

Extract from the Countywide Fire Suppression and Emergency Services Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Study

I AGENCY DESCRIPTIONS

A. El Dorado County Fire Protection District (PAGES 30-40)

Background

The El Dorado County Fire Protection District (ECF) was formed on March 1, 1991 through a reorganization of the Pleasant Valley, Shingle Springs, and Pollock Pines/Camino Fire Protection Districts and annexation of the City of Placerville. Subsequent to its formation, ECF annexed the Strawberry area and the Highway 50 corridor. The Coloma-Lotus and Northside Fire Protection Districts were reorganized into the ECF in 1993. The district operates under Health and Safety Code §13800, et seq.

Elevations within the district range from the lower foothills near Salmon Falls at an altitude of 500 feet to the Sierras at Twin Bridges at an elevation of nearly 6,000 feet. Due to the district's size, its major natural features vary dramatically. The topography is characterized in various areas by grassy hills, brushy valleys, heavy timber, canyons, and from gently rolling to extremely steep terrain.

Water bodies in the district include the North, Middle, and South Forks of the American River, the Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake, Sly Park Lake, Weber Creek, Camp Creek, Forebay Reservoir and Jenkinson Reservoir. Major access corridors in the district are Highway 50, which runs east to west, and Highway 49, which runs north to south. These two transportation corridors intersect in the City of Placerville.

The district serves the City of Placerville and the communities of Cool, Pilot Hill, Lotus, Coloma, Gold Hill, Shingle Springs, Sierra Springs, Camino, Pleasant Valley, Oak Hill, Pollock Pines, Pacific House, Kyburz, and Strawberry. All of the communities in ECF are major risk areas for wildland/urban interface and have an SRA designation, with the exception of Placerville. However, while the City of Placerville is considered LRA, according to the district's fire chief, CAL FIRE nevertheless treats the City of Placerville as SRA land because a fire in the City would directly threaten the surrounding SRA.

Land Use and Population Forecasts

The 2010 FESS estimates that ECF's population is approximately 53,099 with 23,831 dwelling units. The 2006 MSR contained the district's estimate of a total of 25,732 parcels within the district. All major land uses in the El Dorado County and City of Placerville General Plans are represented within the district.

The City of Placerville is a small municipality of approximately 10,000 persons within an area of 6 square miles. The core commercial and light industrial areas center around Main Street, Broadway and Placerville Drive. A municipal airport is located on the southeast side of town.

Designated unincorporated community regions in ECF are Camino/Pollock Pines, Shingle Springs, the City of Placerville and its immediate surroundings. Mixed-use development on a single parcel is encouraged within community regions provided that the commercial use is the primary and dominant use of the land. The maximum residential density is ten dwelling units per acre.

Most of the territory in Coloma, Cool, Kyburz, Lotus, Pilot Hill, Pleasant Valley, and Strawberry are designated as Rural Centers in the General Plan because they are recognized as centers of activity, historically providing goods and services to the surrounding areas. The predominant land use in rural centers is commercial and higher density residential. Mixed commercial-residential uses are encouraged. The maximum residential density in these areas is 4 units per acre.

The district is experiencing residential growth in the Cambridge area, south of Cameron Park and in the Meder Road area, east of Cameron Park according to ECF's Ten-Year Plan. Crazy Horse Road and Cambridge Road lands are currently being developed, with Crazy Horse Road eventually connecting to Marble Valley Road in the westernmost part of ECF. The Marble Valley Specific Plan is partially within the district and is expected to develop in the future.

There are several regions within the district with the potential for new and continuing development. Rural subdivisions are possible in the Pilot Hill and Coloma areas. Smaller subdivisions have either been approved recently or are planned in the Camino and Camino Heights areas and within the City of Placerville according to the Ten-Year Plan. Currently, developing areas include the commercial area in Cool and a golf course and hotel complex in the Camino region.

Water Supply

The El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) supplies water for fire suppression to many of the inhabited areas of the district south of the South Fork of the American River and to the City of Placerville. According to the agreement between the EID and the district, the fire district is responsible for inspecting fire hydrants and of notifying EID of any needed maintenance. The Georgetown Divide Public Utility District (GDPUD) provides water to Cool, Pilot Hill and surrounding communities north of the American River. Water storage tanks that belong to homeowner's associations are scattered throughout the district.

