



AGENDA ITEM 5.A.

MEETING: December 17, 2024
TO: Trinity LAFCo Commissioners
FROM: Colette Santsche, Executive Officer
SUBJECT: Middle Trinity River Regional Fire Services Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update

BACKGROUND:

In accordance with the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, LAFCOs are required to prepare municipal service reviews (MSRs) prior to or in conjunction with its mandate to review and update each local agency's sphere of influence (SOI) every five years or as needed. The legislative intent of the MSR is to inform the Commission as to the availability, capacity, and efficiency of local governmental services prior to making sphere of influence determinations. Municipal service reviews may also lead LAFCOs to take other actions under their authority, such as forming, consolidating, or dissolving one or more local agencies in addition to any related sphere changes.

DISCUSSION:

This MSR evaluates services provided by several fire protection providers in the Middle Trinity region. Attached for the Commissions review are the complete agency profiles for all four districts including MSR and SOI determinations. Staff have been able to work with district representatives to obtain information about the current provision of fire services such as staffing, calls for service, governance, finances, and other supporting information. SOI amendments are recommended for each agency to match the mapped out of district response areas as follows:

- **Douglas City Community Services District:** The SOI is expanded to match the District's out of district goodwill response area.
- **Junction City Fire Protection District:** The SOI is amended to match the District's goodwill response area which is smaller than the District's boundary.
- **Lewiston Community Services District:** The All Services SOI (water, wastewater and fire protection) remains coterminous with the existing District boundary and a Fire Only SOI is hereby expanded to match the District's out of district goodwill fire response area.
- **Weaverville Fire Protection District:** The SOI is expanded to match the District's out of district goodwill response area.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the Commission review the MSR/SOI update and consider adoption of Resolution 2024-05.

Attachments:

- A – Middle Trinity River MSR/SOI Update
B – Draft Resolution 2024-05

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Middle Trinity Regional Fire

Municipal Services Review and Sphere of Influence Update



Commission Draft
December 2024



<https://www.trinitylafco.org/>

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Acknowledgements:

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1.0 MSR/SOI BACKGROUND

The Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) is preparing this Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) update for fire service providers in the Middle Trinity region of Trinity County following the requirements of State law and LAFCo policies. LAFCo acts as the countywide oversight agency that coordinates logical and timely changes to local government boundaries. A primary objective for this MSR is to provide a recommendation for the SOI of the following agencies covered in this report:

- Douglas City Community Services District
- Junction City Fire Protection District
- Lewiston Community Services District
- Weaverville Fire Protection District

The Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) apportions the County into five divisions (Figure 2-1). The Middle Trinity region contains the boundaries of all four fire service providers covered in this MSR/SOI update (Figure 2-2). Regional distinctions of the County will be referred to according to the divisions set forth by the CWPP throughout this report.

Fire service providers in rural areas often face unique obstacles in the provision of services including remote service areas with limited population and low volunteerism, alternative water conveyance systems, limited water storage capacity for fire response, limited technical staff, and more. This MSR will take a systems approach to review the current level of services and identify potential areas of opportunity to increase efficiency and resiliency in the region. This report is organized as follows:

- A background section with additional discussion of LAFCo responsibilities, the legal requirements of MSR/SOI updates, and the methodology and data sources used.
- A summary section with an overview of the County, a brief discussion of current or potential wildfire, evacuation planning, and dam failure impacts, and a summary of MSR findings.
- Agency profiles including service reviews for each agency within the study area and recommended SOI changes where applicable.

1.1 ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITY OF LAFCO

LAFCOs are independent regulatory commissions that were established by the State legislature in 1963 to encourage the orderly growth and development of local governmental agencies including cities and special districts. Today, there is a LAFCo in each of California's 58 counties. Trinity LAFCo has a public Commission with seven regular Commissioners and three alternate Commissioners. The Commission is composed of three members of the Trinity County Board of Supervisors, two Special District Representatives, and two Public Members-At-Large. The Commission also includes one alternate member for each represented category.

LAFCo is responsible for implementing the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 ("CKH Act") (California Government Code Section 56000 et seq.) for purposes of facilitating changes in local governmental structure and boundaries that fosters orderly growth and development, promotes the efficient delivery of services, and encourages the preservation of open space and agricultural lands. Some of LAFCo's duties include regulating jurisdictional boundary changes and the extension of municipal services. This includes city and special district annexations, incorporations/formations, consolidations, and other changes of organization. LAFCo seeks to be proactive in raising awareness and building partnerships to accomplish this through its special studies, programs, and actions.

The CKH Act outlines requirements for preparing MSRs for periodic SOI updates. MSRs and SOIs are tools created to empower LAFCo to satisfy its legislative charge of "discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open space and prime agricultural lands, efficiently providing government services, and encouraging the orderly formation and development of local agencies based upon local conditions and circumstances" (Government Code (G.C.) §56301). CKH Act Section 56301 further establishes that "one of the objects of the commission is to make studies and to obtain and furnish information which will contribute to the logical and reasonable development of local agencies in each county and to shape the development of local agencies so as to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of each county and its communities." SOIs therefore guide both the near-term and long-term physical and economic growth and development of local agencies, and MSRs provide the relevant data to inform LAFCo's SOI determinations.

1.2 PURPOSE OF MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEWS

As described above, MSRs are designed to equip LAFCo with relevant information and data necessary for the Commission to make informed decisions on SOIs. The CKH Act, however, gives LAFCo broad discretion in deciding how to conduct MSRs, including geographic focus, scope of study, and the identification of alternatives for improving the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, accountability, and reliability of public services. The purpose of a MSR in general is to provide a comprehensive inventory and analysis of the services provided by local municipalities, service areas, and special districts. A MSR evaluates the structure and operation of the local municipalities, service areas, and special districts and discusses possible areas for improvement and coordination. While LAFCOs have no direct regulatory authority over cities and special districts, MSR's provide information concerning the governance structures and efficiencies of service providers – and may also serve as the basis for subsequent LAFCo decisions. The MSR is intended to provide information and analysis to support a sphere of influence update. A written statement of the study's determinations must be made in the following areas:

- (1) Growth and population projections for the affected area.

- (2) Location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or continuous to the sphere of influence.
- (3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies.
- (4) Financial ability of the agency to provide services.
- (5) Status of and opportunities for shared facilities.
- (6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies.
- (7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by Commission policy.

This MSR is organized according to these determinations listed above. Information regarding each of the above issue areas is provided in this document.

1.3 PURPOSE OF SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

In 1972, LAFCOs were given the power to establish SOIs for all local agencies under their jurisdiction. As defined by the CKH Act, “‘sphere of influence’ means a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the commission” (G.C. §56076). All boundary changes, such as annexations, must be consistent with an agency’s SOI with limited exceptions.

Pursuant to Trinity LAFCo policy, a MSR is conducted prior to or in conjunction with its mandate to review and update each local agency’s sphere of influence every five years or as necessary. The MSR process is intended to inform the Commission as to the availability, capacity, and efficiency of local governmental services prior to making SOI determinations.

LAFCo is required to make five written determinations when establishing, amending, or updating an SOI for any local agency that address the following (G.C. §56425(c)):

- (1) The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open space lands.
- (2) The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
- (3) The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.
- (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.
- (5) For an update of an SOI of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

Service reviews may also contain recommendations for SOI or government structure changes needed to implement positive service changes. Where more detailed analysis of service options is necessary, service reviews may contain recommendations for special studies where there is the potential to reduce service gaps and improve service levels.

1.4 DISADVANTAGED UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES

SB 244 (Chapter 513, Statutes of 2011) made changes to the CKH Act related to disadvantaged unincorporated communities, including mandating the incorporation of an SOI determination focusing on the topic. A disadvantaged unincorporated community (DUC) is defined as an inhabited territory containing 12 or more registered voters, where the median household income of the area is less than 80 percent of the State of California’s median household income.

CKH Act Section 56375(a)(8)(A) prohibits LAFCo from approving a city annexation of more than 10 acres if a DUC is contiguous to the annexation territory but not included in the proposal. If an application to annex the DUC has been filed with LAFCo, an exception to this prohibition is granted. This provision intends to prevent the exclusion and neglect of under-served, inhabited areas when engaging in annexations and extensions of services. Pursuant to Section 56425(c) of the CKH Act, DUCs are acknowledged as social and economic communities of interest for making SOI determinations.

1.5 REVIEW METHODS

The following information was considered in the development of this service review:

- Agency-specific data: responses to LAFCo Requests for Information
- Demographic data: U.S. Census Bureau; Department of Finance
- Finances: budgets and audits; State Controller’s Office
- Personal Communications with District staff and Board
- Other Reports: Trinity County Community Wildfire Prevention Plan Update 2020; Trinity County 2050 General Plan Update Public Review Draft Background Report; Trinity County 2019-2024 Housing Element Update; Douglas City Community Plan of 1987; Junction City Community Plan of 1987; Lewiston Community Plan of 1986; and Weaverville Community Plan of 1990.

The information gathered was analyzed and applied to make the required determinations. All information gathered for this report is filed by LAFCo for future reference.

1.6 CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is contained in Public Resources Code §21000 et seq. Public agencies are required to evaluate the potential environmental effects of their actions. CEQA Guidelines are contained in the California Code of Regulations (CCR) and provide guidance on compliance with CEQA. MSRs are statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CCR §15262 (feasibility or planning studies) and categorically exempt pursuant to CCR §15306 (information collection).

CEQA requirements are sometimes applicable to SOI Updates. The CEQA lead agency for SOI Updates is most often LAFCo, unless an agency has initiated an SOI expansion or update. In the case of the SOI amendments contained in this report, they are considered exempt under CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) or the Common Sense exemption because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. The changes in SOIs are related to the response areas of the various districts and do not extend water, wastewater, or other services that may induce growth or otherwise impact the environment.

2.0 REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) apportions the County into five divisions (Figure 2-1). The Middle Trinity region contains the boundaries of all four fire service providers covered in this MSR/SOI update (Figure 2-2).

Figure 2-1: Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Divisions

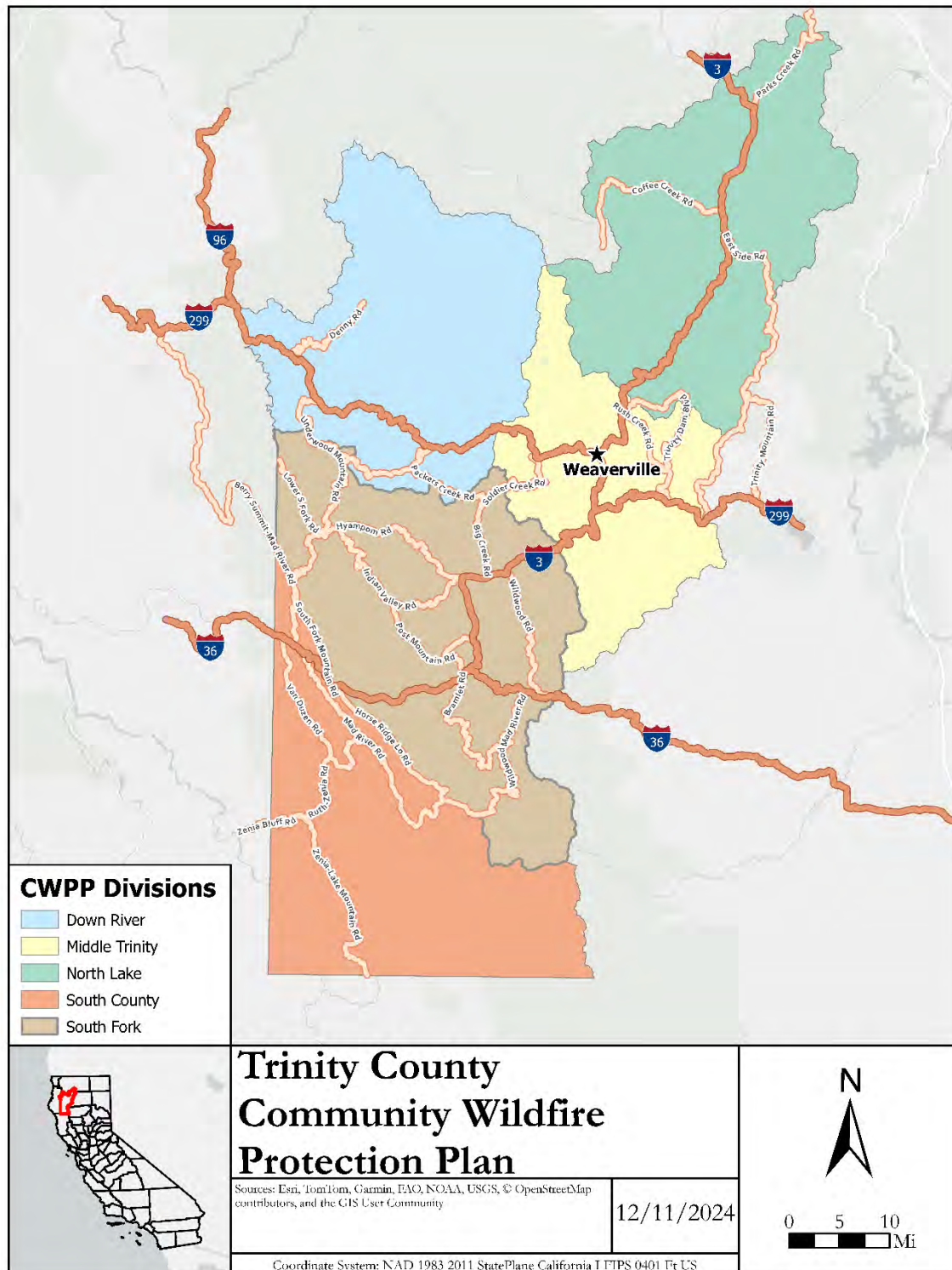
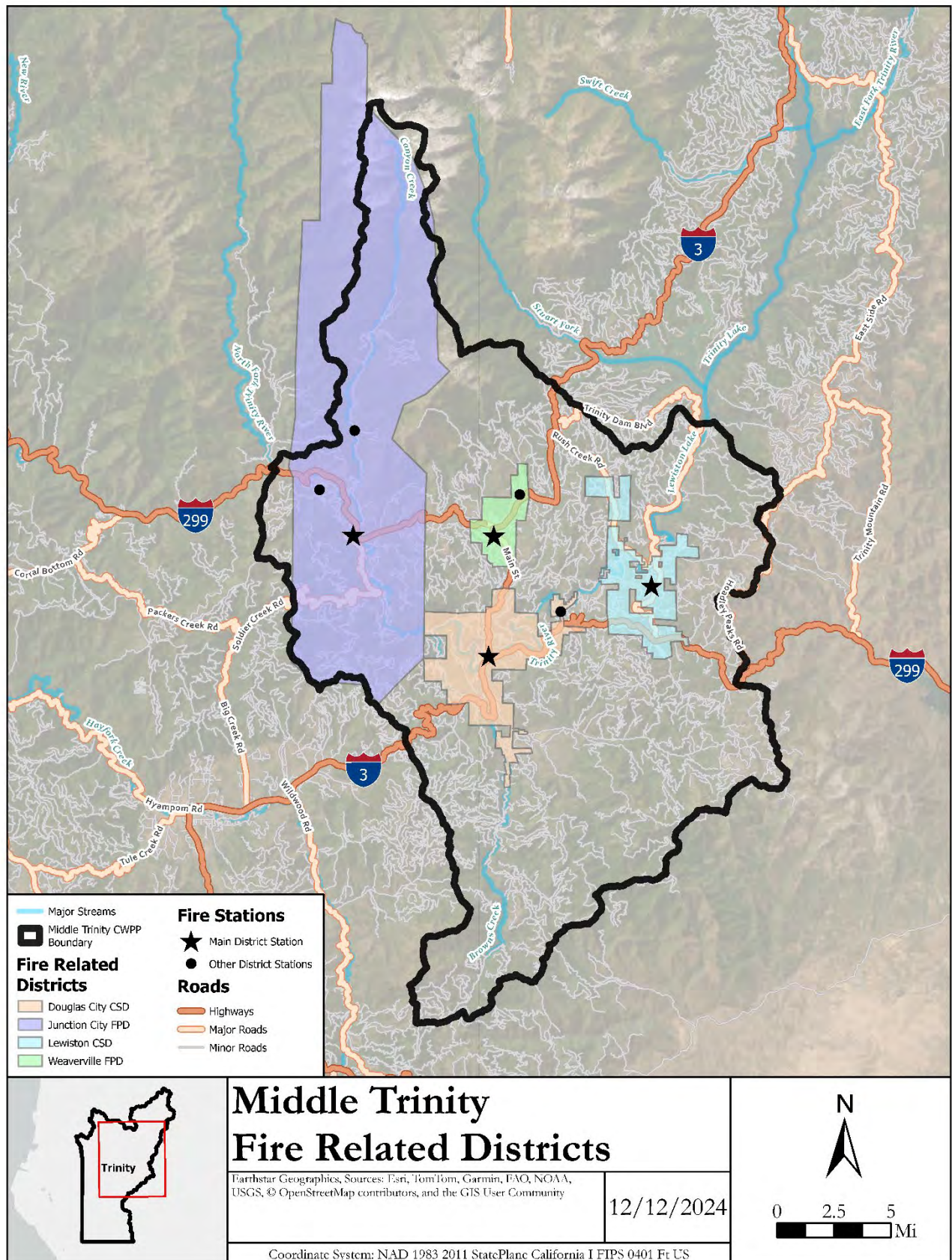


Figure 2-2: Middle Trinity Fire Related District Boundaries



2.1 TRIBAL LANDS

Within the geographical boundary of Trinity County there are ancestral tribal lands for numerous native peoples including the Tsungwe, Chimariko, and Wintu. Of these indigenous tribes, only the Wintu occupied the middle eastern region of Trinity County.

Historically, the Wintu lived in the northern part of the Sacramento Valley on the western side, from the Sacramento River to the Coast Range. These peoples also lived in the southern portion of the Upper Sacramento River, the southern portion of the McCloud River, the upper Trinity River, and the west side of the Sacramento River near present-day Chico¹. The Wintu subsisted off of the waters of the area and resources from nearby mountains. Largely, the Wintu supported themselves with oak acorns and salmon². The Wintu were stewards of the land and engaged in indigenous prescribed fire practices to benefit the landscape.

The Wintu lived and thrived in this area until contact with European settlers disrupted their way of life. European colonization and the discovery of gold resulted in the transmission of smallpox and influenza and the outright extermination of the Wintu peoples, largely decimating the tribe's population³. The California Gold Rush motivated Europeans to forcefully relocate the Wintu to other lands.

Today, the Wintu peoples largely live on reservations and rancherias in Colusa, Glenn, Yolo, Mendocino, and Shasta counties⁴. The Wintu Tribe of Northern California has a Museum and Cultural Resource Center in Shasta Lake, California and has a government-to-government relationship with the State and the City of Shasta Lake⁵. The tribe has a tribal council, is involved in community events, and exercises the currently attainable native rights allowed under current policies.

2.2 TRINITY COUNTY POPULATION

Trinity County was established in 1850 and was included in the 1850 census. The area of the County was much larger in 1850 than present-day as it was one of the original 27 counties in California and would later lose much of its land to create additional counties in the state. At the time of establishment, the County had a recorded aggregate population of 1,635⁶. Since the 1920s, the County has seen steady population growth, and the current population is approximately 16,112⁷ according to the 2020 decennial census. Like most areas in the state, the highest population growth occurred from 1940 to 1960 (Figure 2-2). During this time the population of the County more than doubled from 3,970 to 9,706 (5,736 persons). From 1970 to 1980 the County saw another large population increase of approximately 4,243 persons which continued to steadily grow until 2010, when another significant population increase of 2,326 persons occurred between 2010 and 2020.

¹ Redding Rancheria. (n.d). *Our Tribes*. Wintu. [https://www.reddingrancheria-nsn.gov/our-tribes/#:~:text=The%20Wintu%20\(also%20Northern%20Wintun,of%20the%20Penutian%20language%20family](https://www.reddingrancheria-nsn.gov/our-tribes/#:~:text=The%20Wintu%20(also%20Northern%20Wintun,of%20the%20Penutian%20language%20family).

² National Park Service. (2023, December 14). *History & Culture*. The Wintu. <https://www.nps.gov/whis/learn/historyculture/the-wintu.htm>

³ Trinity County Chamber of Commerce. (2023, May 16). *Natural and Cultural History*. The Wintu Indians. <http://www.trinitycounty.com/index.php/2023/05/16/natural-and-cultural-history/>

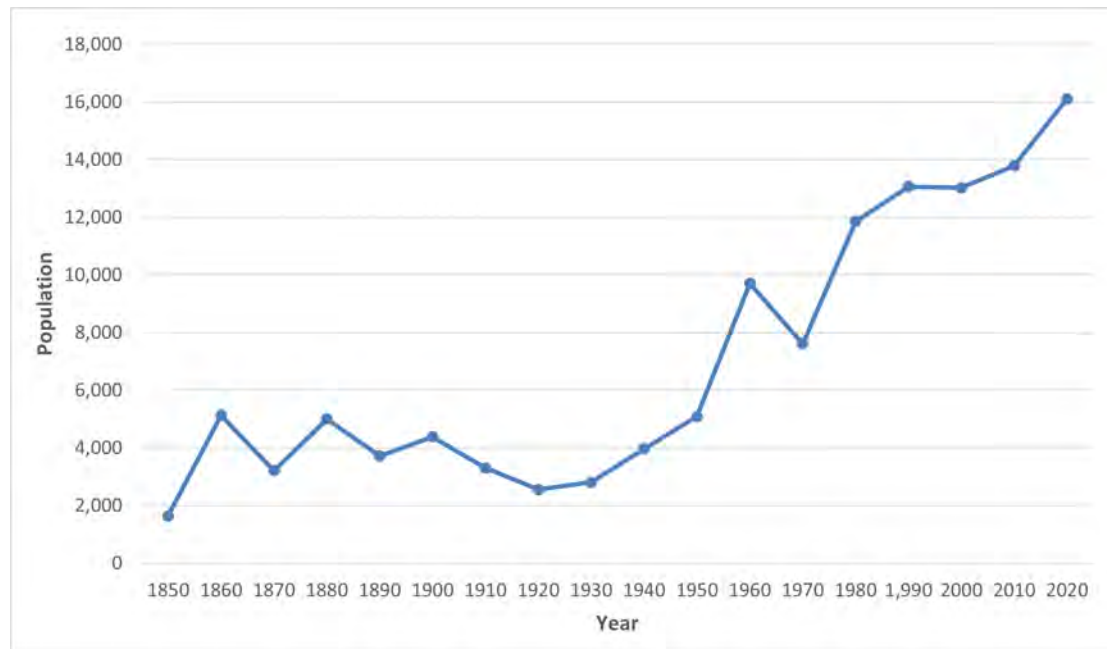
⁴ Pritzker, B. (2000). *A Native American Encyclopedia: History, Culture, and Peoples*. Oxford University Press.

⁵ The Wintu Tribe. (n.d.) *About Us*. <https://wintutribe.com/what-we-do/>

⁶ DeBow, J. D. B. (1853). *1850 Census: The Seventh Census of the United States*. Table of Counties, Districts, and Parishes in the United States. Washington: Robert Armstrong, Public Printer. <https://www2.census.gov/library/publications/decennial/1850/1850a/1850a-14.pdf>

⁷ US Census Bureau. (2020). Table P1 Race

Figure 2-3: Decennial Census Population Data for Trinity County



Data Source: US Department of Finance. (August 13, 2021). *Historical Census Populations: 1850-2020*. California, Counties, and Incorporated Cities/Towns.

Population growth projections are prepared for the State and its counties by the State Department of Finance (DOF) and were last published in 2023. The DOF Economic Forecast projects that the County population will decline and reach 15,330 in 2050. This decline is based on the County's annual out-migration exceeding its in-migration and having an aging population, combined with annual deaths exceeding new births. The surge in positive net in-migration from 2012-2020 shown in Figure 2-1 is potentially coming to an end and is not anticipated to occur again between now and 2050. However, DOF projections do not include other factors that could influence local or regional population changes, such as the recently reported COVID-19/telework out-migration from urban areas, possible future movements from congested areas such as the San Francisco Bay Area to less populated areas, or changes to regional economic conditions.

Between 2010 and 2022, the population increased by approximately 1.5 percent⁸ each year. However, this growth rate does not reflect the population projections for the County in future years and as such, a population decline of 0.4 percent is used in this review. This rate is consistent with the population projections set forth by the DOF based on County trends and characteristics. It is unlikely that there will be substantial growth in the communities under review.

2.3 GOVERNANCE AND STAFFING

Governance and staffing can pose an issue for rural communities, especially when isolated and sparsely populated. Often, many small and rural communities struggle to fill board member and other government roles. Recruitment and retention of volunteers is also a significant issue for fire service providers in rural areas. In order to fill the gap caused by declining volunteerism, existing volunteers are having to put in more work and log more hours than would typically be expected of volunteers. This then increases the burnout and fatigue of current volunteers, further driving

⁸ "Our Changing Population: Trinity County, California", USA Facts, July 2022, <https://usafacts.org/data/topics/people-society/population-and-demographics/our-changing-population/state/california/county/trinity-county/>.

declining volunteerism. Due to limited resources, other priorities often must take precedence over the recruitment of personnel and volunteers.

Additionally, small service providers often receive a majority of their funding from service fees which typically do not supply a large enough income to plan ahead and support future capital improvement projects as needed. Due to limited professional service funds and staffing shortages, it can be difficult for a district to maintain transparency through the publication of annual budgets, audits, and other financial reports. However, this exacerbates a district's financial strain as it's increasingly difficult, many times impossible, to be awarded grants and obtain loans without proper, consistent documentation of financial records.

To assist with meeting financial reporting requirements and conducting successful staff recruitment efforts, rural communities and service providers may want to explore other governance options such as annexations, reorganizations, or shared staffing systems.

2.4 FIREWISE COMMUNITIES

The Firewise USA® program is an approach for communities to develop and implement local solutions for wildfire preparedness. The program is overseen by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and is supported by CAL FIRE for California communities. To become an officially designated Firewise community, a community must do the following: 1) form a core group (either a board or committee) made up of residents and wildfire stakeholders to decide the size and boundaries of the proposed Firewise community, 2) develop a wildfire risk assessment plan to be updated every five years, 3) create and maintain a wildfire action plan to be updated at least every three years, 4) engage the community, and 5) apply for recognition with the NFPA. For Trinity County, Firewise communities must work with the Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) to complete the community wildfire risk assessment and three-year action plan.

Douglas City, Junction City, Lewiston, and Weaverville are all Firewise communities. Firewise communities promote collaboration and are integral in increasing wildfire preparedness and resilience. A Firewise designation can assist in securing grant funding, which is especially critical for rural communities with limited funding and resources. Additionally, multiple insurance companies provide discounts to property owners in Firewise USA® designated communities.

2.5 WILDFIRE

Wildfire is the largest hazardous threat in Trinity County and wildfire activity has only increased throughout the years. From 1998 to 2024, 40 percent of the County's land has been affected by wildfires; up from 12 percent from 1990 to 1998. Beginning in the early 2000s, the County shifted its proactive fire management planning efforts from primarily wildland firefighting to focusing more on fuels reduction and fire prevention, leading to the development of the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) – one of the first in the country.

The CWPP identifies and prioritizes fuel reduction projects for the County and serves as support for grant funding applications. The Trinity Fire Safe Council (FSC), founded in 1998, consists of representatives from local volunteer fire departments, land management agencies (local, state, and federal), citizens, and other non-governmental organizations. The FSC improves the coordination and cooperation of wildfire management in the County.

Recent major wildfires in the County include the Monument Wildfire (222,946 acres burned) and Haypress River Complex Wildfire (192,507 acres burned) in 2021, the August Complex Wildfire (1,028,897 acres burned) in 2020, and the Carr-Delta Wildfire (229,475 acres burned) in 2018.

Many of these wildfires impacted neighboring counties and required multijurisdictional collaboration for effective firefighting response. Collaboration was facilitated by the FSC, Trinity County Fire Chief's Association (TCFCA), Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD), CAL FIRE, local fire departments, and other entities responsible for fire suppression services. Wildfire risk is of significant concern to the local responders in the County and is a significant challenge for the area.

