show this. Cock Robin Island needs to be handled by Loleta. Rosemary Rd shown on map isn't right. Road is called Coffee Ck.
Fieldbrook Volunteer Fire Dept.:	We are a very small district- all volunteer, we cover about 10 miles square.
Fruitland Volunteer Fire Dept.:	Fruitland is a fire small fire co that does not really fit in to standard "check the box" questionnaire you have submitted. We used the internet to draw you maps.
Honeydew Volunteer Fire Dept.:	Total population served 400 - 1,000. Working on detailed service map. Need funders, and providing professional communication and judgment to incoming resources
Kneeland Fire Protection District	Hum Co has no fire protection in the majority of rural areas. There is no fire protection north, south, or east in the Kneeland District.
Loleta Fire Protection District:	With Fortuna's Main Station not responding to medical Aid calls, Loleta is dispatched for such within their District along Fernbridge Drive and Tomkins Hill Rd. As far as medical, we are an ALS Dept.
Orleans Volunteer Fire Dept.:	There are over 100 homes scattered in the woods. Work by the Fire Safe Council to help reduce fire hazard around these homes and the edges of the various communities is a big need. Work of the County Sheriff made for locating homes for 911 should be converted to a map and made available to the fire depts. All emergency groups from the deputies, ambulance, fire crews need a good map of where homes are and the roads to them. In all this time we have not accomplished this. I am hoping through the Fire Safe Council we can accomplish this.
Petrolia Fire Protection District:	The Fire District's boundaries were established in the early 1950's. Since then the roads have improved, more people have moved in and built homes all through the hills. We not only get more calls, we are asked to cover more areas and incidents far out of the District's boundaries.
Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Dept.:	See attached letter.
Spowell Creek Volunteer Fire Department:	We have 8 or 9 active volunteer, but of course everyone helps when we have a fire (about 60 people). I wish I had a better map with all the access roads leading to all the houses. Something I'm going to work on in the future.
Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District:	Because FRVFC, Beginnings, Whale Gulch, and Whitethorn Fire are all volunteer with only one or two pieces of equipment and small memberships it is important that we respond as early as possible to each others calls. CDF needs to be clear on location of incident (there are many sound alike names in area)

8. PLEASE SHARE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR FEEDBACK

Whitethorn Fire Protection District: 30-40% of calls are mutual aid to state responsible lands or local districts that are not covered. W.F.P.D. averaged 12-14 calls per year over 10 years. 18 calls max.

FIRE ORGANIZATION SURVEY #2 – SUMMARY

This is the second of two surveys conducted as part of the Humboldt County Master Fire Protection Plan. The survey was distributed to 47 fire departments (federal resource agencies, Tribal wildland fire agencies, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, city fire departments, fire protection districts, other special districts authorized to provide fire protection, fire brigades associated with the timber industry, and volunteer fire departments not associated with a government agency). The survey was accompanied by maps, available for the departments to use to show the locations of fire infrastructure, as well as illustrate response times and service gaps, and identify other fire protection constraints. Surveys were collected by County staff and Planwest Partners staff.

Survey results were be used in the Risk Assessment section of the Fire Plan and as a tool in the preparation of Humboldt County LAFCo Master Service Reviews, and County planning in general.

This survey was distributed to 42 local and five state and federal fire departments. Surveys were returned by 39 local, three federal, and one state fire department. Surveys for the remaining four fire departments were completed by CDF, County, and Planwest Partners staff based on personal knowledge, prior surveys, and where possible through discussions with fire department staff.

BASIC INFORMATION

Population Protected. Most fire departments in Humboldt County protect rural areas. The median population protected is 750 (which indicates that half of all local fire departments protect populations which are less than 750), with the maximum population protected of 36,000 – City of Arcata Fire Department and the minimum of 42 – Korbel Volunteer Fire Department). The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Humboldt-Del Norte Unit (CDF) reported that they protect a population of 80,000, but this figure duplicates the protection provided by many rural fire departments protecting the same population. CDF was removed from calculations for purposes of analyzing this response.