ECF also owns private water storage tanks in areas without hydrants. In addition, the district employs a "water shuttle" system to provide an unlimited water supply for fire suppression in areas without hydrants. Water is transferred to the principal engine/fire tender at the scene from later arriving engines. Those engines then drive to the nearest hydrant and refill, ferrying water as needed to the principal engine/fire tender. All district apparatus carry Honda submersible portable pumps to draft water out of rivers, lakes, ponds, and pools.

ISO Rating

The district has an ISO rating of six in areas within 1,000 feet of a hydrant and nine in areas further from a hydrant. ECF's last ISO rating was completed in September 2000.

Infrastructure and Facilities

ECF currently operates 15 fire stations; eight “staffed” and seven “unstaffed.” “Staffed” stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week by paid personnel, with volunteers and off-duty personnel staffing additional apparatus at these stations when there is need for extra response. “Unstaffed” stations house additional apparatus and are only in use when there is a call for service. When a call comes in, volunteer and off-duty personnel go to the station and respond with the apparatus housed at the station.

Table 1: El Dorado County Fire Protection District Stations

Station	Address and Location	Status
Station 15	16211 U.S. Highway 50, Strawberry	Unstaffed
Station 16	13275 U.S. Highway 50, Kyburz	Unstaffed, seasonally used by the USFS
Station 17	6430 Pony Express Trail, Pollock Pines	Staffed
Station 18	5785 Sly Park Rd., Pollock Pines	Unstaffed
Station 19	4429 Pleasant Valley Rd., Placerville	Staffed
Station 21	4040 Carson Rd., Camino	Staffed, ECF Headquarters
Station 23	1834 Pleasant Valley Rd., Placerville	Staffed
Station 24	3370 Texas Hill Rd., Placerville	Unstaffed
Station 25	3034 Sacramento St., Placerville	Staffed
Station 26	730 Main St., Placerville	Unstaffed, used by Placerville Police Dept.
Station 27	6051 Gold Hill Rd., Placerville	Unstaffed
Station 28	3860 Ponderosa Rd., Shingle Springs	Staffed, but scheduled to be replaced
Station 72	7200 St. Florian Ct., Cool	Staffed
Station 73	4302 State Highway 49, Pilot Hill	Unstaffed
Station 74	5122 Firehouse Rd., Lotus	Staffed

Station 28 is being replaced with a new station, also being built in Shingle Springs. However, the 2010 FESS noted that at least two other stations should be replaced because they are considered outdated, aged and in deteriorating condition. The district has no identified funding plan or savings to fund either of these replacements.

The chief is interested in moving administrative operations, possibly from Station 21 in Camino to Station 25 in Placerville on Sacramento Street, because the latter station is centrally located to the District as a whole and a more convenient location for administration and services. Station 21 would be kept open for equipment storage, conferences, meetings training, and classes. Conference rooms would also be remodeled and retrofitted to provide additional office space.

Placerville contains another station, Station 27, but that station is mostly utilized for equipment and vehicle storage. The offices within the station are leased by the Sheriff’s Department.

A majority of ECF’s stations are available to the community and the public groups. Election polls take place at a majority of the district’s stations. A mobile rabies clinic uses the bay out of one of the stations for vaccinations. The exception is Station 21 in Camino. It is not available for public use because of a shortage of space.

Equipment and Vehicles

ECF owns and operates 30 engines, five water tenders, five rescue vehicles, 25 utility vehicles and four medic vehicles. NFPA recommends that second line equipment

should not be more than 20 years old; thirteen of the 32 of the district's major response apparatus are at least 20 years old and, according to the 2010 FESS five more vehicles are at least 10 years old.

Personnel and Staffing

The 2010 FESS indicated that ECF has 81 paid personnel and 30 active volunteers. Paid staff includes eight administrative positions and three support and clerical staff. Due to the size of the district, the chain of command includes one chief, two assistant chiefs (one for operations, one for administration/fire marshal) and four battalion chiefs (one EMS, one of facilities and equipment, one training officer).

Staffing levels and standards are based upon the ISO rating, internal evaluations, reviews from a self-assessment panel and funding. District engines are staffed with a minimum of two personnel. Four of the seven staffed engine companies are staffed with three personnel. Ninety percent of the time, the fire engines are staffed with firefighter/paramedics. The district's goal is for all of its firefighters to be licensed as paramedics; consequently, current practice calls for hiring only paramedics.

The district follows NFPA, ISO, and International Fire Services Training Association (IFSTA) training requirements and standards. Volunteer firefighters are required to attend the Firefighter Academy for approximately four months, take a performance test and then serve as trainees until they qualify as volunteer firefighters. Thereafter, volunteers are required to attend two training drills per month. Paid staff is required to attend a minimum of 24-hours of training drills per month.

