

UPPER PINE RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



ANNUAL REPORT



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District is to provide exceptional service through response and mitigation of all risk/hazards in the Upper Pine River Valley and Region.

By

- Building resilience in our communities
- Engaging our neighbors in collaborative ideas
- Innovative financial strategies
- Delivering outcome based medical, rescue, and fire services
- Empower employees to engage in district processes
- Approach problems as opportunities through “Just Culture”
- Supporting staff in their professional development

VISION

“We will be leaders in Rural EMS and Fire Protection Serving the Four Corners Region”

VALUES

FAMILY
DEDICATED
COMPETENT

DUTY
TEAMWORK
INTEGRITY
PROFESSIONALISM

RESPECTFUL
COMMITTED
ACCOUNTABLE

IS WHAT WE DO

THE DISTRICT

UPPER PINE RIVER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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THIS REPORT COVERS
JANUARY 1 THROUGH
DECEMBER 31, 2018



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

FINANCIALS

COMMAND

DISTRICT MAP

PERFORMANCE

OPERATIONS

SPECIAL OPS

EMS

TRAINING

CAAS

WILDLAND

INTERNSHIP-WEST METRO

INTERNATIONAL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

PREVENTION

358 FIRE

RETROSPECTIVE

AWARDS

FIRE STATION 1 PROJECT

WILD FIRE MITIGATION CHECKLIST



As a Fire District we are pleased to present the third annual report to the citizenry. The annual report is designed to keep the residents, seasonal homeowners and visitors to the Pine River Valley up to date on the District's financial performance, operational effectiveness and accomplishments.

2018 started out the spring with a "near miss" fire off of Country Road 245 commonly known as the 358 Fire in the Sweetwater Springs area. A special section is included in this report detailing the 358 Fire and our success in preventing this fire from damaging or destroying homes.

In June we achieved accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) for our ambulance and EMS operations. This was an incredible team effort to secure this status and Upper Pine River Fire Protection District is the smallest EMS agency in the United States to obtain it and the only fire based EMS agency in Colorado to secure it. Our staff pulled off a perfect score on the site visit and within this annual report we have detailed what exactly the CAAS Accreditation means.

As a learning organization, we are passionate about training people who are grounded in the community. The results of our mentoring program with one of the Bayfield High School students and our annual intern program with the University of Bordeaux, France will be highlighted in this report along with the efforts of one of our firefighter EMT's.

In late summer and early fall our technical rescue skills were put to the test in the Transfer Park above Lemon Reservoir. A Fort Lewis College student experienced a fall resulting in what should have been a fatal injury. From the time of the call, to extrication from the canyon and placement on the helicopter for evacuation to Mercy was 55 minutes. The District's technical rescue skills are detailed within this report. The wildland season concluded with a successful partnership with the US Forest Service and supporting the Saul's Creek prescribed fire. Mitigation on County Road 240 also continued around the Aspen Trails subdivision. Deployment to regional fires within SW Colorado kept our wildland firefighters busy without leaving the state. However, we did send ambulance crews to assist with Hurricane Michael in the Florida Panhandle under contract to American Medical Responses National Ambulance Strike Team Program (AMR).

The public supported us in November with a budget stabilization issue by allowing us to de-gallagherize and uncouple us from unfair manipulation from the economics of the Front Range. The District was able to place additional money in the reserve fund for equipment replacement.

It is a privilege to lead and serve the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District and the high performance teams that staff our fire stations, wildland crews and administration functions. The accomplishments in this report couldn't be possible without the support from the public and the kindness shown to the staff and crews of the fire district that makes Upper Pine a great place to work. It is our mission to solve problems and make a difference.

Respectfully,

Bruce Evans, MPA, NRP, CFO, SPO
Fire Chief

State of the Fire District

The Upper Pine River Fire Protection District continues to strengthen as the primary emergency response agency for the eastside of La Plata County. By adopting a conservative fiscal profile and aggressively retiring debt, the District forges ahead despite a challenging taxation year for the State. The response activities in the past year continue to evolve and improve for the residents and visitors to the district. The Board of Directors have secured a 5-year extension of the contract with Chief Evans, who continues to provide outstanding leadership for Upper Pine. 2018 promises to remain challenging for La Plata County financially. The District is positioned to continue its excellent service and fiscal responsibility for our taxpayers, while pursuing a debt free status in just 3 years.

As always, we appreciate the support and commitment of our community in pursuit of our public safety mission, and promise to provide you with the world class service you deserve.

Sincerely,



Jeff Dyar
Board President



PRESIDENT

The finance department prepares the annual budget and monthly financial statements; reconciles bank accounts, tracks expenses and invoices for inter-agency services and manages cash and debt. It also prepares the annual comprehensive financial report, which includes detailed audited financial statements and statistical information about the Department. It ensures compliance with Department policy, State and Federal law and generally accepted accounting practices.

To ensure the safe and effective use of taxpayer's dollars, Upper Pine River Fire Protection District is audited annually by a team from Rubin Brown LLP a Certified Public Accounting firm based in Denver, Colorado. Copies of past audited comprehensive financial reports are available on the District's website:

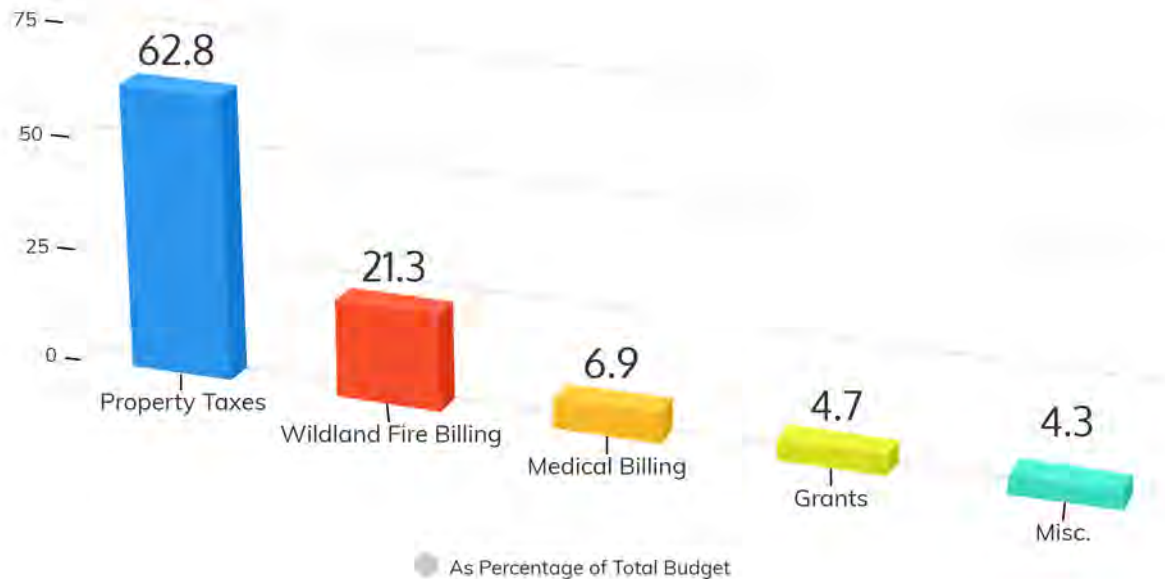
<http://upperpinefpd.org/board-and-financials>