Protection Area. Protection area is expressed in square miles and was reported by the local fire department rather than calculated from special district or city/community boundaries. Some fire departments did not report a protection area. In those cases, no protection area was used for that department rather than estimating protection area. This was done because a department protection area can extend beyond jurisdictional boundaries. Therefore, the true mean, median, maximum, and minimum may be different than the results of this survey indicate.

The median protection area (where 50 percent of department protection areas are larger and 50 percent smaller) is 25 square miles (the calculated average is 29 square miles). The largest local department protection area is Maple Creek Volunteer Fire Company at 125 square miles, and the smallest is the Trinidad Fire Department at less than one square mile (CDF reports that their protection area, known as the State Responsibility Area, as 3,068 square miles). Both the median and calculated average local department protection areas indicate that departments protect large land areas with limited resources (as becomes apparent from the remainder of the survey).

ISO Rating. An “ISO” rating is established by the Insurance Services Office, Inc. (ISO) and represents the fire protection capability available to households protected by the local department. ISO uses a department’s past performance records, equipment and resources, availability of water for fire protection,

proximity of fire stations to the population protected, response time, training, and other factors to derive the ISO rating. ISO ratings range from “1”, the best possible rating (usually found in urban areas with well funded fire departments) to “10” in rural areas with no organized fire protection. ISO ratings are used to calculate home insurance premiums and are available at the address or zip code level. Departments were given the opportunity to report a primary and secondary ISO rating. Secondary ISO ratings usually represent households within a department’s protection area that are more than five miles from the fire station or are not connected to a municipal water supply.

The median primary “ISO” rating reported by local fire departments (state and federal agencies that provide fire protection did not report ISO ratings) is “7”, with a minimum rating of “3” and a maximum of “10”. Of the 26 departments that provided an ISO rating, half reported ratings of “6” or higher. Twelve departments provided a secondary ISO rating, all of which were greater than 6 (in fact 75 percent are “9” or above).

Emergency Calls. Not all departments reported the total number of calls for service or indicated the percentage of calls attributable to emergency vs. fire calls (33 departments responded to this question). The department that reported the greatest number of calls is the Eureka Fire Department (2,002 in 2002) and the department that reported the least number of calls was Sprowell Creek Volunteer Fire Department (2 in 2002). The median number of calls reported by fire departments (including state and federal departments) was 50.

Because these data do not represent all fire department calls for service, it is not appropriate to use them as a basis regarding statements about Countywide calls for service. Therefore, these statistics only represent the number and type of calls reported by each particular department. At least 50% percent of all calls were medical related. The department with the fewest medical related calls reported that five percent of total calls were medical related (aside from zero or non-response) and the highest was 90 percent.

BUDGET INFORMATION

Apparatus replacement. 62 percent of fire departments indicated that they have a plan for apparatus replacement and 42 percent of department indicated that their normal budget covers the cost of apparatus replacement. Given that there was no opportunity for the departments to report additional information regarding the substance of their plan, the schedule for apparatus replacement, or the amount of their budget dedicated to apparatus replacement, it is difficult to make comparisons between departments.

Source of Department Revenue. The average fire department in the County (federal and state included) receives over a third of its revenue from a “Special District”, about 10 percent of its revenue from an assessment, and about 30 percent of its revenue from fund raising. “Special District” as a source of revenue is intended to mean general fund revenue (most likely to be ad valorem property tax revenue) from a district providing fire protection as apposed to a special assessment. In general, volunteer fire companies, not associated with a city or district, receive 100 percent of revenue from fund raising, with periodic grant funding for specific purposes. Special districts often receive 50 to 80 percent of revenue from local property tax and the remainder from assessments.

Source of Apparatus. Approximately one third of fire apparatus was purchased new and an equal percentage purchased used. Approximately ten percent of all fire apparatus was donated used.

PERSONNEL CAPABILITIES

Survey respondents reported 286 professional firefighters and 804 volunteer or seasonal firefighters in the County. Subtracting federal fire departments and CDF, there are 73 professional firefighters and 598 volunteers associated with local special districts, cities, or unaffiliated all-volunteer fire departments. Nine fire departments (including state and federal) reported having career staff (paid professional), four of which are local departments (including CSA No. 4). The remaining fire departments have all volunteer firefighters. The question did not give the department (most particularly the state or federal wildland fire related department) an opportunity to distinguish between levels of seasonal staffing.

