



UPPER PINE RIVER

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

ANNUAL 2019 REPORT





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

The Upper Pine River Fire Protection District provides all-risk/hazard fire, rescue and emergency medical services to 265 square miles of eastern La Plata County and a small portion of the western part of Archuleta County in southwest Colorado, located near the Four Corners of Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, and Utah. We proudly serve a permanent population of approximately 10,000 residents however; the popular vacation area Lake Vallecito increases our summer population with seasonal residents.

The District includes the Town of Bayfield, Gem Village, and the communities of Forest Lakes, Vallecito Lake, and Lemon Reservoir. We also cover the County Road 240 corridor from County Road 246 to Lemon Dam. The topography is an urban interface working closely through mutual aid with the Forest Service and surrounding fire districts to protect the community.

In 2019 there were 928 recorded calls for help. Of those calls, approximately 65% or 597 were a request for emergency medical services. We responded to 13 structure or building fires and 18 wildfires. Over 10% of the calls are for public assist calls- helping elderly or disabled people with lift assist. Our 30 full-time firefighters are supplemented by 20 part-time members to facilitate the call volume. During spring and summer, mitigation services are performed utilizing seasonal crews and part-time members in conjunction with private contractors. These services are primarily for grant-funded projects on private property and watershed areas and, when feasible, assistance to ranchers and farmers with agriculture and ditch burns.

We maintain eight fire stations, three which are staffed 24 hours in Bayfield, Forest Lakes, and Lake Vallecito. The administrative office building is located in the Town of Bayfield at 515 Sower Drive. Resident firefighters are housed in stations on CR 240 and at the Vallecito Dam. Resident firefighter’s trade rent for responding to calls.

The Upper Pine River Fire Protection District is an autonomous Special District of Colorado; non-profit with the major revenue source of a mill levy and ambulance fees. Additional sources are grant awards and federally funded wildland firefighting. We are governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected at-large by their constituents, each serving a staggered four-year term. The Fire Chief oversees the general operations in accordance with the policy direction prescribed by the Board of Directors.

MISSION

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:

- B**uilding resilience in our communities
- E**ngaging our neighbors in collaborative ideas
- I**nnovative financial strategies
- D**elivering outcome based medical, rescue, and fire services
- E**mpower employees to engage in district processes
- A**pproach problems as opportunities through “Just Culture”
- S**upporting staff in their professional development

VALUES



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FIRE CHIEF

BRUCE EVANS
MPA, NREMT-P, CFO, SPO

As a Special Fire District, we are pleased to present the fourth 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 financial performance, operational effectiveness, and accomplishments. This year's cover again highlights a cardiac arrest survivor who was able to make his 50th wedding anniversary after the event.

In 2019 we focused on preparation for some exciting innovation for 2020. We will be venturing into the Community Paramedic Program and mobile integrated health care. A substantial grant was provided to us by the Rocky Mountain Health Care Foundation to begin the program in 2020. The details are included in the EMS section of this report.

Once again we sent ambulance crews to assist, this time with Hurricane Dorian in Florida, under contract to American Medical Responses National Ambulance Strike team program known as AMR. Though largely uneventful, the experience of working within the disaster system is invaluable for our crews.

This year we also settled the claim with the insurance organization for the responsible party on the 358 Fire in the Sweetwater Springs area. The Upper Pine River Fire Protection District, La Plata County, and the BLM's costs were all covered. A big thank you goes out to State Farm and the party responsible who was open, honest, and truly concerned about making everyone whole on this event.

Continuing our mantra as a learning organization, we encouraged our people to get out in the world and share their knowledge and experiences. This included staff members speaking at the World Trauma Symposium, EMS Expo, and the Iowa EMS State Conference. The ongoing training opportunities are also highlighted in the annual report along with leadership opportunities in the community and state that we are involved in.

On the education front, our ongoing program with the University of Bordeaux, France continues to be an enriching success for both the interns and the District. We also welcomed two Bayfield High School students into our intern program and are looking forward to having more students get involved in future classes. Our EMT Course has had another successful term with a 100% pass rate. We are striving to provide quality education to the public and professionals in our area as part of our mission to protect and serve the community.

Our staff provided leadership to the La Plata Suicide Prevention Coalition to curb youth suicide, a rate that was three times the national average among people 18 and under in 2017 and 2018, to a rate of ZERO in 2019. We have been taking the stigma out of suicidal idealizations and supporting mental health in La Plata County.

It is our mission to solve problems and make a difference and I would like to take a moment to recognize our members. I continue to be blessed with a great staff consisting of some very high-performance teams serving the community overall. The accomplishments in this report couldn't be possible without our staff and crews that make Upper Pine a great place to work. Thank you for your dedicated service and contributions to the community.

Respectfully,



**BOARD
PRESIDENT**
JEFF DYAR

It is my pleasure to submit this annual report on behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and members of the Upper Pine River Fire Protection District.

This year the District and our residents experienced many positive changes. There were fewer wildland fires thanks to subdivisions supporting Firewise activities to mitigate fire danger. It's these efforts made by homeowners that make a strong impact in aiding in our mission to protect the community and our neighbors.

After achieving the status of being the only fire district our size in the state of Colorado to be Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services (CAAS) accredited we managed to procure the first licensed FAA certified Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) pilots in the state. We established the UAV program this year and utilized it to support critical District operations including a river rescue, flood damage assessment, electrical box failure on a power pole, and a building roof inspection following an explosion. The program is aimed at enhancing training exercises and prevention planning.

In addition, we have earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the seventh straight year. The Board, the Fire Chief, and staff have been able to manage the District under decreasing financial resources. The loss of revenue has resulted in a complete change in how we do business. We have captured grants, used cost-sharing with government resources, and redirected activities to keep finances in the black. After a decade of financial turmoil, the Board voted to retire \$800k in debt in 2019 effective 2020. This was a promise made to our taxpayers five years ago when the tax levy was adjusted. While operating under conservative financial practices we continue to upgrade services to our community by way of equipment and staff.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JD' followed by a flourish.