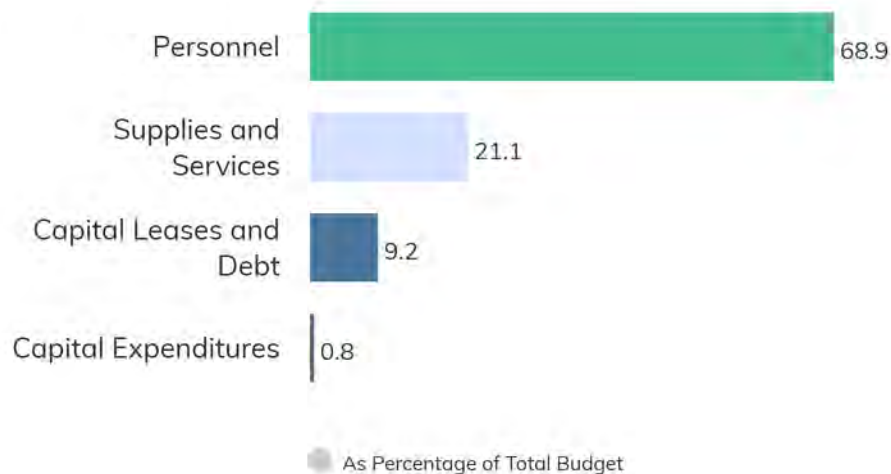
In 2017, the District received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This is the sixth consecutive year we have received the award. The purpose of the award is to recognize local governments that go beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles to prepare comprehensive annual financial reports that evidence the spirit of transparency and full disclosure.

The major source of funding for the District is the property tax levy which makes up 62.8% of revenue. Revenue generated from contracting with federal agencies for manpower and equipment use to fight wildland fires accounts for 21.3% of revenue. EMS fees, grants and miscellaneous income comprise the remaining amount of revenue. Total revenues in 2018 were just over \$4.5 million. Total expenditures were just under \$4.5 million.