The district offers volunteers two mutually beneficial programs that provide the district with increased coverage and volunteers with more hands-on experience. Qualified volunteer personnel who have been with the district for at least one year are eligible to participate in the district's Resident Firefighter Program. Volunteers live in one of the district's resident stations and supplement apparatus staffing. Resident firefighters are responsible for vehicle and station maintenance at volunteer stations. The second program is the Apprentice Firefighter Program, which uses personnel to assist with staffing of the district's stations.

Recruit Firefighters are required to attend and successfully pass a 16-week firefighting academy sponsored by the California Regional Fire Academy in Sacramento.

The district will pay for district-approved training classes for certification or re-certification of employees whenever possible and when funding and staffing are available. District employees receive reimbursement for costs associated with training such as meals, mileage, registration, books, and lodging. Out-of-area training entitles employees to coverage of lodging expenses and a per diem of \$25 a day, \$40 if receipts are provided.

The ECF attends shared training sessions with Rescue, El Dorado Hills, Cameron Park, and Pioneer Fire Protection Districts at Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD's training facilities.

Three different bargaining units represent ECF employees under three separate MOU contracts. The Management Employee Association represents management employees. The El Dorado County Professional Firefighters Association, Local 3556,

International Association of Federated Firefighters or IAFF (AFL-CIO) represents the district's paid firefighters. The Non-Safety Employees Association represents all non-safety employees such as maintenance and administrative assistants who are not represented under the Management Employees Association.

Administration, Management, and Operations

The ECF is composed of a five-member Board of Directors, each elected by one of the five sub-districts. Members serve four-year staggered terms. Board members are offered dental and vision benefits and they receive a \$100 per meeting stipend for a maximum of three meetings per month. Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month in Placerville at 2850 Fairlane Court, Building C. Meeting notice is posted at all district stations.

Meetings are conducted in accordance with district policies and under Robert's Rules of Order. Copies of the Brown Act and of the California Government Code are available to board members. Board members and the fire chief have attended local Brown Act training classes.

Board members are encouraged to attend training, educational courses, seminars and conferences; members receive reimbursement at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Board members who attend training are required to submit a report at a Board meeting for the edification of the district. The Board of Directors is required to maintain memberships in the California Special Districts Association and the California State Firefighters Association.

Bill Wright provides legal services.

Administration—General

Office hours are 8:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday at 4040 Carson Road in Camino. Records and archives are housed at the same station. The district's website is www.eldoradocountyfire.com

Fire Agencies Self Insurance System (FASIS) provides worker's compensation coverage to employees and volunteers through the Fire Districts Association of California (FDAC). Atwood Insurance Agency provides a \$5,000,000 Errors and Omissions insurance policy to ECF. Full-time time paid employees receive medical, dental, and vision coverage.

Services provided to the agency via contract include a wellness clinic, maintenance hiring, information technology assistance, and legal counsel.

Administration—Financial

Routine financial reports are prepared monthly and claim approvals are presented to the Board of Directors during its meetings. Financial reports are performed once a year. The County Auditor provides accounting, banking, and payroll services to the district at no direct charge, but collects the 1% property tax administration fee as provided by law. The Board has adopted administrative procedures covering financial transactions, purchases and personnel.

The Board of Directors approves the district budget and the fire chief and chief officers have line item spending authority. Purchase order control provides a system for

matching items to be purchased against the district's budget. The district has a \$100 Petty Cash Fund regulated by policy.

Administration—Operations

Call and Response Data

ECF generates monthly and annual call log reports and provides this information to NFIRS.

The following call data was collected from CAL FIRE's Camino Dispatch Center. These data are the calls generated within the district and do not necessarily include all of the calls that the district responded to with its own resources. As indicated earlier, the 2006 data is irretrievable. Please refer to the City of South Lake Tahoe section for a description of the categories.

Table 2: El Dorado County Fire Protection District Call Log

Incident Type	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Structure Fire	91	90	102		128	153	95	62
Non-Structure Fire	183	183	202		171	171	107	103
Vehicle Fire	100	72	83		53	46	38	38
Vehicle Accident	722	695	693		688	616	539	516
Medical Aid	4809	4716	4699		3948	3922	5226	5324
HazMat	113	122	125		114	173	152	143
Good Intent/False Alarm	391	537	343		757	634	685	633
Other	1002	1031	812		196	329	305	202
Total Calls	7411	7446	7059	0	6055	6044	7147	7021

Response time standards are guided by the ISO rating and General Plan standards. The district serves the community regions of the City of Placerville, Pollock Pines/Camino and the southern portion of Cameron Park within eight minutes. There is no property in the rural centers and regions that is not within a 15-45 minute response time according to the Ten-Year Plan. According to the chief, the district meets the General Plan standard 80% of the time with some exceptions. The findings of the 2010 FESS support these findings.