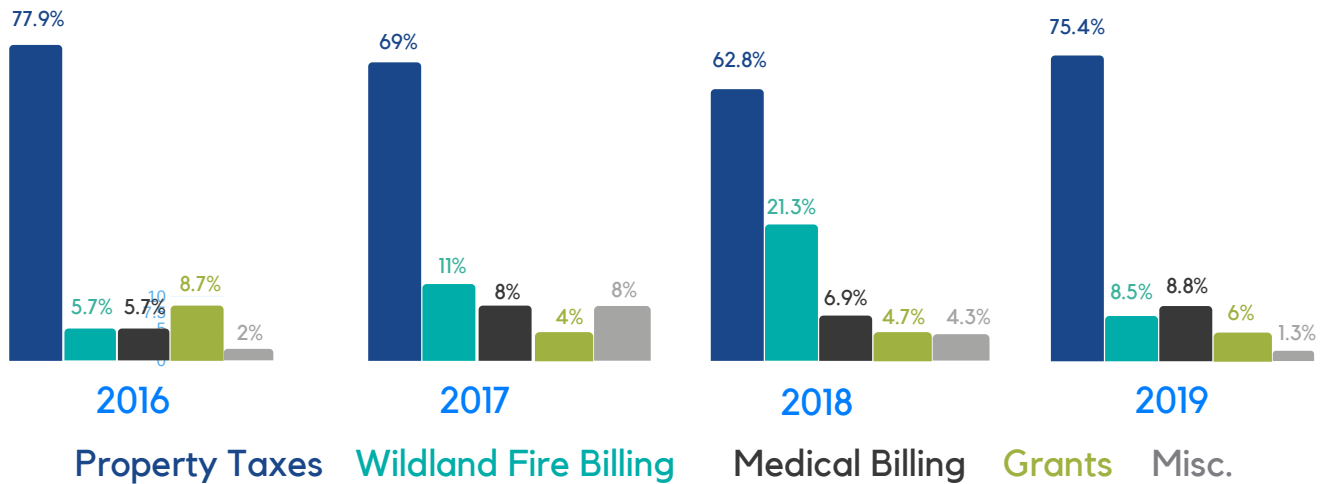
The Finance Division prepares the annual budget and monthly financial statements by reconciling bank accounts, tracking expenses and invoices for inter-agency services, and manages cash and debt. It also prepares the annual comprehensive financial report, which includes detailed audited financial statements and statistical information. It ensures compliance with District policy, State and Federal law and generally accepted accounting practices.

To ensure the safe and effective use of taxpayer's dollars, the 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 our website:

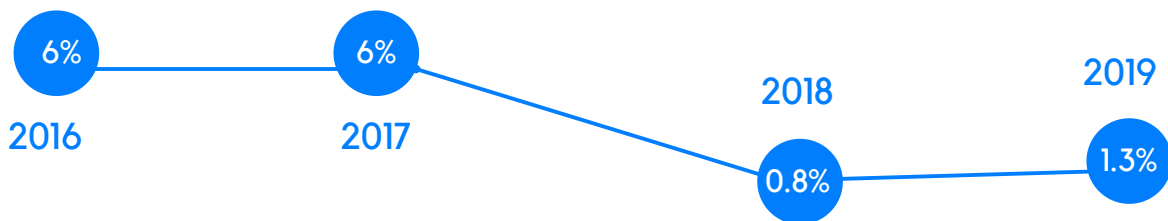
<http://upperpinefpd.org/board-and-financials>

In 2018, we received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). This is the seventh consecutive year to receive 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.