2018 REVENUE

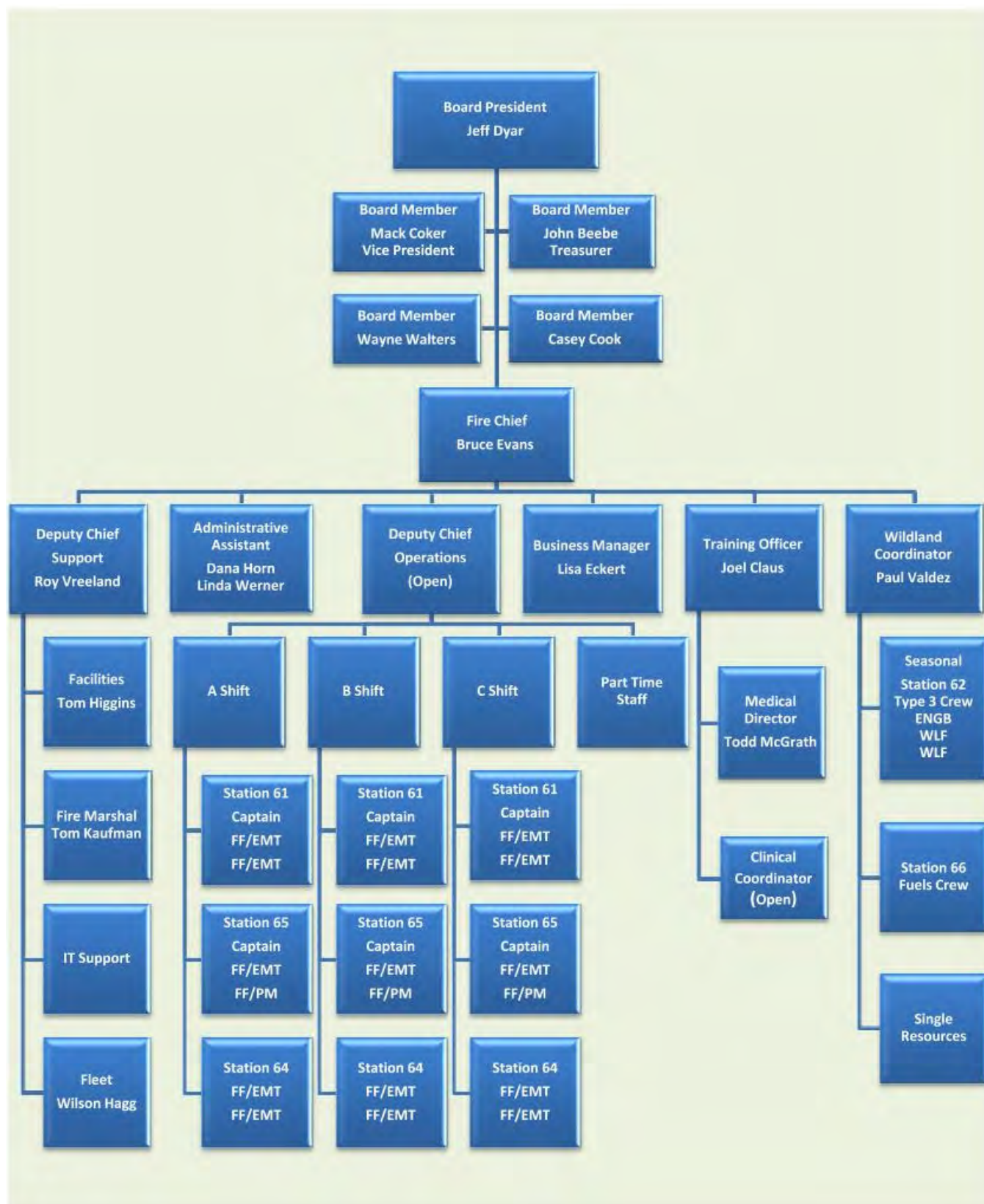


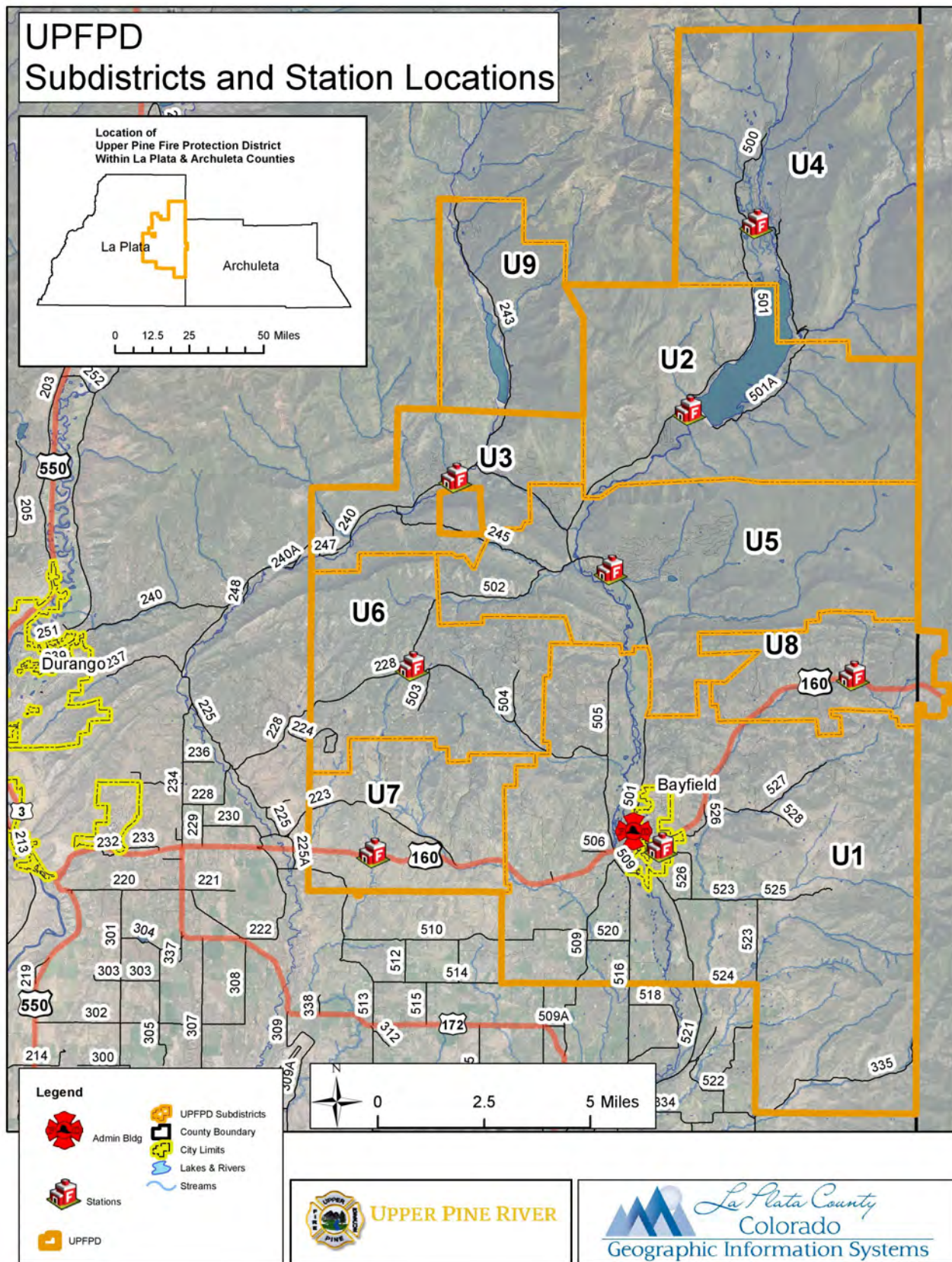
2018 EXPENDITURES



COMMAND

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





DISTRICT

ADMIN: 515 Sower Dr
STATION 1: 75 S. Clover Dr
STATION 2: 13100 CR 501
STATION 3: 13407 Cr 240
STATION 4: 80 W. Vallecito Creek

STATION 5: 6891 CR 501
STATION 6: 8476 CR 502
STATION 7: 35191 W Hwy 160
STATION 8: 49342 E Hwy 160

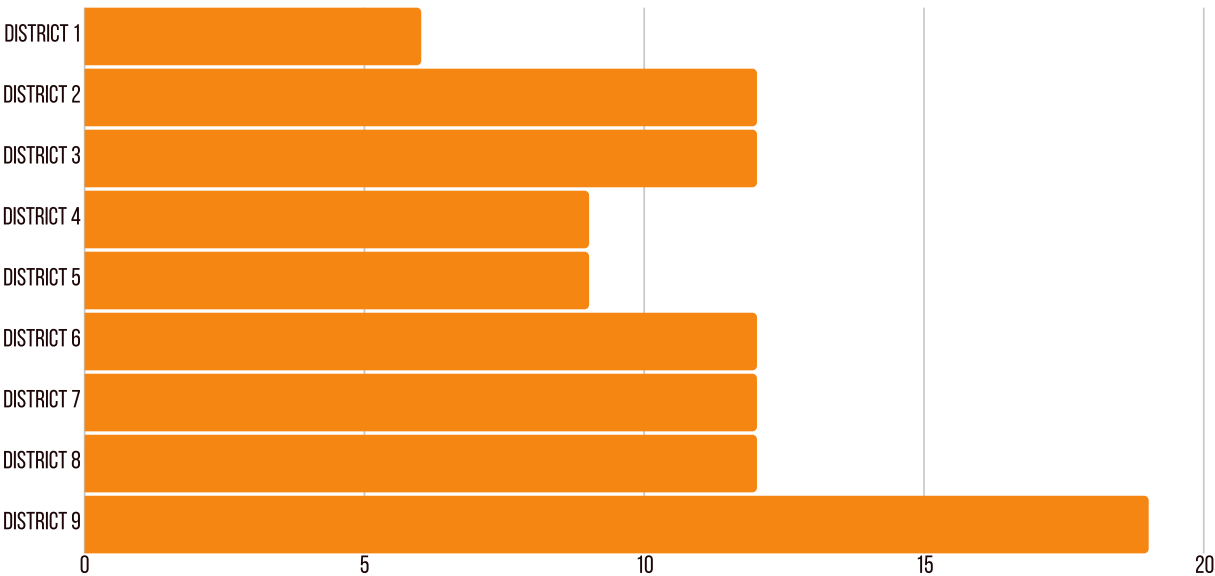
RESPONSE TIME GOALS

Our response time goals are designed to meet the District’s Standards of Cover, the National Fire Protection Associations 1710/1720 Standard and the American Heart Association’s response guidelines for Stroke, Cardiac Arrest and Acute Myocardial Infractions (Heart Attacks).

- Suburban Zones with 500-1000 people/sq. mi. call for 10 staff to assemble a fire attack in 8 minutes, 80% of the time. (DISTRICTS 1, 4, 5)
- Rural Zones with <500 people/sq. mi. call for 6 staff to assemble a fire attack in 11 minutes, 80% of the time. (DISTRICTS 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9)

Annual Fire Situation	2016	2017	2018
*Not Specified	3	1	1
100 Series Fire	43	46	65
200 Series Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire)	2	5	2
300 Series Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	605	561	580
400 Series Hazardous Condition(No fire)	30	28	21
500 Series Service Call	34	48	45
600 Series Good Intent Call	101	119	153
700 Series False Alarm & False Call	22	28	36
800 Series Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	3	1	10

AVERAGE RESPONSE TIMES PER DISTRICT

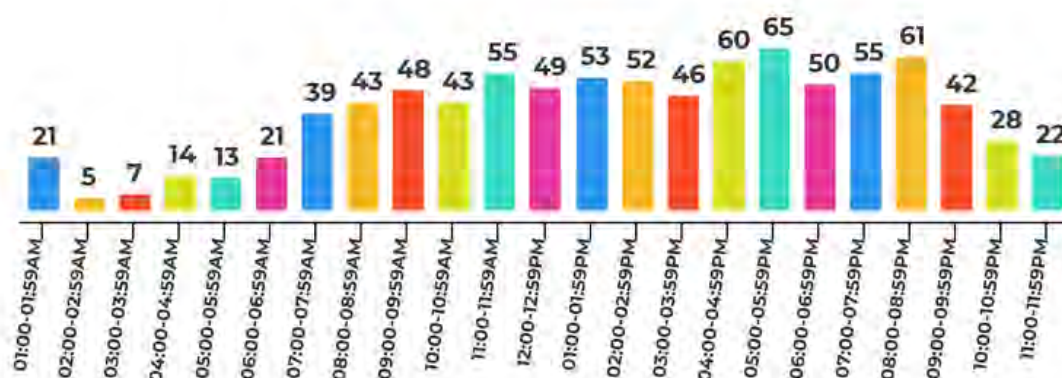


The District’s average response time is 10 mins
90% of the responses a unit arrives in under 18 minutes

