Shasta Local Agency Formation Commission

Draft
Municipal Services Review
& Sphere of Influence Update

Burney Fire Protection District

November 2014

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Local agency formation commissions have been tasked with updating local agency municipal service reviews (MSR) and sphere of influence boundaries (SOI) every five years since 2008 [Government Code Section 56425 *et seq.*]. This study presents a baseline review of the Burney Fire Protection District (Burney FPD) services and SOI needs, satisfying the requirements of this statute.

The first sphere of influence study for the Burney Fire Protection District was approved by Shasta LAFCO in April 1986. A draft MSR was subsequently developed in 2007 and updated in 2013, but without a concurrent SOI update. This is the first update to be presented to the Commission for this agency. At the present time Shasta LAFCO is updating both the SOI and previous draft MSR for this District.

The purpose of this baseline review is to associate the original formation purposes and activities of the Burney FPD with an understanding of its current day operations and future plans. A more comprehensive review should be considered for the District in the next cycle of SOI/MSR reviews and update.

2. GENERAL BACKGROUND

Burney is an unincorporated community in what is referred to as the Intermountain Area (it includes the Burney Basin and Fall River Valley communities) of Eastern Shasta County. It is located approximately 58 miles east of Redding and Interstate 5. Residential, retail & commercial buildings are generally dispersed along the north and south sides of Highway 299 East. Climate here is characterized by cool wet winters and hot dry summers. Vegetation types primarily consist of timber, chaparral, and grasslands.

The Burney Basin area population supports local employers and is also a rural bedroom community to Redding area employers. Growth slowed during the recent economic recession, which is now beginning to turn around. Several new subdivisions started prior to the recession are slowly beginning to come forward, and they are ready for development as the economy improves. New commercial structures have been built while others have been renovated and ready for occupancy. A large industrial area, long owned by the Fruit Growers firm, was sold to developers in the more recent past.

The District operates under several local climatic, geological, and topographical conditions that are unique to the Intermountain Area, and these are factors that influence the delivery of services. Periods of drought and low humidity raise the level of wildfire hazards. During the summer months dry winds and existing vegetation mix to create a hazardous fuel condition that can result in a large loss of vegetation and structures. Summer Temperatures can exceed 90 degrees Fahrenheit, and severe winds frequently occur, moving quickly

throughout the District. The Lassen National Forest surrounds the District, presenting an additional potential fire hazard. Winter snowfall also increases response time to incidents, hampering fire hydrant accessibility and can impair firefighter effectiveness.

The District service area includes two major state highways (299# & 89), arterials, and adjoining surface streets with severely limited alternate routes. These often become congested during the peak recreational and holiday seasons. There are also natural and man-made flood control channels that create potential barriers to response time, as well as multiple canyons with limited access due to slopes, road, and drainage designs. Very heavy rainfall can result in roadway flooding. All affect actual response times for the District.

Between July 30 and August 1 of 2014 four mega fires erupted near Burney, started by one lightning storm. Two were a direct threat to the Burney Basin (the Eiler at 50.7 sq. mi. and the SHU Lightning at 27.5 sq. mi.), with the Eiler fire coming within 4 miles of the downtown area. Two additional mega fires were just east of the Burney Basin (the Day at 20.6 sq. mi. and the Bald at 62.1 sq. mi.). All started within these three days. Although there was a loss of structures, throughout this intense battle no loss of human life occurred.

The District is located in a seismically active zone. Existing structures and future planned development are at risk from active faults within this area. Natural slopes of 10 percent or greater exist within Burney FPD's service area. Elevation changes caused by mountains and low foothills create the geological foundation on which the community is built. Future growth will continue to occur on these steeper slopes, increasing exposure to urban-related fires. Residences are commonly considered the new fire fuel hazard. Not being natural to the existing environment, these new fuels can ignite an entire forest if defensible spaces are not created and maintained and if new fires go undetected or are not addressed quickly.

3. AGENCY SERVICES

Formed in 1938 under the California Health and Safety Code (Section 13800 et. seq.), the Burney Fire Protection District is one of the older fire protection districts in Shasta County. It originally operated on an all-volunteer basis providing all services authorized in the Health and Safety code to the then 16,000 acres in the Burney area.

The District currently provides comprehensive fire, ambulance, emergency medical and rescue, and confined space and off road rescue response services within the District, an area of approximately 35 square miles, or approximately 23,000 acres. The District completed a large annexation of 7,000 acres of territory in 1996. It also responds to incidents in the territory along SR 299E and SR 89 (both north and south).

Beneficiaries of these services include residents, non-resident property owners, business owners, developers, visitors, and other governmental agencies within Shasta County.