Financial snapshot








Four Year Revenue Comparison





Four Year Capital Expenditures Comparison

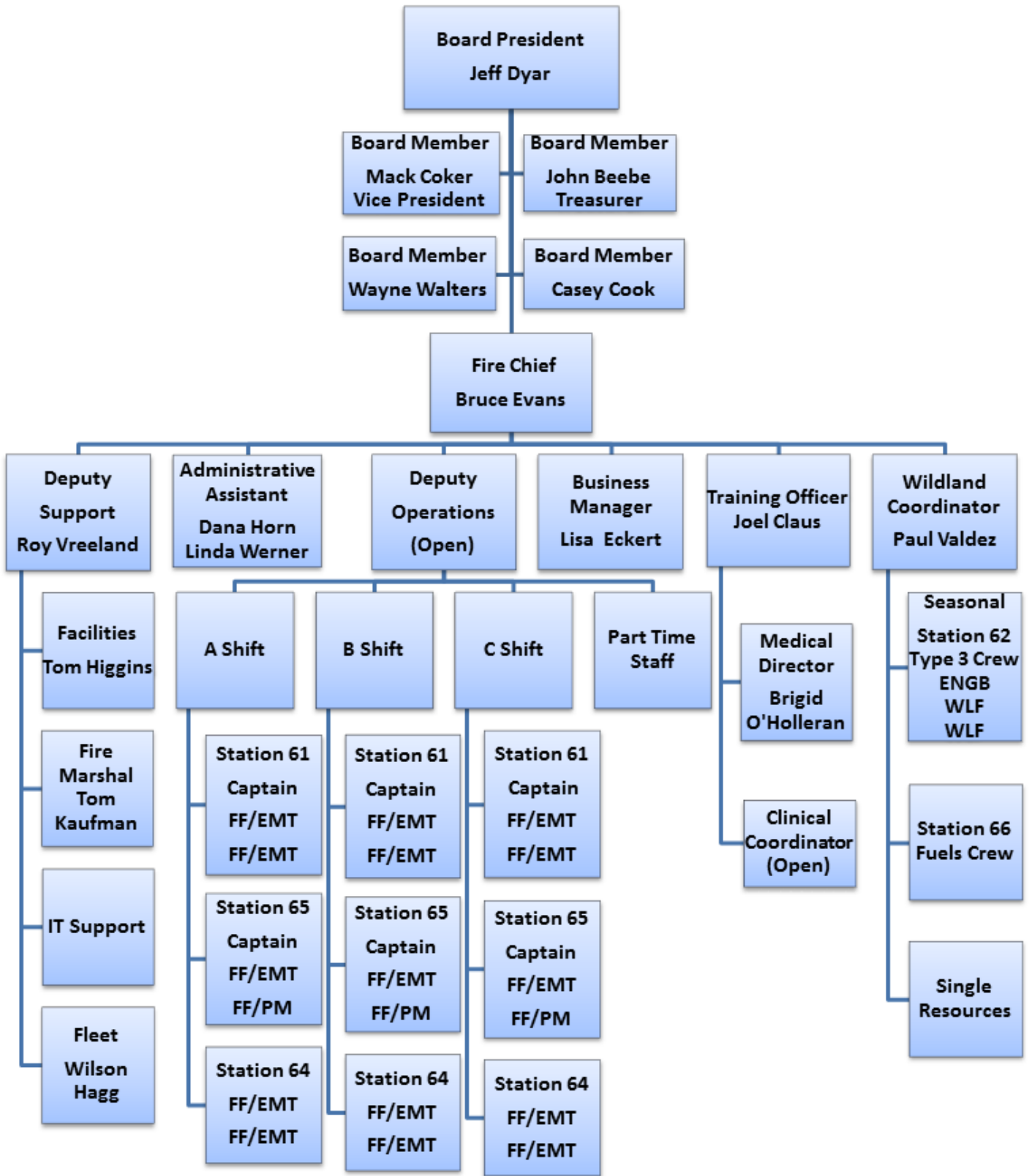
Revenue: \$3.9 M

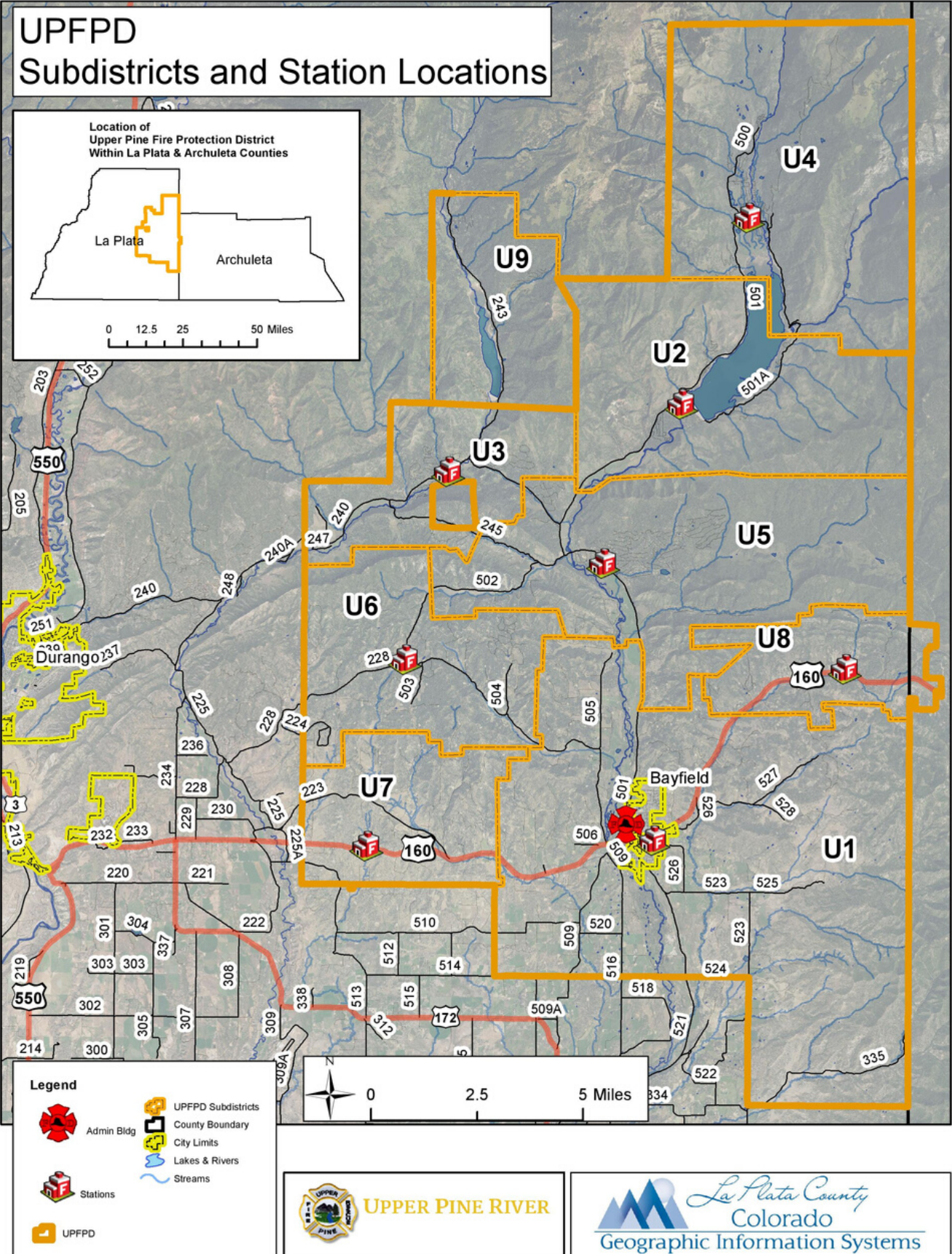
	2018	2019	
Property Taxes	62.8%	75.4%	12.6% 
Wildland Fire Billing	21.3%	8.5%	-12.8% 
Medical Billing	6.9%	8.8%	1.9% 
Grants	4.7%	6%	1.3% 
Misc.	4.3%	1%	-3.3% 

The major source of our funding is the property tax levy which makes up 75.4% of revenue. Revenue generated from contracting with federal agencies for manpower and equipment used to fight wildland fires accounts for 8.5% of revenue. EMS fees, grants, and miscellaneous income comprise the remaining amount of revenue.

Expenditures: \$4.2 M

	2018	2019	
Personnel	68.9%	67.6%	-1.3% 
Supplies & Services	21.1%	21.3%	0.2% 
Capital Leases & Debt	9.2%	9.8%	0.6% 
Capital Expenditures	0.8%	1.3%	0.5% 





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

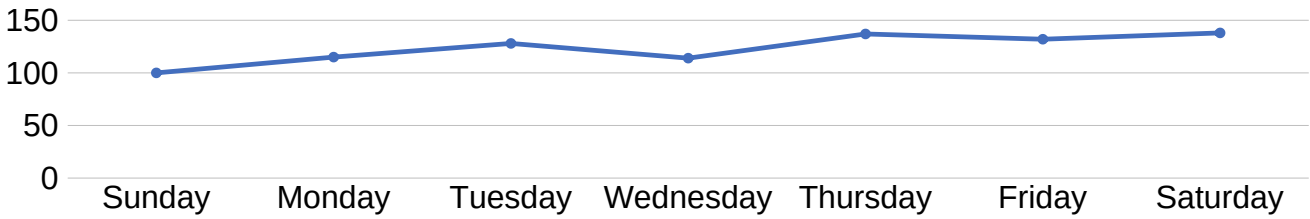
STATION 5: 6891 CR 501
 STATION 6: 8476 CR 502
 STATION 7: 35191 W Hwy 160
 STATION 8: 49342 E Hwy 160

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 Infarctions (Heart Attacks).

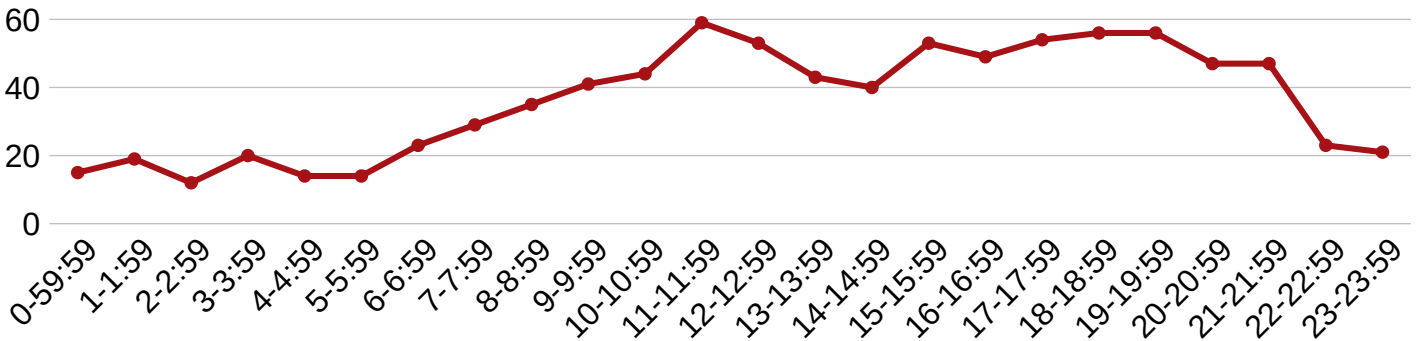
•Suburban Zones with 500-1000 people/sq. mi. call for 10 staff to assemble a fire attack in 8 minutes, 80% of the time. (DISTRICTS 1, 4, 5)

•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)

Incidents by Day of the Week



Incidents by Time of Day



Total number of calls in 2019: 928
Day of week with highest call volume: Saturday
Time of day with highest call volume: 11:00-11:59

The District was able to give three people a second chance at life in 2019. One patient with a cardiac arrest at home with CPR performed by his son before medical personnel arrived. He was discharged home to attend his 50th wedding anniversary. A second patient suffered a cardiac arrest in the back of our ambulance on the way to the hospital and was provided life-saving procedures. Lastly, a man who was found with a La Plata County Sheriff's officer performing CPR on him was resuscitated and gained a pulse on the scene before being taken to Mercy Regional and was discharged after a short hospital stay.