Number of Incidents by Day of the Week



Number of Incidents by Time of Day

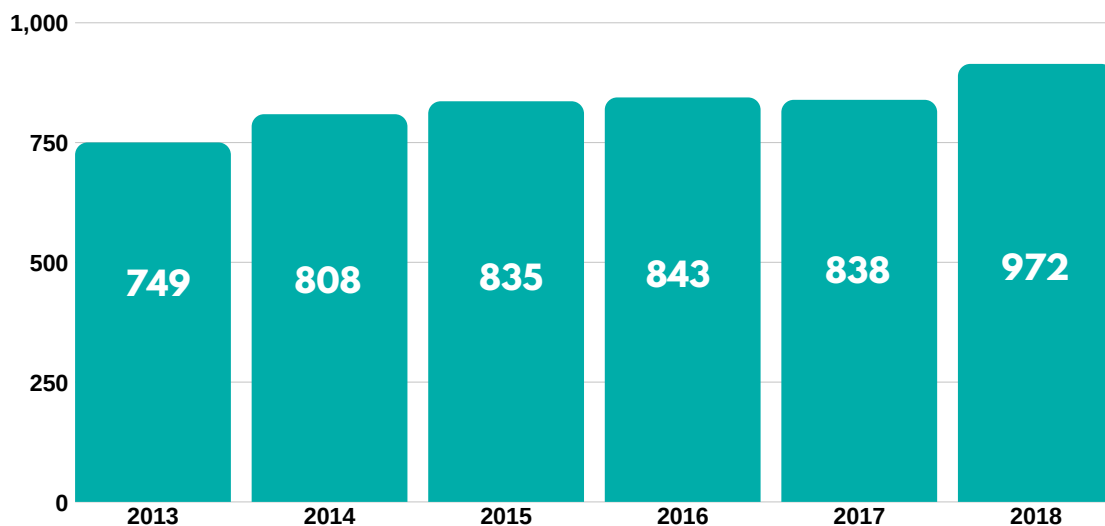


TOTAL NUMBER OF CALLS FOR 2018

The primary function of the operations division is to respond to emergency and non-emergency calls. Firefighters conduct building familiarization inspections as part of pre-planning activities. On duty firefighters participate in training, public education, vehicle and equipment maintenance and other routine activities.

The District is staffed with 28 full-time employees supplemented with reservists. A daily crew consists of two fire captains, one paramedic and five firefighters. The District operates three fire stations with full time staff. Station 1 (Bayfield), Station 5 (Forest Lakes), and Station 4 (North Vallecito). Station 6 (Bellflower) and Station 2 (Vallecito Dam) are staffed with seasonal wildland firefighters from April to October. Stations 3 has a resident firefighter (CR 240), Station 7 (Narrow Gauge), and Station 8 (Deer Valley) have equipment that can be manned as needed.

Call Volumes



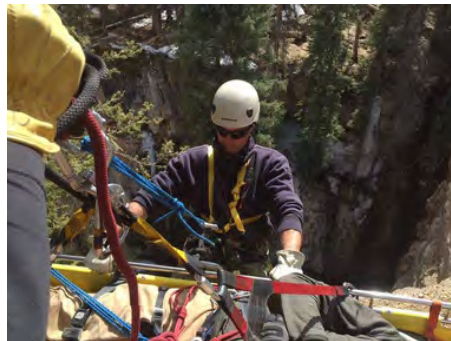
District Fire Stations are located in the suburban density districts of North Vallecito, Bayfield, and Forest Lakes. (See District Map for exact locations)

- The District responded to 3 calls involving the need for technical rescue.
- Additional calls involved a need for ropes and other specialized operation.
- 10 crew members were trained to be Swift Water Technicians
- 2 crew members trained and completed a 10 day course with West Metro Fire Department in Denver. Training included rope rescue, trench rescue, building collapse and confined space rescue.

ONE TOUGH KID

Transfer Park Rescue

In September the Transfer Park above Lemon Reservoir is an inviting place for outdoor recreation. The variety of wall heights and ease of access makes it a favorite for rock climbers. On Saturday October 13th a Fort Lewis student was free climbing on the South Wall. At a height of approximately 80 feet witnesses saw him fall into the river bed. A fall greater than 80 feet typical has a 90% mortality rate. Bystanders made a 911 call and we responded requesting mutual aid from La Plata Search and Rescue. The first arriving crews made access and assessed the patient's critical injuries. Flight for Life was summoned from Mercy. The time from dispatch to being placed on the helicopter took about 55 minutes. This included the patient being roped into a strokes basket and hauled up a 50 degree embankment over 50 feet. The patient was flown to Mercy and then to the University Hospital in New Mexico where he survived and recovered from his injuries enough to return home. His father came in December to clean out his dorm and stopped by the station to read a letter his son wrote to his rescuers. We have since received a video of him walking and progressing through his therapy.



HURRICANE MICHAEL AMR STRIKE TEAM

National Ambulance Response Strike Team

As reported in previous annual reports the District participates with the National Ambulance Response Strike Team Program (AMR). This system gathers ambulances from all over the country to respond to disasters and provide evacuation of patients and/or local EMS coverage where disasters have taken out the local responders. On October 12th a pre-alert for Hurricane Michael was broadcast. FF/EMT Shoesmith and FF/EMT-I Bradford were pre-deployed to quarters at Trinidad Ambulance in anticipation of a deployment order. That evening they were dispatched to a Georgia staging area and then deployed into Panama City Airport. They assisted in the local movement of patients from damaged hospitals and nursing homes. After two weeks Captain Miller and FF/EMT Goodwin were flown in as a relief crew. Using the District's reserve equipment and getting our staff the experience in working in a disaster zone better prepares them for what we hope never happens here. For helping our neighbors and loaning our reserve equipment FEMA and AMR reimbursed the District for \$57,800. This money minus expenses is placed in reserves to replace ambulances in the future.

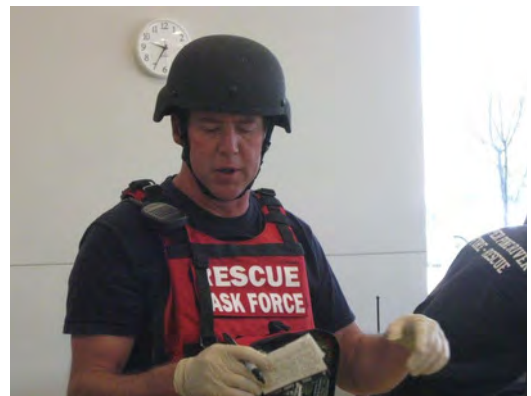
The EMS Division offsets EMS expenses each year by applying and securing EMS System Grants from the State of Colorado. Last year the EMS Division was awarded a new cardiac monitor, data collection tools and ballistic vests for each person on duty. After the loss of a Lakewood police officer and the alarming rate of officer fatalities nationwide, Upper Pine in a partnership with the La Plata County Sheriff, began assigning an advance life support provider to the Sheriff's tactical operations and training. This is an ongoing program and designed to support our brothers and sisters in law enforcement.