2.6 EMERGENCY ACCESS AND EVACUATION PLANNING

Trinity County is a rural, mountainous area with approximately 1,884⁹ miles of maintained roads. Residents primarily travel via personal vehicle due to the region being physically isolated with connectivity challenges. Road closures due to severe weather such as snow or landslides, traffic collisions, or poor pavement conditions severely limit emergency access and evacuation planning. Emergency responders and evacuation planning must consider and be prepared for the numerous challenges that threaten effective emergency responses.

Trinity County frequently receives rain and snow storms in the winter months. Snow removal is conducted in accordance with the County's Snow Removal policy #2010-01, which provides for snow removal on County roads after an accumulation of more than three inches of snow prior to 3:00 pm. Snow removal is not conducted by the County on private roads, state highways, or roads not winter maintained. The County prioritizes the removal of snow on main roads and school bus routes; then roads classified as major collector or arterial, and those requested by Sheriff Dispatch via emergency request; then roads classified as minor collector, bus routes, or public spaces; and then other County roads. The County has limited staff in its Road Maintenance Division and limited funding, which impacts its ability to provide effective snow removal in the case of a storm. In the case of emergency responses or evacuation planning, snow can pose a serious risk to effective transportation requiring alternative routes or other mitigation tactics.

Narrow, curving roadways, similar to many of the roads in Trinity County, can contribute to vehicle collisions. A majority of collisions in the area happen on State Route 299 (SR-299), which serves as the main access road in and out of the county, connecting into Shasta and Humboldt counties. Compared to population, the number of vehicle collisions in the county as of 2020 is relatively low⁹. However, when collisions do occur, they have the potential to heavily impact traffic access including emergency responses and evacuation routes.

The 2020 Pavement Condition Index (PCI) for Trinity County was 54 on a scale of 0-100, which is an overall increase from the 2012 PCI of 50. Lower PCIs indicate declining pavement conditions which can lead to higher repair costs. As with most municipalities, funding for roadway repair and maintenance can be difficult to obtain. Declining pavement conditions can impact fire service providers' abilities to effectively provide services, especially when responses are in the more rural parts of the County or require larger fire engines.

⁹ Trinity County Transportation Commission, 2022. 2022 Trinity County Regional Transportation Plan.
<https://www.trinitycounty.org/sites/default/files/DOT/2023%2BTrinity%2BCounty%2BTRTP%2B-%2BPUBLIC%2BDRAFT.pdf>

3.0 DOUGLAS CITY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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3.1 DISTRICT BACKGROUND

Agency Overview

The Douglas City Community Services District (herein referred to as “Douglas City CSD” or “District”) provides fire protection services to the rural communities of Douglas City, Steiner Flat, Steel Bridge, and adjacent rural residential areas, located in eastern Trinity County off of State Route 3 and State Route 299. Douglas City is nestled just north of the Trinity River and is a small commercial and residential center known for its access to outdoor recreation opportunities. Nearby populated communities include Hayfork (approximately 25 miles west of Douglas City), Weaverville (approximately 6 miles north of Douglas City), and Lewiston (approximately 11 miles east of Douglas City).

Table 3-1: Douglas City CSD Contact Information

Primary Contact	Marty Mather, Fire Chief Lisa Harper, Secretary Amy Curry, Bookkeeper
E-mail Address	firechiefdcvfd@gmail.com
Physical/Mailing Address	100 Steiner Flat Road PO Box 10 Douglas City, CA 96024
Phone Number	530-623-5110
Website	N/A

District Principal Act

The District’s principal act is the Community Services District Law, Division 3 of Title 6 of the Government Code ([§61000-61250](#)) which authorizes CSDs to provide up to 32 types of governmental services within their boundaries. Douglas City CSD is currently authorized to provide fire protection services, rescue services, and hazardous material emergency response services in the same manner as a fire protection district, formed pursuant to the Fire Protection District Law, Part 2.7 (commencing with Section 13800) of Division 12 of the Health and Safety Code. The District does not provide ambulance services.

Other services, facilities, functions, or powers enumerated in the District’s principal act but not identified in the formation resolution or by documented activation of powers are “latent,” meaning that they are authorized by the principal act under which the District is formed but are not being exercised. Latent powers and services activation require LAFCo authorization as indicated in Government Code §56824.10-14.

Formation and Development

Douglas City CSD was formed as an independent special district on March 29, 1976, by the Trinity County Board of Supervisors (Resolution No. 25-76) after confirmation of voters on March 2, 1976. The District was organized under the Community Services District law for the purpose of providing fire protection services to the community. In 1985, a sphere of influence was established to be coterminous with the District’s boundary (Resolution No. 85-11).

As identified in the Douglas City Community Plan (Plan) of 1987, the Poker Bar area located to the northeast of the District was the only concentrated residential area not served by the District. The Plan recommended that this area be annexed into the District. Subsequently, LAFCo

approved a sphere of influence amendment to include the Poker Bar/McIntyre Gulch area and the Blanchard Flat area (Resolution No. 87-06). On November 18, 1987, Trinity LAFCo approved the Poker Bar/McIntyre Gulch Annexation (Resolution No. 87-12) and the Blanchard Flat Annexation (Resolution No. 87-13).

Boundary and Sphere of Influence

Douglas City CSD's jurisdictional boundary encompasses approximately 14,095.5 acres or 22 square miles (based on GIS data). The boundary extends along State Route 299 from Little Browns Creek Road in the northern portion of the District to Old Poker Bar Creek Road in the eastern portion of the District, as well as south along State Route 3 to include the B-Bar-K Road and Deerlick Springs Road areas (**Figure 3-1**). The District boundary abuts Junction City FPD's boundary to the west and there are gaps between the District boundary and the Weaverville FPD to the north, Lewiston CSD to the east, and Hayfork FPD to the south. The majority of the areas between communities are undeveloped territory bisected by a State Highway where traffic collisions and medical calls are demanded. Rural residences along Lewiston Road between Douglas City CSD and Lewiston CSD are not within any local jurisdiction responsible for providing fire protection services. Douglas City Fire responds along 299 up to where Lewiston Road begins, whereas Lewiston Fire is typically the first to respond to calls in this area.

Currently, the District's adopted sphere of influence is mostly coterminous with its jurisdictional boundary apart from the Poker Bar/McIntyre Gulch area to the east and the Blanchard Flat area to the south, where the annexations of these areas in 1987 differed from the adopted sphere boundary. At present, the District's SOI is approximately 15,918 acres or 24.9 square miles. As part of this MSR, the SOI is proposed to be expanded to be coterminous with the District's emergency response area to better reflect the responsibilities of the District (**Figure 3-2**).

Land Use and Zoning

Land uses in Douglas City CSD are subject to the Trinity County General Plan (1988) and Zoning Regulations (Trinity County Code Title 17). The County is in the process of updating its General Plan, with anticipated completion in August 2025. Upon completion and adoption of the Trinity County General Plan 2050, land uses will be subject to this plan instead of the 1988 version. The Douglas City area is subject to the Douglas City Community Plan (1987), which serves to supplement the Trinity County General Plan.

Land use in the area served by the District is primarily resource, with moderately sized areas of agricultural and rural residential (**Figure 3-3**). The community core area of Douglas City – which includes the fire station, post office, elementary school, and other residential and commercial uses – has a land use designation of “village” that is applied to areas intended to contain a variety of land uses which serve the needs of the area. Several parcels east of Douglas City along State Route 299 are designated for commercial uses including the Indian Creek Mobile Home and RV Park and the Indian Creek Lodge.

Figure 3-1: Douglas City CSD Boundary and SOI

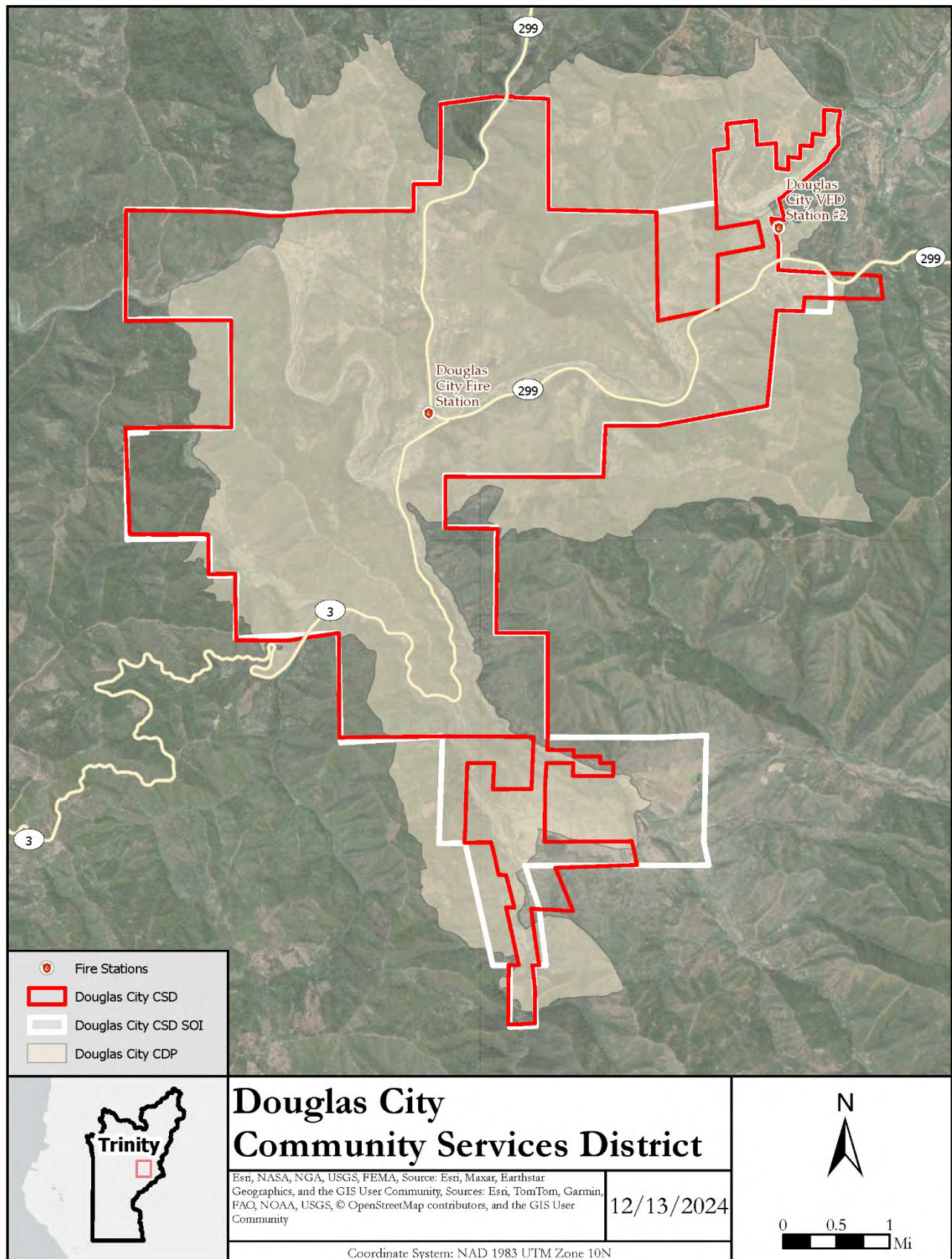


Figure 3-2: Douglas City CSD Proposed SOI

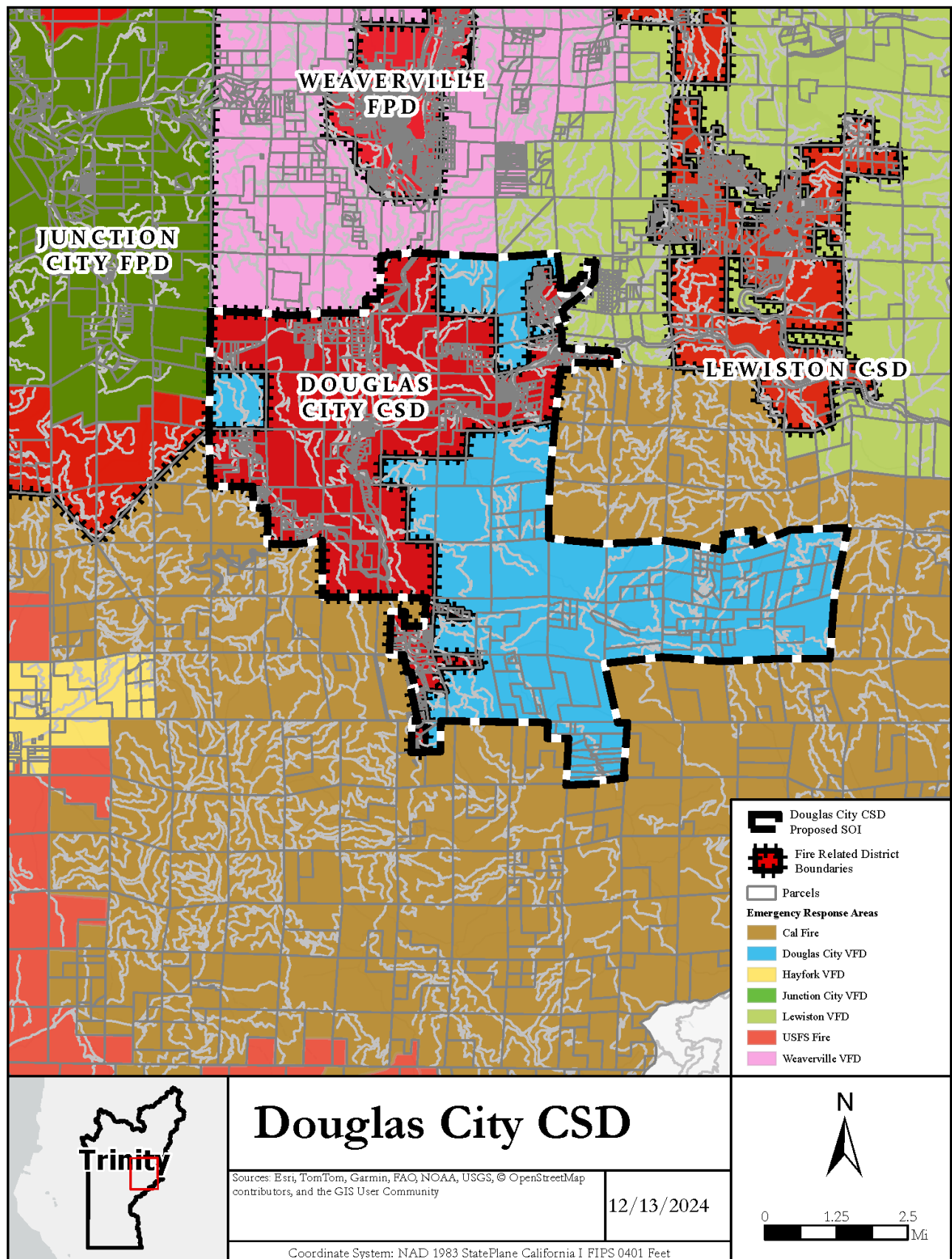
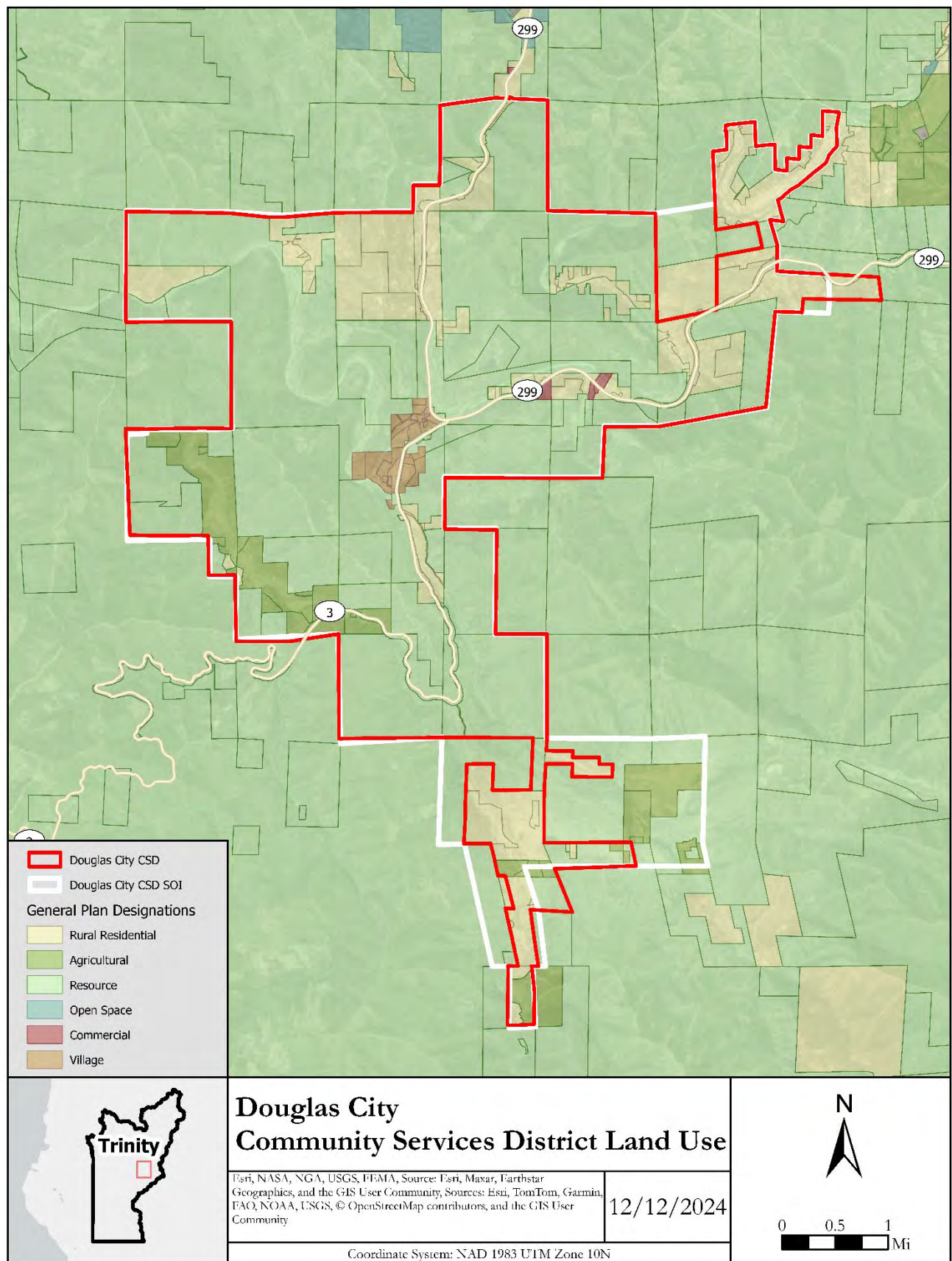


Figure 3-3: Douglas City CSD Land Use



Growth and Population

The population of Douglas City CDP is approximately 868¹ according to the 2020 decennial Census data. American Community Survey (ACS) Demographic and Housing Estimates approximate the District's 2021 population to be 951². However, the ACS 5-Year data estimates have a large margin of error and are known to be less accurate than decennial Census data.

The Douglas City CDP has similar boundaries to the District but does contain additional lands, particularly in the northeast, that are not included in the District's boundaries. The Douglas City CDP has an area of 19,480 acres which is 5,384 acres more than the District's boundary area; however, much of this additional area appears to be densely forested and undeveloped and as such, likely does not substantially differ from population estimates for the District.

Trinity County's population was estimated to be 16,112³ as of the 2020 decennial Census. According to the California Department of Transportation (DOT), the County's population is expected to decline by 0.4 percent per year from 2021-2026. Based on the estimated population and historical growth for the area, it is unlikely that the District will grow substantially over the next five to ten years. It is likely that the District's population will follow a similar trend to that of the County, declining by 0.4 percent each year.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

The 2021 estimated median household income (MHI) of the District is \$48,346⁴ according to the ACS 5-Year Estimates, which is approximately 57 percent of the 2021 estimated California MHI of \$84,907. The County has an estimated MHI of \$42,206, which is almost 50 percent of the State's MHI. Thus, both the County and the District qualify as disadvantaged.

3.2 GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Governing Body

Douglas City CSD is an independent special district served by a five-member Board of Directors that is elected to four-year staggered terms. Board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Main Station located at 100 Steiner Flat Road. Board members do not receive stipends for attending meetings.

Board agendas and notices are posted at the Main Station bulletin board at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act which require agendas to be posted at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public.

¹ Table P1, Decennial Census, 2020.

² Table DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates, ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2021.

³ Table P1 Race, Decennial Census, 2020.

⁴ Table S1903 Median Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2021.

Table 3-2: Board of Directors

Board Member	Title	Term
Arnold Whitridge	Director	12/4/2020 - 12/6/2024
James White	Director	12/2/2022 - 12/4/2026
Angela Blanchard	Vice Chair	12/2/2022 - 12/4/2026
Dianna Cross	Director	2/2/2022 - 12/4/2026
Terry Merritt	Chair	12/4/2020 - 12/6/2024

Staffing

Douglas City CSD does not currently employ full-time or part-time employees. The District has a Fire Chief, Board Secretary, and Bookkeeper that collectively oversee the majority of administrative responsibilities for the District. The Fire Chief receives a \$50 per month stipend for maintaining District facilities. The District currently has ten volunteers.

Accountability and Transparency

SB929 was signed into law on September 14, 2018, requiring all independent special districts to have and maintain a website meeting all the special district transparency requirements of State law including the availability of agendas, policies, and financial information by January 1, 2020. In order to increase ease of access, overall transparency, and come into compliance with SB929, the District is encouraged to develop and maintain a website. However, this is often an undue burden for rural districts with limited staffing and resources. SB929 allows for districts to file for hardship each year to be exempt from maintaining a website. It is recommended that the District annually adopt a resolution of hardship until financial and staff resources improve and allow for a website to be maintained without causing undue burden.

As mentioned previously, Board meeting agendas are posted at the Main Station at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in compliance with the Brown Act. Copies of meeting materials and minutes are available upon request. The District complies with all annual audit requirements and files annual Financial Transactions Reports with the State Controller's Office.

Table 3-3: SB929 Website Posting Requirements

Type of Requirement	Description of Requirement	Is the District in compliance?
District Contact Information	The bill does not state the specific contact information required. We recommend posting, at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical address Mailing address Phone number E-mail address 	No.
Most Recent Agenda	The most recent agenda must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting Linked on the homepage of the website, navigating directly to the current agenda Searchable, indexable, and platform-independent (simply put, post the agenda as a PDF) 	No.
Financial Transaction Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Financial Transaction report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	No.

Staff Compensation Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Staff Compensation report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	No.
Enterprise System Catalog	As required by SB272, the Enterprise System Catalog must be posted. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Current system vendor o Current System product o System's purpose o A description of categories or types of data o Department that is the prime data custodian o Frequency in which system data is collected and updated 	No.

3.3 SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Service Overview

Douglas City CSD owns and maintains two fire stations that serve Douglas City, Poker Bar, and residences along Reading Creek Road and Indian Creek Road in the southeast, B-Bar-K Road in the west, and Deerlick Springs Road to the south.

The District's main station is a three-bay apparatus building located at 100 Steiner Flat Road that currently houses a rescue, Type 1 engine, Type 3 engine, Type 6 engine, and water tender. Recent station improvements include a backup generator for emergency power supply, exterior painting of the building, new roll up door, two duct-free mini-splits for heating and cooling, and exterior cameras. The station is equipped with internet (repeater housed on a building), and has space for tables and a screen in one of the bay areas for meetings and trainings.

Fire Station #2 has two bays with two engines and is located at 411 Bridge Road. Fire Station #2 was established to serve homes along Poker Bar in accordance with the recommendations made in the Douglas City Community Plan of 1987. This station does not have an onsite water system. Recently, two 5,000-gallon water tanks were installed for water supply at this location. A duct-free mini-split for heating and cooling was also recently installed at the station.

Demand

Douglas City CSD responds to an average of 160-180 emergency calls per year. The District responded to approximately 157 calls for service in 2020, 178 calls in 2021, and 187 calls in 2022. Of the 2021 demand, one call was structure fire related, and 109 calls, or 61 percent, were medical related. Other calls, such as vehicle accidents, which comprised 68 calls or approximately 38 percent of total calls, may also involve the delivery of emergency medical services.

Personnel

Douglas City CSD has a chief, Assistant Chief, two captains, and six volunteer firefighters for a total roster of ten active members. All firefighters are CPR and First Responder certified. Of these personnel, one is trained as Fire Fighter 1 or above, ten are trained in Wildland (CICCS), and ten are trained in Hazardous Materials Operations.

District firefighters participate in a regular drill on Wednesday of each week, with two eight-hour basic skill drills per year for all personnel. This drill is a refresher on hazardous material and wildland training. Training schedules consist of general operations, safety, and medical. The drills are

planned and conducted by the department training officers. All volunteers carry radio/pagers for alarm notification. The Department has established Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Incident Management System (IMS) for fire department emergency operations.

Training Qualification	# of Members Trained
Fire Fighter I or above	1
Wildland (CICCS)	10
First Responder (EMR)	8
EMT	3
Paramedic	0
HazMat First Responder Ops.	10
Rope Rescue	10
Swift Water Rescue	0
Fire Investigation	0
Fire Instructor	0
Driver/Operator	10

Recruitment and Retention

Douglas City CSD is always looking for more recruits. Each year the District mails a letter to the community providing an update on the department, encouraging new volunteers, and requesting donations. The District is also working to establish a larger social media presence to provide important information to the community. The Douglas City Fire Belles are also very active in community fundraising efforts to ensure that the Douglas City volunteer firefighters are outfitted with the tools and gear that they need to perform their duties.

Infrastructure and Facilities

The District has two Type I engines, one Type II engine, one Type III engine, one Type VI engine, one Type I water tender, and one rescue unit as of 2024. The District has recently contracted with a company to complete annual testing of pumps, hoses, and ladders.

Recently the District was able to upgrade SCBAs (self-contained breathing apparatus) worn to provide breathable air in hazardous environments from a FEMA grant, applied for by the Junction City Fire Department. The District paid five percent of the cost for the equipment with funds from the District and Fire Belles. The equipment has to be inspected and recertified every four years. The Douglas City Fire Belles also funded \$1,000 for the purchase of three GPS units to aid in their response to wildland fires where the location can only be identified by GPS coordinates.



The District has also been successful in receiving grant funds for equipment purchases. Grants have been received from the Redding Rancheria, McConnell Foundation, Humboldt Area Foundation Disaster Response and Resilience Fund (\$10k), Trinity Trust's Community Response Grant Program (\$5k), CAL FIRE Volunteer Fire Capacity Grant (50/50 match), and others.

Table 3-4: Douglas City CSD Apparatus Information

Station	Station Address	Apparatus No.	Common Name	Year Built	Type	Pump (GPM)	Tank (Gal)
Fire Station #1	96024 Steiner Flat Road	2732	International	1987	Type III	750	500
		2731	Ford F550	2008	Type VI	120	400
		2751	Dodge	2012	Rescue	N/A	N/A
		2741	International	1999	Tender	450	3,000
		2712	Pierce	1998	Type I	1,250	500
Fire Station #2	411 Bridge Road	2721	GMC	1984	Type II	1,000	1,000
		2711	Pierce	1990	Type I	1,250	500

ISO Rating

The ISO is a rating commonly used by insurance companies to determine fire insurance rates, with 1 being the best rating which indicates the highest level of fire protection and the lowest is 10. Based on an ISO audit, Douglas City CSD has a 5/5X rating. In addition, Douglas City is a certified Firewise Community/USA, which can help provide discounts on homeowners insurance. For more information on Firewise Communities, see the Introduction section of this MSR.

Challenges and Needs

Like many small rural fire departments, Douglas City CSD is challenged with aging equipment and facilities, and member recruitment and retention. The District specifically noted that it needs a Type III engine to replace its aging Type III engine from 1987. The 4-wheel drive of a Type III engine is preferred to serve more isolated areas and off-road terrain.