33 % CARDIAC SAVE RATE



Utstein Criteria: A cardiac arrest save is a patient found or who experienced a cardiac arrest while in transport and was resuscitated and able to be discharged from the hospital neurologically intact.

Benchmark Comparison

	Your Company	Total DB	Similar Sized	CAAS	Colorado	All Fire Departments
Helpfulness of the person you called for ambulance service	96.52	93.21	93.19	93.10	92.15	94.64
Concern shown by the person you called for ambulance service	97.15	93.04	93.04	92.94	92.65	94.27
Extent to which you were told what to do until the ambulance	96.96	91.78	91.89	91.51	92.37	93.11
Extent to which the ambulance arrived in a timely manner	97.53	92.59	93.00	92.58	93.59	95.31
Cleanliness of the ambulance	99.18	94.84	95.27	94.85	94.95	96.25
Comfort of the ride	96.91	88.00	88.12	87.71	90.32	90.71
Skill of the person driving the ambulance	98.60	94.21	94.58	94.14	93.67	95.73
Care shown by the medics who arrived with the ambulance	98.60	94.83	95.18	94.83	94.32	96.08
Degree to which the medics took your problem seriously	98.88	94.78	95.09	94.83	94.80	96.04
Degree to which the medics listened to you and/or your family	98.60	94.43	94.67	94.45	93.83	95.81
Skill of the medics	97.19	94.83	95.22	94.79	93.65	96.11
Extent to which the medics kept you informed about your	97.70	93.17	93.53	93.13	92.61	94.27
Extent to which medics included you in the treatment decisions	97.37	93.01	93.60	92.89	93.00	94.75
Degree to which the medics relieved your pain or discomfort	97.84	91.18	91.85	91.00	90.79	93.29
Medics' concern for your privacy	98.55	93.98	94.40	93.98	93.00	95.49
Extent to which medics cared for you as a person	99.15	94.79	95.11	94.80	93.40	96.00
Professionalism of the staff in our billing office	95.97	89.47	89.46	89.31	86.30	90.92
Willingness of the staff in our billing office to address your	96.55	89.42	89.45	89.27	86.78	90.65
How well did our staff work together to care for you	98.19	94.12	94.34	94.16	93.42	95.37
Extent to which our staff eased your entry into the medical	97.59	94.23	94.51	94.31	93.40	95.71
Appropriateness of Emergency Medical Transportation treatment	98.55	93.98	94.25	93.97	93.55	95.55
Extent to which the services received were worth the fees	94.74	88.62	88.66	88.47	86.09	90.73
Overall rating of the care provided by our Emergency Medical	98.49	94.11	94.38	94.14	92.59	95.45
Likelihood of recommending this ambulance service to others	97.59	93.63	93.89	93.63	92.31	94.96
Number of Surveys for the period	97					
Overall Score	97.83	92.93	93.20	92.87	92.23	94.47

Your Score

97.83

Number of Your Patients in this Report

97

Number of Patients in this Report

81,980

Number of Transport Services in All EMS DB

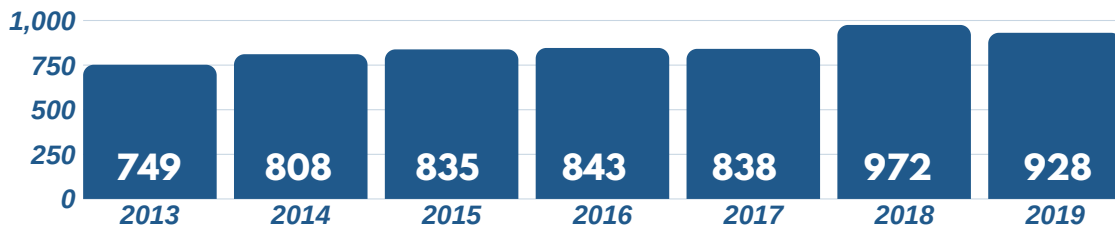
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The District samples its performance to the public concerning ambulance and EMS service consistently ranking in the top 5% and leads in performance in comparison to like-sized agencies. This customer service assessment is conducted by a third party, EMS Survey Team, and includes the performance of the 911 center and call takers along with our billing contractor.

The Operations Division comprised of firefighter/EMT's responds to calls for help and is an all-hazards response team. The goals are response times to all emergency medical response requests in District 1, 5, and 4 within 8 minutes 59 seconds 80% of the time. Within the remaining district, the response time goal is 14 minutes 59 seconds 80% of the time. The District in conjunction with our mutual partners, support and command staff strives to assemble an effective firefighting force under the NFPA 1710/1720 standard placing 10 firefighters on the scene of a structure fire in 10 minutes 80% While the fire district name implies firefighting is the bulk of our business, over 65% of the calls are for EMS. We also provide technical rescue services with high and low angle rescue, swift water rescue, vehicle/machinery rescue, and confined space rescue with some trench rescue capabilities. We also have hazardous material operational capabilities.

Pre-planning is part of daily fire prevention conducted by the firefighters, which includes activities like building familiarization and inspections. Crews participate in training, public education, vehicle and equipment maintenance, and other routine activities daily. On a typical day, the staffing of on-duty firefighters is 8 per day (two fire captains, one paramedic, and five firefighters) with a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 depending on risk assessment and participation of part-time staff. The overall staffing is 30 full-time employees supplemented with reservists. We operate 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. Station 3 has a resident firefighter (CR 240), Station 7 (Narrow Gauge), and Station 8 (Deer Valley) has equipment that can be manned as needed.

CALL VOLUMES



MAJOR INCIDENTS 2019

- January 31- House explosion critically burns man's hands and face, airlifted to Aurora Burn Center (Survived)
- April 23- High angle rescue in Vallecito Creek Canyon at the Trashcan Eddy for an injured kayaker
- June 3- Serious vehicle crash US 160 (District 7) with extrication of an 11 y/o with critical injuries (Survived)
- July 2- Multi-Casualty Incident US 160 (District 8) (11 Victims, 2 fatal, 4 critical, 5 minors) one requiring significant extrication who survived critical injuries that required a needle decompression of the chest while pinned.
- July 2- Massive sandbagging operation to prevent flooding on the Pine River threatening LePlatts Pond event center and the Riverside RV Park after the washout of the embankment.
- July 16- Wild fire in Red Creek Canyon which became the 441 fire. Crews assisting the BLM and United States Forest Service.
- July 19- ATV accident takes the life of 16 y/o at Lemon Reservoir
- August 11- House fire Faith Lane contained to the room of origin
- August 14- Lost hiker found after a search on Vallecito Creek trail
- August 31- Medic 60 deployed to Florida with AMR Strike Team for Hurricane Dorian
- September 15- Prescribed Fire in Saul's Creek; crews assisting the United States Forest Service
- September 16- Drone finds fire in an electrical box at Bayfield High School
- October 11- Sent a search dog and crews to assist Pasoga Fire with a fatal house explosion
- October 12- Brush fire threatening structure on Middle Mountain Road is contained
- October 15- Capt. Miller speaks at the World Trauma Symposium in New Orleans, LA
- October 26- Large grass fire on CR 526 triggers satellite recognition of energy release
- November 5- Large structure and urban interface fire on the Hammond Property on CR 240
- November 16- Multiple fires on County Road 510 followed shortly thereafter with a fire at Cool Water Ranch