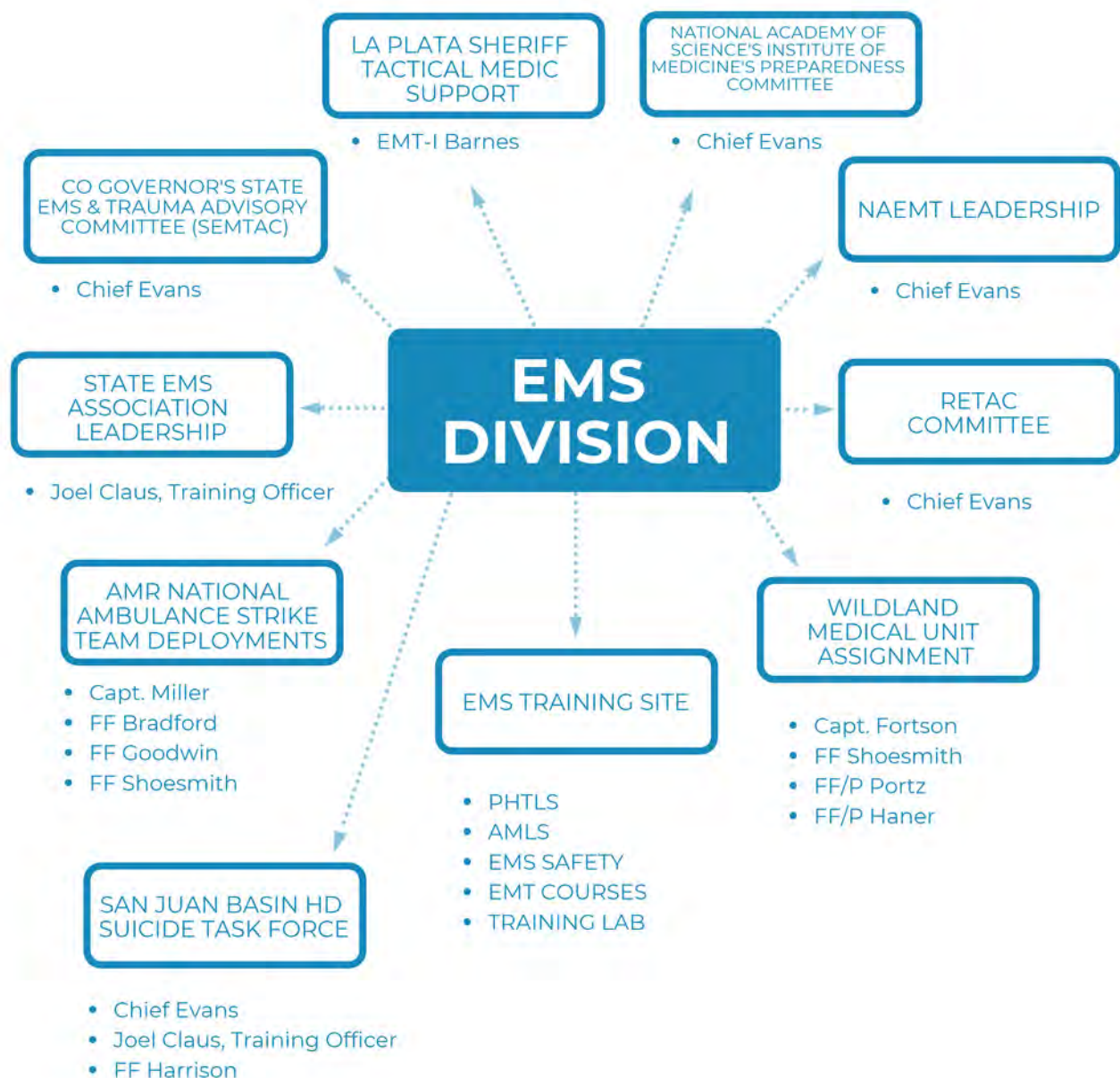
As reported in the local media the teen suicide rate in La Plata County is unacceptably high. In an effort to help curb these tragedies in partnership with the San Juan Basin Health Department, Upper Pine staff are involved various task forces and steering committees to find solutions.

If you encounter a situation where you required an EMS response you should receive a customer service survey from Upper Pine's third party customer service contractor. These results are provided to the Board of Directors on a quarterly basis and tracked monthly.

36

HOURS OF GOODWILL MEDICAL COVERAGE AT
BHS SPORTING EVENTS AND RODEOS IN 2018



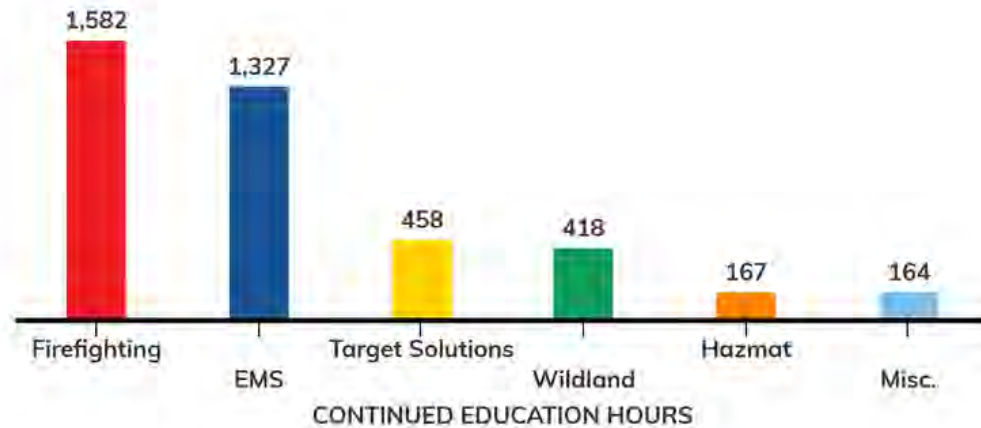


The EMS Division is responsible for the delivery of mobile integrated health care and Emergency Medical Services. The system operates two basic life support and one intermediate life support ambulance. Our paramedic services are provided by a “fly” or “chase car” system. The paramedic unit, EMS 60, and an ambulance are dispatched to each EMS call. If the patient does not require advanced life support the paramedic returns to availability and the EMT’s handle the call. It is a cost effective model and with a smaller call volume it keeps a small number of paramedics proficient at their skills.

The EMS Division completed the CAAS accreditation this year. Completing this process ensures policies, processes and action reflect the National Standards of Excellence. Residents in the Pine River Valley now have the same level of accredited service as the residents in the Vail Valley.

As a super rural fire district it is a challenge to stay on top of the changes and processes of the delivery of “out of hospital” emergency care. The EMS Division is involved in outside initiatives and EMS organizations at the regional, State, and National levels which are designed to build on leadership skills and expose our staff to ideas, best practices and innovation. The chart above details the networking and participation in our emergency and trauma organizations.

The State of Colorado requires specific amounts of training for state certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) and firefighters. Our training hours far exceeded the number of hours needed to maintain and improve the knowledge and skills sets of our staff. The aggregate training hours for the District in 2018 are displayed in the chart below:



We set up a new "Training Lab" for our providers which utilizes high-fidelity manikins for more realistic training scenarios.



Continuous Quality Improvement: The CQI Program ensures to promote and enhance quality emergency medical care to our community through information analysis, education and coordination. Currently the CQI Program has several initiatives including decreasing scene times on incidents involving critical trauma patients and improving skills-based procedures.

EMT-Basic Course 2017-2018 had a 100% pass rate (13 students) and is currently hosting the 2018-2019 course which will be completed in April 2019 (13 students).

CPR/AED and first aid classes are made available to the public by several dedicated trainers who provide this potentially life saving instruction. Community CPR education has proven to lead to better outcomes for patients who suffer cardiac arrest.



WHAT IS CAAS?

CAAS is one of the oldest and most respected EMS accrediting bodies in the nation. It is an independent, not-for-profit commission governed by a board of representatives from the American College of Emergency Physicians, the American Ambulance Association, the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the National Association of State EMS Directors and a liaison from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.



STANDARDS

CAAS standards encompass everything that is integral to providing quality prehospital care: the EMS agency's overall organization, management structure, financial management, clinical standards, equipment and facilities, safe operations and risk management, communications/dispatch, interagency interaction, human resources/personnel, and community relations/public information. Sections concerning medical input and clinical standards are always assigned to the physician reviewer, while the rest of the team divides up the other sections based upon their qualifications, specialties and experience within EMS.