- **Avg. Number of Career Firefighters per Department:** 6 (max = 136)
- **Median. Number of Volunteer Firefighters per Department:** 12 (max = 80)
- **Avg. Number of Paid on Duty Firefighters per Department:** 2 (max = 46)
- **Median Number of Volunteer Available to Respond Mid-Day:** 5 (max = 56)

Table 1. Emergency Services Role Department Performs

Role	Number of Department That Perform Role	Degree to which members of Departments have received formal training			
		All	Most	Some	None
Structural Firefighting	41	11	12	16	2
Emergency Medical	45	11	14	20	1
HazMat	34	3	19	9	3
Wildland Fire	45	9	17	11	5
Technical Rescue	28	2	12	6	7

Departments reported their scope of service and the level of training of their personnel by service type. 29 departments reported that they have firefighters who have received Firefighter I training, and nine departments report that they have firefighters who have received Firefighter II training. In terms of medical training, 36 departments report that they have firefighters that are qualified medical First Responders, and 31 reported that they have firefighters that are qualified EMT BLS at a minimum. Only 20 departments report that they have firefighters that are trained to at least the Hazardous Materials Awareness level. Approximately half of all County fire departments report that they perform technical rescue, but very few have firefighters with formal technical rescue training.

Other Department Health Related Programs. A total of nine departments report that they have a basic fitness program and 25 departments report that they have an infectious disease control program.

FIRE PREVENTION

Inspection and Plans Review. Approximately half of all departments (federal, state, and local) are involved in plans review as part of the building permit process. However, only 30 percent are involved in permit approval. Between 20 and 30 percent of departments carry out inspections of business, school, or residential premises. 34 percent of departments reported that they perform inspections other than those described above that include inspections of rest homes, day care, mills, and other public buildings.

Fire Education. Many departments reporting carrying out fire related education, including: 40 percent of reporting departments perform some sort of community fire education; 28 percent perform school fire education; and 40 percent perform wildland urban interface, defensible space related community education.

Fire Code Inspection. Only nine percent of reporting departments have a full-time inspector who performs fire code related inspections. The remainder use “In-Service Personnel” (21 percent); the “Building Department” (19 percent); or “Other” which most cases were reported to be CDF or the State Fire Marshall (32 percent). 17 percent reported that no one preformed fire related code inspection and 15 percent reported that fire code inspections were not applicable.

Arson Investigation. Most departments (45 percent) reported that they utilize the services of the Regional Arson Task Force to perform arson investigation. An equal number (32 percent) reported that they either utilize “Fire Department or Agency Arson Investigator” or “Incident commander or other first line personnel” to perform arson investigation. The remainder uses the “State Arson Investigator” (13 percent); “Contract investigator” (2 percent); “Other” (most often reported to be CDF or State Fire Marshall - 15 percent); “Insurance” (9 percent); “Police” (2 percent);

FACILITIES, APPARATUS, AND EQUIPMENT

Fire Stations. Based on survey responses, there are a total of 85 fire stations in Humboldt County. Most fire departments have only one fire station, however, CDF reports having 12 fire stations, 2 conservation camps 1 helitack base and 1 air attack base in Humboldt County. The local department with the most stations is three (Arcata, Eureka, Fortuna, and HPPD No. 1), although some small rural departments may

house their apparatus at more than three locations. Of the total fire stations in the County, 32 are over 40 years old.

Fire Engines. Responding fire departments report having 152 fire engines and four ladder/aerial units (since this total includes state and federal departments, some of the engines may be in Del Norte County). Of the 152 fire engines, 100 are over 15 years old - 82 of which are over 20 years old. Only four departments report having ambulances and 23 departments report having rescue apparatus. Thirty-two departments report having a total of 103 wildland fire engines, and twenty departments have wildland engines equipped with foam systems.

Equipment. Survey questions relating to equipment was intended to help illustrate whether or not local departments possessed basic items such as radios, personal protective equipment (PPE), and self contained breathing apparatus. The survey asked whether all, most, some, or none of personnel had each type of equipment.