Upper Pine UAS Drone Program 2019

The UAS (Unmanned Aircraft Systems) Drone Program was established in July 2019 and currently has 6 team members, four of which are FAA Part 107 and certified with the Colorado Department of Public Safety. The drone team was the first UAS Program to receive this state certification. We will be training and certifying new pilots in 2020 with the goal of having a UAS pilot on each shift. The increasing availability of low-cost small unmanned aircraft systems technology allied with image processing applications, real-time video and various sensor payloads, offer an opportunity to collect forensic-quality scene information, speed up incident clearance, assist in search and rescue, improve fire observation, and reduce the exposure of law enforcement officers, first responders and the public to hazardous conditions. Unmanned aircraft have the potential for many uses in emergency management, firefighting, law enforcement and search and rescue applications. Although all of the uses for UAS cannot be predicted, generally the following are missions for which it may be deployed:

- Search and rescue operations
- Crime scenes
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Hazardous materials scenes
- Major disaster scenes
- Storm damage assessment
- Fire observation and damage assessment
- Tactical situations
- Mass casualty scenes
- Wildland fire observation



Vallecito Creek Rescue

On April 23th an early run off created prime conditions for kayakers in Vallecito Creek canyon. Vallecito Creek in the spring has some of the best kayaking in the western United States. The Trashcan location once again became the site of a technical rescue operation to remove an injured kayaker from the canyon. A dislocated shoulder hampered the ability for the kayaker to exit the canyon. A 100-foot vertical lift was performed to bring the kayaker up a shear wall where he was able to walk out and got by private vehicle to the emergency room.



Hurricane Dorian AMR Strike Team

Hurricane Dorian was an extremely powerful and devastating Category 5 Atlantic hurricane with sustained winds peaking at 185 mph. On August 28, the Florida governor declared a state of emergency for 26 counties in the hurricane's expected path. This later expanded to the entire state on August 29. As part of American Medical Response's National Ambulance Strike Team program, an ambulance received a FEMA resource order to respond to Florida on August 30, 2019. A two-man crew led by Captain Miller and Firefighter-Paramedic Jon Haner spent 9 days deployed to the Florida coast near Deerfield Beach and the Sebastian Inlet. The District earned \$30,000 for the deployment and the crew gained valuable experience participating in national disaster response.

The EMS Division is responsible for the delivery of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Mobile Integrated Health Care (MIHC) in the community. Our EMS program is evolving this year with the addition of several new paramedics. This now allows us to support the community with basic life support (BLS) ambulances at Station 4 (Vallecito area) and Station 5 (Forest Lakes). Another ambulance is operating at either the EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic level at Station 1 (Bayfield and the Hwy 160 corridor) while one paramedic "chase car" will respond from Station 5 to the scene. This configuration will keep paramedic level coverage more readily available for the northern end of the District while maintaining EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic coverage in the southern end; where a majority of the EMS responses are.

The MIHC Program is under development thanks in part to a grant from the Rocky Mountain Health Foundation. Paramedics will be receiving certification as Community Paramedics. Working in cooperation with several organizations including Centura Health, the MIHC Program will begin serving the community with services such as; providing home visits to post-discharge surgical and medical patients and arranging alternative transportation to clinics and urgent care facilities. There is an anticipated impact of a reduction in emergency department visits utilizing telemedicine and providing health insurance guidance. The MIHC model has proven to provide cost savings to other EMS agencies and hospitals while providing the proper and most appropriate care to patients. We hope to continually grow and expand the capabilities of this exciting new model in health care.

We earned CAAS (Commission on Accreditation of Ambulance Services) accreditation in 2018. Completing this process ensures policies, processes, and actions reflect the National Standard of Excellence. We are the smallest EMS agency in the state to achieve this and maintain the same level of accredited service as the residents of Vail Valley. We will be re-accrediting in 2021.



Training Officer Joel Claus at EMS Day at the Capitol as the Region 9 (SW Colorado) Representative on the EMSAC Board of Directors.

The EMS Division is involved in outside initiatives and EMS organizations at the Regional, State, and National levels. They are designed to build on leadership skills and expose our staff to ideas, best practices, and innovation. We are also continuing to host an EMS Training Facility with a high rate of success. Below is an overview of our current associations and participants.

AMR NATIONAL AMBULANCE STRIKE TEAM

Captain Miller
FF Bradford
FF Goodwin
FF Haukeness
FF Heck
FF/P Haner

COLORADO GOVERNOR'S STATE EMS & TRAUMA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SEMTAC)

Chief Evans

NAEMT LEADERSHIP

Chief Evans

RETAC COMMITTEE

Chief Evans

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE'S INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE'S EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Chief Evans

CHILD FATALITY REVIEW TEAM

Chief Evans
Deputy Chief Vreeland

EMS TRAINING FACILITY

AMLS
GEMS
PHTLS
EMS SAFETY
EMT COURSES
TRAINING LAB

STATE EMS ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP

Joel Claus, Training Officer

WILDLAND MEDICAL UNIT

Captain Fortson
FF/Paramedic Portz
FF/Paramedic Haner

LA PLATA COUNTY SHERIFF TACTICAL MEDIC SUPPORT

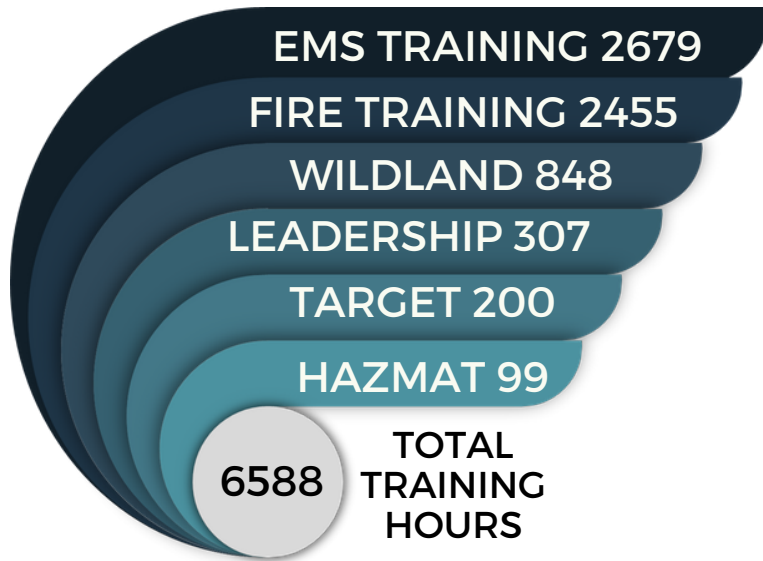
FF/EMT-I Barnes

LA PLATA COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTIVE COLLABORATIVE

Chief Evans
Joel Claus, Training Officer
FF Harrison



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 skillsets of our staff. The aggregate training hours in 2019 are displayed in the chart below:



Part of being an “all-hazards” fire district requires training of our members in all areas of fire and rescue. These skill sets are vital in protecting our residents and those visiting the area. These areas include EMS, structural firefighting, wildland firefighting, hazardous materials response, ice rescue, swift-water rescue, confined-space rescue, and high and low angle rope rescue. All training hours are recorded to maintain the many certifications needed to perform the duties required. Additionally, supports members obtaining specialized and expert training by sending them to various

fire and medical conferences. Institutions such as the National Fire Academy have invited our staff members to attend as lecturers and presenters. The outside training is often supported by grant money from entities such as the Colorado CREATE Grant and the National Fire Academy.