THE PROCESS

- Self-assessment, in which the agency considering accreditation evaluates all facets of its operation against established CAAS standards;
- Completion of the application, in which the agency documents its compliance with all the CAAS standards;
- An off-site review of the agency's documentation by CAAS staff to ensure that the application is as complete as possible; and
- An on-site review by a team of EMS professionals comprised of an EMS physician and two other medics or nurses with significant experience in managerial, clinical, operational and/or other aspects of EMS.



TEAMWORK

Upper Pine is the smallest agency to receive this accreditation. Thanks to the dedication and long hours of staff members: Training Officer Joel Claus, Business Manager Lisa Eckert, FF Will Shoesmith, Steve Burns, FF John Learned, FF Wilson Hagg, FF Vito Ciccarelli and Dr. Todd McGrath we were able to accomplish this.



An exceptional drought meant newer and bigger challenges this season which we are able to report was once again a very safe and productive one. The season brought another opportunity to work with the Columbine Ranger District (USFS) located out of Bayfield. Last summer we provided Brush 62, Brush 68 and Tender 66 for this assignment. The severity assignment started in early May and lasted through the dry fire season until late September 2018. This assignment was great for our USFS partners as well as the local citizens because the boundaries are shared on the eastern, western and northern sides. It was a pleasure working with the local Forest Service partners and we look forward to continuing to build a strong relationship.



The District's
wildland equipment
and fire fighters
were on assignment
182 days in the
summer of 2018.



WILDFIRE ASSIGNMENTS

Sending out engines, overhead and crews is a great way to add depth in experience and to bring revenue back into the District. Along with the local USFS severity assignment, we sent engines and personnel to the 416 Fire and three other Colorado fires. Throughout the severity assignment the District assisted in the preparation and implementation of the largest Prescribed Burn (RX) in the Rocky Mountain Region of 2018 east of Bayfield. These were called the Saul's Creek Rx and Yellow Jacket Rx. The District provided equipment, ground personnel and overhead to the successful completion of these burns. In total, the District's wildland equipment and fire fighters were on assignment for 182 days in the summer of 2018 for fire staging, large fire support and prescribed fire.



VISIT THESE SITES FOR MORE INFORMATION:

<http://www.co.laplata.co.us/emergency>

<http://upperpinefpd.org/cwpp>

<https://flmd.com/cwpp/>

WILDFIRE & THE COMMUNITY

THE CHIPPER PROGRAM

Once again the chipper was well utilized late in the fall chipping slash for home owners. We continue to work with HOA'S, Wildfire Adapted Partnerships and individual homeowners in taking action and ownership in the preparation and protection of their homes against the threat of wildfire. The District's chipping program makes available a commercial size wood chipper and a crew of 2 firefighter trained chipper operators to homeowners for \$250.00 per day. Chipping Day has all but become an annual event for several subdivisions in our area including Los Ranchitos, Aspen Trails and Enchanted Forest. Thank you to all who participate in this program and take advantage of the benefits it offers not only to your property but the surrounding community as well.



MITIGATION PROJECTS

The Wildland Division continued mitigation project work on the FEMA and RSC grants targeting the subdivisions in the Greater Lemon CWPP (Community Wildland Protection Plan). Creating defensible space around homes creates a safe working environment for fire crews and increases the likelihood of residential structure survival. Forest thinning in the CR 240 corridor also decreased fire risk in the area and minimized debris flows as seen on the 416 Fire. Debris flows have the potential to contaminate the Florida River, a Durango water supply. A combined 33 acres of mitigation were completed in 2018.

2 TRAINED CHIPPER
OPERATORS
\$250 A DAY



33

ACRES

MITIGATED



88

HOURS

GOODWILL BURNING

COMMUNITY BURNS

Due to exceptionally dry vegetation and resources being committed to initial attack assignments early in the season, agricultural pasture and slash pile burns were delayed until late fall. We had a short window to complete them before the wildland fire crew finished up their season. Pile burns were completed on eleven residential and agricultural properties totaling 88 hours worth of goodwill burning by the end of the season. In the spring the crew burned out a large grassy area that could serve as a safety zone in Forest Lakes Subdivision adjacent to the Recreation Center. The District appreciates the generous donations from property owners who contributed this year.

*Goodwill Burning is a service provided at no additional cost to the homeowner by the District.

CODE RED

Code Red is an emergency alert system that keeps you informed when events unfold that could threaten your safety or property. The District, in conjunction with Durango Dispatch, conducted a Code Red drill (sometimes referred to as Reverse 911) for the residents of the Forest Lakes subdivision. Two separate alerts were sent out on a Saturday morning in May advising residents to drive to Station 5 (Station by FLMD slash pile) and check in. Upon check in, residents received a swag bag of valuable information on Code Red Alerts and residential mitigation in the home ignition zone. The exercise provided valuable information regarding the effectiveness of the system and familiarized residents with the evacuation process. Google "Code Red La Plata County" to register your cell phone, VOIP, or email for events in your area. Code Red will automatically call those with a land line so no need to register those.



The crew burned out a large grassy area that could serve as a safety zone in Forest Lakes Subdivision adjacent to the Recreation Center

INSTRUCTOR IN THE MAKING

FIREFIGHTER VITO CICCARELLI

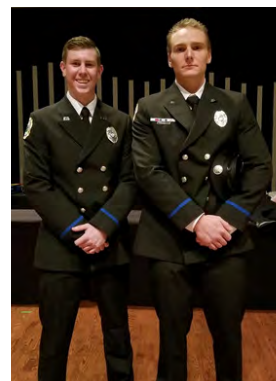
The 2018 Academy held by West Metro Fire turned out some of the finest fire fighters I've had the opportunity to work with in my career. The cadre consisted of over 80 years of front line experience which I had the honor to be a member of. Entrusted to me was the task of being an instructor in the classroom and on the drill grounds. It was an honor to represent Upper Pine in the most professional way possible, showing other departments we share the same level of skill and competency in our work- despite size. I worked among three lieutenants, two captains and one chief who all had over 15 years of experience; intimidating doesn't begin to describe the feeling of joining a cadre and instructing among superiors who truly know the industry inside and out. These veterans of the fire service are trained to ensure instructor skill sets are exceptional and individuals are fit to teach at an elite level. This standard is what makes West Metro so desirable and inclusive to attend. Through the many opportunities Upper Pine has granted me and the investment in my personal training since being hired, I feel that our department did not disappoint. West Metro has extended a request that we work with them again and be a part of the cadre once more.

Among the over 20 people who graduated this academy, Kaleb Heck our former high-school intern was among them. He showed true determination to work hard and hung tough with a crowd that was anywhere from 3 to 15 years older than himself with far more experience in all fields. But after 14 weeks of being up at 0400, PT at 0600, class at 0800, drill ground activities starting at 1230, with the day ending usually after 1800, Kaleb proved fit to be a fire fighter. His skills and intensive training will benefit the District as he begins his work as a reservist alongside those who helped train him. The community will see as he gives back as a Firefighter/EMT who truly makes a difference on every call; whether the darkest day or the coldest night, will always be ready to sacrifice for the greater good of those that call upon him.

OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME

FIREFIGHTER KALEB HECK

My grandfather, a retired firefighter, influenced my love for the fire service. I was blessed with the opportunity of being sponsored by Upper Pine to attend West Metro Fire and Rescue Academy to complete their five month training course. The academy was probably the most fun that I have had throughout my life. At the beginning you get thrown into a classroom with 19 other random people, not knowing anything. During academy these 19 other people become some of your best friends and family. I was able to be a part of the 9/11 stair climb at the Red Rocks Amphitheater where over 1500 people were walking. I feel honored to have been a part of the West Metro Fire Academy and would strongly recommend the training program to any potential firefighters.



