

32. OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS

There are municipal service providers in Amador County that are not under Amador LAFCO's jurisdiction. Such agencies play significant roles in service delivery and potentially affect the SOI and government structure options for local agencies that are subject to LAFCO regulation.

AMADOR COUNTY RECREATION AGENCY

Amador County Recreation Agency (ACRA) operates recreation services countywide. ACRA also owns two parks in the County.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

ACRA is a Joint Powers Authority that was formed in 2003. Its members are the County of Amador, the cities of Amador City, Ione, Jackson, Plymouth, and Sutter Creek, Amador County Unified School District (ACUSD), and Volcano CSD.⁶⁹⁷ ACRA is empowered to plan, finance, acquire, construct, manage, and operate recreation programs and facilities in Amador County.

The Agency has a governing board of nine directors, as shown in Figure 32-1.

ACRA is managed by an executive director who oversees a maintenance supervisor and five other staff members. The executive director reports to the governing board monthly. Planning efforts include a recreation master plan, which was prepared in 2006, and a bi annual strategic plan update

ACRA is soft funded by discretionary member contributions of \$5.00 per person from each member entity. Not all members participate with member contributions— ACUSD contributes in kind with facility use, Volcano Community Services District does not contribute anything, and Ione has not made a contribution to ACRA for the past four years. The County chooses to participate with \$4.00 per capita; the City of Jackson contributions are almost at 100% of the requested amount. Jackson reduced contributions in 2009 when the economy entered the recession.

It was reported in the 2008 MSR that in FY 07 total revenues were \$350,275, total expenditures were \$278,974 and the Agency had \$7,331 in undesignated reserves at the end of FY 07, comprising three percent of annual expenditures. In other words, ACRA had less than one month of operating reserves. It was reported by ACRA that its budget since FY 07 has fluctuated from \$220,000 to \$350,000 in a given year. Because of uncertainty of revenues, it was reported that planning and delivery of park and recreation services is very challenging.⁶⁹⁸

⁶⁹⁷ ACRA, *JPA Amending Agreement*, September 28, 2004.

⁶⁹⁸ Reported by Tracey Towner, Executive Director of ACRA.

Figure 32-1: ACRA Governing Body

Amador County Recreation Agency			
Governing Body			
	Name	Agency	Position
<i>Members</i>	Michael Vasquez	Amador City	Chairman
	Peter Amoruso	Plymouth	Vice Chairman
	Debbie Dunn	Volcano CSD	Clerk
	Richard Forster	Supervisor District 2	Director
	Brian Oneto	Supervisor District 5	Director
	Wayne Garibaldi	City of Jackson	Director
	Linda Rianda	City of Sutter Creek	Director
	Rev. Dan Epperson	City of Ione	Director
	Patrick Miller	ACUSD	Director
<i>Manner of Selection</i>	Members are appointed by the representing agencies.		
<i>Length of Term</i>	At the pleasure of the appointing body.		
<i>Meetings</i>	Date: second Wednesdays, 2p.m., Location: Board of Supervisors Chambers, 810 Court Street, Jackson, CA.		
<i>Agenda Distribution</i>	Posted at all City Halls and the County.		
<i>Minutes Distribution</i>	At meetings.		
Contact			
<i>Contact</i>	Administrator, Carolyn Fregulia		
<i>Mailing Address</i>	10877 Conductor Blvd., Suite 100, Sutter Creek, CA 95685.		
<i>Phone</i>	(209) 223-6349		
<i>Email/Website</i>	cfregulia@amadorgov.org, acra@amadorgov.org, www.goacra.org		

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

ACRA provides direct recreational programs to all county residents, such as after school programs, cooking classes, craft classes, and various sports clubs. It provides park maintenance services directly to its own parks and by contract to County-owned parks. ACRA also leases River Pines Park from River Pines CSD and provides maintenance services there as well.⁶⁹⁹

Recreation services are provided at several different parks within the County and the fairgrounds during the summer and the school year. ACRA-maintained parks are located in Sutter Creek, Pioneer, Fiddletown, and River Pines. Both residents and non-residents may use the parks and facilities. ACRA also provides the service of posting flyers on bulletin boards throughout the County by request.

ACRA owns two parks, serves two County-owned parks, and one public utility district park. The Agency currently provides natural trails, picnic areas, restrooms, two little league fields, an 18-hole disc golf course, two softball fields, three playgrounds, two snack shacks and restroom facilities. ACRA operates a community center on Main Street in Jackson.