We also provide public and professional CPR/First Aid training and community Fire Prevention training. We currently have an ongoing EMT Course taught at our administrative building with a high success rate. In April of 2019, 13 EMT Course students obtained their National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician Certifications (NREMT) with a 100% pass rate. This EMT training is offered to the public and all of the surrounding EMS and fire departments.

In 2020, several members will be sent for Community Paramedic Training to implement the Mobile Integrated Health Care Program (MIHC).



Training Courses

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN BASIC COURSE

EMT-Basic Course: This approximately 160-hour course prepares the student to work as an Emergency Medical Technician in several settings including EMS agencies, fire departments, emergency rooms, clinics, ski patrols, and other allied health professionals jobs.

o For more information: JClaus@upperpinefpd.org

EMT/IV THERAPY COURSE

This course allows Colorado EMT-Basic Providers to utilize intravenous therapy and administer several medications.

o For more information: JClaus@upperpinefpd.org

CPR/AED CLASSES

Both "Heartsaver" CPR for the public and "BLS Provider" for healthcare professionals offered. For more information or to schedule a group class: CPR@upperpinefpd.org



Careers

Upper Pine Fire strives for individuals who are ready to experience a variety of adrenaline-pumping situations. Whether it's responding to a house fire in the middle of the night, rescuing a hiker from a mountainside, or delivering a baby in the back of an ambulance you can bet all the skills you have learned will be put to the test daily.

Qualifications

The requirements listed below are not required at the time of application, but are required before a candidate can be hired.

- Age Requirement: Candidates must be at least 18 years of age or older.
- Educational Requirement: Candidates must have a high school diploma or have passed an equivalency test (GED).
- License: Candidates must possess a valid driver's license with qualifying driving record.
- Fitness: Pass the A physical agility test and fitness for duty or provide current CPAT card.
- EMT Certification: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification is not required at the time of application. Candidates must possess or be eligible for a valid Colorado State EMT certification and National registry at the time of hire.
- Eligible to work in the United States.
- Current Firefighter I and Hazmat OPS certification.
- Ability to communicate effectively in English.
- Meet or exceed established standards throughout the testing process (written and oral exams).
- Meet or exceed established standards throughout the pre-employment process.

Hiring Full-time & Part-time
48/96 Rotating Schedule



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY FOR AN OPEN POSITION VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

UPPERPINEFPD.ORG/JOBS



**WILDLAND
COORDINATOR**
PAUL VALDEZ

The precipitation pendulum swung the other way in summer 2019 relative to the previous 2018 fire season. The heavy winter snowfall provided a welcome recovery for fuels not only in our fire district but for the western U.S. as well. Fire activity did pick up in November locally as grasses and lighter fuels cured due to the late summer and fall with very little precipitation. A very light fire season meant that the seasonal wildland crew was able to resume residential mitigation projects and slash pile burns in our area.

Wildfire Assignments 2019

The Wildland Division continued its support role with US Forest Service Columbine Ranger District in 2019. For the support assignment, we provided equipment and ground personnel for the annual prescribed burns (RX). The crew and equipment were provided to assist USFS with the preparation and ignition operations of a 7,000-acre RX burn east of Bayfield. Assignments such as these not only serve to enhance the working relationship between our neighboring agencies but also provide our crews with valuable knowledge and experience in the field. These assignments also help provide revenue.



Engine Boss Capt. Fortson in the Vallecito-Piedra Prescribed Fired



The Wildland Division was presented with a plaque by Los Ranchitos Estates HOA to show their appreciation of the mitigation work done in their subdivision.



The River Ranches subdivision thanked the Wildland Division with a BBQ in their honor.

Chipper Program

The Chipper Program continues to be a huge success for self-mitigation. The program makes available by appointment a commercial size chipper and two trained firefighter operators to feed the chipper. Not only did the typical subdivisions (Aspen trails, Tween Lakes, Enchanted Forest, and Los Ranchitos) take advantage of the program but individual property owners did as well. Recognition goes out to the people who did their own fuel reduction around their homes and driveways. Creating defensible space decreases risk to homes from the direct flame as well as ember showers that can travel miles. Creating defensible space in the "Home Ignition Zone" and driveway can create a safe area to stage an engine and crew in the driveway if such a fire event warrants a Stand and Defend strategy to save your home. Thank you to all who participate in this program and take advantage of the benefits for you and the surrounding communities.

Mitigation Projects

The Wildland Division completed a 50-acre residential mitigation project this season in Los Ranchitos. The project was partially funded by a FEMA Grant. Strategic thinning of the parcels enhances home survivability as well as surrounding neighbors. The grant also provided funding for contract work, performed by Fire Smart, to mechanically mow the vegetation on both sides of the easements throughout the community as well as the northwest side of CR 240 below the subdivision. Fuels reduction projects in the subdivision and surrounding communities in the Florida drainage help to reduce fire intensity, therefore, protecting the watershed from debris flows contaminating the Florida River. It was a pleasure working with the residents of the small close-knit community. Several homeowners were gracious enough to treat the crew to home-cooked lunches in their homes. The HOA and representatives of the community presented a plaque of Recognition and Appreciation for Dedication, Professionalism, and Quality for the work in their community by the crew. It was a pleasure working with them and we look forward to more residential mitigation projects with them in the future.

Community Burns

We were unable to assist much with agricultural burns spring 2019 due to a rapid green-up. We hope to help more in spring 2020. Weather conditions for 2020 Ag burns should be very good. The crew completed burning 50 large slash piles in the River Ranches subdivision as well as helping 15 individual property owners with their pile burns. A total of 72 hours of Good Will burns were completed. We appreciate the generous donations many of our customers contributed this year and big thanks to River Ranches for the BBQ in our honor.

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

2 TRAINED CHIPPER
OPERATORS
\$250 A DAY



7,050
ACRES
MITIGATED

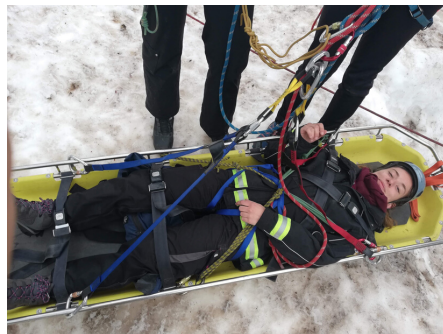


72
HOURS

GOODWILL BURNING



The crew completed burning 50 large slash piles in the River Ranches subdivision as well as helping 15 individual property owners with their pile burns



In April we received another French Intern from the University of Bordeaux, Orane Faletti. Each year we host an intern from the University's Safety and Fire program. Orane arrived with the project to assist in doing a risk assessment of our technical rescue practices. Her goal was to compete for the "Gendarmeries Nationale" French rescue team. While in the Four Corners she participated in rigging and rescue training in Cascade Canyon and swift water rescue exercises in the Pine River Valley. Orane finished her project and assessment. She returned to France in May to complete her studies after making new friends and participating in the American rescue processes.