" West Metro has extended a request that we work with them again"



FF CICCARELLI AND
FF HECK 2017



"The Academy was probably the most fun I've had"



Internationally
Accredited

For the past five summers, the District has welcomed students from the University Institute of Technology in Bordeaux, France to the Upper Pine International Internship Program. Interns spend ten weeks studying the American fire service as part of their Bachelor Degree requirement. In 2017 Olivia Cappetta was introduced to the training, programs and lifestyle here. Her assigned project was to create a Community Wildland Fire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the 265 square miles of the Fire District. This CWPP was a credible achievement and is now utilized as an official document.

Olivia has returned after achieving her Master's Degree in Fire Safety Engineering from Ulster University in Ireland. This degree offers courses in the fire field such as fire behavior, people and fire, fire design and engineering science. Before graduating this summer, Olivia had the opportunity to bring to fruition her master's thesis at the National Fire Protection Association in Boston. She worked at the data research department and designed an international prospective of wildfire to save lives and structures. Since November, Olivia has worked part-time as part of the Fire Accreditation Project Team which includes creating fire pre-plans of all the commercial buildings for the entire district. We are fortunate to have Olivia as a much appreciated resource.



BELFAST



BOSTON

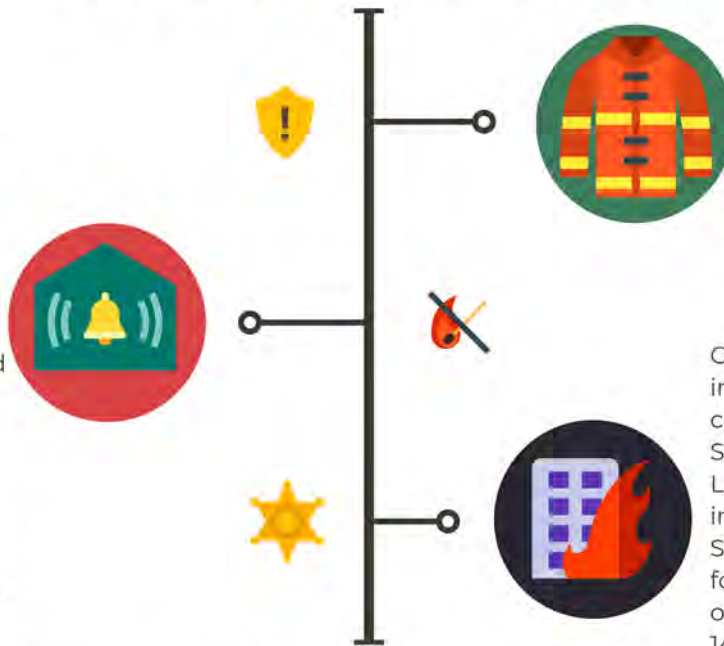


FIRE PREVENTION

Public Safety & Education

Fire Prevention Education

Fire Prevention Week at the Elementary Schools-We worked with the Bayfield High School Honor Society students to produce and put on a fire prevention skit at the two elementary schools. Afterwards some of the children participated in our Jr. Firefighter Challenge Course with bunker gear made just their size. There was encouragement from the cheering students and teachers at each session. We reached out to 400 students and 20 teachers.



Kiwanis Safety Day in the Park-Children learn about safety in various booths. Firefighters had the 2nd graders participate in the Jr. Firefighter Challenge Course after the safety talk. We contacted approximately 150 children and 20 teachers from around the area.

Our Fire Marshal was a guest instructor for the Police Science course at both the Bayfield High School and Bayfield Middle School. Lessons were geared around fire investigation and arson statutes. Students were shown consequences for the various arson crimes as part of the discussion. Talked to a total of 140 students in the program.

Community Outreach Events

Forest Lakes Community Center Bucket Brigade- We demonstrated to the children how the firefighter in the past used a bucket brigade to try to put out a fire and then let them use fire truck on the same fire house prop.

We participated in the annual middle school field day at the end of the school year. Students participated in the bucket brigade, which eventually turned into a water fight with each group. All had a good time learning about cooperation and working as a team.



Once again the Mill Street Block party was a great success. The children got to meet firefighters, check out our fire trucks and participate in the Jr. Firefighters Challenge Course. We met with 300 children and approximately 100 parents. During one of the block parties we were honored to have a retired firefighter assist us that lives at the Evenings Porch Assisted Living Center.

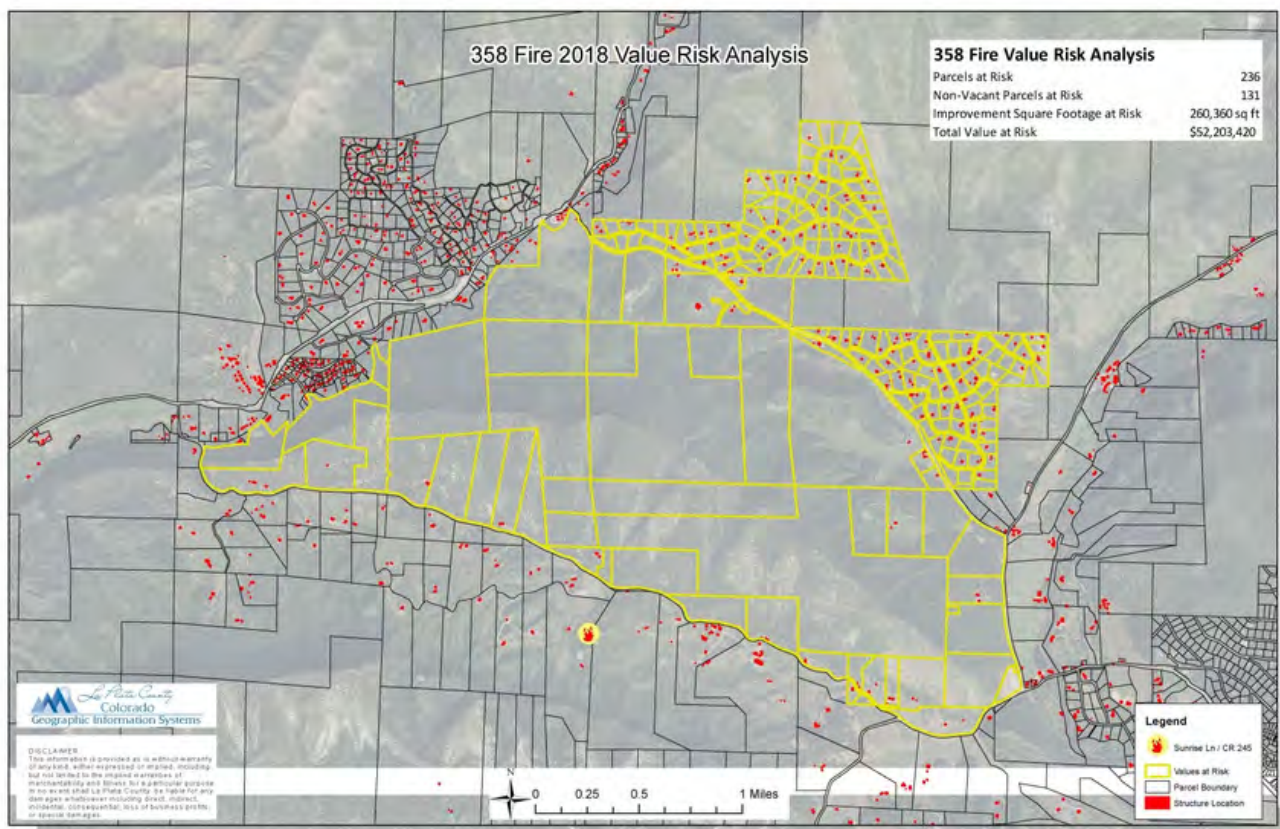
"Wildland fire should be hit hard and fast."