⁶⁹⁹ Lease Agreement Regarding River Pines Park between Amador County, ACRA and River Pines Public Utilities District, 2007.

ACRA also has the use of school facilities to deliver services—basketball courts, volleyball courts, various classrooms, kitchens, and most fields.

The Agency reported that it is currently planning for two new parks, one of 17 acres in Pine Grove and one of 15 acres between Sutter Creek and Amador City.

Planned improvements countywide include a complete renovation and upgrade of River Pines Park, Sharkey Begovich Park, an upgrade of the Vet's Hall and a new restroom and snack shack facility at Pioneer Park. ACRA was also responsible for modernization of kitchen facilities, American Disability Act (ADA) access and upgraded facilities at Pine Grove Town Hall, Armory Hall in Volcano, and Lodge Hill in Plymouth.⁷⁰⁰ All upgrades were completed with grant funding in 2011.

ACRA, its member agencies, and other providers maintain 7.2 park acres per 1,000 residents countywide. ACRA's adopted policy is to increase the park ratio in the County to 13.7 acres.⁷⁰¹

The current park maintenance costs are estimated at \$250,000 per year for Pioneer, Fiddletown, Mollie Joyce Park, and Lions Park. Approximately \$150,000 of this amount represents in kind contributions from the local community. Mollie Joyce Park is a recent acquisition and River Pines Park is a recent lease. According to the Agency, this amount should be raised to meet the State standard of \$10,000 per acre. Considering recent and planned acquisitions, costs should increase to the amount of about \$500,000 per year.

⁷⁰⁰ ACRA, *Memo to Amador County Board of Supervisors, Prop 40 Project Recommendations*, April 17, 2007.

⁷⁰¹ ACRA, *Regional Recreation Master Plan*, 2006.

Figure 32-2: ACRA Park Profile

Park and Recreation Service Configuration					
Service Configuration					
Park Maintenance	Direct	Number of Parks Maintained	5		
Recreation	Direct	Number of Recreation Centers	NA		
Service Adequacy FY 12					
Parks per 1,000 pop ¹	7.2		Maintenance Cost/Acre FY 12	NP	
Adopted Policy: 13.7 acres per 1,000 population, countywide					
Park Acreage					
Day Use Park	6.2		Neighborhood Parks	2	Undeveloped 1.6
Special Use Areas	0		Community Parks	98	Landscaped 0
Park Name	Location		Condition	Acres	
Lions Park	Volcano Rd, Sutter Creek		Good	6.2	
Fiddletown Park	Ostrom Rd, Fiddletown		Good	2	
Pioneer Park	Buckhorn Ridge Rd, Pioneer		Good	22	
Mollie Joyce Park	East Hwy 88, Pioneer		Good	76	
River Pines Park	River Pines Community		Good	1.6	
Service Challenges					
The Agency reported that soft funding is the number one constraint for providing park services to the service area.					
Facility Needs/Deficiencies					
There is not enough revenue to support the maintenance of the two new parks being planned. More than 175 acres (155 in Jackson, 15 in Pine Grove) of land awaiting park land development capital.					
Facility Sharing					
The Agency uses school facilities to deliver services. It also shares its own facilities when other agencies request it.					
Developer Fees and Requirements					
Development Impact Fees	\$8,760 per dwelling unit in Jackson and Sutter Creek; \$4,300 in the County, Plymouth and Amador City; \$3,284 in Ione.				
Land Dedication Requirement	Five acres per 1,000 residents.				
In-Lieu Fees	Fees are based upon the fair market value of land needed to meet the same ration of persons to acreage of parkland.				
Additional Fees	\$150 per new parcel map.				
Notes: (1) All provider's park acreage within Amador County per 1,000 residents according to the Department of Finance. (2) Maintenance costs exclude Mollie Joyce and River Pines Parks.					