Over 60 percent of all departments have radios for all or most of “on-duty” personnel, nearly 50 percent of which are water resistant. 60 percent of departments report that they have self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for all or most of their firefighters and only 43 percent of departments report that all or most of their SCBA are over ten years old. 87 percent of departments report that they have personal protective equipment (which normally means helmet, hood, face-shield, turnout jacket, gloves, turnout pants, and boots for structural fire protection); however, it is assumed that some departments only have wildland PPE. 21 percent of departments report that all or most of their PPE is at least 10 years old. 51 percent of departments report that all or most of their personnel have PASS (personal alert safety system alarms).

Communications. Almost all departments (federal, state, and local) reported that they can communicate with cooperating fire agencies by radio. In terms of dispatch service, the following table summarizes the means of dispatch for all responding fire departments:

Table 2. Method of Dispatch for Humboldt County Fire Departments

Fire Department	Humboldt Dispatch Coop	Interagency CDF	Police	Combined Public Service	Other
4	26	6	3	2	5

At least one fire department uses a “phone tree” to dispatch firefighters to an incident. Eleven departments report that they have a backup dispatch system.

Coordinate System. 19 departments indicate that they use a “Local” coordinate system (the type of local system was not specified) to direct respondents to incident locations, nine departments report that they use a system based on Latitude and Longitude, and two departments indicate that they use another system.

Internet Access. 25 departments indicate that they have Internet access, however, many departments indicate that “home” is where they access the Internet rather than at the fire station.

TRAINING AND CAPABILITIES/DEPARTMENT SCOPE

Training. 42 of 47 departments (all departments included) reported that they train regularly. The median hours of training per department per month is six, with a minimum of zero and a maximum of 60 (Bureau of Land Management). The Chief, Training Officer, or other department officer delivers the monthly training for most departments. Most departments participate in regional training opportunities.

Department Scope. Table 3 summarizes departments’ response regarding their scope of service, and how far they would need to go for additional resources.

Department Needs.

Table 4, which begins on page 8 and extends to page 18, lists each department's needs relating to equipment, training, safety, personnel, as well as other needs: The needs listed are identical to the responses provided by the departments.

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Table 3. Humboldt County Fire Department Scope

					How far do you have to go to find enough trained people?				Do you have a plan for working with other, if yes what type?			
	Yes	No	% YES	% NO	Local	Regional /Area	State	National	Yes written	Yes informal	Yes Other	No
Is Technical Rescue/EMS with 10 occupants and building collapse part of your scope	19	28	40%	60%								
How far do you need to go for trained assistance					17%	26%	6%	0%				
How far do you need to go for special equipment					15%	26%	6%	0%				
Do you have an agreement for working with others									9%	13%	6%	15%
Is HazMat involving chem./bio agents and 10 injuries part of your scope	14	33	30%	70%								
How far do you need to go for trained assistance					13%	21%	6%	0%				
How far do you need to go for special equipment					11%	21%	9%	0%				
Do you have an agreement for working with others									11%	19%	2%	6%
Is wildland urban interface fire of 25 – 50 acres part of your scope	32	15	68%	32%								
How far do you need to go for trained assistance					23%	38%	2%	0%				
How far do you need to go for special equipment					23%	36%	2%	0%				
Do you have an agreement for working with others									36%	17%	4%	4%
Is mitigation of a major flood part of your scope	15	32	32%	68%								
How far do you need to go for trained assistance					6%	26%	2%	0%				
How far do you need to go for special equipment					4%	26%	2%	0%				
Do you have an agreement for working with others									6%	6%	2%	15%
Is mass casualty incident involving 25 fatalities and 40 injuries part of your scope	23	24	49%	51%								
How far do you need to go for trained assistance					13%	30%	9%	0%				
How far do you need to go for special equipment					6%	36%	9%	0%				
Do you have an agreement for working with others									11%	17%	6%	9%