There are an estimated 5,500 residences and 100 commercial establishments inside the current District boundaries. Ambulance service is also provided to areas outside of District boundaries, covering an additional area of approximately 1,600 square miles.

Burney FPD has an exclusive ambulance operation service area, covering territory both within and beyond its current boundaries. This service extends to the unincorporated areas of Cassel, Hat Creek, Old Station, Big Bend, Montgomery Creek, Clark Creek, and North SR 89 to the Siskiyou County line.

The District's mission statement reads: *Burney Fire Protection District exists to serve, educate, and protect the citizens of Burney and the Intermountain area. This is accomplished through high-quality customer-driven service delivered in a friendly, prompt, ethical and courteous manner.*

The District coordinates with other public fire agencies in the region under a California master mutual aid plan that provide services to Shasta County residents and visitors. Dispatch services are set up under a contract between Shasta County Fire (CSA #1) and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Cal-Fire), at Cal-Fire's Emergency Command Center in Redding. Burney FPD supports the volunteer fire companies administered by Shasta County Fire (CSA #1), as well as Cal-Fire, USFS, BLM, and other state and federal agencies. The District has become a central hub for coordinating fire protection activities in Eastern Shasta County.

a. **Infrastructure, Facilities And Services**
Presently the Burney FPD operates and maintains two fire stations:

- <u>Station #17, the District's main station, is located at 37072 Main Street in Burney</u>
Built in 1964, this station is 8,000 square feet, and houses the administrative office, EMS/Fire apparatus, and a community training room. Recent upgrades and improvements to the facility include flooring, paint and a new garage door. Audio visual equipment has been purchased for the training room, while turnout lockers and a new sleeping area were provided for personnel. Overall this station is in fair condition. The District plans to replace this aging facility in its entirety in the future due to age, size and location, and a Station Relocation Committee has been established to address these issues and will make future recommendations to the Board regarding a new station needs and options.

  Fire Station #17 is staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. A duty officer is on call 24/7 hours and will be the first responder to any dispatch for service.

- <u>Station #18 located at 38178 Hwy 299 in Johnson Park</u>
Built in 1952, this station is 960 square feet, and houses an engine and a wild land/rescue ATV. Recent improvements include flooring, painting, and a garage

door. Due to the age and poor condition of this station, there are plans to replace this facility after Station #17 has been replaced.

Station #18 is staffed with paid on-call volunteers throughout the year and seasonal paid personnel during times of high wildland fire activity.

District equipment consists of two structure engines, one brush engine, one water tender, two advanced life support ambulances, one hazardous materials decontamination unit, one technical rescue unit, one air support trailer, one ATV for wild land and off road rescue, and three support vehicles. All vehicles are serviced annually and are in good to excellent condition. A 2,500 water tender and a rescue snowmobile have just been added.

Burney Fire Protection District Vehicle Fleet Data

Fire Engines			***Estimated Value***
	Engine 17	1989 Pierce 1250 GPM Engine	$90,000
	Engine 217	1996 International 1250 GPM Engine	$150,000
	Engine 517	2005 International 1000 GPM Engine	$250,000
Other Vehicles			***Estimated Value***
	WT 17	1991 International Water Tender - 2,000 Gallon	$50,000
	2005	Ford Ambulance	$100,000
	2012	Ford Ambulance	$100,000
	2010	John Deere Gator ATV	$10,000

During 2012, Burney Fire Protection District personnel and apparatus were dispatched to approximately 850 calls. Of those, 650 were medical, 147 were fires including but not limited to structure and wild land, and 53 were miscellaneous (including hazardous materials, vehicle accidents, public assistance and false alarms). The average response time incidents within the District is approximately 6 minutes.

Varied topography, limited alternate routes, congestion during peak and holiday periods, as well as flooding caused by heavy seasonal rainfall all can result in extended response times to remote areas of the district. The District is dispatched to vehicle and pedestrian incidents along SR 299E and both north and south arms of SR 89. Both routes have heavy commercial traffic, and year-round tourist traffic with potential for very significant risk to responding District personnel and apparatus.

The District currently employs a computer-based staffing and response program which improves response times, while ensuring that all available personnel and equipment are being fully utilized. The program allows personnel to show their availability status and permits them to respond to calls using cell phones. The program can be easily accessed and updated using a computer at the station, from home, or via any compatible smart phone.

The Budget Review Committee considers infrastructure needs on a five-year cycle, with replacements and upgrades prioritized by age, wear, and need. Vehicles range from a five to a twenty year replacement cycle. New or upgraded infrastructure is funded by means of a low interest loan, available funds, grants and or developer participation.