Maintenance and Equipment

ECF follows NFPA standards and guidelines for the type and amount of necessary equipment. The district also complies with NFPA guidelines for testing viability of fire hoses and related equipment. ECF supplies all firefighters with PPE as required by Federal, State and local laws and standards, including those established by OSHA and NFPA.

Major equipment repairs are performed by or under the direction of the Maintenance Division. The Placerville Union School District has two certified mechanics on staff, so ECF contracts with them for general maintenance. The district prioritizes the necessary maintenance of the apparatus.

District firefighters do general building and grounds maintenance such as painting and mowing. The district hired a contractor to do an assessment of building, facilities, and landscaping needs.

Funding and Budget

The discussion in this section is descriptive and amounts cited are approximate, based on information provided to LAFCO or available at the time of this report from other reliable sources. ECF generates two annual budgets; one that includes JPA funds and expenditures exclusively and a general budget that includes all other revenue sources and district expenditures.

Revenues

Table 3: El Dorado County Fire Protection District Funding and Budget – Revenues

Revenues	2004-2005 Actual	2005-2006 Actual	2006-2007 Actual	2007-2008 Actual
Fund Balance	\$ 1,831,714	\$ 2,085,718	\$ 316,219	\$ 1,226,148
Taxes	6,840,687	7,692,905	8,460,978	8,780,368
Property Taxes	6,202,405	7,075,098	7,609,831	7,928,223
Direct Assessments	520,859	518,345	516,305	510,218
Special Assessments	31,971	15,936	252,454	259,267
SHPTR*	85,452	83,526	82,388	82,660
Penalties/Cost Delinquent Taxes	8,457	6,907	10,726	10,808
Interest	40,722	96,844	131,765	129,306
Intergovernmental – State	108,355	33,488	184,465	396,929
Intergovernmental – Federal	0	605,814	7,070	0
Intergovernmental – Other	0	13,150	0	0
Development Impact Fees	211,620	-13,250	516,361	530,748
Ambulance Services	35,000	35,000	2,788	35,000
Charges for Services	15,106	81,350	70,518	81,184
Miscellaneous Revenue	87,496	32,816	148,525	20,567
Other Financing Sources**	5,693	89,507	3,131	0
Total Revenues	\$ 9,184,848	\$ 10,760,250	\$ 9,852,545	\$ 11,211,059

* State Homeowners Property Tax Relief

** Including the sale of Fixed Assets

All funds indicated in the chart above were retrieved from the County auditor-Controller's website. All funds are actual amounts collected by the district for their respective fiscal year except those amounts from "Development Impact Fees." Typically, development impact fees are deposited into a trust fund and are only transferred into the operating budget general ledger category at the time of an actual expenditure. Consequently, the -\$13,250 for ECF above does not mean that the district owed DIFs in FY 2005-06. Rather, it means that the district transferred funds out of its operating budget into its Development Fee Fund for that year. According to the district's own budget information, ECF collected \$384,512 in FY 2004-05, \$387,551 in FY 2005-06 and \$431,602 in FY 2006-07.

Total assessed value within the district was \$6,231,429,226 in FY 2008-2009. ECF currently receives approximately 13.89% of the property tax revenue within district boundaries.

Assessment charges vary by area. Pleasant Valley residents are charged a \$42 parcel fee, Pollock and Camino residents pay a \$30 parcel fee, Cool residents pay a \$35 parcel fee, and Coloma-Lotus residents are charged \$60 per parcel. Direct and special

assessments generated approximately \$769,500 in FY 2007-2008, which accounted for approximately 7% of the district’s budget.

ECF has development impact fees of \$1.10 per square foot for residential units; commercial, industrial and institutional structures. These fees were last updated on August 15, 2007.

Grants

ECF did not notify LAFCO of any grants awarded to it since 2006.