AMADOR FIRE PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Amador Fire Protection Authority (AFPA) is a regional Joint Powers Authority consisting of seven of the eight local fire service providers in Amador County: Amador Fire Protection District, Sutter Creek Fire Protection District, Jackson Valley Fire Protection District, Lockwood Fire Protection District, and the Cities of Ione, Jackson and Plymouth.⁷⁰² Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District is excluded.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

In 2003, four fire districts and three cities in Amador County joined together to form AFPA for the purpose of planning enhanced fire protection in the County on a regional and consolidated basis. The JPA's powers are exercised through a Board of Directors composed of seven elected officials, one appointed from the governing board of each the seven member agencies, as shown in Figure 32-3. The Board's chair, vice-chair, and secretary are elected by the Directors annually.

The Board appoints an executive officer (EO) to function as the chief executive and administrative officer of AFPA. The executive officer develops budgets for the Board's approval, makes policy recommendations, and oversees the operation of the Authority. AFPA reported that the EO position has not been filled and a budget has never been developed or adopted. The Board elects an Authority Counsel annually, however AFPA reported that the Amador County Counsel currently fills the positions as JPA Counsel. In addition, the Board may appoint a member to serve as treasurer and auditor, or these roles may be ceded to the Amador County Treasurer and Amador County Auditor. The Board seeks budget and program support as needed from the six AFPA Fire Chiefs, the city manager of Jackson and the County Auditor.

A five percent administration fee of the Measure M payroll is charged and recorded from AFPA's Measure M portion of the budget for the administration of AFPA. In other words, AFPA bills themselves for the administration services of the paid program.⁷⁰³

Board meetings are held quarterly, although the agreement allows for alterations to be made to this schedule if necessary.

⁷⁰² Pursuant to Title I, Division 7, Chapter 5 of California State Code (from Section 6500 et seq.)

⁷⁰³ As explained by AFPA Chief Jim McCart, December 2013.

Figure 32-3: AFPA Governing Body

Amador Fire Protection Authority			
Governing Body			
	Name	Agency	Position
<i>Members</i>	Connie Gonsalves	Jackson City Council	Chairman
	Jake Herfel	JVFPD	Vice Chairman
	Theodore Novelli	AFPD	Director
	Ronald Smylie	Ione City Council	Director
	John Asmus	LFPD	Director
	Greg Baldwin	Plymouth City Council	Director
	Hal Gamble	SCFPD	Director
	<i>Manner of Selection</i>	Members are appointed by the representing agencies.	
<i>Length of Term</i>	N/A		
<i>Meetings</i>	Date: quarterly, Location: County Administration Center		
<i>Agenda Distribution</i>	Online and posted		
<i>Minutes Distribution</i>	By request		
Contact			
<i>Contact</i>	Chairman		
<i>Mailing Address</i>	810 Court Street, Jackson, CA		
<i>Phone</i>	(209) 223-6470		
<i>Email/Website</i>	http://www.co.amador.ca.us/departments/fire/amador-fire-protection-authority		

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Nature and Extent

AFPA is a JPA that works to improve the fire services throughout Amador County. The County population is growing and call volume continues to increase. AFPA seeks to ensure the current system develops to meet these needs.

The agreement forming the Authority defines its roles in two phases. The first phase details planning of operational and funding strategies for meeting the following goals:⁷⁰⁴

- ❖ Enhance fire protection coverage in each member’s individual jurisdiction and in the covered area;
- ❖ Consolidate the existing network of members to achieve greater efficiency and consistency;
- ❖ Design and implement consolidated department operational strategies which provide services by paid Authority employees;
- ❖ Pursue funding opportunities;

⁷⁰⁴ First Amended Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement amending the agreement forming the Amador Fire Protection Authority, Article 7.

- ❖ Provide uniformity, consistency and greater member participation and recognition in service provision;
- ❖ Develop consistent response plans to achieve greater cost efficiency;
- ❖ Develop an allocation plan (i) for Measure M funds that is consistent with the provisions of Measure M, for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors of Amador County; and (ii) for any other funds distributed by the Authority; and
- ❖ Cause each member to conduct an annual audit identifying the member's use of Measure M funds, and receive and review each such audit to ensure compliance with the purposes of Measure M.

The second phase of the Authority's scope details the operational steps from phase one's planning outcomes. Members will set forth these operations in an amended agreement.

The Authority's Guiding Principles include affirming the Amador County Fire Services Task Force Report's continued relevance to fire protection planning in the County, designing flexible fire protection improvements that may vary by region, and to promote longevity and stability. Additionally, the AFPA intends to encourage local advancement to paid staff positions, while maintaining and strengthening the local volunteer system and keeping consolidation a future option.