The network of fire hydrants is serviced by two water providers: Burney Water District and Del Oro Water Company. Del Oro Water, a private company, services the Johnson Park area, a few miles east of Burney. Both provide water supply for fire suppression. All existing fire hydrants in the Burney WD meet the California Fire Code (CFC) of 1000 to 5000 gallons per minute.

Del Oro Water hydrants needs are measured by and dependent upon the number of dwellings and lot size. Recently, they added a 350,000 gallon tank to their system, along with some hydrant and water main upgrades. Continuing their compliance efforts to follow CFC guidelines, all new subdivisions within their service area are required to place fire hydrants according to current county and state standards. Del Oro Water has no current plans to expand the placement of fire hydrants beyond what is needed for current development.

The universal standard used for planning fire facilities is a rating system provided by the Insurance Services Organization (ISO). The insurance industry uses ISO ratings to assist in determining insurance premiums for building owners. The ISO rating is based on travel distance (not travel time) to the nearest fire station, and on other factors such as availability of water supply for fire protection. Currently, the District has an ISO rating of Class 5/9. As a basis for comparison, other fire districts in the county sustain the following ratings:

Anderson Fire Protection District	5/8
Burney Fire Protection District	**5/9**
Castella Fire Protection District	9/10
Cottonwood Fire Protection District	7
Fall River Mills Fire Protection District	6
Happy Valley Fire Protection District	6
McArthur Fire Protection District	6/7
Millville Fire Protection District	6/8
Shasta Lake Fire Protection District	4/8

It must be noted here that Shasta County is very rural in nature, with small communities and clusters of development scattered throughout the county. Rural agencies deal with delivering services to both community centers and remote residential areas, and, when it comes to wildland fire incidents, often they must respond to State or Federal lands. The Burney FPD responds to calls for assistance regardless of the condition or remoteness of the roads.

Urban responses are based upon different criteria and have access to more highly-developed infrastructure systems. Rural development is often separated by acreage and topography, and roads are often a combination of public paved roads and private gravel or unimproved roads. The latter have usually been approved during development of subdivision map permits, may or may not have a CC&R requirement for a road association to maintain them, or more often than not the neighbors or individual landowners may be the only ones who maintain the older roads they use to access their property.

b. Administration, Management And Operations

For the purposes of preparing a Municipal Services Review, information about administrative, management and operational functions including employee categories and internal organization, agency policies, rules and regulations are evaluated with respect to efficiencies and/or cost avoidance opportunities.

The Board of Directors operates as the administrative and financial governing body of the District. Administrative decisions are made by the Board of Directors in conjunction with the Fire Chief. There is a comprehensive policy and procedures manual for all employees which includes policies for communicating with the Board.

Burney Fire Protection District maintains the following personnel positions; one full-time fire chief, one battalion chief and one firefighter. Part-time or seasonal positions include: one EMS captain, two resident firefighter positions, two seasonal firefighter positions and one 32 hour per week administrative secretary. Currently, the District has 21 volunteer firefighters, 10 Emergency Medical staff, and supplemental positions which support the Fire Chief and paid personnel responding to and providing services for the community. Annual audits, attorney needs and special studies are contracted out to save the costs that would otherwise be associated with staff positions for those services.

Training for personnel and volunteers is conducted every Tuesday night, with additional special trainings held as needed. Training is coordinated through an annual training schedule prepared by the District's Training Division. Personnel are also encouraged to attend off-site training courses. Staff is trained at a minimum level of first responder, up to and including paramedic level for EMT service, on a regional basis. Volunteer firefighter requirements include attendance at trainings, meetings and medical certification. They must also possess either a Class B driver's license or a Class C license with a firefighter endorsement.

The District is a member of the Shasta Cascade Hazardous Material Response Team (SCHMRT), California Joint Powers Insurance Authority, California Fire Chiefs Association, California Special Districts Association, California Fire Districts Association, International Code Council, and the National Fire Protection Association.

District services are structured around five service Divisions:

- Fire/Life Safety (Fire Prevention: Providing public fire and safety education, fire safe inspection services, and code enforcement.