Shared Services

Douglas City CSD is available for mutual aid upon request. The District has automatic aid agreements with Weaverville FPD and Lewiston CSD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls.

The District and CAL FIRE enact annual agreements for cooperative wildland fire management activities. As part of these agreements, both entities engage in mutual aid on District lands that are intermingled or adjacent to CAL FIRE managed lands. Additionally, the District receives seasonal reimbursements for in-unit wildland fire assignments (via assistance by hire and equipment rental). Douglas City typically provides staff resources and supplies a water tender and one or more engines to accompany.

Douglas City CSD is also partnering with the Watershed Research and Training Center to provide staffing for fuels reduction projects that are planned for the Browns Creek watershed (B Bar K, Jordan Road, Deerlick Springs areas). The Watershed Center provides reimbursement for staffing and equipment rental (engine).

Other Service Providers

Water

The Weaverville Community Services District provides water services to Weaverville and Douglas City. Some households depend on individual water wells.

Wastewater

There are no service providers providing wastewater service to Douglas City; instead, the community relies primarily on individual septic tanks for sewage disposal.

Solid Waste Disposal

Douglas City has two nearby transfer stations available for solid waste disposal: Weaverville Transfer Station at 173 Tom Bell Road, and Hayfork Transfer Station at 372 Dump Road.

Electricity and Natural Gas

Trinity Public Utilities District (TPUD) manages and distributes power throughout most of Trinity County. TPUD purchases its power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) pursuant to a first preference right to power produced by the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project⁵. TPUD does not operate any generation assets but instead provides sub-transmission and electricity distribution to approximately 12,000 customers in a 2,200 square mile area in Trinity County. There are nine substations which are both owned and operated by both WAPA (five served from this transmission system) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) (four served from this transmission system). Trinity County has eight hydroelectric facilities that are either operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation or privately owned. These facilities are part of California's Central Valley Project and generate hydroelectric power. Energy produced by these facilities is managed by WAPA and transmitted to customers by TPUD.

PG&E is the only designated natural gas provider in the County. However, despite this designation, PG&E does not offer natural gas service to most areas within the County, leaving residents to rely on propane for natural gas needs.

Telecommunications

Verizon, AT&T, and other major service providers provide wireless telephone and broadband internet services to Douglas City. Wired telephone and cable internet service is offered by Velocity Communications. Velocity Communications offers services to over 700 square miles across Trinity, Shasta, and Humboldt Counties, including the Trinity County communities of Weaverville, Hayfork, Trinity Center, Lewiston, Junction City, and Douglas City. Satellite internet service is provided by HughesNet, Space Exploration Technology's (SpaceX) Starlink, and Viasat.

Emergency Medical Services

Trinity Life Support Community Services District (TLSCSD) operates two ambulances, one stationed in Hayfork and one in Weaverville, with a 2,100 square mile response area. Annually, the TLSCSD receives an average of 1,500 calls. The TLSCSD provides training in the areas of emergency preparedness, emergency medical technician, emergency medical responder, and public safety first aid while also offering American Heart Association community and professional level courses.

TLSCSD was formed in 2021 after a successful special election, which included voter approval of a special tax at a flat rate of \$45 per year for each parcel developed with residential or commercial uses, which generates approximately \$258,000 per year. In June 2022, TLSCSD entered into a contract with Mountain Communities Healthcare District (MCHD) for

⁵ Trinity River Division Act of 1955

administrative, professional, and technical staffing support. The managing support agreement allows TLSCSD to maintain all their real property assets including ambulances and collectible taxes, while MCHD provides all ambulance services staffing, including administrative support (HR, billing, finance, administration, and other resources) to provide better economies of scale and reimbursement through MCHD's Critical Access Hospital designation.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is provided by the Trinity County Sheriff's Office. The California Highway Patrol is responsible for traffic control for State Route 299 and State Route 3, both of which pass through the District.

Parks and Recreation

The Weaverville/Douglas City Parks and Recreation District (Parks and Recreation District) serves the areas of Weaverville and Douglas City. The Parks and Recreation District maintains Lee Fong Park and Lowden Park Pool, administers adult and youth programs, and manages clinics and camps associated with those programs. Programs and clinics include sports such as basketball, volleyball, flag football, and soccer and focus on developing fundamental skills.

Resource Conservation

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) is a countywide agency that protects and manages the natural resources of Trinity County through the provision of technical assistance and the implementation of projects and programs. The TCRCD also engages in educational programs and works to increase education on conservation throughout the County. The TCRCD engages in numerous wildfire mitigation projects including the implementation of the Trinity County Wildfire Mitigation Project and a myriad of fuels reductions and defensible space projects. For over 20 years, the TCRCD has engaged in fuels reductions projects that have resulted in the thinning of thousands of acres throughout the County's forests. Additionally, the TCRCD is in close collaboration with the Trinity County Fire Safe Council (TCFSC) in the development of the Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and the 2010, 2015, and 2020 updates to the Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

3.4 FINANCING

Financial Overview

The Douglas City CSD Board of Directors is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal accounting control. The District's Bookkeeper presents monthly financial reports to the Board for review and approval. The basic financial statements of the District are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Government Code Section 61110 requires a preliminary budget to be adopted on or before July 1 of each year and a final budget to be adopted on or before September 1 of each year. A copy of the final budget must be forwarded to the County Auditor-Controller. Douglas City CSD complies with this requirement.

Revenues and Expenditures

Douglas City CSD is primarily supported through property taxes (also known as "ad valorem" taxes) as well as grants, donations, and interest revenue. Total revenue averaged approximately \$93,000 per year over the last three years, with higher-than-average income in fiscal year 2022-23 due to grants received. Donations, including funding from the Douglas City Fire Belles, account for 45-50 percent of total revenue. Primary operating expenses cover equipment

maintenance and acquisition, supplies, fuel, insurance, and firefighting payroll. The following table provides annual average operating revenue and expenditures for the last three years.

Table 3-5: Douglas City CSD Adopted Budgets (FY 21-24)

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Revenues			
Property Tax	\$4,000.00	\$4,100.00	\$4,350.00
Workman's Comp Contribution	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00
Charges for Services	\$15,000.00	\$19,000.00	\$15,000.00
Donations	\$27,200.00	\$29,000.00	\$25,500.00
Fire Belles	\$16,100.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Grants	\$0.00	\$31,400.00	\$10,000.00
Encumbrances	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
Misc Income (burn permits, hall rental)	\$400.00	\$1,000.00	\$5,100.00
Interest	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$2,500.00
Total Revenues	\$64,400.00	\$136,200.00	\$79,100.00
Expenditures			
Firefighting (payroll)	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
Supplies (office, firefighting, misc)	\$19,300.00	\$6,600.00	\$7,000.00
Maintenance (buildings/equipment)	\$4,000.00	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Fuel	\$3,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Insurance	\$20,600.00	\$22,600.00	\$24,700.00
Utilities	\$4,000.00	\$4,400.00	\$5,700.00
Promotion	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00	\$1,500.00
Training	\$300.00	\$900.00	\$1,000.00
Misc Expenses	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Audit/Financial Transaction Reports	\$5,600.00	\$600.00	\$5,600.00
Audit Reserve Fund	(\$2,500.00)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Contingency	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$700.00
Capital Items	\$0.00	\$31,400.00	\$0.00
Encumbrances	\$0.00	\$35,000.00	\$0.00
Total Expenditures	\$64,400.00	\$136,200.00	\$79,100.00

State Controller's Office

The District has submitted annual financial transactions reports to the State Controller's Office consistently since 2003 in accordance with Government Code Section 61118(b). According to the State Controller's Office, the District had an overall revenue of \$260,364 and expenditures of \$158,096 in FY 2021-2022. This is a net gain of \$102,268, which is an increase in financial standing from FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021 which had net losses of \$12,803 and \$3,352, respectively. A summary of the past six fiscal years is below (**Table 3-6**).

Out of the years reviewed, the largest source of revenue for the District was from property owners' contributions or other intergovernmental sources depending on the year. Expenses consisted of the following: services and supplies; employee benefits; salaries and wages; and capital outlay. Typically, either services and supplies or salaries and wages were the largest contributing factors to the overall expenditures.

Table 3-6: State Controller's Office Summary

	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-2022
Revenues	\$34,937	\$105,377	\$181,223	\$54,463	\$50,208	\$260,364
Expenditures	\$42,362	\$102,756	\$133,922	\$67,266	\$53,560	\$158,096
Net Gain/(Loss)	(\$7,425)	\$2,621	\$47,301	(\$12,803)	(\$3,352)	\$102,268

Audits

The District prepares biennial audits. The most current audit covers the years ending June 2022 and June 2023 (**Table 3-7**). Over these fiscal years, the District saw an overall increase in its net position. Its net position increased by \$95,334 (\$202,925 to \$298,259) during FY2021-22, primarily due to an increase in firefighting revenue, and by \$114,767 (\$298,259 to \$413,026) during FY2022-23, largely attributed to grant income increases and lower expenditures.

Table 3-7: FY2021-22 and FY2022-23 Audit Summary

	FY2021-2022	FY2022-23
Revenues		
Annual Letter Donations	\$28,615.00	\$23,772.00
Other Donations/Fire Belles	\$37,501.00	\$10,242.00
Firefighting Revenue	\$197,747.00	\$14,436.00
Property Taxes	\$4,240.00	\$4,397.00
Interest	\$54.00	\$3,173.00
Grant Income	\$500.00	\$153,088.00
Other Revenue	\$3,015.00	\$6,272.00
Total Revenues	\$261,672.00	\$215,380.00
Expenditures		
Salaries	\$80,185.00	\$5,473.00
Payroll Taxes	\$8,207.00	\$793.00
Insurance – Compensation	\$3,875.00	\$14,381.00
Insurance – General	\$10,641.00	\$11,045.00
Maintenance – Equipment	\$13,391.00	\$6,697.00
Maintenance – Building and Improvements	\$6,812.00	\$1,088.00
Office Expenses	\$683.00	\$1,343.00
Audit and Fiscal Services	\$5,450.00	\$850.00
Professional Services	\$1,355.00	\$885.00
Education and Training	\$841.00	\$1,047.00
Tools and Supplies	\$120.00	\$717.00
Firefighting Equipment	\$2,458.00	\$7,781.00

Transportation and travel	\$5,256.00	\$4,972.00
Utilities	\$5,669.00	\$7,133.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$5,922.00	\$3,024.00
Depreciation	\$23,463.00	\$33,384.00
Total Expenditures	\$166,338.00	\$100,613.00
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$95,334.00	\$114,767.00

Financing Constraints and Opportunities

Douglas City CSD receives a small percentage of ad valorem property taxes and relies on community donations, grants, and seasonal reimbursements from CAL FIRE (via strike team response, assistance by hire, or equipment rental) to fund services. The District does not have a special tax or assessment in place, which could be levied within the district boundary to effectively manage recurring costs, such as those associated with insurance, utilities, fuel, and equipment. In order to increase revenue to a sustainable level, the District could consider the following actions:

- Annex into the District any out of district service areas which receive goodwill services.
- Adopt an ordinance and fee schedule which charges out-of-district residents for services provided; especially for response to traffic accidents on Highway 299 or Highway 3.
- Pursue a special tax or assessment which would require approval from registered voters or property owners within the District boundaries.

3.5 MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW DETERMINATIONS

As set forth in Section 56430(a) of the CKH Act- In order to prepare and to update the SOI in accordance with Section 56425, the commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission. The commission shall include in the area designated for a service review the county, the region, the sub-region, or any other geographic area as is appropriate for an analysis of the service or services to be reviewed, and shall prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

(1) Growth and population projections for the affected area

- a) The District is estimated to serve approximately 868 residents. Its response area extends beyond its boundaries to the southeast which is sparsely populated. It is unlikely this that this area has a substantial population.
- b) It is likely that the District's population will decline by 0.4 percent per year, following a similar population decline to that of the County.

(2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

- a) The community of Douglas City is qualified as disadvantaged with a 2021 estimated median household income of \$48,346 or 57 percent of the 2021 State MHI.
- b) Should territory in the surrounding area be evaluated for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities in the area will be considered further.

(3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies

- a) The District's facilities and infrastructure are sufficient to provide services to its residents, but upgrades and updates would increase the quality of service provided. Much of the District's apparatus fleet is aging and will need to be updated in the near future. Volunteer recruitment and retention are significant challenges to the effective provision of fire suppression and management services.
- b) The District has an ISO rating of 5/5X indicating a sufficient level of fire protection service.

(4) Financing ability of agencies to provide services

- a) The District reports that the amount of revenue currently collected constrains the District's ability to provide a higher quality of service to the community.
- b) To increase revenue, Douglas City CSD could 1) annex out-of-district service areas receiving goodwill services, 2) adopt an ordinance and fee schedule charging out-of-district residents for provided services, or 3) pursue implementation of a special tax or assessment to be levied within District boundaries.

(5) Status of and, opportunities for, shared facilities

- a) Douglas City CSD is an active member of fire service provision within Trinity County and is available for mutual aid upon request. The District has automatic aid agreements with Weaverville FPD and Lewiston CSD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls.

- b) The District has annual agreements for cooperative wildland fire management activities with CAL FIRE to engage in mutual aid on District lands adjacent or intermingled to CAL FIRE lands. The District receives seasonal reimbursement for in-unit wildland fire assignments via assistance by hire and equipment rental.
- c) The Watershed Research and Training Center receives staffing and equipment rental from Douglas City CSD for fuels reduction projects in the Browns Creek watershed and in return, provides reimbursement.

(6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

- a) Douglas City CSD does not have a website, but does maintain a Facebook page where it posts information about District activities. The District is encouraged to adopt an annual resolution of hardship and to begin posting District agendas, minutes, and related documents to its Facebook page.
- b) The District is independent and governed by a five-member Board of Directors. Board meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at the Main Station located at 100 Steiner Flat Road. Board agendas and notices are posted at the Main Station bulletin board at least 72 hours in advance.
- c) Douglas City CSD supports the mutual social and economic interests of Douglas City and Lewiston by sustaining community-based fire protection services in the surrounding area.

(7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery

- a) It is recommended that Douglas City CSD's sphere of influence be expanded to reflect the District's current emergency response area as it reflects the District's area of responsibility more accurately than the current sphere.

3.6 SPHERE OF INFLUENCE DETERMINATIONS

In order to carry out its purposes and responsibilities for planning and shaping the logical and orderly development of local governmental agencies to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of the county and its communities, the commission shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local agency, as defined by G.C. Section 56036, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere. In determining the sphere of influence of each local agency, the commission shall consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to the following:

(1) Present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands

- a) Land uses within the District are mostly designated Resource with limited Rural Residential and Agricultural designated lands. Lands surrounding the District are almost entirely Resource with a small portion of Rural Residential. Based on the presence of these low-density resource uses, it is unlikely that more intense development will occur in the area.

(2) Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area

- a) The existing residents in the area served by Douglas City CSD require, and in the future will continue to require, fire protection and suppression services.

(3) Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide

- a) The District recently made station improvements to its main and secondary fire stations and these facilities have sufficient capacity to provide services.
- b) The District provides sufficient public services to the area, but could improve the quality of its service provision with improvements to its apparatus fleet, volunteer recruitment and retention, and finances. The District actively pursues grant and funding opportunities to support its aging fleet and operations but could explore other avenues to increase revenue, such as a special tax or assessment.

(4) Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency

- a) Douglas City is bordered by Trinity County's three largest communities: Weaverville, Lewiston, and Hayfork. Weaverville is located approximately seven miles north of Douglas City and is the main hub of services in Trinity County with a hospital, Department of Motor Vehicles, numerous restaurants and lodging options, courthouse, USPS, Office of Education, schools, and other services.
- b) Lewiston is approximately 11 miles northeast of Douglas City and is one of the County's most populated communities. This area is in close proximity to Lewiston Lake and offers many recreational opportunities including camping, hiking, and fishing. Lewiston provides services of lodging, a library, a veterinary clinic, and a few select restaurants.
- c) Approximately 24 miles southwest of Douglas City is Hayfork. Hayfork is a major employment center in the County and largely consists of the agriculture and forestry industries. This community has the County Fairgrounds, some hardware and automobile shops, a library, a community center and pool, schools, a grocery store, and a small airport.

- (5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere.
- a) The community of Douglas City is a DUC that requires, and will continue to require, structural fire protection along with other fire protection and emergency services. The proposed sphere will update the District's SOI to match its current emergency response area.

4.0 JUNCTION CITY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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4.1 DISTRICT BACKGROUND

Agency Overview

The Junction City Fire Protection District (herein referred to as “Junction City FPD” or “District”) provides fire services to the community of Junction City, located in eastern Trinity County off of State Route 299. Junction City is nestled along a bank of the Trinity River and is a small commercial and residential center, providing access to outdoor recreation opportunities and the Weaverville community.

Table 4-1: Junction City FPD Contact Information

Primary Contact	Chief Justin Kerwick
E-mail Address	justwen@att.net
Physical/Mailing Address	71 Dutch Creek Road, Junction City, CA 96048
Phone Number	(530) 739-9900
Website	N/A

District Principal Act

The District’s principal act is the Fire Protection District Law of 1987 (California Health and Safety Code §13800-13970). The principal act dates to 1921 and was comprehensively updated by the California Legislature in 1947, 1961 and most recently in 1987. It empowers FPDs to provide a moderate range of municipal service functions tied to fire services including fire protection, rescue, emergency medical, hazardous material emergency response, ambulance, and other services related to life and property protection.

Junction City FPD is currently authorized to provide fire protection and rescue services. Other services authorized in the District’s principal act but not identified in the formation resolution or by documented activation of powers are “latent,” meaning that the District could exercise these services in the future if LAFCo permitted the authorization, per Government Code §56824.10-14. At this time, the only latent power available for activation is the provision of ambulance services. The District currently has no interest in expanding its provided services to include this latent power.

Formation and Development

Junction City FPD was formed as an independent special district on November 1, 1982, under the Fire Protection District law for the primary purpose of providing structural fire protection services to the community. The formation was approved by LAFCo on August 2, 1982, by Resolution No. 68-82. Based on communication with County staff, it appears no election was held for the formation of the District and Board minutes do not reference receiving the number of petitions necessary to waive the election. LAFCo staff will be working to source more information on the District’s formation in the future to explore this potential discrepancy.

The Junction City Community Plan (Plan) of 1987 supported the reorganization of the Junction City FPD into a multipurpose district such as a Community Services District or Public Utilities District to offer services other than fire protection to the area. It does not appear that this is a sentiment still held by the community.

Boundary and Sphere of Influence

The District’s boundary encompasses approximately 90,762 acres or 142 square miles (**Figure 4-1**). Junction City FPD is unique in that its jurisdictional boundary is quite large and contains territory

the District does not provide services to currently, and reasonably will not be able to provide services to in the future. Within the District's boundary there are 816 parcels; a majority of the parcels are undeveloped, and the remaining parcels are developed with rural residences. The nearest major roadway is State Route 299 which runs east to west through Junction City. Access to the District is provided by Wintu Pass Road, Red Hill Road, Lake Road, Hocker Meadow Road, and Dutch Creek Road. The majority of the roads throughout the main community are paved, with dirt and gravel roads in the more rural areas of the District boundaries.

Currently, the District's adopted sphere of influence is not coterminous with its jurisdictional boundary and is much smaller. The District's sphere is proposed to be expanded to match that of its emergency response area, with minor edits made to follow parcel boundaries, in order to better reflect the responsibilities of the District (**Figure 4-2**).

Land Use and Zoning

Land uses in the Junction City FPD are subject to the Trinity County General Plan (1988) and Zoning Regulations (Trinity County Code Title 17). The County is in the process of updating its General Plan, with an anticipated completion in August 2025. Upon completion and adoption of the Trinity County General Plan 2050, land uses will be subject to this plan instead of the 1988 version. The Junction City area is subject to the Junction City Community Plan (1987), which serves to supplement the Trinity County General Plan.

Land use in the area served by the District is overwhelmingly resource, with smaller sections of open space, rural residential – low density, and multiple other designations (**Figure 4-3**). The District is bordered almost entirely by resource designated lands, with a small amount of agricultural, rural residential – low density, village, and open space.

Figure 4-1: Junction City FPD Boundary and SOI Map

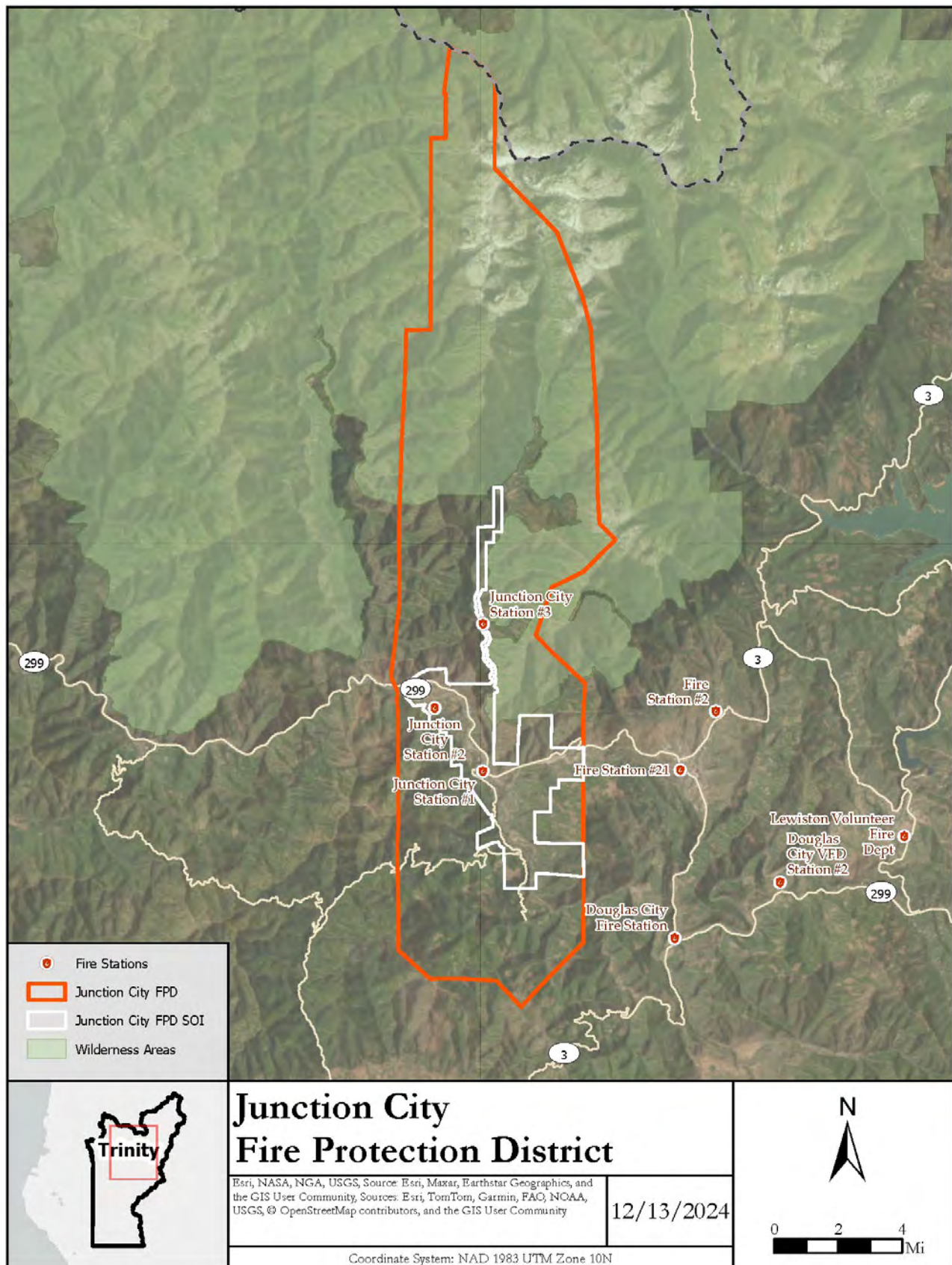


Figure 4-2: Junction City FPD Proposed SOI Map

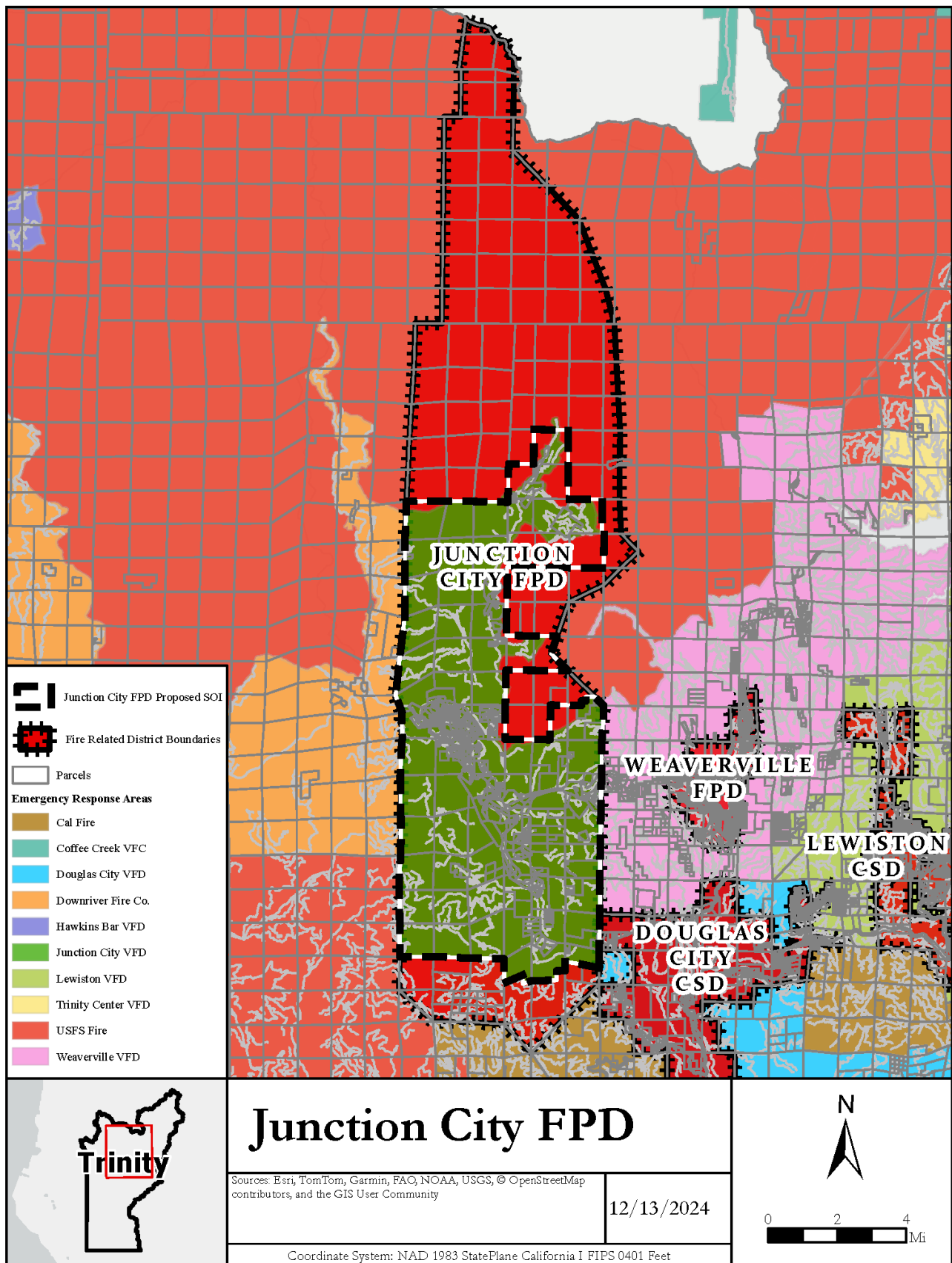
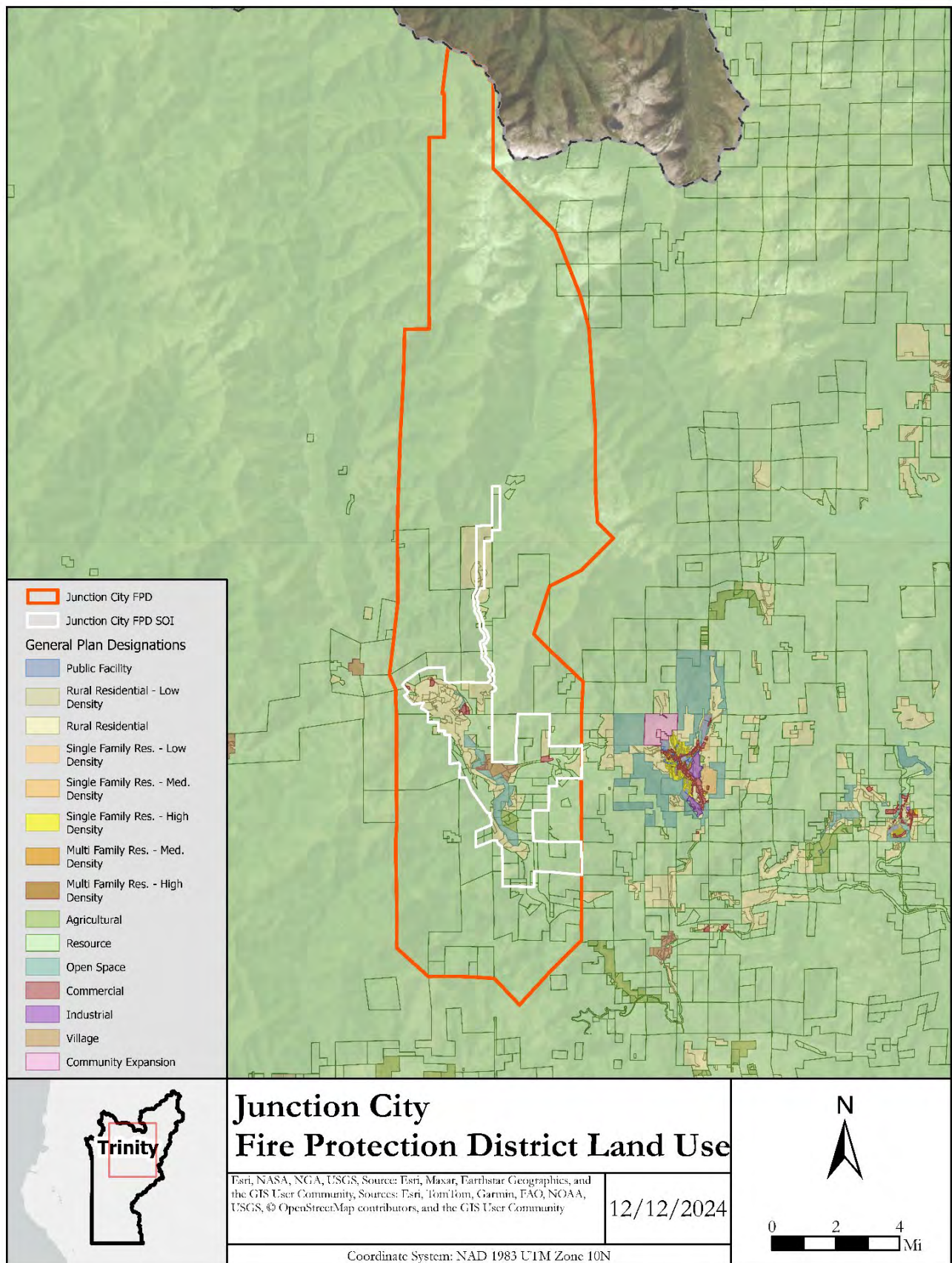