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Fieldbrook Community Services District	Personal Protective Gear	Wildland firefighting		The cost of workman's comp is getting so high we may not be able to keep volunteers	Tax assessment on property
Yurok Volunteer Fire Department	Need additional fire trucks (Type III)				
Scotia Volunteer Fire Department	Ladder or aerial 50 ft. to 75 ft.; Updated medical response vehicle; Confined space equipment	More confined space, HazMat, ICS and MCI			
Willow Creek Fire Protection District	Water Tender; Command Vehicle	Firefighter I for all personnel; First Responder for all personnel; Wildland certifications	Portable radios, SCBA's	Firehouse software, laptop computer	GPS system
Humboldt Fire Protection District No. 1	Basic operation funding that is not stolen annually by the State; Regional dedicated training facility; Dedicated training officer	Local provision of fire officer, and driver operator course	Updated SCBA (we may have received FEMA Grant) - huge sums of money would be required to meet NFPA 1710 and 1720	Both our stations are unreinforced masonry buildings prone to failure in substantial earthquakes. We are unable to provide a 25% match for a FEMA grant and lost the opportunity. Replacement costs for both stations are currently estimated at \$2.25 m	State legislators who do not view local government as the bank.

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Beginnings / Briceland Volunteer Fire Department	90% WUI and 80 medical rescue calls, we could use 4x4 200 - 300 gal quick attack w/ full rescue gear and medical equip; Over the bank equipment (new basket stretcher, backboards, 2 haul pulleys, ascenders, carabineers); AED now! and extrication equipment	With 4 - EMTS, two of which are AED, ETAD trained, we could use more EMTs with EAD, ETAD training and we need equipment to do so; HAZMAT basic training to technician level	Two to four hours each month, 8 hours minimum per month		Unfortunate that it all equates to money
Fortuna Fire Protection District	Upgrade ladder truck, tender, and rescue rig				
Arcata Fire Protection District	Replacement of two older engines one 25 years the other with 100,000 miles; Replacement of old SCBA	More State Fire Marshal classes offered locally	Yearly medical and pulmonary function testing	New headquarters fire station. The current one is almost 60 years old; Additional career personnel to increase on duty staffing to two or three an engine. Staffing of an addl. Engine. We will have 1800 call/yr, too many for vol. dept	
Fruitland Volunteer Fire Department	Water tender; Quick response truck	Structural fire training; Confined space rescue	Yes	We get a lot of support from CDF as well as all of our training as well	
Resort Improvement District No. 1	A need for more HazMat equipment and a ridged hull inflatable boat, suitable for ocean rescue				

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Miranda Community Services District	Newer engines; More radios; PASS; generator		Weott CDF to stay open year round		
Korbel Fire Brigade		CPR & first aid for all members			
Maple Creek Volunteer Fire Department	Newer fire truck (Type III engine 1980s or newer)				
Sprowel Creek Volunteer Fire Department	Fire hoses, nozzles and adaptors, chainsaws, week wacker; SCBA, ladders for truck; Water storage tanks	Wildland firefighting training films; First responder training films and training in first responder/EMT for certification	First aid box and first responder equipment	Grants to pay someone to write grants; An enclosed building to use as a firehouse. We really only have carports for our two engines. No central place to secure equipment - could build it if we had the materials	

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Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Palo Verde Volunteer Fire Department	3/4 ton or larger 4x4 diesel quick attack/rescue rig with utility bed and 200 gallon slip-on fire pump code 3 ready; 1500 gallon or larger 4wd water tender; New SCBA and wildland gear	Yearly training courses held in Southern Humboldt, including wildland, FF 1A, SAR, swift water rescue, etc	Use of County of Humboldt motor pool to service VFC, VFD, and FPD equipment; A reimbursement from the County of Humboldt for multiple thousands of dollars that we have had to spend in fees and permits to insure the citizens of this area of the County have adequate EMS and fire protection; Buy a building and garage to house the equipment needed to perform fire/EMS services	Workmen's comp insurance for the smallest VFDs would help immensely. Even just 4 firefighters and EMS per dept and the dept would save from \$1,000 to \$3,600 per dept. and it may cost the County significantly less.; Consolidation of liability insurances should be looked at also.	
Weott Community Services District	Hydraulic jaws of life and training in its use. There is no set within our district	Continue recertification of EMT 1s and we need to certify to First Responder level 2 volunteers; We would like to certify 4-6 personnel to SFM FF 1 level training we need a program which will allow personnel to receive this certification in house and with their limited free time; Provide funding to CDF to assist in training	As of now yes, we are OK with CDF Amador but when it expires we won't meet safety and assistance requirements	Currently, the CSD handles most of our administrative requirements. Although we could use a computer to maintain current personnel records and fire department operational information; A phone line for station operation and internet connection	