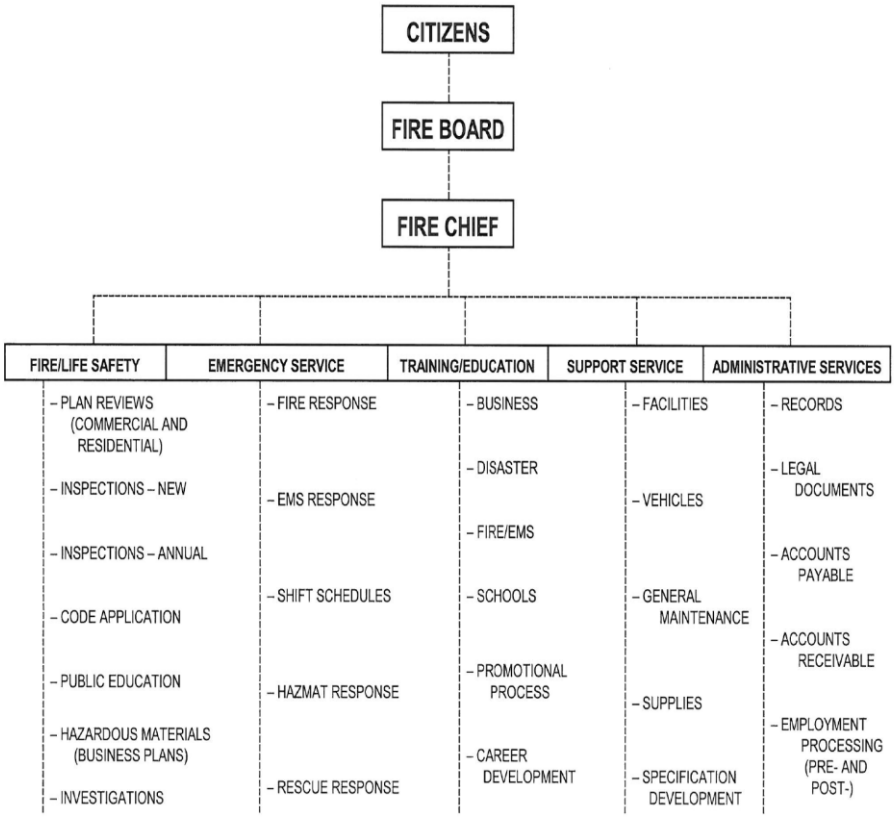
- Emergency Services: Coordinating and maintaining resources for emergency response

- Training/Education Coordinating and delivering training for citizens and personnel

- Administrative Services: General Management and administrative support (Fire Chief and administrative secretaries

- Support Services: Comprised of supply, apparatus and facility maintenance. Limited paid staffing necessitates cross-divisional teamwork and coordination by all personnel. All personnel are organizational shareholders and as such are encouraged to participate beyond the scope of their assignments.

BURNEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



c. Fiscal

The Burney Fire Protection District budget for the fiscal year 2012-2013 was $545,500. The District's operating budget is embedded below. The revenue comes from: 51% from taxes, 48% from ambulance revenue and 1% from miscellaneous revenues (CPR classes and plan revenues). Tax base does not support the ambulance service. Grant funding has totaled approximately $231,884 over the past three years.

The Board of Directors operates as the Financial Committee, with guidance from the Shasta County Auditor-Controller, and support from the Fire Chief. Financial surpluses are managed by the Auditor-Controller's office, and are usually transferred into the Districts' Capital Outlay Reserve account. The annual budget for the next fiscal year is drafted and presented to the Board by the Fire Chief with recommendations for approval. Monthly financial reports are presented at each meeting for review and comment, and a mid-year budget review is also conducted.

Infrastructure replacement is prioritized on the basis of age, wear, and necessity. The current policy for replacement of engines is based on a 30-year life span and a 10-year rotation cycle. Capital equipment needs such as new fire engines and rescue equipment are typically paid from the operating budget. Personnel, training, operating and maintenance needs are also paid out of the operating budget. Due to the multitude of demands on the operating budget, sufficient revenue to purchase all needed capital equipment and facilities has been limited.

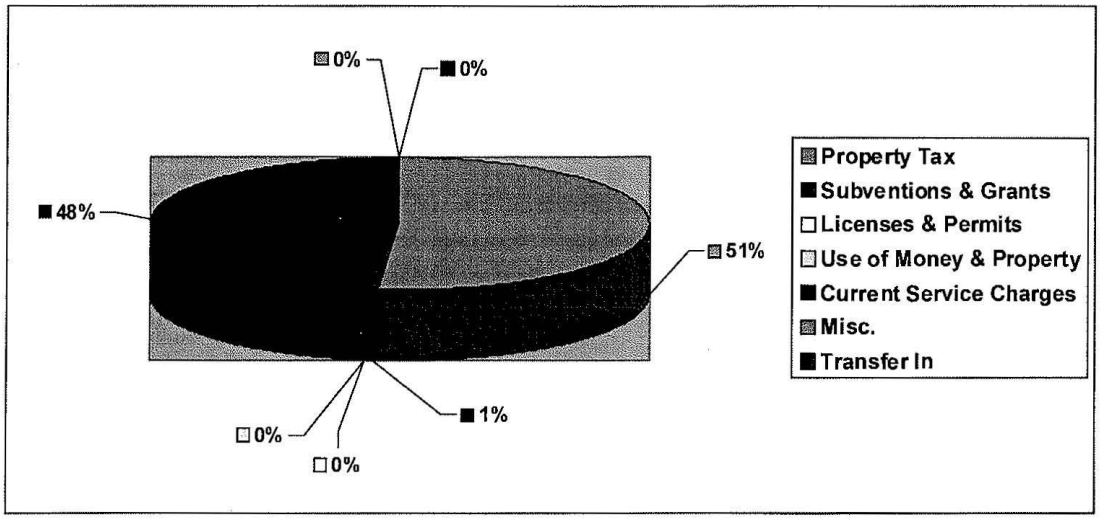
The District's ability to generate new income is relatively limited. The District investigated and pursued installation of a Community Facilities District and assessment in 2007, but determined to place a moratorium on that approach, choosing instead to continue the pursuit of a combination of other avenues of revenue generation and cost savings.