Figure 4-3: Junction City FPD Land Use Map



Growth and Population

The population of Junction City CDP is approximately 658 according to the 2020 decennial Census data. American Community Survey (ACS) Demographic and Housing Estimates approximate the District’s 2021 population to be 1,180. However, the ACS 5-Year data estimates have a large margin of error and are known to be less accurate than decennial Census data. The Junction City CDP boundaries exclude a large portion of land located in the north of the District’s boundary; however, this portion of land appears to be predominantly undeveloped with a minimal number of inhabitants. It’s likely that this land does not significantly contribute to the District’s population and as such, the Junction City CDP population estimate of 658 should closely reflect that of the District. Personal communication with the District supports a similar population estimate, with the Fire Chief estimating a regular population of 700 to 800 and a seasonal population of approximately 1,000 to 2,000.

Trinity County’s population was estimated to be 16,112 as of the 2020 decennial Census. According to the California Department of Transportation (DOT), the County’s population is expected to decline by 0.4 percent per year from 2021-2026.

Based on the estimated population and historical growth for the area, it is unlikely that the District will grow substantially over the next five to ten years. It is likely that the District’s population will follow a similar trend to that of the County, declining by 0.4 percent each year.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

The 2021 estimated median household income (MHI) of the District is \$55,594¹ according to the ACS 5-Year Estimates, which is approximately 65 percent of the estimated 2021 California MHI of \$84,907. The County has an estimated MHI of \$42,206, which is almost 50 percent of the State’s MHI. Thus, both the County and the District qualify as disadvantaged.

4.2 GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Governing Body

The District is an independent small district served by a five-member Board of Directors that is elected to four-year staggered terms. Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Fire Hall (located at 71 Dutch Creek Road, Junction City, CA 96048).

Board agendas and notices are posted at the Fire Hall at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings. Meetings of the Board of Directors are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act which require agendas to be posted at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public.

Table 4-2: Board of Directors

Board Member	Title	Term
Geoffrey Beebe	President	Unknown
Cindy Merwin	Secretary	Unknown
Steve Ryberg	Treasurer	Unknown
Denice Meissner	Member	Unknown
Charlene Griffith	Member	Unknown

¹ Table S1903 Median Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2021.

Staffing

The District does not currently employ full-time or part-time employees. Junction City FPD has a Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Board Secretary, and Board Treasurer that oversee the majority of administrative responsibilities for the District. No members receive stipends. The District currently has 12 volunteers.

Accountability and Transparency

SB929 was signed into law on September 14, 2018, requiring all independent special districts to have and maintain a website meeting all the special district transparency requirements of State law including the availability of agendas, policies, and financial information by January 1, 2020. Junction City FPD does not maintain a website and thus does not currently comply with SB929 requirements. The District does maintain a Facebook page where it effectively reaches community members.

Table 4-3: SB929 Website Posting Requirements

Type of Requirement	Description of Requirement	Is the District in compliance?
District Contact Information	The bill does not state the specific contact information required. We recommend posting, at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical address Mailing address Phone number E-mail address 	No.
Most Recent Agenda	The most recent agenda must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting Linked on the homepage of the website, navigating directly to the current agenda Searchable, indexable, and platform-independent (simply put, post the agenda as a PDF) 	No.
Financial Transaction Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Financial Transaction report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	No.
Staff Compensation Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Staff Compensation report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	No.
Enterprise System Catalog	As required by SB272, the Enterprise System Catalog must be posted. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current system vendor Current System product System's purpose A description of categories or types of data Department that is the prime data custodian Frequency in which system data is collected and updated 	No.

In order to increase ease of access, overall transparency, and come into compliance with SB929, the District is encouraged to develop and maintain a website. However, this is often an undue burden for rural districts with limited staffing and resources. SB929 allows for districts to file for hardship each year to be exempt from maintaining a website. It is recommended that the District annually adopt a resolution of hardship until financial and staff resources improve and allow for a website to be maintained.

Board meeting agenda packets and meeting minutes are posted at the Fire Hall at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in compliance with the Brown Act.

4.3 SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Service Overview

Junction City FPD maintains three fire stations that serve Junction City and surrounding areas along State Route 299 (SR-299). Fire Station #1 is the District's primary station and is in good condition. It is a two-story building with a metal roof. In recent years, Station #1 has been repainted. Station #1 has an apparatus bay that stores three apparatus and cost \$150,000 to be constructed.

The other two fire stations maintained by the District are outlying and provide support for fire responses when appropriate. Each of the other two stations house an active Type III fire engine.

Demand

Junction City FPD responds to an average of 70 calls for service per year (**Table 4-4**). The majority of calls are medical related, averaging approximately 50 percent of the District's total responses. Other calls for service include vehicle accidents, lift assistance smoke checks, false alarms, and other hazardous conditions that don't involve fire.

Table 4-4: Junction City FPD Call Demand

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Structure Fire	4	8	2	3	4
Vehicle Fire	3	1	1	8	7
Vegetation Fire	6	6	8	5	Unknown
Medical	49	30	73	30	23
Other	12	16	19	14	16
TOTAL CALLS	74	61	103	60	50

Personnel

The District is led by a Chief and Assistant Chief. There is one captain who is responsible for the District's single battalion. The District currently has 12 volunteers on its roster, with two being reserve firefighters.

Junction City FPD volunteers must participate in four, three-hour long trainings per month for a total of 48 trainings, or 144 training hours, per year. Training qualifications held by District volunteers are detailed below (**Table 4-5**).

Table 4-5: Junction City FPD Volunteer Training Qualifications

Training Qualification	# of Members Trained	# of Members Qualified
Fire Fighter I or above (Structure)	10	3
Wildland (CICCS)	10	10
First Responder (EMR)	0	0
EMT	5	4
Paramedic	0	0
HazMat First Responder Ops.	10	0
Rope Rescue	2	2
Swift Water Rescue	2	2
Fire Investigation	1	1
Fire Instruction	2	2
Driver/Operator	8	7

Infrastructure and Facilities

The Junction City Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) has three fire stations: Fire Station #1, located at 71 Dutch Creek Road; Fire Station #2, located on Red Hill Road in Northern Junction City; and Fire Station #3, located at 5201 Canyon Creek Road. Fire Station #1 is the main station for the District and is the primary station responding to calls for service.

The District has two Type I engines, three Type III engines, one Type I water tender, and one Type II water tender (Table 4-6).

Table 4-6: Junction City FPD Apparatus Information

Station	Station Address	Apparatus	Call Number	Year	Type	Pump (GPM)	Tank (Gal)
Fire Station #1	71 Dutch Creek Road	Fire Engine	2511	1983	I	1,250	750
		Fire Engine	2532	2003	III	500	500
		Tender	2541	1972	I	750	2,500
		Tender	2540	2003	II	500	1,500
		Fire Engine	2512	1972	I	1,250	750 Reserve
Fire Station #2	On Red Hill Road	Fire Engine	2533	2001	III	500	500
Fire Station #3	5201 Canyon Creek Road	Fire Engine	2531	1999	III	500	500

ISO Rating

The ISO is a rating commonly used by insurance companies to determine fire insurance rates, with 1 being the best rating which indicates the highest level of fire protection and the lowest is 10. Junction City FPD had an ISO rating of 9 in 1985 and has indicated a current ISO rating of 10. Junction City is a certified Firewise Community/USA, which can help provide discounts on homeowners insurance. For more information on Firewise Communities, see the Introduction section of this MSR.

Challenges and Needs

Like many small rural fire departments, Junction City FPD is challenged with aging equipment and facilities, limited funding, and member recruitment and retention. The District does not receive enough revenue to comfortably maintain apparatus, cover the costs of insurance and fuel, and provide quality fire protection services. The District is reliant on assistance by hire and donations to offset operating costs.

Volunteer recruitment and retention are significant challenges for the District. The community of Junction City is aging, minimizing the pool of potential volunteers. Many volunteers do not qualify for placement on a strike team due to the necessary qualifications, which has further decreased the number of District volunteers. The District advertises volunteer opportunities in the Trinity Journal and through connections with the community.

Accomplishments and Successes

In recent years, the District has repaired the sewer tank at Fire Station #1, which had previously been out of service for 10 to 12 years. Additionally, Junction City FPD has secured two Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants that have been instrumental in upgrading District equipment and apparatus. One grant for \$1,000,000 was applied for by Junction City FPD to fund the upgrade of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs) which are worn to provide breathable air in hazardous environments. This grant was a partnership with Douglas City CSD who paid five percent of the cost for the equipment. The other FEMA grant, for \$500,000, funded improvements to the District's water tender.

Goals

The District has two main goals for the coming years: to increase the number of volunteers and obtain a new building to upgrade one of the current fire stations.

Shared Services

Junction City FPD is available for mutual aid upon request. The District regularly provides services along the Trinity River including the Helena and Del Loma areas. The District has automatic aid agreements with Weaverville FPD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls.

Other Service Providers

Water

Junction City does not have water services provided by a municipal water service provider. Households must depend on individual water wells for water service.

Wastewater

There are no service providers providing municipal wastewater collection service in Junction City; instead, the community relies primarily on individual septic tanks and leach fields to fulfill wastewater collection needs.

Solid Waste Disposal

Junction City has one transfer station available for solid waste disposal: Junction City Transfer Site, located at 52414 Junction City Dump Rd, permits general household waste, green waste brush four inches in diameter or smaller, home-generated sharps, and used motor oil/drained oils.

Electricity and Natural Gas

Trinity Public Utilities District (TPUD) manages and distributes power throughout most of Trinity County. TPUD purchases its power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) pursuant to a first preference right to power produced by the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project². TPUD does not operate any generation assets but instead provides sub-transmission and electricity distribution to approximately 12,000 customers in a 2,200 square mile area in Trinity County. There are nine substations which are both owned and operated by both WAPA (five served from this transmission system) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) (four served from this transmission system). Trinity County has eight hydroelectric facilities that are either operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation or privately owned. These facilities are part of California's Central Valley Project and generate hydroelectric power. Energy produced by these facilities is managed by WAPA and transmitted to customers by TPUD.

PG&E is the only designated natural gas provider in the County. However, despite this designation, PG&E does not offer natural gas service to most areas within the County, leaving residents to rely on propane for natural gas needs.

Telecommunications

Verizon, AT&T, and other major service providers provide wireless telephone and broadband internet services to Junction City. Wired telephone and cable internet service is offered by Velocity Communications. Velocity Communications offers services to over 700 square miles across Trinity, Shasta, and Humboldt Counties, including the Trinity County communities of Weaverville, Hayfork, Trinity Center, Lewiston, Douglas City, and Junction City. Satellite internet service is provided by HughesNet, Space Exploration Technology's (SpaceX) Starlink, and Viasat.

Emergency Medical Services

Trinity Life Support Community Services District (TLSCSD) and Trinity Center Volunteer Fire Department operate the Advanced Trinity Life Support Ambulance when staffing is available; if there is inadequate paramedic staffing, the ambulance offers only Basic Life Support (BLS) services. The TLSCSD has two ambulances, one stationed in Hayfork and one in Weaverville, with a 2,100 square mile response area. Annually, the TLSCSD receives an average of 1,500 calls. The TLSCSD provides training in the areas of emergency preparedness, emergency medical technician, emergency medical responder, and public safety first aid while also offering American Heart Association community and professional level courses.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is provided by the Trinity County Sheriff's Office. The California Highway Patrol is responsible for traffic control for State Route 299 and State Route 3, both of which pass through the District.

Parks and Recreation

Junction City Park is a County park managed by the North Fork Grange, a community organization based in Junction City. This park is located off of Highway 299 between the Junction City Gun Range and Transfer Site. Amenities offered by the park include a sports field,

² Trinity River Division Act of 1955

trap shoot and shooting range, disc golf, rodeo arena, open fields, picnic grounds, and an ornamental fire truck. Private gatherings are also available in the park.

Resource Conservation

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) is a countywide agency that protects and manages the natural resources of Trinity County through the provision of technical assistance and the implementation of projects and programs. The TCRCD also engages in educational programs and works to increase education on conservation throughout the County. The TCRCD engages in numerous wildfire mitigation projects including the implementation of the Trinity County Wildfire Mitigation Project and a myriad of fuels reductions and defensible space projects. For over 20 years, the TCRCD has engaged in fuels reductions projects that have resulted in the thinning of thousands of acres throughout the County's forests. Additionally, the TCRCD is in close collaboration with the Trinity County Fire Safe Council (TCFSC) in the development of the Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and the 2010, 2015, and 2020 updates to the Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

4.4 FINANCING

Financial Overview

The Junction City FPD Board of Directors is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal accounting control. The basic financial statements of the District are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Government Code Section 61110 requires a preliminary budget to be adopted on or before July 1 of each year and a final budget to be adopted on or before September 1 of each year. A copy of the final budget must be forwarded to the County Auditor-Controller.

Revenues and Expenditures

Junction City FPD is primarily supported through government and fire income as well as grants, donations, and interest revenue. Total revenue averaged approximately \$174,366 per year over the last three years, with higher-than-average income in FY2021-22 due to increased government and fire income. Donations, including fundraising from the Junction City Fire Jills, account for approximately 20 percent of total revenue in years with average government and fire income.

Primary operating expenses cover insurance, special projects, and maintenance. Special projects vary depending on the year but have included the purchasing of apparatus and equipment; improvements to security, drainage and rain catchment systems, and radios; and station upgrades such as repainting. The following table provides annual average operating revenue and expenditures for the last three fiscal years.

Table 4-7: Junction City FPD Financial Summary

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Revenues			
Donations	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Interest	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$12,000.00
Fundraising	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Property Rental	\$50,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Agency (Government/Fire Income)	\$250,000.00	\$42,525.00	\$38,500.00
Grants	\$25,000.00	\$17,675.00	\$17,000.00
Property Tax	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00
Total Revenues	\$348,000.00	\$84,200.00	\$90,900.00
Expenditures			
Professional Fees	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$5,000.00
Office Supplies	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Utilities	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00
Building Maintenance	\$25,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$2,000.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$15,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$7,000.00
Fuel	\$10,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$4,000.00
PPE	\$20,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,000.00
Fire/Medical Equipment	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00
Insurance (Workers Compensation, Vehicle, FASIS)	\$24,000.00	\$21,000.00	\$18,000.00
Radio Maintenance	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Training	\$10,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
FF Reimbursement	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Projects	\$57,000.00	\$31,000.00	\$35,400.00
Total Expenditures	\$326,500.00	\$84,200.00	\$90,900.00

State Controller's Office

The District has submitted overall revenues and expenditures to the State Controller's Office consistently since 2003. According to the State Controller's Office, the District had an overall revenue of \$815,127 and expenditures of \$446,504 in FY 2021-2022. This is a net gain of \$368,623, which is a considerable increase compared to previous years. The District operated at a net loss for four of the past six fiscal years reviewed (Table 4-8).

Table 4-8: State Controller's Office Summary

	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-2022
Revenues	\$23,791	\$122,468	\$82,608	\$33,302	\$210,610	\$815,127
Expenditures	\$61,757	\$131,414	\$84,293	\$43,401	\$135,696	\$446,504
Net Gain/(Loss)	(\$37,966)	(\$8,946)	(\$1,685)	(\$10,099)	\$74,914	\$368,623

Audits

The District prepares biennial audits. The most current audit covers the years ending June 2022 and June 2023 (**Table 4-9**). Over these fiscal years, the District saw an overall increase in its net position. Its net position increased by \$354,198 (\$329,648 to \$683,846) during FY2021-22 and by \$30,755 (\$683,846 to \$714,601) during FY2022-23, both due to program revenues exceeding expenditures.

Table 4-9: FY2021-22 and FY2022-23 Audit Summary

	FY2021-2022	FY2022-23
Revenues		
Taxes	\$0.00	\$4,855.00
Current Services	\$709,460.00	\$10,759.00
Special District Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations and Grants	\$42,897.00	\$108,568.00
Interest and Dividends	\$2,986.00	\$9,127.00
Other Revenue	\$55,434.00	\$21,612.00
Total Revenues	\$810,777.00	\$154,921.00
Expenditures		
Accounting Fees	\$3,975.00	\$4,983.00
Building Maintenance	\$14,019.00	\$40,163.00
Clothing	\$20,122.00	\$5,706.00
Dues and Subscriptions	\$100.00	\$50.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$7,558.00	\$11,775.00
Fire and Medical Supplies	\$12,190.00	\$1,894.00
Fire and Medical Equipment	\$29,060.00	\$0.00
Fuel	\$7,602.00	\$2,563.00
Incident Response	\$304,337.00	\$13,578.00
Insurance	\$8,583.00	\$8,962.00
Office and other Supplies	\$1,325.00	\$1,149.00
Other Expenses	\$18,057.00	\$2,315.00
Outside Services	\$625.00	\$746.00
Staff Development	\$3,636.00	\$0.00
Telephone	\$0.00	\$0.00
Utilities	\$5,996.00	\$6,994.00
Workers' Compensation Insurance	\$7,357.00	\$13,251.00
Capital Outlay	\$0.00	\$105,892.00
Stipend	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
Total Expenditures	\$446,542.00	\$220,021.00

Financing Constraints and Opportunities

Junction City FPD receives a small percentage of ad valorem property taxes and relies on community donations, grants, and seasonal reimbursements from CAL FIRE (via strike team response, assistance by hire, or equipment rental) to fund services. The Junction City Fire Jills plan and host fundraising events, with all proceeds benefiting the District, including an appreciation dinner for donors. Each year, the District mails an annual request for donations; donations are accepted to the Junction City Fire Department, a 501(c)(3) organization.

The District does not have a special tax or assessment in place, which could be levied within the district boundary to effectively manage recurring costs, such as those associated with insurance, utilities, fuel, and equipment. In order to increase revenue to a sustainable level, the District could consider the following actions:

- Adopt an ordinance and fee schedule which charges out-of-district residents for services provided.
- Pursue a special tax or assessment which would require approval from registered voters or property owners within the District boundaries.

4.5 MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW DETERMINATIONS

As set forth in Section 56430(a) of the CKH Act- In order to prepare and to update the SOI in accordance with Section 56425, the commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission. The commission shall include in the area designated for a service review the county, the region, the sub-region, or any other geographic area as is appropriate for an analysis of the service or services to be reviewed, and shall prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

(1) Growth and population projections for the affected area

- a) The District is estimated to serve approximately 658 residents. Its response area is entirely contained within its jurisdictional boundary and so the actual population served may be slightly less than this estimation. However, the land outside of the District's response area is densely forested and sparsely populated and likely does not contribute a significant number of additional people to the population estimate.
- b) It is likely that the District's population will decline by 0.4 percent per year, following a similar population decline to that of the County.

(2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

- a) The community of Junction City is qualified as disadvantaged with a 2021 estimated median household income of \$55,594 or 65 percent of the 2021 State MHI.
- b) Should territory in the surrounding area be evaluated for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities in the area will be considered further.

(3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies

- a) The District's facilities and infrastructure are sufficient to provide services to its residents, but upgrades and updates would increase the quality of service provided. Much of the District's apparatus fleet is aging and will need to be updated in the near future. Volunteer recruitment and retention are significant challenges to the effective provision of fire suppression and management services.
- b) The District has an ISO rating of 10, indicating a low level of fire protection service provision.

(4) Financing ability of agencies to provide services

- a) The District reports that the amount of revenue currently collected constrains the District's ability to provide a higher quality of services to the community, though it actively seeks funding through grants and fundraising opportunities. Junction City FPD recently secured a \$1,000,000 grant from FEMA to fund equipment upgrades.
- b) To increase revenue, Junction City FPD could consider adopting an ordinance and fee schedule charging out-of-district residents for provided services and/or pursue implementation of a special tax or assessment to be levied within District boundaries.

(5) Status of and, opportunities for, shared facilities

- a) Junction City FPD is an active member of fire service provision within Trinity County and is available for mutual aid upon request. The District has an automatic aid agreement with Weaverville FPD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls.

(6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

- a) Junction City FPD does not have a website, but does maintain a Facebook page where it posts information about District activities. The District is encouraged to adopt an annual resolution of hardship and to begin posting District agendas, minutes, and related documents to its Facebook page.
- b) The District is independent and governed by a five-member Board of Directors. Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Fire Hall located at 71 Dutch Creek Road. Board agendas and notices are posted at the Fire Hall at least 72 hours in advance.
- c) Junction City FPD supports the mutual social and economic interests of Junction City by sustaining community-based fire protection and medical services in the surrounding area.

(7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery

- a) It is recommended that Junction City FPD's sphere of influence be updated to reflect the District's current emergency response area, with minor clean-up to follow parcel boundaries, as it reflects the District's area of responsibility more accurately than the current sphere.

4.6 SPHERE OF INFLUENCE DETERMINATIONS

In order to carry out its purposes and responsibilities for planning and shaping the logical and orderly development of local governmental agencies to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of the county and its communities, the commission shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local agency, as defined by G.C. Section 56036, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere. In determining the sphere of influence of each local agency, the commission shall consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to the following:

(1) Present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands

- a) Land uses within the District are mostly designated Resource with limited Rural Residential, Open Space, and Commercial designated lands. Lands surrounding the District are almost entirely Resource with the exception of the concentrated area of Weaverville, which includes Open Space, Commercial, Single Family Residential, Industrial, and other land use designations. Based on the presence of these low-density resource uses, it is unlikely that more intense development will occur in the area.

(2) Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area

- a) The existing residents in the area served by Junction City FPD require, and in the future will continue to require, fire protection and suppression services.

(3) Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide

- a) The District recently made minor station improvements to its main fire stations and the three station facilities have sufficient capacity to provide services, though more improvements related to the apparatus bay would be beneficial to the District.
- b) The District provides sufficient public services to the area, but could improve the quality of its service provision with improvements to its apparatus fleet, volunteer recruitment and retention, and finance opportunities.

(4) Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency

- a) Junction City is primarily adjacent unpopulated areas and resource lands to the north, south, and west. To the east lies the community of Weaverville, the County seat. Weaverville is located approximately eight miles west of Junction City and is the main hub of services in Trinity County with a hospital, Department of Motor Vehicles, numerous restaurants and lodging options, courthouse, USPS, Office of Education, schools, and other services.

(5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere

- a) The community of Junction City is a DUC that requires, and will continue to require, structural fire protection along with other fire protection and suppression services. The proposed sphere will update the District's SOI to generally match its current emergency response area, with minor edits to follow parcel boundaries.

5.0 LEWISTON COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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5.1 DISTRICT BACKGROUND

Agency Overview

The Lewiston Community Services District (herein referred to as “Lewiston CSD” or “District”) provides water, wastewater, street lighting, recreation, and fire protection services to the community of Lewiston, located in eastern Trinity County off of State Route 299. Lewiston is located just south of Lewiston Lake and was formed in 1957 by the Bureau of Reclamation as a government work camp to construct the Trinity and Lewiston Dams, part of the Central Valley Project. Once the dams were completed in 1962 and 1963, respectively, land parcels were sold by the government to residents and other investors. Two major subdivisions were created: Lewiston Park and Lewiston Heights, and various other private parcels, including the Trinity Dam Mobile Home Park.

Today, Lewiston is one of the most populated areas in the County. It offers commercial and residential development including lodging opportunities, a library and educational facilities, restaurants, and numerous recreational opportunities due to its proximity to the Trinity River, Lewiston Lake, and Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

Table 5-1: Lewiston CSD Contact Information

Primary Contact	Mel Deardorff, Board President and Fire Chief
E-mail Address	meldeardorff@gmail.com
Physical Address	130 Texas Ave., Lewiston, CA 96052
Mailing Address	P.O. Box 164, Lewiston, CA 96052
Phone Number	530-778-0306
Website	https://lewistoncsd.specialdistrict.org/

District Principal Act

The District’s principal act is the Community Services District Law, Division 3 of Title 6 of the Government Code ([§61000-61250](#)) which authorizes CSDs to provide up to 32 types of governmental services within their boundaries. Lewiston CSD is currently authorized to provide water, wastewater, street lighting, recreation, fire protection rescue, and hazardous material emergency response services. The District does not provide ambulance services.

Other services, facilities, functions, or powers enumerated in the District’s principal act but not identified in the formation resolution or by documented activation of powers are considered “latent,” meaning that they are authorized by the principal act under which the District is formed but are not being exercised. Latent powers and services activation require LAFCo authorization as indicated in Government Code §61106 and pursuant to §56824.10-14.

Formation and Development

Lewiston was built along the original frontier between Shasta and Weaverville, consisting initially of a trading post and water ferry. With the discovery of gold in the 1850s, Lewiston became a sizeable mining community through the first half of the 20th century. After World War II, the construction of Trinity and Lewiston Dams as part of the Central Valley Project, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation administrative headquarters, and a large federal housing project brought new employment opportunities and economic activity to Lewiston.