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Orleans Volunteer Fire Department	Five pagers, newer SCBA, addition to fire house for storage and hose drying rack, newer apparatus, hydraulic extrication equipment	Firefighter I, EMT1; All training courses planned for a department should be passed on to other departments in an alert with the total seats available after that department knows how many of their members will participate	Need a countywide conference on what are current requirements and how we are going to acquire them	Orleans may not be aware of what help we can get on this, or we don't even know what we should be doing	Recruitment is the biggest problem. We had one consultant from Arcata tell us not to use loggers, because they have the wrong attitude. Loggers have been particularly good about emergency services, but there are few of them in Orleans area.
Honeydew Volunteer Fire Department	Four modern 4x4 chassis quick attack wildland units; We need apparatus garages	Continuing wildland and EMS training; If there are requirements such as "Red Card" etc., somebody better let us know	Insurance, insurance, \$12,000 per year out of \$16,000 discretionary that is almost criminal	See insurance	Local departments trying to do everything by the book and getting jerked around by consultant (from Menlo Park) hired the County Planning/Building. Little new construction undertaken by VFDs is minimal, the County shouldn't make it hard
Whitethorn Fire Protection District	Upgrade fire trucks; Radios; Turnouts	Training programs			
Redcrest Volunteer Fire Department	New fire truck with 1,000 gallon pumper; Wildland firefighting truck; First responder rig and vehicle extrication equipment	Firefighter I training for five people; Structural firefighting training; Vehicle extrication training		Lack of firehouse is a major concern; Computer; Own classroom for training	Radio repeater (urgent) and HazMat training

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Eureka Fire Department	Adequate funding to establish a replacement fund to allow the purchase of equipment and apparatus on a planned schedule; Purchase of new pickup truck, rescue apparatus	We have experienced a significant turnover of personnel within the last 3 years. Training of entry level firefighters, engineers, and capts., while trying to meet NFPA standards is challenging; Technical rescue, structural collapse, trench, water, marine firefighting for land based firefighting, a sound fundamental training program for all ranks of young department; Prioritized time for all above	Need comprehensive fitness and wellness program; Dedicated training officer; Drill facility within jurisdiction	A drill facility with tower, drafting pit, classroom in a central location; Four man engine companies, four man truck companies; Upgrade facilities to modern earthquake standards	Staffing: same as 70's, it's not just the calls that have increased but the programs and projects. Consolidation of neighboring jurisdictions.
Six Rivers National Forest					Access to Federal grant money
Petrolia Fire Protection District	1990's vintage 4x4 wildland fire engine with 500 gallon water tank and foam in good condition; New structural fire gear; New SCBAs	High angle rope rescue			

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Garberville Fire Protection District	Wildland vehicle and rescue squad - dedicated vehicles, currently take structure vehicles to extrication and wildland; Firefighter safety is #1 need; PASS; updated SCBA; additional gear; Better communications ability at the scene; more reliable dispatching services	Additional training in general; Inter agency training; Resources to current standards, visual/video, etc.	As above	Better distribution of vehicles in district; Expanded district boundary with assessment based for needed revenue; Volunteer dept assistance for SOPs; operational; structure; P & Ps etc.	Water supply system in private ownership; Needs significant upgrade; Additional hydrants; Water stores in various locations.
Prosper Ridge Volunteer Fire Department	Working fire truck; water storage facilities; rescue gear; and communications equipment				We cannot fulfill the service gap (our potential service area) due to lack of equipment and apparatus. Our radios don't get over the hill, so we are "alone," however, we do have the personnel, the will, and the need to protect the lines/homes (more)