REVENUES	2012-2013 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET 4/11/12
Taxes	$280,400
Misc. Revenue	$5,100
Service Revenue	$260,000
Total	$545,500

EXPENSES	2012-2013 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET 4/11/12
Salaries and Benefits	$405,525
Service and Supplies	$138,475
Contribution to LAFCO	$1,500
Total	$545,500

REVENUE	FISCAL YEAR 2011 - 2012	FISCAL YEAR 2012 – 2013	INCREASE/DECREASE
Property Tax	$276,000	$280,400	4,400
Subventions and Grants	4,225	4,100	<$125>
Licenses and Permits	0	0	0
Use of Money and Property	3,500	1,000	<$2,500>
Current Service Charges	265,000	260,000	<$5,000>
Miscellaneous	12,000	0	<$12,000>
Transfer In	0	0	0
Total	$560,725	$545,500	<$15,225>

FY 2012- 2013 REVENUE BY PERCENTAGE

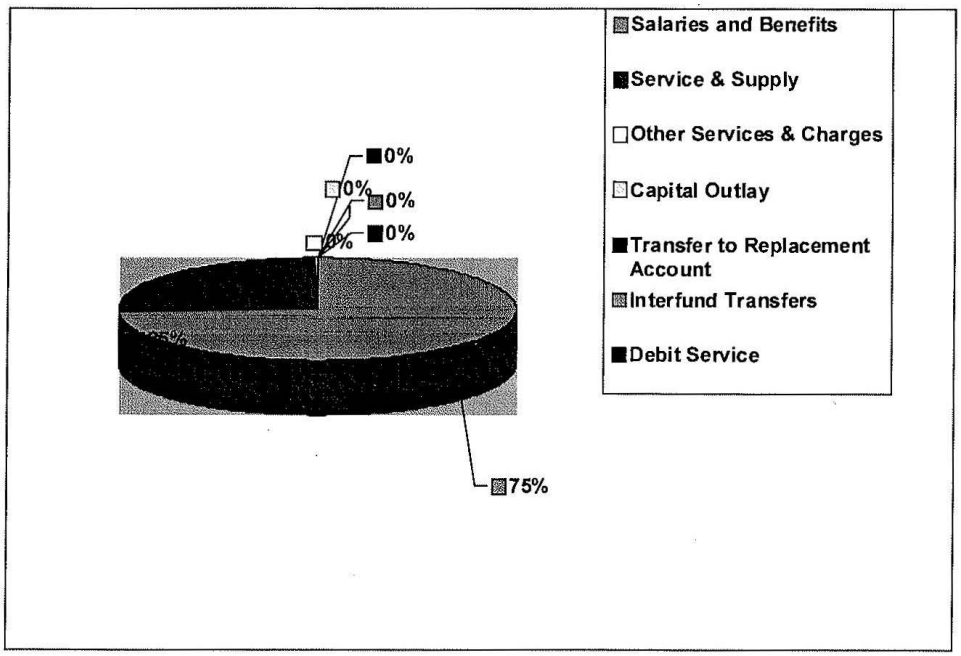


The two consistent revenue sources are Property Tax at $280,400, and Ambulance Service Fees at $255,000. All of these sources have historically grown based on calls for service and housing turnover. Even though the housing market has slowed, the potential for new residential development within newly designed subdivisions remains. In 2012-2013 we should still show the average growth in property taxes.

The District does recover the cost of non-tax supported activities such as community development, plan checks, etc. The 2006-2007 budget recommended that the rates be reviewed and updated to stay consistent with rising costs. In FY 2008-2009, Ordinance number BFPD 2009-01 was adopted increasing the fees for Plan Checks.