Lewiston CSD was formed as an independent special district on October 10, 1960, under the Community Services District law for the purpose of providing fire protection services to the community. The formation was approved by Trinity County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 33-60. On January 5, 1962, the Lewiston Trading Company Annexation was recorded. According to the State Board of Equalization records, there were boundary revisions in 1967 and 1976; two detachments approved on November 15, 1976, including the South Pacific Detachment (LAFCo No. 46-76) and Additional Non-Service Area Detachment (LAFCo No. 50-76); and two annexations approved on December 12, 1977, including the Reimann-Ward (LAFCo No. 77-05) and New Lewiston Park Subdivision (LAFCo No. 77-06).

At the time of formation, the District was only authorized to provide fire protection services. Communication with District staff has indicated that recreation and streetlighting services were likely authorized in the 1960s or 1970s. In 2010, boundary changes were initiated by Resolution 2010-02 to increase the District's boundaries to its current size of 18,517 acres. In 2012, the powers of providing water and wastewater services were approved by LAFCo Resolution.

Boundary and Sphere of Influence

Lewiston CSD's boundary encompasses approximately 18,517 acres or 29 square miles (**Figure 5-1**). Within the District's boundary there are 822 parcels. The nearest major roadways are State Route 299, which runs along the southern border of Lewiston CDP, and Trinity Dam Boulevard, which runs north-south through the District. Access to the District is provided by Lewiston Road, Trinity Dam Boulevard, Rush Creek Road, Deadwood Road, Poker Bar Road, and Browns Mountain Road. The majority of the roads throughout the community are paved, apart from dirt roads in the more isolated areas.

The District's adopted SOI for all services is larger than the District boundary and includes the pockets and islands of non-district territory. An expanded SOI exclusive to fire services is proposed to match the emergency fire response area which extends well beyond the District boundary and SOI (**Figure 5-2**). Lewiston Fire has a responsibility area bordered by Browns Mountain in the east, State Route 299 in the south, Trinity Dam to the north, and the Shasta County border to the west. No changes to the water, wastewater, recreation, or street lighting service SOIs are proposed.

The majority of the areas between communities are undeveloped territory bisected by a State Highway where traffic collisions and medical calls are demanded. Rural residences along Lewiston Road between Douglas City CSD and Lewiston CSD are not within any local jurisdiction responsible for providing fire protection services. Douglas City Fire responds along 299 up to where Lewiston Road begins, whereas Lewiston Fire is typically the first to respond to calls in this area.

Land Use and Zoning

Land uses in the Lewiston CSD are subject to the Trinity County General Plan (1988) and Zoning Regulations (Trinity County Code Title 17). The County is in the process of updating its General Plan, with anticipated completion in 2025. Upon completion and adoption of the Trinity County General Plan 2050, land uses will be subject to this plan in place of the 1988 version. The Lewiston area is subject to the Lewiston Community Plan (1985), which serves to supplement the Trinity County General Plan. The Lewiston Community Plan is also being updated as part of the General Plan Update process.

Land use in the area served by the District is largely timber, agricultural, unclassified, open space, rural residential, and commercial (**Figure 5-3**). The lands surrounding the District primarily are designated timber production zone and unclassified.

Figure 5-1: Lewiston CSD Boundary and SOI

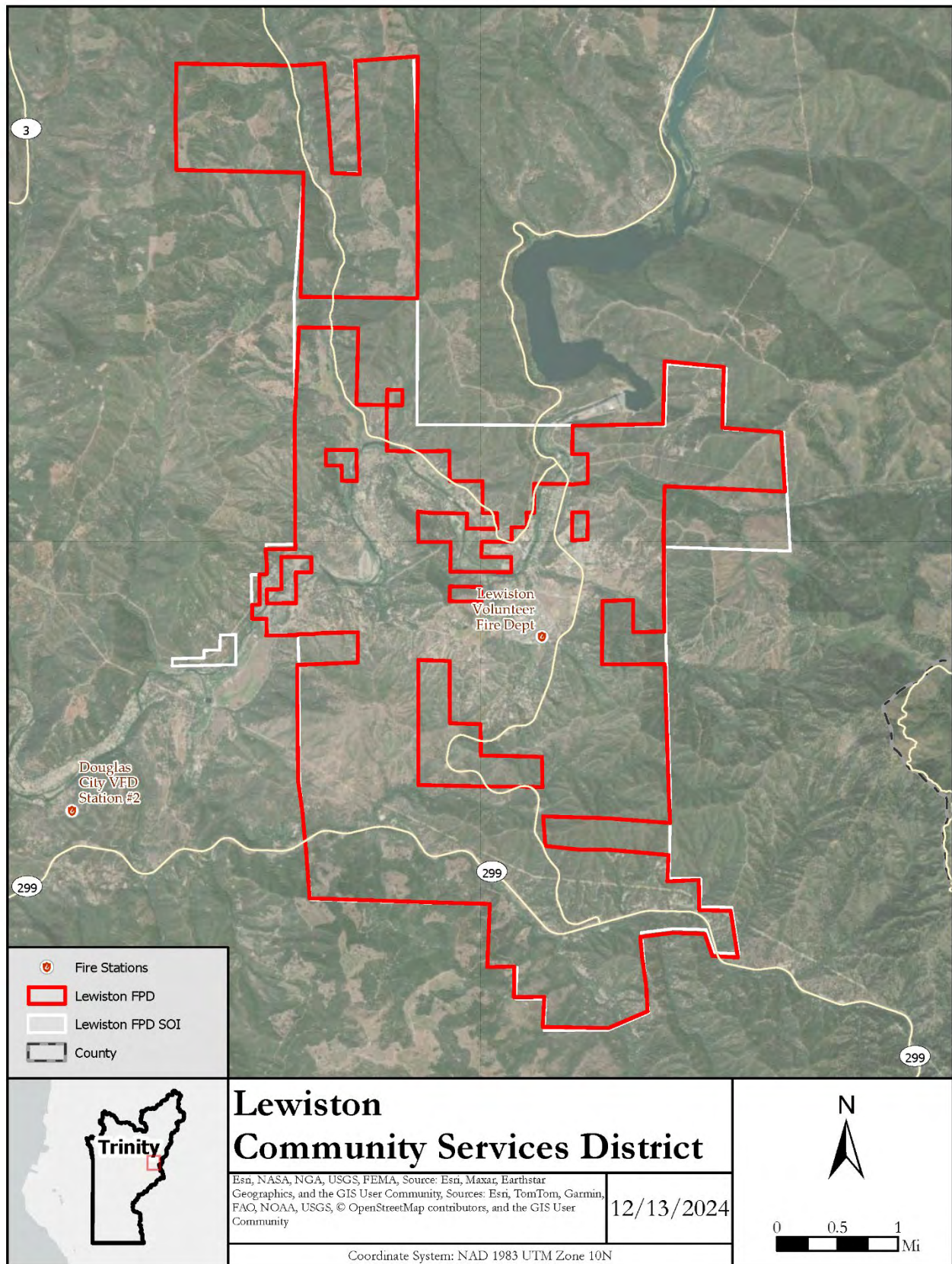


Figure 5-2: Lewiston CSD Proposed SOI

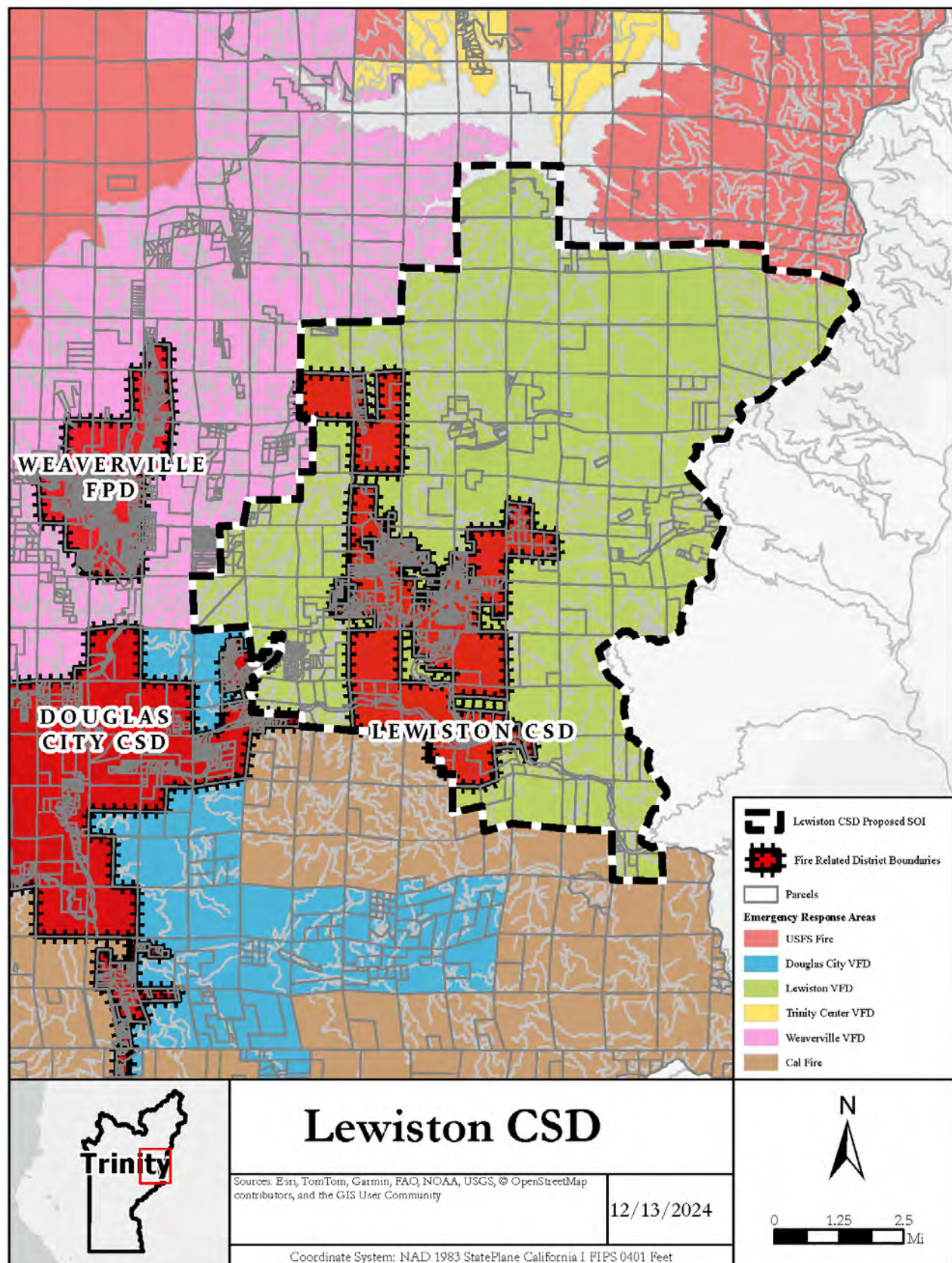
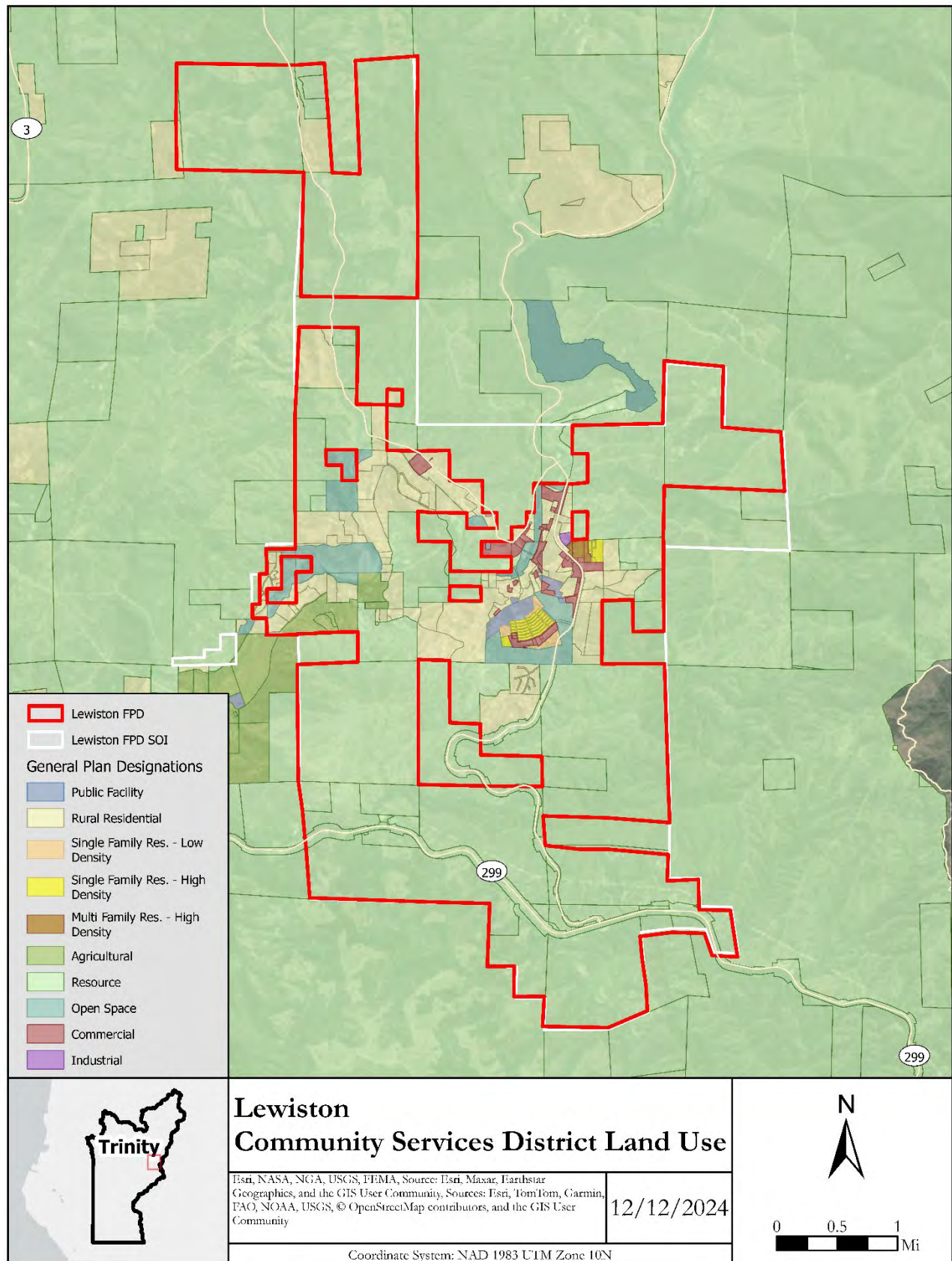


Figure 5-3: Lewiston CSD Land Use Map



Growth and Population

The population of Lewiston census-designated place (CDP) is approximately 1,222¹ according to the 2020 decennial Census data. American Community Survey (ACS) Demographic and Housing Estimates approximate the District’s 2021 population to be 1,817². However, the ACS 5-Year data estimates have a large margin of error and are known to be less accurate than decennial Census data.

The Lewiston CDP has a smaller area in acres (approximately 12,810.8 acres) compared to the District and does not include additional lands to the north and south that are included in the District’s boundaries. However, the CDP does include some additional lands to the east and west that are not encompassed in District boundaries. These eastern and western lands in the CDP appear to be more populated than the northern and southern lands in the District. As such, the population estimates for the Lewiston CDP are likely fairly accurate for the District despite the large difference in acreages.

Trinity County’s population was estimated to be 16,112³ as of the 2020 decennial Census. According to the California Department of Transportation (DOT), the County’s population is expected to decline by 0.4 percent per year from 2021-2026.

Based on the estimated population and historical growth for the area, it is unlikely that the District will grow substantially over the next five to ten years. It is likely that the District’s population will follow a similar trend to that of the County, declining by 0.4 percent each year.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

The 2021 estimated median household income (MHI) of the District is \$51,439⁴ according to the ACS 5-Year Estimates, which is approximately 61 percent of the estimated 2021 California MHI of \$84,907. The County has an estimated MHI of \$42,206, which is almost 50 percent of the State’s MHI. Thus, both the County and the District qualify as disadvantaged.

5.2 GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Governing Body

The District is an independent small district served by a five-member Board of Directors that is elected to four-year staggered terms (Table 5-2). Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm in the main room of the Lewiston Community Center, located at 130 Texas Avenue.

Meetings of the Board of Directors are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act which requires agendas to be posted at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public. Board agendas and notices are posted at the Lewiston Community Center, Fire Station, and “Mini Mart” Community bulletin board at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings.

Table 5-2: Board of Directors

Board Member	Title	Term
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¹ Table P1 Race, Decennial Census, 2020.
² Table DP05 ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates, ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2021.
³ Table P1 Race, Decennial Census, 2020.
⁴ Table S1903 Median Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2021.

Mel Deardorff	President	12/2/2022-12/4/2026
Cydney Cooper	Vice President	12/2/2022-12/4/2026
Jennilea Brookins	Director	12/4/2020-12/6/2024
Vacant	Director	12/4/2020-12/6/2024
James Montgomery	Director	12/2/2022-12/4/2026

Staffing

The District President also serves as fire chief and general manager role. The District will need to work on succession planning due to future retirement of the District President.

Accountability and Transparency

SB929 was signed into law on September 14, 2018, requiring all independent special districts to have and maintain a website meeting all the special district transparency requirements of State law including the availability of agendas, policies, and financial information by January 1, 2020. Lewiston CSD does maintain a website (<https://lewistoncsd.specialdistrict.org/>) and complies with most of SB929's requirements. The specific requirements of SB929 and the District's compliance status for each requirement are delineated below (Table 5-3).

Table 5-3: SB929 Website Posting Requirements

Type of Requirement	Description of Requirement	Is the District in compliance?
District Contact Information	SB929 does not state the specific contact information required. We recommend posting, at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical address Mailing address Phone number E-mail address 	Yes.
Most Recent Agenda	The most recent agenda must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting Linked on the homepage of the website, navigating directly to the current agenda Searchable, indexable, and platform-independent (simply put, post the agenda as a PDF) 	Partially. The agendas are posted as Word Docs; posting future agendas as PDFs would ensure complete compliance with this requirement.
Financial Transaction Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Financial Transaction report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	Yes.
Staff Compensation Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Staff Compensation report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	Yes.
Enterprise System Catalog	As required by SB272, the Enterprise System Catalog must be posted. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current system vendor Current System product System's purpose A description of categories or types of data Department that is the prime data custodian Frequency in which system data is collected and updated 	Yes.

The District has contact information posted in a conspicuous area of the website. While SB929 does not specifically state the type of contact information required, it is recommended that districts post a physical/mailling address, phone number, and email address. The District has all recommended pieces of contact information available online. Board meeting agendas are posted in freely accessible locations for District residents in advance of the meeting in compliance with the Brown Act. The current agenda is posted on the homepage of the website, directly linking to a copy of the agenda. However, SB929 requires that the most recent agenda be searchable, indexable, and platform independent. This requirement can be satisfied by posting agendas as PDFs; the District currently posts agendas as Word documents and is therefore not in compliance with this section of SB929.

Additionally, the website contains links to the State Controller's Financial Transaction Report website and the State Controller's Compensation Report website, where District financial information can be found. Although not a requirement of SB929, the District is encouraged to make the last three fiscal year budgets and most recent audit available online to further increase transparency beyond what is required by State law.

5.3 SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Non-Fire Services Overview

Water Services

The District provides water services to approximately 204 residential and 31 commercial connections⁵ with a maximum daily demand (MDD) of 99 gallons per minute (GPM) and an operational capacity of 264 GPM⁶. Thus, the District has sufficient capacity to serve its existing and projected future connections. In addition to providing potable water to customers, the District is also responsible for performing fire hydrant maintenance services to aid in the provision of fire services.

Once land parcels in Lewiston were sold to residents after the completion of Trinity and Lewiston Dams, two major subdivisions were created in the community. The Lewiston Valley Mutual Water Company (LVMWC) and the Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company (LPMWC) were established to provide water and wastewater services to the Lewiston Heights and Lewiston Park subdivisions, respectively. The District consolidated local water services through the acquisition of the LVMWC in 2012 and the LPMWC in 2018.

Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company Acquisition

In 2013, the Lewiston Valley Water Intertie Project (Project) began its planning and design phase to connect the Lewiston CSD water system (consisting of the recently acquired Lewiston Valley Water Company) and the Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company (LPMWC). This Project was sponsored by the LPMWC due to boil water notices being issued to customers anytime river water was pumped and treated at the treatment plant due to its age. In 2014 alone, summer well production had decreased by 44 percent⁷, requiring water from the Trinity River to be pumped in summer months and leading to the issuance of numerous boil water notices.

⁵ Water System Details for Lewiston CSD. CA Drinking Water Watch. <https://sdwis.waterboards.ca.gov/PDWWW/>

⁶ Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., Lewiston Community Services District Water Distribution System Replacement and Well 8 Project Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, March 2021. <https://files.ceganet.opr.ca.gov/268120-1/attachment/fVtQoWp7SVRT6MpL1kuRt0cGRa0DH-I5VXiV0D8bjoVB3lpKSmc-e7wKp2bSUZrd5xlGcQ0sQ154Fkzy0>

⁷ North Coast Resource Partnership, Lewiston Valley Drinking Water Intertie Pipeline, 2017. https://northcoastresourcepartnership.org/site/assets/uploads/2017/09/NCRP_2015_Project-LewistonCSD_intertie.pdf

The Project, which was completed in 2017, installed appropriately 3,585 feet of intertie 10-inch-diameter ductile iron pipeline, a flow metering and valve station, and two fire hydrants along Trinity Dam Boulevard⁸. Additionally, the Project made upgrades to the District's treatment plant SCADA system. The Project, funded by an Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Proposition 84 Grant of \$558,000, resulted in the conservation of approximately 1.33 acre-feet (AF) of water per year by eliminating overflows from the LPMWC storage tank, increased water supply reliability for the community and fire service providers, and allowed the LPMWC to avoid withdrawing water from the Trinity River in summer months.

The economic benefits from the Project were estimated to be between \$500-\$5,000 avoided in annual water treatment costs, a \$1,600,000 one-time increase in property values for homes devalued from the frequent boil water notices, and \$106 annually from instream beneficial uses⁷.

On July 1, 2018, Lewiston CSD fully acquired the LPMWC⁶. The LPMWC provided water to the Lewiston Park Subdivision, a subdivision approximately 0.25 miles south of the Trinity River and adjacent to the Lewiston Community Park. The water distribution system in this area was built around 1957 by the US Bureau of Reclamation and its piping had reached the end of its useful life; at the time of the LPMWC acquisition, Lewiston CSD lost up to 32 percent of its water daily due to leaks in the aged system. The Water Distribution System Replacement Project began its planning and design phase in 2019, with Project implementation beginning in 2021 and construction anticipated to be completed in 2025. This \$7,208,435⁹ Project was funded by the IRWM Proposition 1 Round 1 Grant and State Water Board Grant. The Project will result in the full replacement of the distribution system and the reconnection and installation of fire hydrants to address system deficiencies and fire flow compliance.

Current Lewiston CSD Water System and Operations

The current water system consists of three groundwater wells (combined capacity of 94 gallons per minute (GPM)), a raw water intake structure (infiltration gallery) located on the Trinity River, two storage tanks, a surface water direct filtration treatment plant (capacity of 170 GPM), and a distribution system¹⁰ (Figure 5-5).

The District holds two water diversion licenses from the State Water Resources Control Board, granting them the authority to appropriate water from the Trinity River. License 6566 (Permit 11106) allows the year-round diversion of up to 0.12 cubic feet per second (cfs) of water from Trinity River, with a maximum diversion of 87 acre-feet annually, for domestic and fire protection purposes¹¹. License 6612 (Permit 11654) allows the year-round diversion of up to 0.42 cfs of water from Trinity River, with a maximum diversion of 304.1 acre-feet annually, for municipal, domestic, and fire protection purposes¹². The District's infiltration gallery point of diversion (POD) and water treatment plant were updated in 2014 and are utilized for both of its licensed water rights. The District now has a consolidated place of use boundary (Figure 5-4).

⁸ North Coast Resource Partnership, Lewiston Valley Drinking Water Intertie Pipeline Project Tracker, 2023.

<https://www.northcoastresourcepartnershipprojects.org/Project/Detail/14036>

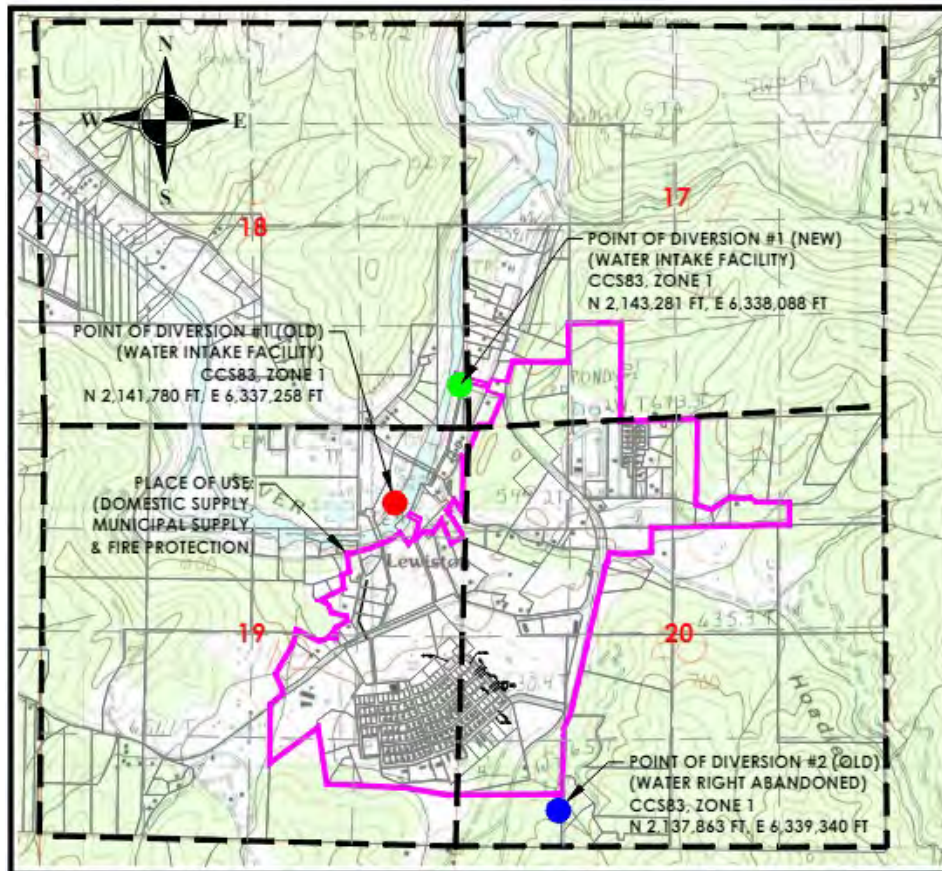
⁹ Communication with Mel Deardorff, District President

¹⁰ Lewiston Community Services District and PACE Engineering, *Your Water*, <https://lewistoncsd.specialdistrict.org/your-water>

¹¹ Water Right License 6566 was originally issued to the Lewiston Trading Company on October 3, 1962, assigned to Lewiston Valley Water Company Inc. in 1991, and later assigned to Lewiston CSD on May 2, 2012.

¹² Water Right License 6612 was originally issued to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on December 6, 1962, assigned to Lewiston Park MWC in 1984, and later assigned to Lewiston CSD on June 18, 2020.

Figure 5-4 Place of Use Boundary



Water received from the Trinity River is treated at the direct filtration treatment plant located on Riley Mine Road off of Trinity Dam Boulevard before being stored in the North Storage Tank, allowing the water to reach its mandated contact time for full treatment. This storage tank is located off of Dennison Drive and Hilltop Drive, with a total capacity of 0.318 million gallons (MG). This treated water then enters the distribution system and is continuously monitored to ensure its chlorine residual is at least 0.02 milligrams (mg) per liter (L) of water, an amount mandated by the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, § 64654. District water operators monitor the chlorine residual each day at five different locations throughout the distribution system. Typically, the water at the end of the distribution system is found to have a chlorine residual of 0.3 mg/L.