Table 4: El Dorado County Fire Protection District Funding and Budget – Expenditures

Expenditures	2004-2005 Actual	2005-2006 Actual	2006-2007 Actual	2007-2008 Actual
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 5,824,287	\$ 6,678,676	\$ 7,004,212	\$ 7,983,797
Salaries/Wages	3,478,409	3,933,302	4,378,225	5,009,319
Retirement and Other Benefits *	1,077,020	1,158,559	1,224,755	1,507,547
Health Benefits	663,376	805,362	944,772	1,127,305
Workers’ Comp Insurance	605,481	781,453	436,458	339,625
Services and Supplies	948,886	847,039	1,001,825	950,347
Long-Term Debt	175,262	254,216	568,188	228,137
Interfund Expenditures	0	-35,000	-105,000	-35,000
Fixed Assets **	75,833	870,726	87	425,637
Reserves	113,000	53,000	50,000	50,000
Total Expenditures	\$ 7,137,267	\$ 8,668,656	\$ 8,519,312	\$ 9,602,917

* Includes Disability, Medicare, Unemployment, Long Term Disability and Deferred Comp

** Includes Land, Buildings and Improvements, Equipment and Computer Systems

The primary expenditure for ECF is salaries and benefits, which increased by approximately \$2,159,500 from FY 2004-2005 to FY 2007-2008. However, this only represents an increase in percentage of total expenditures of approximately 1.5%.

JPA Funding and Budget

The chief submits a JPA Budget to the JPA Board of Directors for approval every year. The JPA provides funding for personnel, equipment, operating expenses, and administrative costs to administer the program.

The JPA funds 28 firefighter/paramedics that staff 4½-ambulance units in the district. Four ambulances operate 24-hours per day, seven days per week and the other operates 12-hours per day, seven days per week. The district is allocated six personnel to staff each 24-hour ambulance unit and 4 personnel to staff the 12-hour unit.

The JPA pays for medical-related services and supplies. The district submits a claim to the JPA for reimbursement or payment of services and supplies that are subsequently charged against the JPA’s subject object code.

Boundaries

ECF is approximately 281 square miles and is the largest fire protection district in the county. It extends to the Middle Fork of the American River to the north and to Camp Sacramento on the east. ECF is mainly situated in the central and mid-western part of El Dorado County, reaching to the County’s northwestern border. A small corridor of the district extends to the eastern portion of El Dorado County along highway 50 to the

edge of Lake Valley Fire Protection District. ECF is not a single contiguous area. The southwesterly area of ECF is separated from the majority portion of the district by the Rescue and Diamond Springs/El Dorado Fire Protection Districts.

According to the chief, prior reorganizations and annexations improved services by achieving “economies of scale” that increased buying power and reduced costs. The chief states that historically the district is open to additional reorganizations.

The El Dorado County Fire Protection District has discussed consolidation with Cameron Park, Pioneer, and Rescue at various times. A draft feasibility study for reorganization of the El Dorado County and Pioneer Fire Protection Districts was completed February 1992. A proposal for the reorganization of the districts (LAFCO Project No. 92-02) was filed with LAFCO in 1992; the application remained incomplete and no action on the proposal was taken. The El Dorado County Fire Protection District more recently approached Rescue FPD about reorganization; however, voters in Rescue FPD opposed a similar reorganization with El Dorado Hills County Water District in an advisory ballot measure on October 7, 2003.

The district is often the first responder to the Crystal Basin on USFS lands, the Mormon Immigrant Trail (near Jenkins Lake), and areas that are approximately one mile off the Highway 50 corridor. In addition, USFS, CAL FIRE and other volunteer staff provide resources to the district’s seasonal staff.

In some parts of the district, first response is provided outside the boundaries under mutual aid and automatic aid agreements. As discussed in the DSP section, ECF has a contract with the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians to provide emergency services to Red Hawk Casino and the rest of the Rancheria. Now that the appeals court has dismissed DSP’s legal challenge to the contract, DSP may pursue detaching the Rancheria from its service boundaries.

Community Outreach and Involvement

There are six volunteer firefighter associations within the district, all of them a legacy of the various reorganizations that the district has undergone over the years. Each association represents the various distinct communities within the district. These groups provide activities, programs, events, and donations for their respective communities. The district also designates \$5,000 for each volunteer association for improvements they select within their portion of the district.

Numerous community activities are included in the services provided by ECF and discussed above.

District affiliations include Boy Scouts of America, Explorer Post 1000, Fire Prevention Officer’s Organizations, Community Residential Care Association, Chamber of Commerce, Training Officer’s Associations, El Dorado County Chief’s Associations, FDAC, DataCom, and California State Firefighter’s Association.