EXPENDITURES	FISCAL YEAR 2011 - 2012	FISCAL YEAR 2012 – 2013	INCREASE/DECREASE
Salaries and Benefits	$424,525	$405,525	<$19,000>
Service and Supply	$134,700	138,475	$3,775
Other Services and Charges	1,500	1,500	0
Capital Outlay	0	0	0
Transfer to Replacement Account	0	0	0
Inter-fund Transfers	0	0	0
Debit Service	0	0	0
Total	$560,725	$545,500	<$15,225>

FY 2012 - 2013 EXPENDITURE BY PERCENTAGE



d. Governance

The Board of Directors operates as the governing body and consists of five persons who serve a four-year term and are elected by the residents of the district. Positions are open for election on an alternating two-year election cycle. Board members are required to live within the district boundaries and must be registered voters. They do not receive compensation or other benefits.

Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month at 3:00 pm at Station #17, in the administrative offices, at 37072 Main Street in Burney, California. Agendas for board meetings are posted and available to the public 72 hours in advance.

4. REGIONAL CONTEXT/IMPACTS

In 2012, the District worked with LAFCO and Shasta County Fire (CSA #1) to review a possible expansion of the Burney FPD which could include areas currently served by Shasta County Fire. The last update from the Burney FPD website (www.burneyfireems.org) lists actions the Board of Directors recently considered with regard to expansion of services:

The District will continue to explore the possibility of expanding the Burney FPD boundary to include the area along SR 89 north of SR 299E, from the current boundary to the southern side of Lake Briton. Expansion may also go west along Black Ranch Road and tie in with the independent fire districts there. This would also include the Clark Creek Road, Burney Falls State Park, and Black Ranch areas. Activity related to serving the Cassel area follows:

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Burney Fire Protection District

LAFCO UPDATES

2/08/12 Board approves Chief to explore annexation.
2/08/12 Board approves Chief to begin talks with County Fire Chief about annexation.
2/09/12 Chief contacted LAFCO and advised them of Board approval.
2/09/12 Chief contacted County Fire Chief and advised him about Board approval.
2/12/12 Maps of proposed annexation area sent to LAFCO
2/15/12 Chief met with County Fire Chief at Station 17
2/23/12 Updated Municipal Service Review for Burney Fire submitted to LAFCO
2/28/12 County Chief, Burney Chief, Battalion Chiefs 17 and 2411 met at Station 17. Station 10 Chief invited but did not attend. Talked about annexation
3/06/12 Community meeting at Station 10
3/20/12 Maps received and sent to county awaiting parcel information
3/21/12 County : Information to be sent to Chief Barber based on map
4/10/12 Tax information on proposed annexation areas back, Chief Barber reviewing
4/11/12 Chief Barber recommended to his board that they not continue to pursue annexing Station 10 response area east of Hwy 229 that would include the fire station and equipment. He also recommended that they not consider annexing the wind mills. He did however say that he will continue to pursue annexing Goose Valley as designated on the map previously, as well as that area West of Hwy 89 from from their current district line to Lake Britton. This would include Clark Creek and Burney Falls State Park. He will contact LAFCO and advise them of this next week. Chief Barber stated that there was not enough tax base in Station 10 area to support and maintain a better service then they currently get with out putting his current district is fiscal jeopardy. Chief Barber said that the wind mills should not be divided up between two fire departments so he decided to not pursue them. The areas that are continuing to be looked at make sense because they are already being serviced by Burney Fire or are closer and Burney Fire can provide a faster response.

Land use and building regulation services within the Burney Water District territory are provided by the County of Shasta, as are law enforcement, road services and other general services provided to the unincorporated areas of the county by various county departments.

5. AGENCY BOUNDARY & PROPOSED SPHERE OF INFLUENCE AREA

The Burney Water District's service area is bisected by State Route 299E. Recipients of District services lie north and south of the highway. In the past, sphere of influence boundaries were primarily extended in a piecemeal fashion, one small are after another as an annexation proposal was processed through the District and Shasta LAFCO. This type of action is strongly discouraged in the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Act of 2000, the codes directing LAFCO actions. This sphere of influence is designed to permit better planning by the District and other agencies for growth by including areas which could make use of District services.

It is proposed the Commission set the SOI boundary for Burney Fire Protection District to include the territory shown on the enclosed map (Exhibit A) as the proposed SOI Boundary Update, found at the end of this report.