Groundwater is pumped from three groundwater wells: Well 2 and Well 6 are located along Donner Street and Well 4 is located along Bear Creek Trail off of Trinity Dam Boulevard. Well 4 is located adjacent to the South Storage Tank which has a capacity of 0.165 MG. When there is no demand in the distribution system, the groundwater wells get pumped into this storage tank which is also monitored daily to ensure its chlorine residual value is in compliance with CCR, Title 22, § 64654. This tank averages a chlorine residual of 0.3 mg/L.

The District has three other wells that are not a part of its distribution system. Well 7, located along Lewiston Road and Latchler Lane, was disconnected from the distribution system prior to the Lewiston CSD taking over the Lewiston park Mutual System due to poor performance. There is a Community Park Well off of Trinity Vista that is an irrigation-only well and not a part of the distribution system. Well 5, located adjacent to Well 4 and the South Storage Tank, has been disconnected from the system since 2016 due to poor water quality and electronic control malfunctions.

As part of the Water Distribution System Replacement Project, construction of a new Well 8 was completed in spring of 2024 and is located adjacent to the Community Park Well. The Well 8 Project serves to replace Well 5 and be responsible for irrigating Lewiston Community Park via the new water distribution system, thus decommissioning the Community Park Well. Construction of the new distribution system, including installation of new hydrants and new meters, is expected to be completed in spring of 2025.

Lewiston CSD's water system is seeking to increase resiliency to extreme weather events and pursuing a Water System Resiliency Project¹³. This Project aims to upgrade the wood siding and shingle roofing of the District's well buildings (for Wells 2, 4, and 6) to a fire-resistant fiber-cement material to increase protection from wildfires due to the classification of Lewiston as a high-threat fire area. The raw water pump station (RWPS) and water treatment plant (WTP) both have a generator in case of power outages. However, the power must be manually switched on at both the RWPS and WTP, which would be an issue during extreme weather conditions such as wildfires or snowstorms. The Project seeks to install automatic transfer switches at these locations to ensure that water provision would not be impacted during these conditions. The Project also would install approximately 70 advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) water meters, providing District operators and customers with the opportunity to receive alarms for leaks, no flow, or backwards flow and view water consumption rates at any time. The District is continuing to explore funding opportunities for this project.

Water Contingency Plan

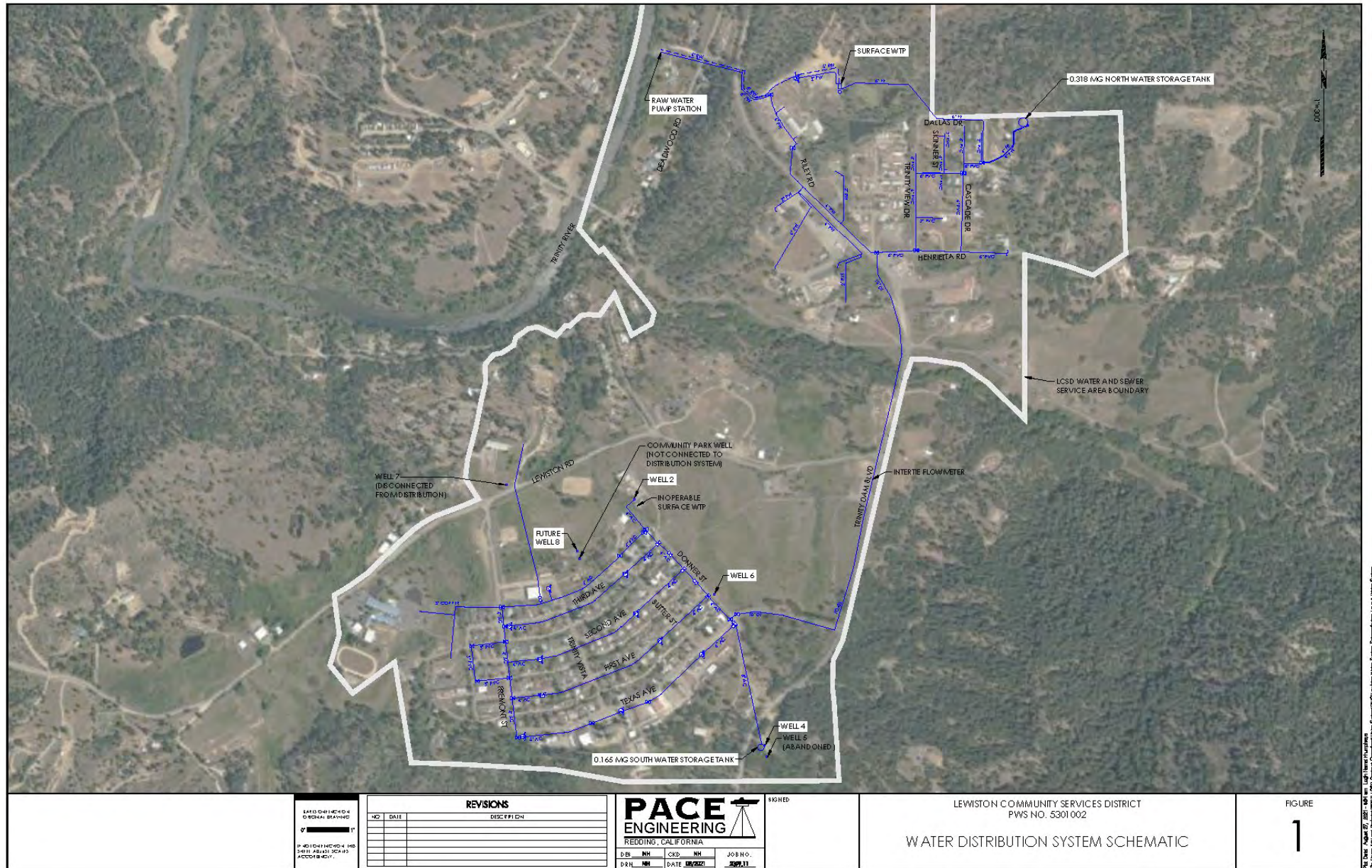
The District has a Water Conservation Drought Contingency Plan outlining the tiers of water conservation efforts and the requirements in place for each tier. Customers may be subject to corrective action by the District, though exceptions and variances to the Contingency Plan may be possible on a case-by-case basis.

Consumer Confidence Report

The most recent Consumer Confidence Report is for 2022 and showed no violations, indicating adequate water quality in the District. A 2023 report is not yet available on the CA Drinking Water Watch website (<https://sdwis.waterboards.ca.gov/PDWWW/>).

¹³ North Coast Regional Partnership, Water System Resiliency Project, 2023.
<https://www.northcoastresourcepartnershipprojects.org/Project/Detail/17152>

Figure 5-5: Lewiston CSD Water Schematic Map



Wastewater Services

The District provides wastewater services to 253 connections¹⁴. The District averages 0.04 MGD for average dry weather flow (ADWF) and 0.160 MGD for peak wet weather flow (PWWF)¹⁴. The wastewater system has capacity to accommodate flows of 0.072 MGD for ADWF and 0.36**Error! Bookmark not defined.** MGD for PWWF, indicating the District has sufficient capacity to serve additional connections¹⁵.

The original wastewater collection and treatment systems of Lewiston Valley Mutual Water Company (LVMWC) and Lewiston Park Mutual Water Company (LPMWC) were constructed in 1957 and have since met their useful service lives. The Trinity Dam Mobile Home Park (TDMHP) lacked a community wastewater service and discharged wastewater to a septic tank and pond adjacent to the mobile home park. In 1998, a field review was conducted of these systems and PACE Engineering authored a report recommending that these sewer systems located throughout Lewiston be consolidated and aging infrastructure be replaced or upgraded. At the time, the community voted to not move forward with the project.

In 2015, another field review was conducted of the three systems and revealed similar issues identified in 1998. Mainly, the systems had severe inflow and infiltration issues causing offsite discharge of untreated sewage or failure to meet discharge requirements. Additionally, the systems had out of date treatment technology due to updated, stricter effluent discharge limits. The systems all had outstanding violations: LVWMC was under a State Regional Water Resources Control Board (SRWRCB) Cleanup and Abatement Order (NO. R1-2003-0061) for system failures; LMPWC had a SWRCB Notice of Violation from November 2014 due to noncompliance with its waste discharge requirements; and TDMHP was issued SWRCB Administrative Civil Liability Order No. R1-2014-0005 in January 2014 for its inadequate waste disposal system and potential threats to human health and safety.

Due to the aging infrastructure and numerous health, safety and environmental violations, the District proposed to consolidate and replace or upgrade the existing sewer collection, treatment, and disposal facilities of the three systems in 2017 by submitting a Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD) to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB). Additional information and documents were submitted by the District with the ROWD being officially complete on June 17, 2019. In response to this ROWD, the NCRWQCB issued Order No. R1-2020-0024 outlining the new waste discharge requirements for the consolidated and updated wastewater system.

The new wastewater collection, treatment and disposal project was funded by a Proposition 1 Small Community Grant awarded by the SWRCB in the amount of \$15,560,300. USDA Rural Development also provided \$1,233,000 in grant funding for the project. The project was completed in December 2020. The District reports high operational costs to operate the wastewater system, which requires a Grade 3 Operator License. including contract operator costs to run the system. As of 2024, sewer rates are around \$78/month (\$125/month for water and sewer), with higher rates in the summer months. An updated rate study will be needed.

¹⁴ North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Order No. R1-2020-0024 Waste Discharge Requirements for Lewiston Community Services District Wastewater Treatment Facility, October 2020.
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/10_2020/pdf/3/20_0024_LewistonCSD_WDR_Proposed.pdf

¹⁵ New wastewater treatment plant lift station has a capacity of 50 GPM in ADWF which is equivalent to 0.072 MGD and 250 GPM in PWWF which is equivalent to 0.36 MGD. Sourced from Stantec, Environmental Assessment for Lewiston Community Services District Wastewater Collection, Treatment, and Disposal Project, March 2018.

Parks and Recreation

The Lewiston Historic District covers 15 acres within the community of Lewiston and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. The Historic District provides a vision into the early Gold Rush-era of California architectural styles.

Lewiston Community Park, a local public park, is managed by Lewiston CSD and contains a playground, disc golf course, equestrian arena, a pavilion, and opportunities to play baseball, basketball, and pickleball. Areas of the Community Park are available for rent including the Community Center main room (\$15/hr), additional Kitchen use (\$10/hr), pavilion (\$15/hr), sports field/equestrian arena (\$50/day), and the gym (\$15/hr - \$50/day). Additionally, the District maintains a community garden that is located adjacent to the Community Park. There are 15 raised garden beds available for community members. The District received a per capita grant of \$230,000 for a Multi Court Sport Project to upgrade the outdoor courts which was completed in 2023.

Streetlighting

Lewiston CSD provides streetlighting services within District boundaries. The District is responsible for the maintenance of 23 streetlights as of 2024.

Fire Protection Services Overview

Demand

The Department breaks up its call volume into the following categories:

- Fire including structure fires, vehicle fires, and vegetation fires;
- Rescue and emergency medical service (EMS) incidents including motor vehicle accidents, vehicle extrications, rescues, EMS-Basic Life Support (BLS) calls;
- Hazardous conditions without active fires; service calls; good intent; and false alarm.

A summary of the Department's call volume from 2020 through 2023 is shown below in Table 5-4. The Department groups its incidents using the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) classification.

Table 5-4: Lewiston VFD Call Volume

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fire	16	20	12	21
Structure Fire	5	17	6	7
Vehicle Fire	1	1	1	2
Vegetation Fire	16	10	5	2
TOTAL FIRE	38	48	24	32
Rescue and Emergency Medical Service Incident	86	105	130	146
Motor Vehicle Accidents	12	18	9	23
Extrications from Vehicles	1	1	2	1
Rescues	1	2	3	2
EMS-BLS Response Calls	120	80	119	146
TOTAL RESCUE AND EMS	220	206	263	318
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	5	6	4	0
Service Call	13	10	8	47

Good Intent Call	5	3	0	0
False Alarm and False Call	16	12	12	13
TOTAL OTHER CALLS	39	31	24	60
TOTAL CALLS PER YEAR	297	285	311	410

Personnel

The Department typically has between 12-18 volunteers on its roster although volunteer numbers fluctuate. Volunteers engage in regular training exercises, though specific details are not known.

Infrastructure and Facilities

The Department has one fire station located at 200 Texas Avenue in Lewiston. This station is one of the newest in the County and was completed in 2018 after over 14 years of fundraising to cover the construction costs, totaling approximately \$1 million. The Department has seven apparatus including: three type I fire engines, two of which have the ability to function as type III engines; two type VI fire engines; a rescue truck; and a water tender¹⁶ (Table 5-5).

Fire Engine 2310 was gifted to Lewiston VFD in 2020 from the Woodside Fire Protection District based in San Mateo County. During the Carr Fire that destroyed over a thousand homes throughout Shasta and Trinity Counties in 2018, Woodside FPD firefighters traveled to Lewiston to help aid with the containment of the fire and protection of the community. The new fire station was up-and-running at this point and the Lewiston Sparkies actively cooked and served any firefighters in the area, an action appreciated and admired by the Woodside FPD firefighters. At the same time, Woodside FPD had declared the fire engine as surplus and as a token of gratitude, gifted the engine to the Lewiston VFD. This engine replaced the Department's 1992 fire truck.

Table 5-5: Lewiston VFD Apparatus Information

Station	Station Address	Apparatus	Common Name	Year	Type	Pump (GPM)	Tank (Gal)
Fire Station	200 Texas Avenue, Lewiston, 96052	WT2341 Freightliner	Water Tender	1995		500	3,000
		P2361	Fire Engine	1997		250	250
		Fire Engine E2310	Piece Dash Pumper	2004	I/III	1,500	750
		Fire Engine E2311	Rosenbauer Pumper	2010	I/III	1,000	750
		Fire Engine 2312	BME Pumper	2000	I	1,000	600
		Rescue 2353	Rescue Truck	1999		N/A	N/A

ISO Rating

The Department's latest Insurance Services Office (ISO) Public Protection Classification (PPC) rating was determined in 2017 to be a 04/4Y. A review of the emergency communications, the

¹⁶ Mintier Harnish, Trinity County 2050 General Plan Update, Public Review Draft Background Report, March 2023.

https://trinity2050.com/images/docs/PRD%20Background%20Report/TCGPU_PRD_Background%20Report%20Combined_REDUCED_2023%2003%2006%20MG.pdf

fire department itself, and the water supply system are conducted and account for 10 percent, 50 percent, and 40 percent of the total classification, respectively. The next ISO audit will be conducted in 2029.

There have been notable accomplishments in recent years to the Lewiston CSD water supply system (some completed and some in-progress), and improvements to fire flows, well capacity, hydrants, and overall resiliency. The District also completed a major upgrade to the fire station in 2018.

Lewiston has been designated as a Firewise community since 2008. The program recognizes communities who organize regarding wildfire safety and connects those communities with resources, like grants and information about fire safety. Being within a Firewise community can benefit homeowners and provide discounts on homeowners' insurance. More information on Firewise communities can be found in the Introduction section of this MSR.

Challenges and Needs

The Department's water tender is aging and has a high mileage of approximately 420,000 miles. In the near future, this apparatus will need replacement. Like other all-volunteer departments, recruitment and retention of volunteers is a major challenge for the Department. Lewiston Fire holds an annual recognition dinner and Lewiston Sparkies holds fundraising events to support various Department projects and funding needs. The Lewiston Sparkies most recently funded \$30,000 for asbestos removal as part of the fire station renovation project and helped fund new furniture and other purchases.

Shared Services

Lewiston VFD is available for mutual aid upon request. The Department has automatic aid agreements with Weaverville FPD and Douglas City CSD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls. Table 5-6 below shows the mutual and automatic aid data for the Department from 2020-2023.

Table 5-6: Mutual/Automatic Aid Data, 2020-2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Received mutual aid	0	1	1	1
Received automatic aid	3	1	2	2
Provided mutual aid	1	3	5	8
Provided automatic aid	2	4	6	6
# of mutual/automatic aid responses that were for structure fires	3	2	3	6
TOTAL AID	9	11	17	23

The Department and CAL FIRE enact annual agreements for cooperative wildland fire management activities. As part of these agreements, both entities engage in mutual aid on District lands that are intermingled or adjacent to CAL FIRE managed lands. Additionally, the Department receives seasonal reimbursements for in-unit wildland fire assignments (via assistance by hire and equipment rental). Lewiston VFD typically provides staff resources and supplies a water tender or engine when pulled at the Trinity River Con Camp.

The Watershed Center supports the development of Prescribed Burn Associations (PBAs) which are groups of community members looking to manage the lands with prescribed burns. A Lewiston PBA Workshop was held on April 20, 2024, at the Lewiston Community Center adjacent

to the Department's fire station to educate the community on how fire can reduce fuels and restore ecosystems on private lands¹⁷. The Fire Management team at the Watershed Center and local representatives from the Lewiston VFD were presenters at this workshop. Lewiston VFD is also partnering with the Watershed Research and Training Center to provide staffing for fuels reduction projects that are planned for the area. The Watershed Center provides reimbursement for staffing and equipment rental (engine).

Other Service Providers

Solid Waste Disposal

There is not a transfer station in Lewiston. There are two transfer stations available for solid waste disposal in the county: Weaverville Transfer Station at 173 Tom Bell Road approximately 15 miles northwest, and Hayfork Transfer Station at 372 Hayfork Dump Road approximately 36 miles away.

Electricity and Natural Gas

Trinity Public Utilities District (TPUD) manages and distributes power throughout most of Trinity County. TPUD purchases its power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) pursuant to a first preference right to power produced by the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project¹⁸. TPUD does not operate any generation assets but instead provides sub-transmission and electricity distribution to approximately 12,000 customers in a 2,200 square mile area in Trinity County. There are nine substations which are both owned and operated by both WAPA (five served from this transmission system) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) (four served from this transmission system). Trinity County has eight hydroelectric facilities that are either operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation or privately owned. These facilities are part of California's Central Valley Project and generate hydroelectric power. Energy produced by these facilities is managed by WAPA and transmitted to customers by TPUD.

PG&E is the only designated natural gas provider in the County. However, despite this designation, PG&E does not offer natural gas service to most areas within the County, leaving residents to rely on propane for natural gas needs.

Telecommunications

Verizon, AT&T, and other major service providers provide wireless telephone and broadband internet services. Wired telephone and cable internet service is offered by Velocity Communications. Velocity Communications offers services to over 700 square miles across Trinity, Shasta, and Humboldt Counties, including the Trinity County communities of Weaverville, Hayfork, Trinity Center, Lewiston, Junction City, and Douglas City. Satellite internet service is provided by HughesNet, Starlink, and Viasat.

Emergency Medical Services

Trinity Life Support Community Services District (TLSCSD) has two ambulances, one stationed in Hayfork and one in Weaverville, with a 2,100 square mile response area. Annually, the TLSCSD receives an average of 1,500 calls. The TLSCSD provides training in the areas of emergency preparedness, emergency medical technician, emergency medical responder, and public safety first-aid while also offering American Heart Association community and professional level courses.

¹⁷ <https://www.thewatershedcenter.com/events/lewiston-prescribed-burn-association-pba-workshop?rq=lewiston%20>

¹⁸ Trinity River Division Act of 1955

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is provided by the Trinity County Sheriff's Office. The California Highway Patrol is responsible for traffic control for State Route 299 and State Route 3, both of which are in close proximity to the District.

Resource Conservation

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) is a countywide agency that protects and manages the natural resources of Trinity County through the provision of technical assistance and the implementation of projects and programs. The TCRCD also engages in educational programs and works to increase education on conservation throughout the County. The TCRCD engages in numerous wildfire mitigation projects including the implementation of the Trinity County Wildfire Mitigation Project and a myriad of fuels reductions and defensible space projects. For over 20 years, the TCRCD has engaged in fuels reductions projects that have resulted in the thinning of thousands of acres throughout the County's forests. Additionally, the TCRCD is in close collaboration with the Trinity County Fire Safe Council (TCFSC) in the development of the Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and the 2010, 2015, and 2020 updates to the Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

5.4 FINANCING

Financial Overview

Lewiston CSD is responsible for regular financial planning and reporting in accordance with Government Code §61000 et seq. along with other state and federal requirements associated with grant funding the District has received.

Regarding the annual budget process, Government Code §61110 states that a preliminary and final budget must be adopted for the District on or before July 1 of each year. Government Code §53901 states that within 60 days after the beginning of the fiscal year each local agency must submit its budget to the County Auditor. These budgets are to be filed and made available on request by the public at the County Auditor-Controller's Office.

State law also requires each district to file an annual audit report with the County Auditor-Controller. According to Government Code §61118, the Board of Directors shall provide for regular audits of the District's accounts and records and shall provide for annual financial reports to the State Controller. All special districts are required to submit annual audits to the County within 12 months of the completion of the fiscal year unless the Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved a biennial or five-year schedule¹⁹. Additionally, Government Code §26909(a)(1) states that the County Auditor shall either prepare the audit or contract with a certified public accountant to complete the annual audit for districts not in compliance with their audit requirement at the expense of the special district.

The District has submitted overall revenues and expenditures to the State Controller's Office (SCO) consistently since 2003.

Revenues and Expenditures

Lewiston CSD maintains separate budgets for water/wastewater services and recreation/street lighting/fire protection services. For the purposes of this MSR, the budgets reviewed involve fire protection, recreation, and street lighting services. The District is primarily funded through a

¹⁹ California Government Code Section 26909 (5)(b)(1-3).

combination of taxes and fees for services. Additional income comes from grants, timber tax yields, rental facilities, interest, and other miscellaneous resources. Over the years studied, the District has increased its revenues by approximately \$178,852. Expenditures have also increased over the years studied by \$136,549. Fixed assets have included an upgrade and completion of the fire station generator and improvements to the park in FY2020-21, 2021-22, and 2022-23 respectively.

The following table provides annual operating revenue and expenditures for the last three available fiscal years, excluding the water and wastewater financials as explained above.

Table 5-7: Lewiston CSD Summary of Revenues and Expenditures (FY2020-21 through FY2022-23)

	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
Estimated Income			
Unspecified	\$0.00	\$134,370.00	\$150,000.00
Cash Carryover	\$224,924.00	\$111,735.00	\$115,919.00
Current Secured Tax	\$100,000.00	\$2,100.00	\$2,200.00
Current Unsecured Tax	\$2,000.00	\$122.00	\$122.00
Prior Unsecured	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Timber Yield Tax	\$664.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Supplemental Tax	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$5,000.00
Interest	\$1,940.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Rental Income	\$1,311.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
State Hoptr	\$1,102.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Fire Dept Revenues	\$30,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$25,000.00
Donations	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Miscellaneous	\$1,600.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
Per Capita Recreation Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$237,952.00
Total Revenues	\$364,041.00	\$406,527.00	\$542,893.00
Estimated Expenditures			
Salaries and Wages	\$20,000.00	\$75,000.00	\$20,000.00
Workers Compensation	\$3,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,800.00
Clothing and Personal Supplies	\$10,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Food	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Household Expenses	\$1,600.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,200.00
Insurance	\$13,000.00	\$12,400.00	\$15,500.00
Equipment Maintenance	\$31,000.00	\$70,000.00	\$30,000.00
Maintenance of Structures	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$25,000.00
Fire Equipment and Supplies	\$17,803.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Medical and Lab Supplies	\$3,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Memberships	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$250.00	\$1,000.00	\$250.00
Office Expense	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Office Expense/Office Equipment	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Professional and Special Services	\$10,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$10,000.00
Publications and Notices	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Small Tools and Instruments	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00

Special Dept Expenses	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00
Travel	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$0.00
Fuel	\$4,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,000.00
Training	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
Utilities	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
Debt Service	\$33,250.00	\$33,250.00	\$33,250.00
Fixed Assets	\$103,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$237,952.00
Total Expenditures	\$290,053.00	\$318,000.00	\$426,602.00

State Controller's Office

According to the State Controller's Office, the District had an overall revenue of \$1,064,194 and expenditures of \$818,899 in FY 2021-2022. This is a net gain of \$245,305, which is less than the gains shown in FY2018-19, FY 2019-20, and FY 2020-21 which had net gains of \$2,313,513, \$7,146,965, and \$14,941,326, respectively. This decrease is likely attributed to the completion of the District's water and wastewater improvement projects and the subsequent decrease in grant funding. A summary of FY 2018-2019 through FY 2021-2022 is below (Table 5-8). These numbers differ from the table above due to the District separating its water and wastewater financials from other District financials.

Table 5-8: State Controller's Office Summary

	FY 2018-2019	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-2022
Water/Wastewater Enterprise Fund				
Revenues	\$1,989,121	\$7,019,468	\$14,758,775	\$761,198
Expenditures	\$343,678	\$386,613	\$472,488	\$556,562
Water Net Gain/(Loss)	\$1,645,443	\$6,632,855	\$14,286,287	\$204,636
Governmental Funds				
Revenues	\$324,392	\$127,497	\$182,551	\$302,996
Expenditures	\$299,570	\$107,437	\$255,280	\$262,337
Governmental Net Gain/(Loss)	\$24,822	\$20,060	(\$72,729)	\$40,659

Audits

The District's latest audit covers FY 2020-2021 and FY 2021-2022 and includes financial information for all District services, including recreation, water, wastewater, street lighting, and fire protection. The District's 2023-2024 audit is in progress.

Over these fiscal years, the District saw a net loss of (\$33,362) which can be attributed to the depreciation of equipment and a decrease in current assets. According to the FY2021-22 audit, property taxes accounted for 18.8 percent of total revenues, fire department fees for services accounted for 22.7 percent, while fees for water and wastewater services accounted for 54.4 percent.

Expenditures for the District primarily include operating plant fees, and materials, supplies, and services. In FY2021-22, debt payments accounted for \$33,053 or 4 percent of total expenditures.

Non-Profit Support

The Lewiston Sparkies is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. The Sparkies have been raising funds to benefit the Lewiston Fire Department since its formation in 2004. The Sparkies sponsor

community events and fundraisers such as the Peddlers' Faire, the Bridge Lighting and Fireworks event, a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser, a Chicken BBQ, the County-Wide Yard Sale, Lewiston Safety Day, and a Valentine's Day Bake Sale with all proceeds benefiting the Department.

5.5 MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW DETERMINATIONS

As set forth in Section 56430(a) of the CKH Act- In order to prepare and to update the SOI in accordance with Section 56425, the commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission. The commission shall include in the area designated for a service review the county, the region, the sub-region, or any other geographic area as is appropriate for an analysis of the service or services to be reviewed, and shall prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

(1) Growth and population projections for the affected area

- a) The District is estimated to serve approximately 1,222 residents. Its response area extends beyond its boundaries to the north and east, which largely consists of natural resource areas opposed to populated areas..
- b) It is likely that the District's population will decline by 0.4 percent per year, following a similar population decline to that of the County.

(2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

- a) The community of Lewiston is qualified as disadvantaged with a 2021 estimated median household income of \$51,439 or 61 percent of the 2021 State MHI.
- b) Should territory in the surrounding area be evaluated for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities in the area will be considered further.

(3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies

- a) The District has sufficient capacity to provide adequate services to its residents. The Lewiston CSD fire station is one of the newest in Trinity County and is in excellent condition. The District has adequate apparatus, though its fleet is aging and will require updates in the near future.
- b) Lewiston CSD has an ISO rating of 04/4Y, indicating a high level of fire protection services.

(4) Financing ability of agencies to provide services

- a) The District has sufficient financial resources to provide services to the area. Of the three years reviewed for Lewiston CSD's recreation, street lighting, and fire protection service budgets, the District operated with a net gain for all three years. As is the case with a majority of rural service providers, an increase in revenues would assist the District in increasing the quality of the services provided to the area; however, the District is not severely constrained by its financial situation.