IV SERVICE REVIEW ANALYSIS AND DETERMINATIONS

1. Growth and population projections for the affected area.

Purpose: To evaluate service needs based on existing and anticipated growth patterns and population projections.

Information in this section addresses #3 and #4 of LAFCO Policy 4.4, which are:

- Topographic factors and areas of social and economic interdependencies.
- Existing and planned land uses, land use plans and policies, consistency with county and city general plans, and projected growth in the affected area.

(PAGE 116) *Demand in the Urban Regions*

These higher population densities are associated with an increased need and/or demand for services. In addition, there may be an increased expectation of service at higher levels by newer residents. Many recent arrivals have moved from other jurisdictions where services of all kinds may have been available at higher levels. Currently urban districts, such as EDH and ECF are maintaining high service levels but are finding their finances strained, in some cases severely, trying to keep up with these expectations. Rural districts serving increasingly urbanized areas, such as DSP, LAV and RES are already testing the limits of their resources.

2. Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies.

Purpose: To evaluate the infrastructure needs and deficiencies of a district in terms of capacity, condition of facilities, service quality, and levels of service and its relationship to existing and planned service users.

Information in this section addresses #1 and #6 of LAFCO Policy 4.4, which are:

- Service capacity, level and types of services currently provided by the agency, and areas where these services are provided.
- A description of the services that will be provided to any areas which may be added to the sphere and the timing and method for funding expansion of facilities or services.

(PAGE 119) Based on these findings, the FESS concluded that only staffing more attack units would be necessary to enhance service in the county, not adding more stations. On the other hand, two challenges emerge from the data Citygate collected: Not all stations are staffed full-time (more on this to follow) and that a total of 10 stations need to be replaced, adding to the financial challenges some of the districts are facing:

(PAGE 120) Table 5: Station Needs

Agency	Station Needs
Tahoe Basin	
Meeks Bay FPD	1
South Lake Tahoe FD	3
West Slope Agencies	
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	1
El Dorado County FPD	2
El Dorado Hills County Water District	2
Georgetown FPD	1

...There are several measures that can be used to calculate levels of service. As indicated by the FESS' Findings #1, 3 and 5 summarized above, the stations are well placed to ensure coverage. The 2006 MSR found a correlation between the number of stations and ISO rating. This comparison is valid because part of the ISO formula for determining the agency rating is response time and the distance between homes and the nearest fire station. The table below duplicates the one found in the 2006 MSR but with the most recent ISO data. All districts have a rating of 6 or better in the urban areas. The rural ratings of 8 or 9 are typical and match statewide trends.

Table 6: Service Review Analysis and Determinations Comparative Number of Stations and ISO Rating

Agency	Number of Stations	ISO Rating	
		Urban	Rural
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	5	5	8B
El Dorado County FPD	15	6	9
El Dorado Hills CWD	4	3	8B
Garden Valley FPD	3	5	8B
Georgetown FPD	5	5	9
Lake Valley FPD	3	5	8B
Latrobe FPD	2	5	9
Meeks Bay FPD	2	N/A	5
Mosquito FPD	1	5	8B
Pioneer FPD	6	5	9
Rescue FPD	2	5	8B

(PAGE 122) Table 7: Current County Daily Minimum Wide Staffing

Agency	Population	# of Dwelling Units	Unit Count	Career	Paid Call/Vol	Total	If staff is NOT present 24/7/365	Total Vols
Tahoe Basin								
Fallen Leaf Lake CSD	388	173	1-Eng	1		1	180 days	18
Lake Valley FPD	13,687	6,105	3-Eng; 1- Amb	6	1	7		25
Meeks Bay FPD	1,200	1,816	1-Eng	2	0	2	2nd F/F in summer	7
South Lake Tahoe FD	24,176	14,629	3-Eng; 2-Amb	10	1-3	10-13		25
Totals	42,322	22,723	8-Eng; 3-Amb	19	1-4	20-23		75
West Slope Agencies								
Cameron Park	16,331	7,284	2-Eng; 1-Amb	6	2	8		30
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	15,618	6,966	2-Eng; 2-WT; 1-Amb	6	1	7		30
El Dorado County FPD	53,099	23,831	8-Eng; 4-Amb;	27*	0	27	*1-Amb @ 12-hrs/day	30
El Dorado Hills County Water District	31,027	13,839	3-Eng; 1-Tk; 1-Amb	16	0	16		40
Garden Valley FPD	4,376	1,952	1-Eng	2	0	2		16
Georgetown FPD	3,332	1,486	1-Eng; 1-Amb	4	0	4		38
Latrobe FPD	901	402	2-Eng	0	5	2	1-Eng @ 10-hrs/day	7
Mosquito FPD	1,235	551	1-Eng	2	0	2	Eng @ 10-hrs/day	22
Pioneer FPD	6,239	2,783	2-Eng	4	0	4		13
Rescue FPD	5,302	2,365	2-Eng; 1-WT	2	0	2	3rd F/F in summer	21
Totals	137,460	61,459	24-Eng; 8-Amb; 3-WT; 1-TK	69	8	74		247
Countywide	179,782	84,182	32-Eng; 11-Amb; 3-WT; 1-Tk;	88	9-13	94-97		322
CAL FIRE-FIRE SEASON			4 to 7 Eng; 4-mininum	12-28			Seasonal	