Animas High School Internship



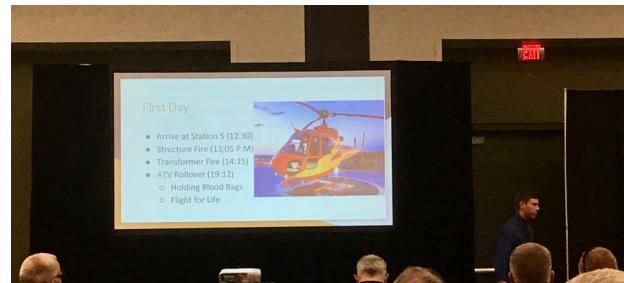
We consider ourselves a learning organization and entered into our first internship with Animas High School this year. Bayfield resident Ori Rehman enrolled in the immersion program and spent several afternoons and evenings with crews learning the trade. Ori has since gone on to complete his EMT course and is attending the Firefighter I program having finished his wildland firefighting certification. The goal of the program is to give local students a career opportunity to serve in our community. Ori is proving to be an excellent contender.

Leadership is an important component of any organization and we support leadership programs for staff members. 2019 examples include professionally recognized leadership courses for administrative personnel such as; the Special Districts Association Leadership Course, Pinnacle Leadership Development, and the Safe-Tech Leadership Academy. We proudly send staff to the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland to attend courses including the Management of EMS, Quality Improvement Course, and the Safety Program Management. For some of our staff, this was their first attendance at the National Emergency Training Center.

We congratulated college graduates Firefighter/EMT's Pete Stockwell and Amanda Haukeness both accomplishing Bachelor's Degrees. Captain Brian Leewitt and Captain Josh Schmidt completed their Fire Officer II certifications. In June, captains attended a two-day Leadership and Ethics Course in-house sponsored by the International Public Safety Leadership & Ethics Institute.



Developing leaders mean challenging people to acquire new skills and abilities, pushing people out of their comfort zone. Captain Andy Miller ventured onto the stage speaking at the Colorado Symposium on Emergency Care presenting on the rescue of a fallen hiker at the transfer park. The presentation was given later in the year at the World Trauma Symposium where Captain Miller was on stage with other trauma experts who spoke on the Pittsburgh Synagogue and Parkland School shootings.



In November Firefighter/EMT's Kaleb Heck and Vito Ciccarelli took to the stage for the first time at the Iowa EMS Association annual convention to present on Mentoring. This was their first time lecturing in front of a large audience.



It is a small world as the picture depicts four generations of mentorship. From left to right: Firefighter Heck mentored by Firefighter Ciccarelli, mentored by Chief Evans, who in turn was mentored as a paramedic by WDM Paramedic supervisor, Lee Thomas.

Strong and effective leadership starts from the top down and we will continue to support leadership training and education for department members in the coming year.



OVER 2400 COMMUNITY MEMBERS REACHED

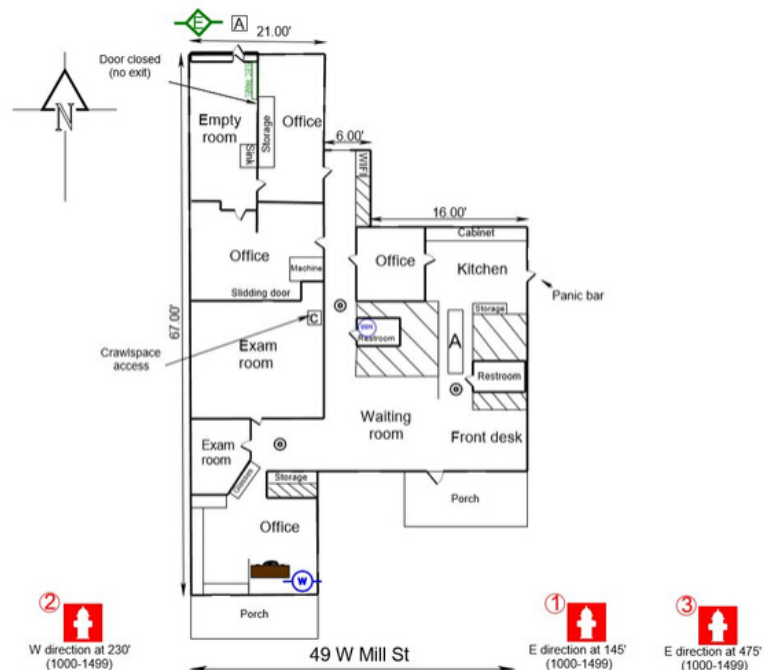
- Fire Prevention Week at the elementary schools. Firefighters went to the schools and showed each class the fire apparatus and ambulance and discussed fire safety in the home. We reached out to approximately 400 students and 20 teachers.
- EMTs gave a talk to the Bayfield Intermediate School on first aid. 25 students and 1 teacher were in the class.
- Bayfield High School Consumer Science Program about challenges with commercial kitchens. Discussion with students focused on kitchen safety and consequences of non-code compliant kitchens when fires originate in the kitchen and hood systems. Reached 100 students.
- Bayfield High School Police Science Class and the Bayfield Middle School Police Science Class lessons were geared around fire investigation and arson statutes. Students were told about the consequences surrounding the various statutes. The fire marshal spoke with approximately 130 students.
- The Mill Street Block Party series in Bayfield children and their parents got to meet firefighters, check out fire trucks and were given instruction on proper child car seat installation. We also gave out information on wildfire safety around the home in the Urban Wildfire Interface. We met approximately 200 children and 100 parents over three months.
- Child car seat demonstration and the annual STEAM event at the Pine River Library. We met with approximately 50 children and 50 adults.
- Kiwanis Safety Day in the Park. Children were given information on controlling bleeding on patients. Children practiced bandaging techniques with instruction from crews. We talked to 155 2nd graders and 30 adults.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- ISO protection class inquiries from homeowners and insurance companies.
- Preplanning for commercial occupancies in our jurisdiction.
- Code compliance inspections for commercial businesses.
- Fire investigations with staff on all major structure fires.
- Monthly fire drills in all Bayfield schools.

PREPLANS

Building preplans are an essential part of fire prevention. The purpose of preplans is to ensure a coordinated, expedient, and safe response in the event of a fire. Depending on the operation, the preplan design can range from simple to complex. Each design provides the necessary data required to assist responders in determining the best response for the specific scenario. We continually verify preplans for simplicity, clarity, and accuracy. From the initial information-gathering phase to the utilization of the preplan application during the response; crucial information is communicated to ensure a timely and effective response.