(5) Status of and, opportunities for, shared facilities

- a) Lewiston CSD is an active member of fire service provision within Trinity County and is available for mutual aid upon request. The District has automatic aid agreements with Weaverville FPD and Douglas City CSD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls. Lewiston CSD regularly provides more mutual and automatic aid than it receives from other Districts.

- b) The District has annual agreements for cooperative wildland fire management activities with CAL FIRE to engage in mutual aid on District lands adjacent or intermingled to CAL FIRE lands. The District receives seasonal reimbursement for in-unit wildland fire assignments via assistance by hire and equipment rental.
- c) The Watershed Research and Training Center receives staffing and equipment rentals from Lewiston CSD for fuels reduction projects near the Lewiston area and in return, provides reimbursement.

(6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

- a) Lewiston CSD maintains a website (lewistoncsd.specialdistrict.org) where it posts information about district activities including documents, agendas, and meeting minutes. The District is encouraged to make the last three budgets and most recent audit available on its website to further increase transparency.
- b) The District is independent and governed by a five-member Board of Directors. Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm in the main room of the Lewiston Community Center, located at 130 Texas Avenue. Board meetings are noticed in accordance with the Brown Act and agendas are posted at the Lewiston Community Center, Fire Station, and "Mini Mart" community bulletin board.
- c) Lewiston CSD supports the mutual social and economic interests of Lewiston and Douglas City by sustaining community-based fire protection services in the surrounding area.

(7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery

- a) It is recommended that Lewiston CSD's sphere of influence be updated to reflect the District's current emergency response area, with minor clean-up to follow parcel boundaries, as it reflects the District's area of responsibility more accurately than the current sphere.

5.6 SPHERE OF INFLUENCE DETERMINATIONS

In order to carry out its purposes and responsibilities for planning and shaping the logical and orderly development of local governmental agencies to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of the county and its communities, the commission shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local agency, as defined by G.C. Section 56036, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere. In determining the sphere of influence of each local agency, the commission shall consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to the following:

(1) Present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands

- a) Land uses within the District are mostly designated Resource with limited Rural Residential, Open Space, Agricultural, and Commercial designated lands. Lands surrounding the District are almost entirely Resource with small sections of Rural Residential, Agricultural, and Open Space. Based on the presence of these low-density resource uses, it is unlikely that more intense development will occur in the area.

(2) Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area

- a) The existing residents in the area served by Lewiston CSD require, and in the future will continue to require, fire protection and suppression services.

(3) Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide

- a) The District's fire station is new and in excellent condition with sufficient capacity to provide services to the region.
- b) The District does have an aging apparatus fleet that will require upgrades in the near future. Lewiston CSD actively pursues grant and funding opportunities to support its operations and has been very successful with securing funding related to water service provision.

(4) Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency

- a) Lewiston is located near Trinity County's largest community of Weaverville and semi-populated Douglas City. Weaverville is located approximately seven miles northwest (approximately 17 minutes by car) of Lewiston and is the main hub of services in Trinity County with a hospital, Department of Motor Vehicles, numerous restaurants and lodging options, courthouse, USPS, Office of Education, schools, and other services.
- b) Douglas City is approximately 11 miles southwest of Lewiston and is located along the Trinity River. The Douglas City community is small with an elementary school, convenience store, motel, mobile home and RV park, and campground. This area draws visitors looking for recreational opportunities along the river.

(5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere

- a) The community of Lewiston is a DUC that requires, and will continue to require, structural fire protection along with other fire protection and emergency response services. The

proposed sphere will update the District's SOI to generally match its current response area, with minor edits to follow parcel boundaries.

6.0 WEAVERVILLE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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6.1 DISTRICT BACKGROUND

Agency Overview

The Weaverville Fire Protection District (herein referred to as “Weaverville FPD” or “District”) provides fire protection services to the community of Weaverville, located in eastern Trinity County off of State Route 299. Weaverville is the most populated community in the County and offers the largest selection of grocery stores, restaurants, lodging opportunities, health facilities, and more. This community is also the Trinity County seat and is where numerous governmental offices are located, such as the County Courthouse.

Table 6-1: Weaverville FPD Contact Information

Primary Contact(s)	Todd Corbett, Fire Chief Serena Brown, Admin Officer
E-mail Address	chief@wfdca.org wfdclerk@wfdca.org
Physical/Mailing Address	125 Bremer Street / PO Box 447
Phone Number	530-623-6156
Website	https://www.wfdca.org/district

District Principal Act

The District’s principal act is the Fire Protection District Law of 1987 (California Health and Safety Code §13800-13970). The principal act dates to 1921 and was comprehensively updated by the California Legislature in 1947, 1961 and most recently in 1987. It empowers FPDs to provide a moderate range of municipal service functions tied to fire services including fire protection, rescue, emergency medical, hazardous material emergency response, ambulance, and other services related to life and property protection.

Weaverville FPD is currently authorized to provide fire protection, rescue, search and rescue, and public assistance. Other services authorized in the District’s principal act but not identified in the formation resolution or by documented activation of powers are “latent,” meaning that the District could exercise these services in the future if LAFCo permitted the authorization, per Government Code §56824.10-14. At this time, the only latent power available for activation is the provision of ambulance services. The District currently has no interest in expanding its provided services to include this latent power.

Formation and Development

Historically, Weaverville has experienced numerous devastating fires which prompted the establishment of the community’s first de facto fire department, a Hook and Ladder company, in 1860. In April 1898, a three-member board was appointed by the County Supervisors to act as Fire Commissioners and later in the month, the Weaverville Fire Protection District was formed in order to establish more formal fire protection in the area. The resolution number for this formation is unknown. The District did not serve as an organized firefighting department and instead, largely enacted fire safety regulations within the community.

In 1905, another disastrous fire hit the area, highlighting the need for an organized firefighting department to be established in the community. As a result, the Fire Commissioners purchased firefighting equipment including a hand pumper engine, hose carts, and fire hydrants in 1906. Later that year, a 40-member Weaverville Volunteer Fire Department (herein referred to as “Weaverville VFD” or “Department”) was established.

The two organizations, the Weaverville FPD and VFD, work together as one entity to provide fire protection services. The Weaverville FPD is the governing agency that determines Fire ordinances, enforces regulations, and oversees the functions and operations of the VFD. The Weaverville VFD, a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation, is able to engage in fundraising opportunities within the community and provide additional support for the volunteers. The FPD is limited in the type and amount of support it can directly offer volunteers due to being subject to additional regulations that the VFD is exempt from.

Boundary and Sphere of Influence

The District's boundary encompasses approximately 4,073 acres or 6.4 square miles (**Figure**). Within the District's boundary there are 1,887 parcels; a majority of the parcels are developed for residential uses or commercial facilities.

The nearest major roadways are State Route 3 and State Route 299 which run through Weaverville. As the most developed community in the County, the majority of the roads throughout the community are paved major access roads.

Currently, the District's adopted sphere of influence is larger than its jurisdictional boundary, primarily to the west. As part of this MSR, the District's SOI is proposed to be expanded to be coterminous with the District's emergency response area to better reflect the responsibilities of District (**Figure 6-2**).

Land Use and Zoning

Land uses in the Weaverville FPD are subject to the Trinity County General Plan (1988) and Zoning Regulations (Trinity County Code Title 17). The County is in the process of updating its General Plan, with an anticipated completion expected in August 2025. Upon completion and adoption of the Trinity County General Plan 2050, land use designations will be subject to this plan instead of the 1988 version. The Weaverville area is subject to the Weaverville Community Plan of 1997 (Plan), which serves to supplement the Trinity County General Plan.

The main core of the community consists of land use designations Public Facility, Commercial, Single Family Residential – high and low densities, Multi-family Residential – high and low densities, and Industrial areas outside of this main core are largely designated as Open Space, Rural Residential, and Community Expansion (**Figure 6-3**). The District is bordered almost entirely by Agricultural designated lands, with a small amount of Open Space and Rural Residential.

Figure 6-1: Weaverville FPD Boundary and SOI

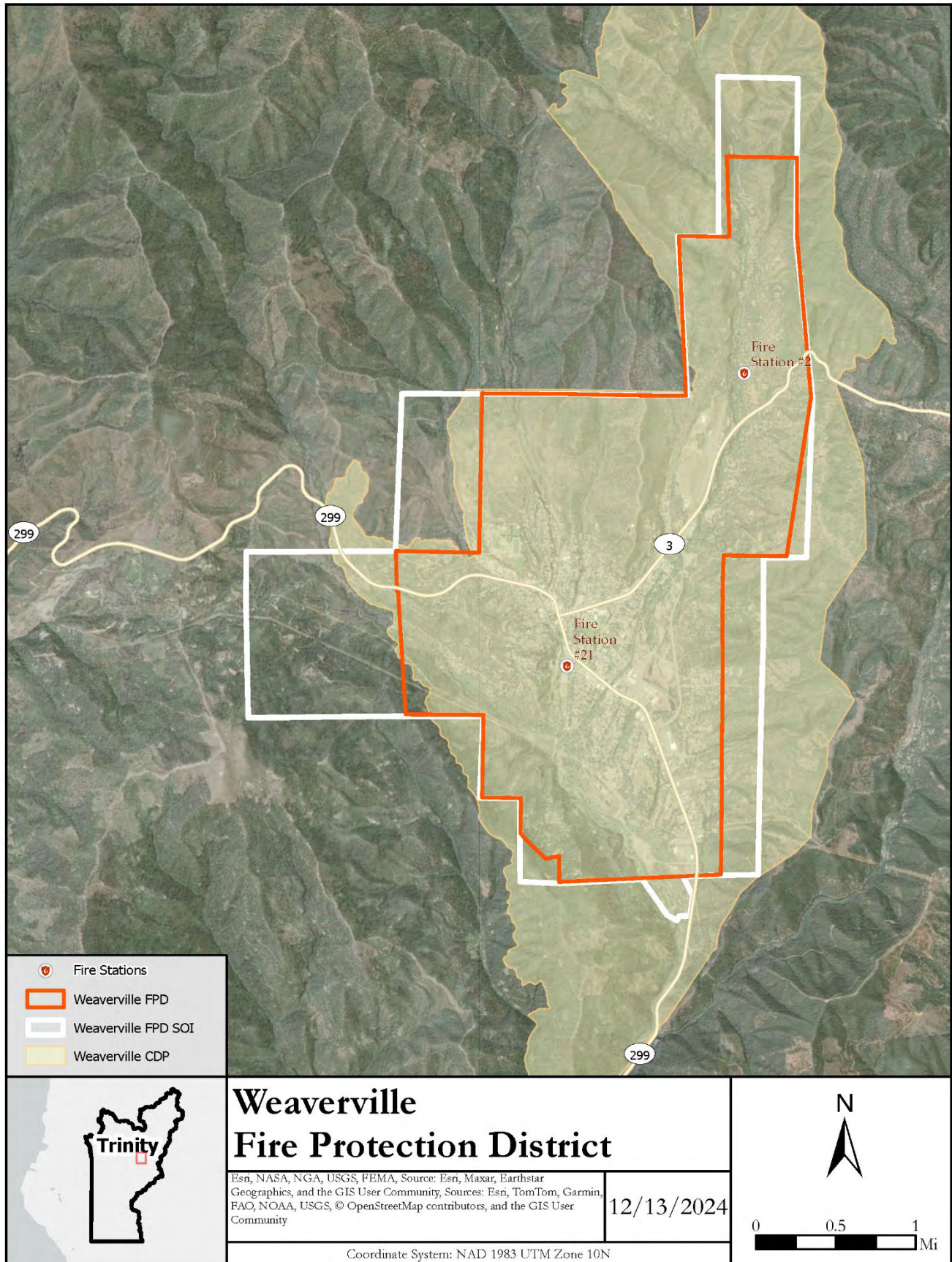


Figure 6-2: Weaverville FPD Proposed SOI

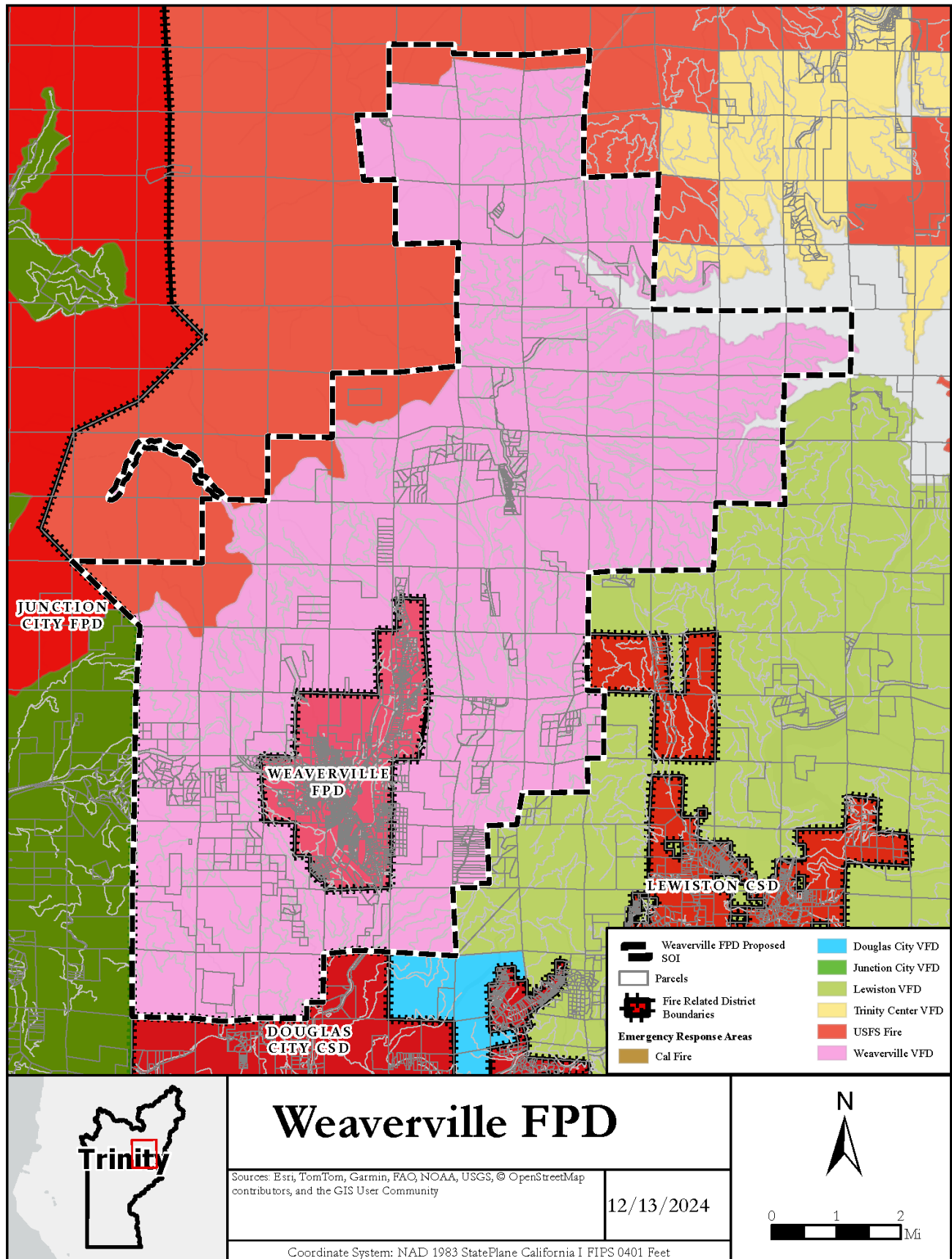
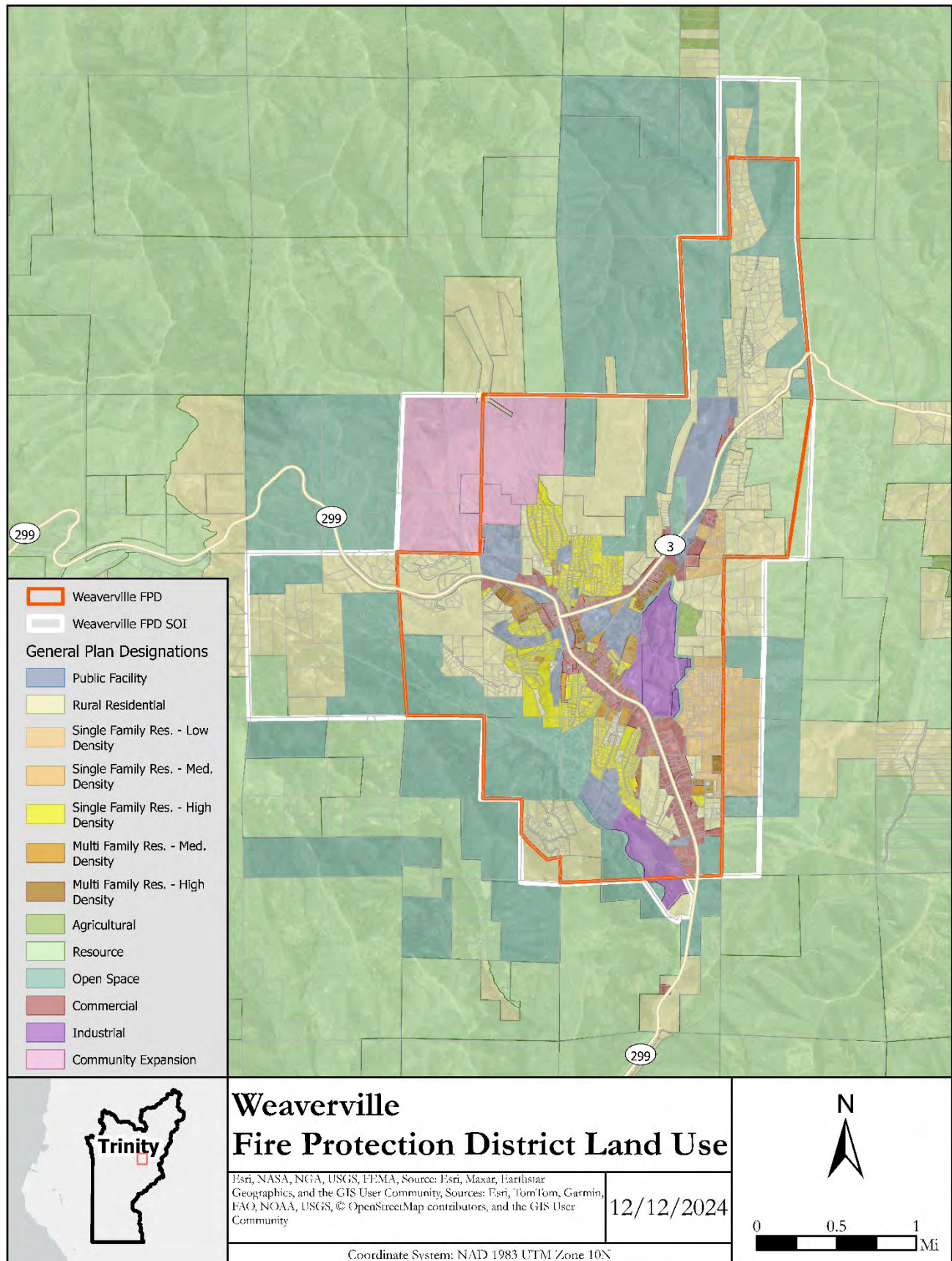


Figure 6-3: Weaverville FPD Land Uses



Growth and Population

The population of Weaverville FPD is approximately 3,667 according to the 2020 decennial Census data. American Community Survey (ACS) Demographic and Housing Estimates approximate the District’s 2021 population to be 3,962. However, the ACS 5-Year data estimates have a large margin of error and are known to be less accurate than decennial Census data. Personal communication with the District also supports the population to be approximately 3,667; as such, this estimate is used for the purposes of this report.

Trinity County’s population was estimated to be 16,112 as of the 2020 decennial Census. According to the California Department of Transportation (DOT), the County’s population is expected to decline by 0.4 percent per year from 2021-2026.

Based on the estimated population and historical growth for the area, it is unlikely that the District will grow substantially over the next five to ten years. It is likely that the District’s population will follow a similar trend to that of the County, declining by 0.4 percent each year.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

The 2021 estimated median household income (MHI) of the District is \$42,023¹ according to the ACS 5-Year Estimates, which is approximately 50 percent of the estimated 2021 California MHI of \$84,907. The County has an estimated MHI of \$42,206, which is approximately 50 percent of the State’s MHI. Thus, both the County and the District qualify as disadvantaged.

6.2 GOVERNANCE AND STRUCTURE

Governing Body

Weaverville FPD is an independent special district served by a five-member Board of Directors that is elected to four-year staggered terms. Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 125 Bremer Street (Fire Station #21) in Weaverville, CA.

Meetings of the Board of Directors are subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act which requires agendas to be posted at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public. Board agendas and notices are posted at the bulletin board in Fire Station #21, the District’s website, and in The Trinity Journal at least 72 hours in advance of scheduled Board meetings.

Table 6-2: Board of Directors

Board Member	Title	Term
Rick Wetzel	Chairman	12/4/2020 -12/6/2024
Bill Fischer	Vice-Chairman	12/4/2020 -12/6/2024
Todd Watkins	Commissioner	12/2/2022 - 12/4/2026
Larry Helsley	Commissioner	12/2/2022 - 12/4/2026
George Owen	Commissioner	12/4/2020 -12/6/2024

¹ Table S1903 Median Income in the Past 12 Months (In 2021 Inflation-Adjusted Dollars), ACS 5-Year Estimates, 2021.

Staffing

Weaverville FPD currently employs two full-time paid positions: a Fire Chief/Marshal and an Administrative Officer. The Fire Chief/Marshal currently conducts inspections of businesses, residences, sprinklers, life safety, and other compliance inspections; enforces the fire code; investigates fires to determine origin and cause; and oversees the functions and operations of the District.

Accountability and Transparency

SB929 was signed into law on September 14, 2018, requiring all independent special districts to have and maintain a website meeting all the special district transparency requirements of State law including the availability of agendas, policies, and financial information by January 1, 2020. Weaverville FPD does maintain a website (<https://www.wfdca.org/district>) and is in compliance with all of the requirements of SB929. The specific requirements of SB929 and the District's compliance status for each requirement are delineated below (Table 6-3).

Table 6-3: SB929 Website Posting Requirements

Type of Requirement	Description of Requirement	Is the District in compliance?
District Contact Information	The bill does not state the specific contact information required. We recommend posting, at a minimum: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical address Mailing address Phone number E-mail address 	Yes
Most Recent Agenda	The most recent agenda must be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting Linked on the homepage of the website, navigating directly to the current agenda Searchable, indexable, and platform-independent (simply put, post the agenda as a PDF) 	Yes
Financial Transaction Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Financial Transaction report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	Yes
Staff Compensation Report	The State Controller's report for the District's Staff Compensation report must be posted or linked to the corresponding State Controller website.	Yes
Enterprise System Catalog	As required by SB272, the Enterprise System Catalog must be posted. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current system vendor Current System product System's purpose A description of categories or types of data Department that is the prime data custodian Frequency in which system data is collected and updated 	Yes

The District has contact information posted in a visible area of the website. Board meeting agenda packets and meeting minutes are posted in freely accessible locations for District residents in advance of the meeting in compliance with the Brown Act. The current agenda is posted on the homepage of the website, directly linking to a PDF copy of the agenda. Additionally, the website contains links to the State Controller's Financial Transaction Report website and the State Controller's Compensation Report website, where District financial

information can be found. The District also has the Enterprise System Catalog posted on the website. Although not a requirement of SB929, the District is encouraged to make the last three, or most recent, fiscal year budgets and the most recent audit available online to further increase transparency beyond what is required by State law.

6.3 SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Service Overview

Weaverville FPD owns and maintains two fire stations that serve the greater Weaverville area: Fire Station #21, located at 125 Bremer Street, and Fire Station #2, located at 290 East Weaver Street. Both stations are in good condition and have undergone facility improvements in recent years.

Fire Station #21 has a full gym onsite and is available for use by volunteers. This station has received energy-efficient upgrades on LED lighting fixtures, five HVAC units, and new, insulated garage doors. Security cameras have been recently installed at this station. The District recently implemented a carcinogenic reduction program at Fire Station #21, which included the purchasing of a structure gear extractor and dryer and a standard clothing washer and dryer. Washing firefighting gear separate from normal clothing prevents normal clothing being contaminated with the carcinogens that are washed off of gear.

Fire Station #2 has recently undergone remodeling. Originally, Fire Station #2 was used to store reserve apparatuses but now has been restaffed with the responding apparatuses. The remodeling of this station consisted of renovating the living quarters to resemble a studio apartment with a kitchen; replacing the electric and plumbing infrastructure; and the building of a multi-purpose day recreation room.

Demand

Weaverville FPD receives an average of 500 calls per year. In 2022, the District responded to 695 calls, an all-time record. The number of calls the District has received each year has been steadily increasing since 2018 (Table 6-4). Overwhelmingly, Medical Public Assistance calls are the largest type of incident the District responds to; from 2018-2022, these incidents made up between 59 percent and 64 percent of the total calls.

Table 6-4: Weaverville FPD Call Status Summary

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Structure Fire	11	13	14	17	7
Vehicle Fire	7	3	7	9	2
Flue Fire	3	1	1	2	4
Smoke Check	36	52	44	38	37
Vegetation Fire	14	20	22	14	11
Fire False Alarm	28	27	37	46	48
Fire Other	4	7	4	12	10
Medical Public Assistance	316	362	329	382	445
Medical Motor Vehicle Accident	42	35	32	31	32
Rescue Public Assistance	4	1	4	5	3
Public Assistance False Alarm	15	9	7	9	8
Public Assistance Other	27	50	52	71	84

Fuel Spill HazMat	1	1	0	1	2
Propane Leak HazMat	2	0	0	3	1
HazMat False Alarm	0	0	2	4	1
HazMat Other	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL CALLS	510	581	555	644	695

Personnel

Weaverville FPD typically has approximately 26 volunteers on its roster. The District currently has 23 volunteers. This is a decrease from the 2022 roster, counting 30 volunteers. The District has a core group of volunteers that respond to nearly all calls, with other volunteers supplementing this core group. Eight of the other volunteers are support service members that provide logistical support depending on individual skillsets such as electrical work, equipment maintenance, and clerical work. The District averages 2,300 volunteer hours per year. However, this average does not include the time spent on-scene for vehicle accidents, fire-related calls, or the numerous community events the volunteers participate in throughout the year.

Recruitment and Retention

Weaverville VFD hosts fundraising events such as their Fourth of July Barbeque Fundraiser, Open House, and Engine Demo; Mother's Day Rose Delivery Fundraiser; Firewood Raffle; Valentine's Day Rose Sale; and more throughout the year. The Department is always looking for new members and attempts to recruit volunteers through the following methods:

- Public Events – The VFD is active in the community and attends numerous public events throughout the year including local football games, elementary and high school events, the Historic Car Show, Fire Prevention Week, Halloween events, the Harvest Festival, and more. Typically, the Department provides life-safety standbys at events. This includes having staff members and necessary equipment located at and fully dedicated to the event, should services be required at any point. When services are not required, the VFD is able to increase the community's engagement with the Department and provide interested parties with recruitment opportunities, education on the Department's operations, and other information as needed.
- Social Media – The Department is very active on their Facebook page and in addition to providing the community with important information, promotes available volunteer opportunities. The VFD attended the Trinity County College and Career Expo in May 2023 and heavily promoted this event on their Facebook page by posting past and present VFD volunteers' first-hand accounts of their experiences volunteering with the Department. Additionally, the District has a small YouTube presence where interested parties can visually learn more about the VFD's operations,
- Newspaper Publications – Including the Trinity Journal and other publications.
- Mini-movie – The Trinity Theatre, a local movie theatre in Weaverville, offers advertising that plays prior to movies being shown. The VFD has created a mini-movie that is shown in this manner as a recruitment tactic. As the only movie theatre in Trinity County, this theatre is frequented by members of neighboring communities in addition to those residing in Weaverville. As such, this recruitment and advertising tactic has a widespread reach.
- Website – The VFD website has a section specifically pertaining to volunteering with the Department. There are easily accessible links to the volunteer brochure and membership application, which has options to apply for Explorer (aged 14-21), Regular (18+), or

Support Services. The Explorer Program allows for youth to explore careers in the fire or emergency services field. Support Services volunteers assist the volunteer firefighters before, during, and after, an incident through means of maintenance, public events, marketing, cooking, fundraising, recruitment and retention, and more components.