-MIKE MORGAN DIRECTOR OF THE COLORADO FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

In May the weather conditions and the humidity in the Four Corners along with the fuel moisture indicated the probability of a large fire. The four corners was in an exceptional drought. Acting on the science the US Forest Service and the Columbine Ranger District moved resources into the Lake Vallecito USFS Service Center. A hot shot crew from the Apache Nation and several wildland fire engines were already on standby.

At approximately 3 p.m. a homeowner and his daughter were out shooting targets at a home gun range in Sweetwater Springs off of County Road 245. A ricochet went into the grasses around the target area and started a fire that immediately took off into the brush. An initial dispatch came in for a grass fire; however, the volume of smoke visible from Bayfield was substantial and a helicopter and the USFS Vallecito Severity resources were immediately summoned before anyone was on scene.

Upper Pine Crews arrived at almost the same time as the helicopter to find a fast moving fire headed to the southwest and immediately went to work on suppressing the fire. In less than an hour hundreds of personnel and equipment were attacking the fire from all angles. Additional aircraft were dispatched and a wind change put the fire across CR 245 headed for the Enchanted Forest and the Tween Lakes subdivisions. The fire was caught at the ridgeline and contained to 52 acres. The cost to put out this fire was \$369,616 yet over \$52,000,000 in property was saved in the area around CR 240 between Helen's Store and CR 501. Fortunately the homeowner had insurance that accepted the claim for the cost of the firefighting efforts.



\$52 Million

IN PROPERTY SAVED



QUICK RESPONSE SAVES THE DAY

358 FIRE

EMS

- EMT COURSE COMPLETE 100% PASS RATE
- EMS SYSTEMS GRANT AWARDED
- CAAS SITE VISIT BY OUTSIDE EVALUATORS
- CAAS ACCREDITATION BBQ
- CHIEF EVANS ELECTED NAEMT PRESIDENT 2021-2023



FIRE

- 358 FIRE TYPE III WILDFIRE
- 416 FIRE TYPE I WILDFIRE
- WEST METRO ACADEMY: FF CICCARELLI (INSTRUCTOR) & FF HECK (CADET)
- PRESCRIBED BURN IN SAUL'S CREEK
- 9/11 STAIR CLIMB -THE 9-11 TRIBUTE STAIR CLIMB AT THE SKYE STEPS LEADING UP TO FT. LEWIS. 529 STEPS THREE TIMES OR ROUGHLY EQUAL THE WORLD TRADE CENTER HEIGHT.
- SWEARING IN OF: PETE STOCKWELL, STUART BUERGLER, MIKE MUIR, COREY ADAMY, JON HANER AND DAN MILLER



RESCUES & DEPLOYMENTS

- TRANSFER PARK 3 CLIMBERS RESCUED IN TWO SEPARATE EVENTS
- HURRICANE MICHAEL DEPLOYMENT



COMMUNITY EVENTS

- FOREST LAKES EVACUATION DRILL
- PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE RAISED 577 JARS- THANK YOU EIS, ANIMAS AUDIOLOGY AND CROSSFIRE FOR YOUR MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS
- MDA FILL THE BOOT RAISED \$1427.29
- CHAPPY MEMORIAL SERVICE
- VALLECITO PROGRESSIVE HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY
- CAPT. GRAHAM TEACHES WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SKILLS AT HOPE COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



IN MEMORIAL

- IN 2018, THE DISTRICT SAW THE PASSING OF 3 LONG TIME AUXILIARY MEMBERS: SUZANNE DAVENPORT, DOTTIE BASS AND ANNETTE SCHULTHEISS.



AWARDS

HONORING THOSE WHO GO ABOVE AND BEYOND



**CHAPPY AWARD
2018
FF PAUL VALDEZ**



**FIRE CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR
BRIAN LEEWITT**



**FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR
EMT OF THE YEAR
VITO CICCARELLI**



**ALS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR
5 YEARS OF SERVICE
FF TOM BARNES**



**SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD
FF PETE STOCKWELL
FF WILSON HAGG**



**10 YEARS OF SERVICE
CAPT. JOSH SCHMIDT**

HURRICANE MICHAEL COMMENDATION



**CAPT. ANDY MILLER
FF TANNER GOODWIN**



FF STEVE BRADFORD



FF WILL SHOESMITH

PROPOSED FIRE STATION 1 PROJECT

Fire Station 1 on Clover Street is approaching the end of its service life. The station was not designed to house full time crews and yet it handles half the call volume for the entire district. A series of remodels, aging mechanical systems and a structural engineer's assessment of the building is signaling the need for replacement. In 2018 we commissioned OZ Architecture from Denver to create a concept for a modern fire station. It will be designed to house a fire and EMS crew 24/7 with proper facilities to accommodate male and female crew members, decontamination facilities and meet newer standards ideal for critical infrastructure to serve the district. A modern fire station may have space for a community room for public meeting and training, may serve as a base for a Public Health Community Paramedic Program and ideally house a small museum or "Hall of Flame" to honor the volunteers, fire and EMS personnel who have served the community. We are now perusing grant funding for more detailed design work and will be holding community meetings for public input.



MOCK UPS DESIGNED BY OZ ARCHITECTURE

WILD FIRE MITIGATION ASSESSMENT

ON-GOING MAINTENANCE TIPS

- ☐ Create a 3-5 ft. non-combustible "vegetation free" perimeter around all structures.
- ☐ Store firewood piles, scrap lumber and other flammable debris at least 30 ft. from all structures.
- ☐ Always keep wildland grass cut to a max height of 6 in. within 30 ft. of all structures.
- ☐ Be sure gutters and rooflines are always clear of pine needles and leaves.
- ☐ Make sure the top and underside of decks and porches are always clear of pine needles and other flammable debris.
- ☐ Screen all attic, roof, soffit and foundation vents with 1/8 in. metal screening.

TREE TRIMMING & SPACING TIPS

- ☐ **Zone 1** (within 30ft. of structures): Ideally remove all tall trees from this zone. If a select prize tree remains make sure no branches overhang the roof or are within 10 ft. of the chimney.
- ☐ **Zone 2** (30-100 ft. or more of structures): Selectively thin trees so small clumps of 2-3 trees remain with large 20 to 30 ft. openings between clumps.
- ☐ If your home is located on steep slopes increase the size of Zone 1 and 2 on downhill side.
- ☐ Low limb most remaining conifers in Zones 1 and 2 so lowest limbs are 6-10 ft. from the ground or 1/3 the height of the tree, whichever is less.
- ☐ Remove most ladder fuels in Zone 1 and 2 from underneath remaining trees.

INFORMATION ON WILD FIRE PREPARATION AND MITIGATION

http://upperpinefpd.org/sites/535051c12c1cc4a8e700ac25/theme/others/Wildland_Fire_Action_Guide.pdf

https://www.iafc.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/wildfire-checklist_ibhs.pdf?sfvrsn=0

For more information or questions please contact Paul Valdez at: PValdez@upperpinefpd.org



**MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IS WHAT WE DO**