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Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Blue Lake Fire Protection District		Evening and weekend training for all required classes and qualifications	OSHA/NPPA compliant risk management person to see if compliant and write and or implement the policies and procedures	Administrative needs are our biggest downfall. Most of the time it takes our department weeks to get things like this finished; Prevention programs (education and inspection) are very difficult to administer with all volunteer departments;	Financial support for responding outside our district boundaries to areas that have no fire or rescue year round.
Samoa Fire Protection District	New apparatus, at least 1 but need 2 engines; Defibrillator machines; SCBA; turnouts	Firefighting and HazMat skills; First aid; EMT; and driving skills			
Ferndale Fire Protection District	Air system to refill our SCBA bottles, what we have now is outdated; Stay with replacement system 20 - 30 years for our fire apparatus; New SCBA and turnout replacement	More with pump operations, need for firefighters to operate pumper trucks; real fire or good training area for newer members	Always could use more time for inspections	All departments are finding it more difficult to find new members	
Carlotta Community Services District	New SCBA (at least four sets)				
Salmon Creek Volunteer Fire Department				Have plenty of decent equipment, short on volunteers	

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District	Better radios for vehicles, newer wildland engine; Newer better structure gear, SCBAs, meeting space in firehouse with seating area; GPS	VCR and monitor in training area with videos for training; Rescue and over the bank training	GPS and good map book		
Trinidad Fire Department	Newer pumper w/ 1000 gal, 1000 gpm and seats for five; New SCBA plus PASS;	More HazMat; Structure fire training exposures			
Myers Flat Fire Protection District	We are in need of a newer engine, one engine out of service, engines too slow; Extrication equipment, saws-all, airchizels; enough medical equipment to fully equip a second engine and first responder vehicle	Have received extensive training through CDF-amador, but have no certifications need to deal with this	Getting certified in different areas; Training is costly, especially if we have to travel to it	Assistance in grant writing, we have lost out on the chance to get several grants due to lack of knowledge; grant writing is important because dept has very little money and every bit helps	
Kneeland Fire Protection District	Newer vehicles; stop the county from siphoning any more \$\$ from our assessment; We do not get a penny from County, State, or Feds, but \$ is taken out for schools, LPs, reevaluations, audits, and now LAFCO	More \$ to afford more volunteers and their training		\$ To finish building our fire station	We operate this department on \$15,000/year. There are mandated expenses of \$9,000. Of the remaining \$6,000, the state, county remove funds for schools, ERAF, LP's reevaluation, and now LAFCO. If this continues we will not exist.

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Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Loleta Fire Protection District	Doing very well;	Doing very well	Doing very well	Doing very well	
Rio Dell Fire Protection District	Tender or tanker; Air compressor for refilling SCBA cylinders; Rescue engine	MCI training; Live fire training; Swift water rescue		More dedicated personnel	MCI drill in the Redcrest, Weott area
County Service Area No. 4					
CDF Humboldt / Del Norte Range Unit	Old equipment	Disaster prep - Search and Rescue; Auto extrication - Hazmat tech and above; Countywide accountability system	Quarterly meeting/bi-annually		
Orick Community Services District	Emergency van; Scott air pack; radio equipment	Hazmat training; Any other training but it must be on the weekends for volunteers to attend	More breathing apparatus	Computer	
Redway Fire Protection District	Second fire station located at the industrial park, including decontamination shower and one addl pumper	Grant writing training (local classes coordinated through sponsorship by So Hum Fire Chiefs)			Closer HazMat, Eureka seems like it is too far away. More coordination between Co Supervisors/Co Administrative Officer and the remote fire districts.
Phillipsville Volunteer Fire Department	Protective clothing - turnouts, replace quick attack with 4-wheel drive, and finish fire station	Basic firefighter training, medical training (EMT)	Would like to bring everything up to standard	Personnel, (local guys), grant writing	

Table 4. Humboldt County Fire Department Needs

ORGANIZATION NAME	EQUIPMENT NEEDS	TRAINING NEEDS	SAFETY NEEDS	PERSONNEL NEEDS	OTHER NEEDS
Bureau of Land Management - Arcata	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
Whale Gulch Volunteer Fire Department	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
Redwood National Park	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data	No Data
Hoopa Volunteer Fire Department	No survey				
Hoopa Valley Tribe Wildland Fire Department	No survey				
Westhaven Volunteer Fire Department	No survey				