6. WRITTEN DETERMINATIONS

The following nine determinations are required to be made by the Commission pursuant with Government Code Section 56430. The following determinations have been prepared consistent with Shasta LAFCO's policy and procedures for review of municipal services.

a. Growth & Population Projections

The area is unincorporated. It has recently experienced growth pressures from three new subdivisions and it is expected that growth pressures will continue as the economy improves. Current population is estimated at 2737. The unemployment rate is 9.50%, with job growth of 1.04%. Future job growth over the next ten years is predicted to be 32.60%.

b. Disadvantaged Unincorporated communities (DUCs)

Senate Bill 244 (2011) governing the identification of disadvantaged communities requires both counties and cities to undertake an inventory of these areas during updates of their General Plan Housing Element. In addition, LAFCOs are mandated to make determinations about disadvantaged communities within an agency or within its periodic municipal service review and sphere of influence updates, and when any boundary changes are proposed.

The current median per capita income for the state is $46.477, and a local unincorporated community whose median per capita income falls below 80% of this figure would qualify for designation as a DUC.

The median per capita income calculation for the Burney Water District service area is estimated to be near $20,319. A "community" is defined in SB 244 as an inhabited area that is comprised of no less than 10 dwellings adjacent or in close proximity to one another, or at least 12 registered voters within the identified area.

Analysis by the County, to take place during specific General Plan element updates, includes evaluation of unmet service needs of these areas (i.e. failing septic systems, water or drainage issues, etc.). This can include such "communities" as trailer parks or resort areas. The District will want to be familiar with development of this data for future planning purposes since issues identified can directly affect service levels and requirements. When identification of these special areas and County plans and policies are established to address their service needs, LAFCO will be able to incorporate that data during the next round of municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates in 2019.

LAFCO is using a California State Parks Community Calculator tool (www.parks.ca.gov) to provide a guide for estimating income and population levels (see attached sheets). The population counts shown on these reports only encompass a two mile diameter and may not reflect the actual population assigned to those areas. Learn more about the Disadvantaged Communities process from a useful State Technical Advisory which can be downloaded from the Shasta LAFCO website at www.shasta.lafco.ca.gov under the "Resources" tab.

c. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities

The District monitors capital improvement needs to maintain and upgrade service systems and equipment on a five year cycle. Future development will pay its pro rata share of costs for extension of existing or expansion into new services for currently undeveloped land or territory outside the current district service boundary according to District policies and conditions.

A five year plan was adopted by the district in 2004 and is updated regularly. The District is committed to pursuing its strategic plan with the highest level of quality and ethical standards, providing a road map and direction toward identification of resources for provision of current services into future years.

d. Adequacy of Public Services

District services are very professional and adequately meet the needs of the population it serves. District facilities and equipment are also adequate for current service needs, although the District is planning for replacement of its older buildings. The District also has

sufficient ability to access needed resources and the capacity to serve the areas within the proposed sphere of influence boundaries, with the cost of extension of services tied to development permits for future growth and development. Improvement in the local economy and application of reasonable fees and charges for services will assist with management and funding of their services.

e. Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies

Existing and planned infrastructure adequately meet the needs of the public currently and for the near future. Present infrastructure capacity, condition, availability and quality are in fair to poor condition. The age and condition of current infrastructure is a motivation for the District to continue its assessment and establishment of plans for future facility replacements. A new main fire station is planned for construction in the near future to help provide better facilities, and plans for financing this work are being evaluated.

f. Financing Constraints and Opportunities

The District currently utilizes a number of funding sources including tax revenue, grants and assessment fees. As is the case for most special districts, adequate and sustainable funding is a major issue for the Burney Fire Protection District.

The Burney Fire Protection District utilizes cost avoidance techniques which increase efficiency and decrease operating costs. Techniques include eliminating duplicate services, reducing high-administrative-to-operational-cost ratios, reducing inventories of inefficient and/or outdated equipment, implementing economies of scale and creative use of personnel and volunteer resources. The Fire Chief and the District Board maintain a close review of expenditures through reports presented at their monthly meetings, as well as during the District's mid-year review of budget processes.

g. Opportunities for Rate Restructuring

As a non-enterprise service provider, the Burney FPD has few opportunities for rate restructuring activities. They do, however, work with strategic planning processes to maximize use of their revenue resources.

h. Status of and Opportunities for Shared Facilities

District facilities are utilized to their capacity with opportunities to accommodate training facility needs to adjacent agencies. Shared facilities promote decreased training and maintenance costs to the other fire agencies who use them.

i. **Accountability For Community Service Needs, Governmental Structure And Operational Efficiencies.**

The Burney Fire Protection District works effectively with other fire protection agencies, maintaining mutual and automatic aid agreements with these agencies and continues to explore inter-governmental options that have the potential to achieve economies of scale and greater efficiencies in the delivery of services.