(PAGE 125) Table 8: Service Review Analysis and Determinations Comparative Ratio of Volunteer Firefighters to Total Staff

Agency	Total Firefighter Staff (Paid + Volunteer)	Number of Volunteers (Number by ISO weight)*	Percentage of Corps that is Volunteer
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	17	10	59%
El Dorado County FPD	37	10	27%
El Dorado Hills CWD	29.3	13.3	45%
Garden Valley FPD	7.3	5.3	73%
Georgetown FPD	16.7	12.7	76%
Lake Valley FPD	15	8	53%
Latrobe FPD	4.3	2.3	53%
Meeks Bay FPD	3.3	2.3	70%
Mosquito FPD	9.3	7.3	78%
Pioneer FPD	8.3	4.3	52%
Rescue FPD	9	7	78%

(PAGE 131) Table 9: Western Slope Mutual Aid Given

Emergency Call Statistics Mutual Aid Given				
Districts	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cameron Park CSD	450	564	463	410
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	589	593	484	436
El Dorado County FPD	685	550	525	567
El Dorado Hills County WD	251	234	148	152
Garden Valley FPD	161	149	125	144
Georgetown FPD	200	188	184	134
Latrobe FPD	86	70	55	39
Mosquito FPD	13	21	6	14
Pioneer FPD	78	88	50	38
Rescue FPD	248	254	225	203

Table 10: Western Slope Mutual Aid Received

Emergency Call Statistics Mutual Aid Received				
Districts	2007	2008	2009	2010
Cameron Park CSD	275	265	250	212
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	437	304	294	422
El Dorado County FPD	1068	1072	930	864
El Dorado Hills County WD	152	145	125	131
Garden Valley FPD	162	190	195	131
Georgetown FPD	77	96	90	88
Latrobe FPD	22	26	22	34
Mosquito FPD	24	32	24	17
Pioneer FPD	109	119	94	71
Rescue FPD	222	231	241	167

(PAGE 136) El Dorado County FPD (ECF)

- The district revised its volunteer program to make it more efficient and cost effective by trimming staff and volunteers and keeping some volunteers as associate members.
- There is a shortage of firefighters in the Kyburz and Silver Fork Canyon areas and in communities with seasonal residents.
- Half of the district's engines and tenders are more than 20 years old.
- The principal staffing problem for the agency is a high rate of turnover due to retiring personnel. According to the chief, vacant positions are filled as soon as possible. However, the hiring process is very selective, as the district only hires paramedic-certified personnel.
- There is no property in the rural centers and regions that is not within a 15-45 minute response time according to the Ten-Year Plan. According to the chief, the district meets the General Plan standard 90% of the time with some exceptions.

3. Financial ability of agencies to provide services.

Purpose: To evaluate factors that affect the financing of needed improvements

4. Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities.

Purpose: To evaluate the opportunities for a jurisdiction to share facilities and resources to develop more efficient service delivery systems.

Information in this section addresses #2 of LAFCO Policy 4.4, which is:

- Financial capabilities and costs of service.

(PAGE 147) Currently CAM, ECF, GRV and PIO operate an ALS engine at their expense. These engines help the West Slope JPA with medical response times in remote areas but are not compensated by the JPA accordingly. Citygate recommended that the JPA provide funding for paramedic engine coverage outside of the primary ambulance areas to remove funding pressure off Garden Valley and Pioneer FPDs.

Agency Funding

(PAGE 149) The following table shows the various financing methods employed by fire suppression and emergency medical services.