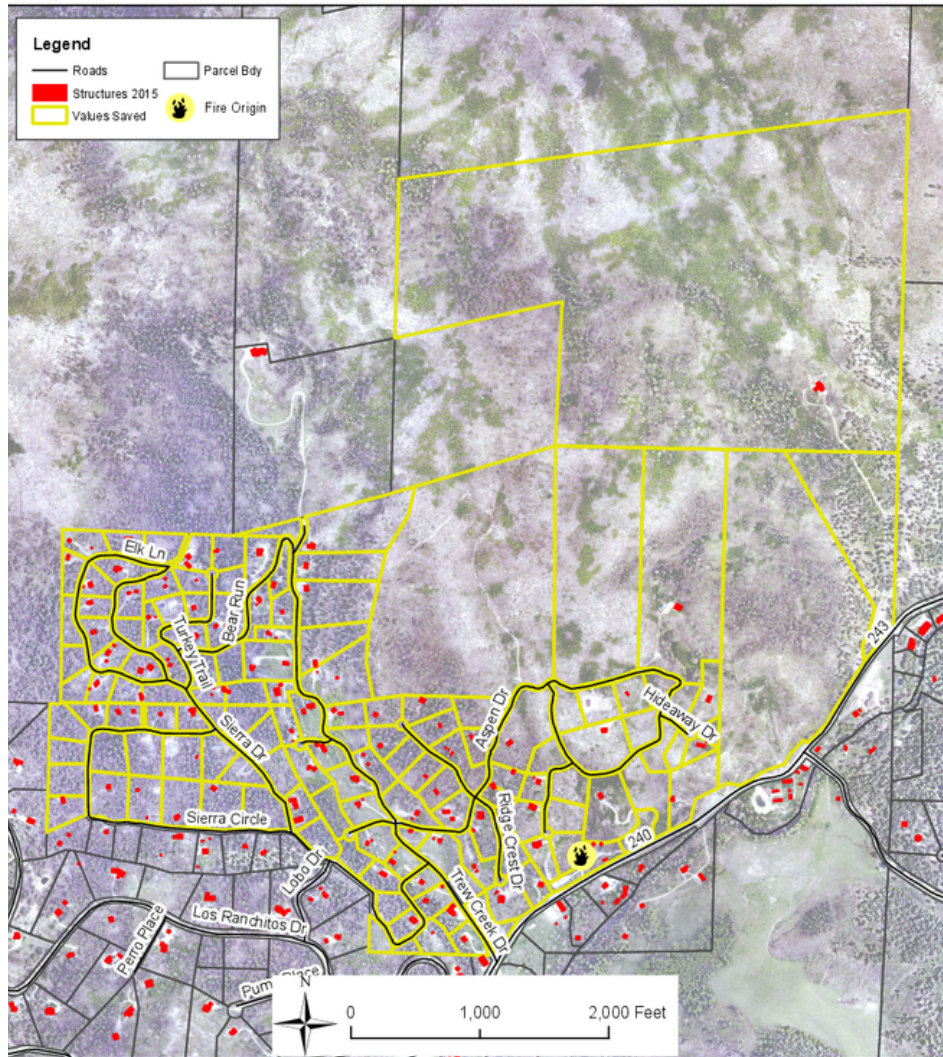




On November 5th, 2019 a fire started outside one of the rustic cabins on the Hammond Property in the 13000 block of CR 240 around noon. The fire quickly consumed one cabin and spread engulfing another home; threatening a third and fourth cabin when fire and rescue units first arrived. The dry conditions caused the fire to spot 0.5 miles away into the old Missionary Ridge burn scar. We were assisted by our neighbors from Durango Fire, Los Pinos and the United States Forest Service. The Blue Mountain Fire crew from Oregon was on their last day in La Plata County and helped place the fire line for containment. This fire containment saved over

\$9.9 million in property- more than twice the annual operating budget for the Upper Pine Fire District.

Values Saved on Hammond Fire



OVER \$9.9 MILLION IN PROPERTY SAVED



An estimated over \$61.9 million in property saved in the last two years.



EMS

- EMT COURSE COMPLETE 100% PASS RATE
- EMS SYSTEMS GRANT AWARDED



FIRE

- HAMMOND FIRE
- COOL WATER RANCH FIRE
- PRESCRIBED BURN IN VALLECITO-PIEDRA
- 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.



RESCUES & DEPLOYMENTS

- VALLECITO CREEK RESCUE
- JULY 2ND FLOODING
- HURRICANE DORIAN DEPLOYMENT



COMMUNITY EVENTS

- PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE FOR PINE RIVER SHARES
- MDA FILL THE BOOT RAISED \$900
- VALLECITO PROGRESSIVE HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY
- CAPT. SCHMIDT AND FF BRADFORD CONTRIBUTE TO THE SECOND YEAR OF THE COAT DRIVE AT BAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
- PROJECT MERRY CHRISTMAS

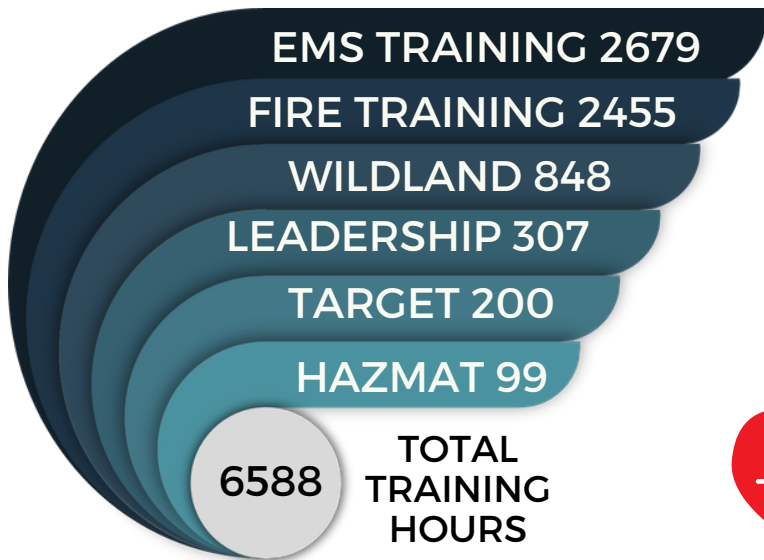


COMMENDATIONS

- CHAPPY AWARD 2019: CAPT. BROCK FORTSON
- FIRE CAPTAIN OF THE YEAR: CAPT. BROCK FORTSON
- FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR: FF MIKE MUIR
- ALS PROVIDER OF THE YEAR: FF/P STEVE BRADFORD
- EMT OF THE YEAR: CAPT. ANDY MILLER
- WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR: FF CURTIS CLICK
- CELEBRATING 5 YEARS OF SERVICE: FF MARK FLEMING, FF/P STEVE BRADFORD, TRAINING OFFICER JOEL CLAUS, FF JOHN LEARNED
- HURRICANE DORIAN: CAPT. ANY MILLER, FF/P JOHN HANER



CALL RESPONSES



97%
PATIENT
SATISFACTION
SURVEY



**3 CARDIAC
SAVES**



1 HAPPY GOAT



**100% PASS RATE
FOR EMT CLASS**



**\$9.9 MILLION IN
PROPERTY SAVED**



**7,050 ACRES
MITIGATED**

\$61.9M

**IN SAVED PROPERTIES
IN THE LAST 2 YEARS**



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

is what we do.



UPPERPINEFPD.ORG
BAYFIELD, COLORADO