The District has developed an understanding of the various governmental restructuring and jurisdictional change options provided under the LAFCO statute as they would pertain to and affect fire protection districts.

At this time, there are no opportunities to consolidate with other fire protection districts in the vicinity. A proposed joining of two Fall River Valley fire agencies could eventually change that situation should a new successor fire agency be created that encompasses the Fall River Valley. Future updates for this District should continue to examine this potential.

At some point in the future, as Burney continues to grow and increase as an unincorporated community, some consideration may be given by the local public agencies in and around Burney to forming a Community Services District (CSD). In bringing these several small local special districts together under this umbrella district, CSD law permits wide range of services which could be used to better a growing Burney community. Fire, ambulance, emergency medical and rescue, and confined space and off road rescue services are among those allowed, as well as water, parks and recreation, and other services that may be of interest to the community. This type of change should come from the community, its leaders and, the established districts within the area.

The Burney Fire Protection District has established effective internal organizational systems for providing efficient, high-quality public fire protection, ambulance, emergency medical and rescue, and confined space and off road rescue response services. It maintains an on-going effort to improve services, reduce waste, eliminate duplications, contain costs, maintain qualified employees, build and maintain adequate contingency reserves, encourage and maintain open dialogues with public and other public and private agencies. On-going analyses of agency functions, operations and practices, and the ability to serve current demands and plan for future service demands, provides the staff and District Board with a constant stream of information for making future decisions.

The Burney Fire Protection District has good local accountability and is recognized by regional fire agencies as well as industry insurance and worker's compensation groups for its effectiveness in providing services. Its governing board and staff realize the importance of fostering local accountability. It appears that decision makers are accessible and accountable to the public, actively encouraging valuable public participation. They solicit

public input when considering program and infrastructure plans and disclose the result to the public. The District is to be commended on their progressiveness in maintaining a website which is current and informative.

7. WRITTEN DETERMINATIONS FOR SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE

a. Present/Planned Land Uses

Shasta County designates much of the area served as residential, rural residential, some agricultural, and outlying timber lands. This is a rural area, with community development either clustered around State Route 299 West or scattered about on secondary roads. Availability of water guides where development will occur. The District Five Year Plan is updated regularly and provides guidance for future growth.

b. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services

The District has ongoing capital improvement programs to maintain and upgrade service systems. Current facilities are meeting the immediate needs of the District. They are aging and plans for replacement of these structures are ongoing.

c. Present Capacity of Public Facilities/Adequacy of Services

District facilities are adequate for current service needs. It has the capacity to serve the areas within the proposed sphere of influence boundaries, with the cost of extension of services tied to future service needs, such as the development of parcels.

d. Existence of Social or Economic Communities of Interest

The District is located east of the City of Redding along SR 299E approximately 58 miles. The areas encompassing the Burney Basin and the Fall River Valley are locally identified as The Intermountain Area.

Local shopping takes place within this Intermountain area, and the City of Redding provides a major shopping and service industry hub for local residents. The Redding Area Bus Authority (RABA) operates the Burney Express, a daily bus between Redding and Burney that accommodates citizens for travel to the valley for doctor appointments and major shopping. This bus currently is a one-day ride, leaving in the morning and returning at night. Expansion of this service to two or three trips per day would permit a greater number of people to take advantage RABA services.

e. Present and Probable Needs Of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUCs) Within the Area

As identified in the MSR section, the Burney Fire Protection District service area qualifies as a disadvantaged unincorporated community by virtue of its median income. Shasta County is undertaking a study of these DUCs as part of their General Plan update and additional information should be available for an expanded analysis of this designation during the next MSR/SOI Update which will be due in 2019.

8. CONCLUSION

In this review, Shasta LAFCO has endeavored to accurately assess the current services and organizational status of the District as a provider of fire, ambulance and emergency medical and rescue services based upon information available at this time. This is the third review of this district since its formation in 1938, and it is expected that additional data will be brought forward, especially as future development occurs. LAFCO has made what we believe are substantiated determinations based upon prescribed statutory factors. The Burney Fire Protection District provided prompt and timely response to the Request for Information.

It is recommended that the municipal service review and sphere of influence update for the Shasta Community Services District be adopted as proposed on the enclosed SOI update map, Exhibit A. of this study.

9. REFERENCES

a. District (interviews, records)
b. County of Shasta Departments
c. Shasta LAFCO files for this district.
d. Internet research on various sites.

10. EXHIBITS

A. Map of proposed SOI Boundary
B. Community Calculator – District Area
C. Notice of Intent to Adopt CEQA Determination – Statutory Exemption PRC 21083
D. No Effect Determination – California Department of Fish & Wildlife