Table 67: Service Review Analysis and Determinations
Financing Methods by Agency

Agency	Average Property Tax Increment (not including County Supplement Fund)	Impact Fees	Assessments	JPA Provider	Out-of-District Fees	Grants
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	20.54%	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes
El Dorado County FPD	13.89%	Yes	Yes	Yes		
El Dorado Hills CWD	18.63%	Yes		Yes		
Garden Valley FPD	8.20%	Yes	Yes			
Georgetown FPD	12.29%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Lake Valley FPD	20.20%	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Latrobe FPD	5.23%	Yes	Yes			
Meeks Bay FPD	7.96%	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
Mosquito FPD	11.61%	Yes	Yes			
Pioneer FPD	10.02%	Yes			Yes	Yes
Rescue FPD	10.81%	Yes	Yes			Yes

All financial information is general and descriptive, based on estimates and information from agencies
Former Aid to Fire participants are highlighted in gray

(PAGE 152) Table 70: Fiscal and Deployment Condition of the Fire Agencies

Best Condition	Modes Condition with Stretched Services	Unstable Condition
Cameron Park	El Dorado County FPD	Fallen Leaf Lake CSD
Diamond Springs/El Dorado FPD	Rescue FPD	Garden Valley FPD
El Dorado Hills County Water District		Georgetown FPD
Lake Valley FPD		Latrobe FPD
Meeks Bay FPD		Mosquito FPD
South Lake Tahoe FD		Pioneer FPD

(PAGE 153) El Dorado County FPD (ECF)

- The El Dorado County Sheriff's Department currently leases office space in the Placerville Station and USFS staffs the Sierra Springs and Kyburz stations.

SOI DETERMINATIONS

(PAGE 171) El Dorado County Fire Protection District

1. *The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.*

Present land use in the ECF area varies depending on the location. On and around the City of Placerville the land use character is mostly urban (high density, commercial and industrial); however, in other areas (such as Cool or Pollock Pines), it is low to medium density residential, and areas between city and community regions it is primarily agricultural and rural residential. In general, population centers tend to be mostly concentrated along arterials, such as Highways 50 and 193 or South Shingle Road. Future land uses are expected to remain relatively unchanged, with population growth consistent with the 2004 General Plan along already-established community regions.

Due to its large size, ECF has several pockets of areas not within a fire agency. Most of them are entirely surrounded by ECF. There are some areas, however, that lie between ECF and other fire agencies. Most notably are areas between ECF and Rescue FPD (RES) and between ECF and Garden Valley FPD (GRV). There are no plans to develop the parcels in either of these areas beyond the current General Plan designation. However, the RES, GRV and ECF chiefs recognize that these parcels are not within their respective fire protection agency. In 2006, all three chiefs have agreed to a collaborative effort to evaluate and reorganize the spheres and service areas, if necessary.

2. *The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.*

The 2004 General Plan has designated the areas within the ECF sphere as either agricultural, natural resources or rural residential. It is possible that in the future lands previously used exclusively for agricultural purposes may be converted to other uses or developed to a limited extent. If this were to occur, it would lead to an increase in service demand to the district. However, fire suppression and emergency medical services, in and of themselves, do not increase the likelihood of this type of activity and, therefore, induce urban growth or the premature conversion of agricultural, open space to other uses.

Parcels currently within the ECF district receive adequate fire suppression and emergency response services as needed. If annexed, the areas described above would increase demand for these services, although it is expected that existing personnel and equipment would be adequate to meet the level of service required for the inclusion. In addition, funding, in the form of increased property taxes, assessments and applicable development impact fees, received would offset increased costs and ensure the sufficient provision of services to serve the area.

3. *The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.*

ECF appears to provide moderate fire suppression and emergency response services within and, in cases of mutual aid responses, outside its boundaries. The

district's fire agency network is extensive; however, not all stations are staffed year-round. The district is compensated for these services primarily through property taxes, development impact fees and district assessments.

4. *The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the Commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.*

ECF serves the City of Placerville and the communities of Camino, Coloma, Cool, Gold Hill, Kyburz, Lotus, Oak Hill, Pacific House, Pilot Hill, Pleasant Valley, Pollock Pines, Shingle Springs, Sierra Springs and Strawberry, as well as the surrounding rural areas. Other than Greenwood, there are no social or economic communities of interest in the area that will be broken due to this sphere update, nor are there any areas that will require special consideration from the Commission in this matter.

Recommendation

Pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(i)(2), the Commission does hereby establish the functions and classes of services provided by El Dorado County Fire Protection District as those specified in California Health & Safety Code §13862. Based upon the information contained in this document, it is recommended that the El Dorado County FPD Sphere of Influence be updated to affirm its original sphere, as shown in Maps 14, 15 and 16.