Training

Weaverville FPD volunteers participate in four trainings per month; each training is approximately two to three hours long for a total of eight to twelve training hours logged each month. Each year, the District averages approximately 120 training hours. The volunteers on the 2023 roster largely hold the training qualifications of Fire Responder (EMR), Wildland (CICCS), and Fire Fighter I or above (**Table 6-5**). Many of the volunteers are qualified in certain training subjects due to training experience, notably Hazmat First Responder Operations and Rope Rescue, but have not yet received official certification in the subject.

Table 6-5: Training Qualifications

Training Qualification	# of Members Trained	# of Members Qualified
Fire Fighter I or above	13	17
Wildland (CICCS)	13	17
First Responder (EMR)	18	12
EMT	0	7
Paramedic	0	2
HazMat First Responder Ops.	3	27
Rope Rescue	10	20
Swift Water Rescue	10	11
Fire Investigation	1	1
Fire Instruction	2	2
Driver/Operator	5	17

Infrastructure and Facilities

For training, the District used to utilize the training tower located at Shasta College approximately 48.5 miles away from Fire Station #21. This location added an approximate two-hour round-trip commute on top of the two-to-three-hour monthly trainings, which is inconvenient and difficult to accommodate. The District has been looking into other training location options and recently constructed a new live fire training facility located at 31775 State Highway 3, funded entirely by community donations. Live fire training structures are a critical component to firefighter training, as they provide the ability to train with live fire in a controlled environment.

The land for the training facility was acquired during a land trade with the Bureau of Land Management over 40 years ago and is partly owned by the County due to its proximity to the County yard. The construction of the live fire training structure is a multi-phase project, with Phase I coming to completion in the coming months. At present, the facility consists of three large shipping containers which are placed in a configuration that resembles a residential structure. Phase 2 will incorporate additional shipping containers to create a second-story layout. Once Phase 2 is complete, likely in the near future, firefighters will be able to train with ladders, rappelling, and ventilation to practice civilian rescue and fire suppression from a second story.

Weaverville FPD currently has five fire trucks, one water tender, and four utility vehicles in service (Table 6-6: Weaverville FPD Apparatus InformationTable 6-6). The District also has three legacy vehicles, two of which are used in local parades, and the other which is located in the Richard C. Barrien Fire Museum in Weaverville.

Table 6-6: Weaverville FPD Apparatus Information

Station	Station Address	Apparatus	Common Name	Year	Type	Pump (GPM)	Tank (Gal)
Fire Station #21	125 Bremer Street	2131	International/BME	1997	3	500	500
		2111	Freightliner/Pierce Pumper	2005	1	1,250	1,000
		2212	HME Hi-Tech TCM	1995	1	1,500	500
		2151	Rescue Vehicle	2009		N/A	N/A
		B2103	Utility Vehicle	2015	N/A	Tri-max CAF	30g of foam makes 600g
		T21	Ladder Truck	1990	N/A	1,250	500
		2161	Utility Vehicle	2016	N/A	N/A	N/A
		2141	Water Tender	2016	1 Tackle Tender	500	2,000
		C2101	Utility Vehicle	2019	N/A	N/A	N/A
		2132	Wildland Model 34	2023	3	500	500
Fire Station #2	290 East Weaver Street	N/A	American LaFrance Model 12	1917	N/A	350	85
		N/A	GMC Van Pelt Co., Inc	1953	N/A	1000	500

ISO Rating

There are several benchmarks by which the level of fire service provided by an agency may be measured, and the Insurance Services Office Public Protection Classification, or ISO PPC, is one such measure. The ISO is a rating commonly used by insurance companies to determine fire insurance rates, with 1 being the best rating which indicates the highest level of fire protection and the lowest being 10.

As of 2022, the Weaverville FPD's rating is a 3/3Y. The District has a "3" rating for properties located within five road miles of a fire station and within 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant and a "3Y" rating for properties located within five road miles of a fire station but more than 1,000 feet away from a fire hydrant. As a part of the PPC survey, it was identified by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) that Fire Station #2 did not meet the minimum requirements for recognition. The community of Weaverville benefits from reduced insurance premiums as a result of the 3/3Y rating.

Challenges and Needs

One of the largest challenges the District faces is the recruitment of volunteers. Recruitment of volunteer firefighters is typically very difficult in rural communities, and Weaverville is no

exception. Despite the numerous recruitment tactics the District employs, it is still a challenge to have a consistent volunteer roster each year. The District has observed a steep decline in the number of people willing to become volunteers in recent years. While the Department does have a small group of dedicated volunteers, this group is becoming very burnt out and overworked due to the large commitment. The District was originally set up as a volunteer firefighting department based on a call volume that was vastly smaller than that of today. As the District's call volume increases, the workload and commitment are becoming increasingly too much for a volunteer firefighter to handle. As such, the District is in critical need of additional paid staff. The District is very interested in exploring funding options that would allow Weaverville VFD to transition to a combination department with career staff, supplemented by volunteer or reserve staff.

The District is experiencing an increase in inspections and code compliance visits due to an increase of businesses, new developments, and expanding this service to include the cannabis industry. At present, the Fire Chief is taking on the job duties of Fire Marshal as well as those associated with being Chief. He is responsible for facilitating these compliance visits, which takes up a large amount of his workload. The hiring of an additional paid staff member would cover these job duties of conducting yearly testing; ensuring code compliance of buildings, schools, residences, and other facilities; conducting other inspections; and more. This would allow for the Fire Chief to be less burdened with responsibilities, allowing him to focus more on Chief-related tasks such as managing the operations of the District. Paid firefighters, such as a Captain/Firefighter or Captain/Engineer, would also be beneficial for the District. These positions would provide daytime fire coverage and complete tasks around the station including general maintenance, testing, inspections, and other tasks.

Accomplishments and Successes

The District has had numerous notable accomplishments in recent years. One of the largest successes of the District is the completion of improvements to Fire Station #21 and #2. These improvements are detailed in the *Infrastructure and Facilities* section of this document.

In 2023, the District was able to purchase a new Type III Wildland Engine, which cost over \$500,000. Community donations and support from the Trinity River Lumber Mill and Schmidbauer Family Trust provided much needed funding to support this purchase. Wildland fire is the largest vulnerability for the District, highlighting the need to increase wildland firefighting capabilities through the acquisition of wildland infrastructure. This 2023 BME Wildland Model 34 engine will respond to wildland fires and structure protection in the wildland-urban interface (WUI).

Additionally, the District has implemented programs to improve firefighters' health and wellness. These programs include the carcinogenic reduction program, described above, and physical and mental health support. While the District has a full gym available at Fire Station #21, the District also offers programs that finance the cost of other gyms' memberships so that volunteers may work-out at other facilities. The District also provides the funding for volunteers to see a therapist, with transportation provided. Volunteers may opt to see a therapist at any time and for any reason with District support. If volunteers are injured while engaging in Department activities that prevent them from working their normal day job, the District offers an income replacement insurance plan.

Goals

In the near future, the District has three main goals. In 2024, the District is aiming to complete Phase 2 of the live fire training facility as described above. As soon as funding allows, the District

has two apparatuses they'd like to purchase: A Type VI Wildland Engine and a new Type I Structure Engine.

A Type VI wildland engine is smaller and lighter than other wildland engines, such as the new Type III wildland engine purchased in early 2023. The smaller size of the Type VI engine will be beneficial for maneuvering narrow driveways and bridges with weight limits. This engine is a pickup truck with firefighting capabilities and does not require a special license for operation, making it easily operable by the volunteers.

The Trinity County Planning Commission recommended that the Board of Supervisors (BOS) amend Section 17.18.060 of the Trinity County Code to change the height limit of the Multiple Family District (R-3) zone throughout the County from 25 feet to 45 feet. At the November 7th, 2023, BOS meeting, the BOS approved the ordinance to allow the height limit change exclusively within the Weaverville Fire District boundaries, as opposed to the entire County. The Weaverville FPD is the only fire protection service provider in the County that has a ladder truck that can reach the new 45 feet height limit. The District's current structure engines are aging, with models from 1991 and 2004. As such, the District is looking to invest in a taller ladder truck to ensure that fire suppression services can be provided as taller buildings are built in Weaverville. This taller ladder truck would be a new Type I Structure Engine.

Shared Services

Weaverville FPD is available for mutual aid upon request and is frequently called to aid. The District has automatic aid agreements with Douglas City CSD, Lewiston CSD, and Junction City FPD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls. Historically, the District has given more mutual aid than they have received (**Table 6-7**). The District has provided mutual aid response to every community in the County besides Kettenpom/Zenia.

Table 6-7: Mutual Aid Statistics 2018-2022

	Mutual Aid Given	Mutual Aid Received
2018	7	1
2019	12	4
2020	14	1
2021	14	2
2022	25	0

The District and CAL FIRE enact annual agreements for cooperative wildland fire management activities. As part of these agreements, both entities engage in mutual aid on District lands that are intermingled or adjacent to CAL FIRE managed lands. Additionally, the District receives seasonal reimbursements for in-unit wildland fire assignments (via assistance by hire and equipment rental). Weaverville FPD typically provides staff resources and supplies a water tender and one or more engines.

Other Service Providers

Water

The Weaverville Community Services District (WCSD), the largest water service provider in the County, provides water services to Weaverville although some households may rely on individual water wells as their water source. The WCSD primarily sources its water from surface water including East and West Weaver Creeks, Trinity River, wells, and springs. The service area is

approximately 8,350 acres or 13 square miles and the WCSD serves approximately 3,554 customers.

Wastewater

The Weaverville Sanitary District provides wastewater services within Weaverville. The Weaverville SD is responsible for the collection, conveyance, treatment, and disposal of the community's wastewater. Existing facilities consist of collection and transmission lines including 50 miles of pipeline, one lift station, and a treatment plant located at 630 Mountain View Street. The SD serves approximately 1,300 service connections and there is no anticipated expansion of wastewater services.

Solid Waste Disposal

The Weaverville Transfer Station is located at 173 Tom Bell Road and provides solid waste disposal services for Weaverville and nearby communities.

Electricity and Natural Gas

Trinity Public Utilities District (TPUD) manages and distributes power throughout most of Trinity County. TPUD purchases its power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA) pursuant to a first preference right to power produced by the Trinity River Division of the Central Valley Project². TPUD does not operate any generation assets but instead provides sub-transmission and electricity distribution to approximately 12,000 customers in a 2,200 square mile area in Trinity County. There are nine substations which are both owned and operated by both WAPA (five served from this transmission system) and Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E) (four served from this transmission system). Trinity County has eight hydroelectric facilities that are either operated by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation or privately owned. These facilities are part of California's Central Valley Project and generate hydroelectric power. Energy produced by these facilities is managed by WAPA and transmitted to customers by TPUD.

PG&E is the only designated natural gas provider in the County. However, despite this designation, PG&E does not offer natural gas service to most areas within the County, leaving residents to rely on propane for natural gas needs.

Telecommunications

Verizon, AT&T, and other major service providers provide wireless telephone and broadband internet services to Weaverville. Wired telephone and cable internet service is offered by Velocity Communications. Velocity Communications offers services to over 700 square miles across Trinity, Shasta, and Humboldt Counties, including the Trinity County communities of Hayfork, Trinity Center, Lewiston, Junction City, Douglas City, and Weaverville. Satellite internet service is provided by HughesNet, Space Exploration Technology's (SpaceX) Starlink, and Viasat.

Emergency Medical Services

Trinity Life Support Community Services District (TLSCSD) operates two ambulances, one stationed in Hayfork and one in Weaverville, with a 2,100 square mile response area. Annually, the TLSCSD receives an average of 1,500 calls. The TLSCSD provides training in the areas of emergency preparedness, emergency medical technician, emergency medical responder, and public safety first aid while also offering American Heart Association community and professional level courses.

TLSCSD was formed in 2021 after a successful special election, which included voter approval of a special tax at a flat rate of \$45 per year for each parcel developed with residential or commercial uses, which generates approximately \$258,000 per year. In June 2022, TLSCSD

² Trinity River Division Act of 1955

entered into a contract with Mountain Communities Healthcare District (MCHD) for administrative, professional, and technical staffing support. The managing support agreement allows TLSCSD to maintain all their real property assets including ambulances and collectible taxes, while MCHD provides all ambulance services staffing, including administrative support (HR, billing, finance, administration, and other resources) to provide better economies of scale and reimbursement through MCHD's Critical Access Hospital designation.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement is provided by the Trinity County Sheriff's Office. The California Highway Patrol is responsible for traffic control for State Route 299 and State Route 3, both of which are in close proximity to the District.

Parks and Recreation

The Weaverville/Douglas City Parks and Recreation District (Parks and Recreation District) serves the areas of Weaverville and Douglas City. The Parks and Recreation District maintains Lee Fong Park and Lowden Park Pool, administers adult and youth programs, and maintains any clinics and camps associated with those programs. Programs and clinics include sports such as basketball, volleyball, flag football, and soccer and focus on developing fundamental skills. Lee Fong Park, located off of Main Street in Weaverville, offers a disc golf course, amphitheater, covered picnic and BBQ areas, fruit trees, views of the Trinity Alps, and private function rentals.

Resource Conservation

The Trinity County Resource Conservation District (TCRCD) is a countywide agency that protects and manages the natural resources of Trinity County through the provision of technical assistance and the implementation of projects and programs. The TCRCD also engages in educational programs and works to increase education on conservation throughout the County. The TCRCD engages in numerous wildfire mitigation projects including the implementation of the Trinity County Wildfire Mitigation Project and a myriad of fuels reductions and defensible space projects. For over 20 years, the TCRCD has engaged in fuels reductions projects that have resulted in the thinning of thousands of acres throughout the County's forests. Additionally, the TCRCD is in close collaboration with the Trinity County Fire Safe Council (TCFSC) in the development of the Trinity County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and the 2010, 2015, and 2020 updates to the Trinity County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

6.4 FINANCING

Financial Overview

The Weaverville FPD Board of Directors is responsible for establishing and maintaining a system of internal accounting control. The District Board is responsible for adopting an annual budget. In addition, monthly financial reports are presented to the Board for review and approval. The basic financial statements of the District are prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

Health and Safety Code (HSC) Sections 13890-13906 requires a preliminary budget to be adopted on or before June 30 of each year and a final budget to be adopted on or before October 1 of each year. A copy of the final budget must be forwarded to the County Auditor-Controller (HSC 13895). Weaverville FPD complies with this requirement.

Revenues and Expenditures

Weaverville FPD is primarily supported through property taxes (also known as "ad valorem" taxes) and charges for services, including reimbursements for State and Federal Fire Incidents.

The main expenditures of the District are from funding reserve salaries, regular salaries, and equipment maintenance.

Table 6-8: Financial Data (FY 2021-22 through FY 2023-24)

	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23	FY 2023-24
Revenues			
Property Tax	\$278,062.79	\$304,958.12	\$323,386.99
State HOPTER	\$2,553.98	\$2,453.12	\$2,254.52
Worker's Compensation Reimbursement	\$1,642.86	\$1,642.86	\$1,642.86
Interest	\$506.51	\$392.08	\$528.29
CCCU	\$35,760.04	\$36,760.23	\$57,283.87
Incident Income	\$254,204.65	\$455,460.22	\$36,539.92
Total Revenues	\$572,730.83	\$801,666.63	\$421,636.45
Expenditures			
Salaries and Wages	\$433,310.80	\$491,044.18	\$498,239.01
Services and Supplies	\$265,478.24	\$265,703.00	\$261,869.77
Total Expenditures	\$698,789.04	\$756,747.18	\$760,108.78

State Controller's Office

The District has submitted overall revenues and expenditures to the State Controller's Office consistently since 2003. According to the State Controller's Office, the District had an overall revenue of \$804,119 and expenditures of \$688,919 in FY 2021-2022. This is a net gain of \$115,200. Over the past six fiscal years reviewed, the District has operated at a net gain for five of the years (**Table 6-9**).

Out of the years reviewed, the largest source of revenue for the District was from current secured and unsecured revenues with the exception of FY 2021-2022, where charges for current services were the majority revenue source. Expenses consisted of the following: services and supplies; employee benefits; salaries and wages; and principal payments on long-term debt. Either services and supplies or salaries and wages were the largest contributing factors to the overall expenditures.

Table 6-9: State Controller's Office Summary

	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018	FY 2018-2019	FY 2019-2020	FY 2020-2021	FY 2021-2022
Revenues	\$357,919	\$667,392	\$646,105	\$352,739	\$537,878	\$804,119
Expenditures	\$293,243	\$451,373	\$518,321	\$404,731	\$466,856	\$688,919
Net Gain/(Loss)	\$64,676	\$216,019	\$127,784	(\$51,992)	\$71,022	\$115,200

Audits

The District prepares annual audits. The most recent audit available is for the year ending June 2021 (**Table 6-10**). Over this fiscal year, the District saw an overall increase in its net position. Its net position increased by \$64,461 from \$1356,828 as of July 2020 and \$1,421,289 at the end of June 2021.

Table 6-10: FY2020-2021 Audit Summary

	FY2020-2021 Final Budget	FY2020-2021 Audit Actuals
Revenues		
Property Taxes	\$315,000.00	\$312,004.00
Homeowners' Property Tax Relief	\$2,500.00	\$2,554.00
Fire District Supplemental Assessment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Impact Fee	\$25,000.00	\$38,532.00
Charges for Services	\$260,000.00	\$216,428.00
Interest	\$6,000.00	\$10,221.00
Proceeds from Sale of Assets	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Income	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Total Revenues	\$613,500.00	\$584,739.00
Expenditures		
Salaries and Benefits	\$436,011.00	\$178,897.00
Protective Clothing	\$28,000.00	\$1,015.00
Communication	\$8,100.00	\$4,499.00
Household	\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment Rental	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance	\$47,413.00	(\$1,014.00)
Repairs and Maintenance	\$86,075.00	\$32,581.00
Medical/Lab Fees	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
Memberships	\$5,938.00	\$1,895.00
Office Expenses	\$10,420.00	\$6,436.00
Professional Fees and Special Services	\$12,000.00	\$6,400.00
Property Tax Administration Fee	\$0.00	\$0.00
Special Department Expenses	\$15,500.00	\$12,967.00
Tools	\$10,000.00	\$826.00
Public and Legal Notices	\$500.00	\$228.00
Fuel and Travel	\$33,000.00	\$20,336.00
Utilities	\$8,532.00	\$731.00
Other Charges	\$0.00	\$0.00
Debt Service – Principal	\$38,000.00	\$15,320.00
Debt Service – Interest	\$22,000.00	\$8,009.00
Capital Outlay	\$0.00	(\$5,209.00)
Total Expenditures	\$764,289.00	\$286,717.00
Net Gain/(Loss)	(\$150,789.00)	\$298,022.00

Financing Constraints and Opportunities

Weaverville FPD receives a percentage of ad valorem property taxes and relies on community donations, grants, and seasonal reimbursements from CAL FIRE (via strike team response, assistance by hire, or equipment rental) to fund services. The District does not have a special tax or assessment in place, which could be levied within the District boundary to effectively manage recurring costs, such as those associated with staffing, insurance, utilities, fuel, and equipment. In order to increase revenue to a sustainable level, the District could consider the following actions:

- Adopt an ordinance and fee schedule which charges out-of-district residents for services provided
- Pursue a special tax or assessment which would require approval from registered voters or property owners within the District boundaries.

6.5 MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW DETERMINATIONS

As set forth in Section 56430(a) of the CKH Act- In order to prepare and to update the SOI in accordance with Section 56425, the commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission. The commission shall include in the area designated for a service review the county, the region, the sub-region, or any other geographic area as is appropriate for an analysis of the service or services to be reviewed, and shall prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

(1) Growth and population projections for the affected area

- a) The District is estimated to serve approximately 3,667 residents. Its response area extends well beyond its boundaries in all directions, but particularly to the north. While much of Weaverville's population is concentrated within or adjacent to the center of the community, there are residents within the District's response area that are not included in the population estimate of 3,667. The true population served by the District is likely larger than this estimate, but still lower than 4,000 people.
- b) It is likely that the District's population will decline by 0.4 percent per year, following a similar population decline to that of the County.

(2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence

- a) The community of Weaverville qualifies as disadvantaged with a 2021 estimated median household income of \$42,023 or 50 percent of the 2021 State MHI.
- b) Should territory in the surrounding area be evaluated for annexation in the future, disadvantaged communities in the area will be considered further.

(3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services, including infrastructure needs or deficiencies

- a) The District's facilities and infrastructure are sufficient to provide services to its residents, but upgrades and updates would increase the quality of service provided. Some of the District's apparatus fleet is aging and will need to be updated in the near future, but the District has been able to upgrade some apparatus in recent years. The new training facility is in excellent condition and allows the District to thoroughly train and provide quality services to the area.
- b) Volunteer recruitment and retention are significant challenges to the effective provision of fire suppression and management services.
- c) The District has an ISO rating of 3/3Y indicating a high level of fire protection service provision.

(4) Financing ability of agencies to provide services

- a) In most years, the District currently has sufficient revenues to cover annual expenses. However, large fluctuations in incident revenues may impact the District's ability to sufficiently cover expenses.
- b) To increase revenue, Weaverville FPD could consider adopting an ordinance and fee schedule charging out-of-district residents for provided services, and/or pursue implementation of a special tax or assessment to be levied within District boundaries.

(5) Status of and, opportunities for, shared facilities

- a) Weaverville FPD is an active member of fire service provision within Trinity County and is available for mutual aid upon request. The District regularly gives more mutual aid than it receives. The District has automatic aid agreements with Junction City FPD, Lewiston CSD, and Douglas City CSD to respond on 1st alarm to all structure fire calls.
- b) The District has annual agreements for cooperative wildland fire management activities with CAL FIRE to engage in mutual aid on District lands adjacent or intermingled to CAL FIRE lands. The District receives seasonal reimbursement for in-unit wildland fire assignments via assistance by hire and equipment rental.

(6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies

- a) Weaverville FPD does have a website where it posts information about District activities including agendas, meeting minutes, and other documents. The District is encouraged to post its most recent budgets for the past three fiscal years and audit to its website to increase transparency.
- b) The District is independent and governed by a five-member Board of Directors. Board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Fire Station #21, located at 125 Bremer Street. Board agendas and notices are posted at the Fire Station #21 bulletin board, the District's website, and the Trinity Journal at least 72 hours in advance.
- c) Weaverville FPD supports the mutual social and economic interests of Weaverville, Junction City, Douglas City, Lewiston, and other communities in the County by sustaining community-based fire protection services in the surrounding area and actively participating in collaborative efforts and shared services.

(7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery

- a) It is recommended that Weaverville FPD's sphere of influence be updated to reflect the District's current emergency response area, with minor clean-up to match parcel boundaries, as it reflects the District's area of responsibility more accurately than the current sphere.

6.6 SPHERE OF INFLUENCE DETERMINATIONS

In order to carry out its purposes and responsibilities for planning and shaping the logical and orderly development of local governmental agencies to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of the county and its communities, the commission shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each local agency, as defined by G.C. Section 56036, and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere. In determining the sphere of influence of each local agency, the commission shall consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to the following:

(1) Present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands

- a) Land uses within the District are varied but largely consist of Open Space, Rural Residential, Single Family Residential – High Density, Industrial, Resource, Community Expansion, and Public Facility designated lands. Lands surrounding the District are largely Resource with small portions of Rural Residential, Open Space, and Community Expansion. Development could occur in the area, but would largely be limited to the few parcels zoned Community Expansion should a need for development arise.

(2) Present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area

- a) The existing residents in the area served by Weaverville FPD require, and in the future will continue to require, fire protection and suppression services.

(3) Present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide

- a) The District recently made station improvements to its main and secondary fire stations, which are both in great condition. Improvements were made to station lighting, security, living quarters, recreational areas, energy efficiency, and plumbing infrastructure. These facilities have sufficient capacity to provide services. The apparatus fleet has multiple newer apparatus.
- b) The District provides sufficient public services to the area, but could improve the quality of its service provision with improvements to its volunteer recruitment/retention and finances. The District actively pursues grant and funding opportunities to support its operations but could explore other avenues to increase revenue, such as a special tax or assessment.

(4) Existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency

- a) Weaverville is near Douglas City, Lewiston, and Junction City. Douglas City is approximately seven miles south of Weaverville and is located along the Trinity River. The Douglas City community is small with an elementary school, convenience store, motel, mobile home and RV park, and campground. This area draws visitors looking for recreational opportunities along the river.
- b) Lewiston is approximately seven miles southeast of Weaverville and is one of the County's most populated communities. This area is in close proximity to Lewiston Lake and offers many recreational opportunities including camping, hiking, and fishing. Lewiston area services include lodging, a library, a veterinary clinic, and a few select restaurants.

- c) Approximately eight miles west of Weaverville is Junction City. Junction City is nestled along a bank of the Trinity River and is a small commercial and residential center, providing access to outdoor recreation opportunities and the Weaverville community.

(5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere

- a) The community of Weaverville is a DUC that requires, and will continue to require, structural fire protection along with other fire protection and suppression services. The proposed sphere will expand the District's SOI to generally match its current emergency response area, with minor clean-up to follow parcel boundaries.



RESOLUTION NO. 2024-05

APPROVING THE MIDDLE TRINITY REGIONAL FIRE SERVICES MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

WHEREAS, the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, is authorized to conduct municipal service reviews and establish, amend, and update spheres of influence for local governmental agencies whose jurisdictions are within Trinity County; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a municipal service review to evaluate the availability, capacity and efficiency of services provided by four fire service providers in the Middle Trinity region including the Douglas City Community Services District, Junction City Fire Protection District, Lewiston Community Services District, and Weaverville Fire Protection District, hereinafter referred to as the “Districts”, pursuant to California Government Code Section 56430; and

WHEREAS, the Commission conducted a sphere of influence review for the Districts pursuant to California Government Code Section 56425; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer gave sufficient notice of a public hearing to be conducted by the Commission in the form and manner provided by law; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer’s report and recommendations on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update were presented to the Commission in the form and manner prescribed by law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission heard and fully considered all the evidence presented at a public hearing held on the municipal service review and sphere of influence update on December 17, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Commission considered all the factors required under California Government Code Section 56430 and 56425.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the municipal service review is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15306. This finding is based on the use of the municipal service review as a data collection and service evaluation study. The information contained within the municipal service review may be used to consider future actions that will be subject to additional environmental review.
2. The Commission, as Lead Agency, finds the sphere of influence update is exempt from further review under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Title 14 California Code of Regulations Section 15061(b)(3). This finding is based on the

Commission determining with certainty the update will have no possibility of significantly effecting the environment given no new land use or municipal service authority is granted.

3. This municipal service review and sphere of influence update is assigned the following distinctive short-term designation: "Middle Trinity Regional Fire Services MSR/SOI Update 2024".
4. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56430(a), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the municipal service review, hereby incorporated by reference.
5. Pursuant to Government Code Section 56425(e), the Commission makes the written statement of determinations included in the sphere of influence update, hereby incorporated by reference.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Commission that:

The Middle Trinity River Regional Fire Services MSR/SOI Update 2024 is hereby approved, and the sphere of influence for each District is hereby approved as depicted in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and as follows:

- Douglas City Community Services District: The SOI is expanded to match the District's out of district goodwill response area.
- Junction City Fire Protection District: The SOI is amended to match the District's goodwill response area which is smaller than the District's boundary.
- Lewiston Community Services District: The All Services SOI (water, wastewater and fire protection) remains coterminous with the existing District boundary and a Fire Only SOI is hereby expanded to match the District's out of district goodwill fire response area.
- Weaverville Fire Protection District: The SOI is expanded to match the District's out of district goodwill response area.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a public hearing of the Trinity Local Agency Formation Commission on the 17th day of December 2024, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINS:

ABSENT:

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Colette Santsche
Executive Officer

Dan Frasier
Chair