AFPA is to serve as the recommending agency for any future revenue growth allocated to fire, through Proposition 172 fund reallocation or through Measure M, a ½ cent sales tax for fire services.

Measure M's ballot designation took place in the General Election of 2008.⁷⁰⁵ Amador County voters passed the measure. In FY 11, the revenue from Measure M that was distributed to AFPA members was \$2.3 million.

AFPA will be an essential agency should fire protection services eventually consolidate in Amador County. AFPA has ten years of experience and knowledge of districts and cities working together to provide the best standard of service and efficiency.

Location

AFPA's authority includes each member agencies' boundaries, covering nearly all of Amador County. The areas served by KMPUD are excluded.

Infrastructure

The Authority does not own any infrastructure.

⁷⁰⁵ The ballot language for the measure was: "Ordinance No. 1676 – An ordinance of the County of Amador imposing a transactions and use tax for fire protection and emergency services to be administered by the State Board of Equalization." Ordinance 1676 is codified as Chapter 3.14 in the Amador County Municipal Code.

AMADOR REGIONAL SANITATION AUTHORITY

Amador Regional Sanitation Authority (ARSA) is a joint powers agency (JPA) providing wastewater conveyance and disposal services to its member agencies: the City of Sutter Creek, the City of Amador, and Amador County.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Formation

ARSA was formed in 1978 by the City of Jackson, City of Sutter Creek, the City of Amador and Amador County.⁷⁰⁶ At formation, the service area included the three cities and the unincorporated Martell community. The City of Jackson pumped its wastewater to the regional outfall in Sutter Creek until 1982 when it withdrew from ARSA after making extensive improvements to its wastewater treatment plant, from which it began discharging directly into Jackson Creek, no longer needing the ARSA facilities.⁷⁰⁷

Local Accountability and Governance

The governing body is composed of five directors: one appointed by Amador City Council, two by the Sutter Creek City council, and two by the Amador County Board of Supervisors. The governing body meets at least once yearly with meetings held under Ralph M. Brown Act requirements. The Amador County Treasurer Tax-Collector is treasurer and depository. ARSA is set to exist until a majority of its governing body members vote to terminate it.⁷⁰⁸

At formation, the 1978 JPA agreement expressed the member agencies' attempt to form a special district encompassing the same area served by ARSA and to transfer ARSA to that district. The 1982 agreement reiterated the intent to form a special district and transfer ARSA to such a district. No such district has been formed to date. In its original 1978 agreement, the members expressed the intent to add to ARSA communities that may be served in the future, including Volcano, Pine Grove and Pioneer, and agreed that the County would pay for any increased cost of expanding pipeline capacity to serve such communities.⁷⁰⁹ Changes to boundaries of member agencies require approval of the ARSA

⁷⁰⁶ ARSA, *A Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the County of Amador, the city of Amador City, the City of Jackson, and the City of Sutter Creek for the Purpose of Creating an Agency for Implementing a Regional Wastewater Disposal Plan*, September 18, 1978.

⁷⁰⁷ ARSA, *Agreement Amending a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the County of Amador, the City of Amador City, the City of Jackson, and the City of Sutter Creek for the Purpose of Creating an Agency for Implementing a Regional Wastewater Disposal Plan*, November 15, 1982.

⁷⁰⁸ By the 1982 agreement, ARSA could not be terminated prior to November 15, 2012 unless transferred to a special district serving the same area.

⁷⁰⁹ ARSA, *A Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement between the County of Amador, the City of Amador City, the City of Jackson, and the City of Sutter Creek for the Purpose of Creating an Agency for Implementing a Regional Wastewater Disposal Plan*, September 18, 1978, p. 9.

governing body. The governing body may not withhold approval of boundary changes unless the boundary change would reduce ARSA's ability to dispose wastewater originating in each member's service area.

ARSA demonstrated accountability in its disclosure of information and cooperation with LAFCO. The agency responded to LAFCO's written questionnaire and document requests.

Management

ARSA is managed and staffed by the City of Sutter Creek. It was originally staffed by Amador County, but was subsequently transferred from the County to the City of Sutter Creek.

Management practices include annual budgets. The District budgeted funds to conduct an audit in FY 12-13, although the audit results were not available at the time this report was prepared. ARSA participated in the 2005 Amador County Regional Wastewater Management Plan. The draft 2007 Sutter Creek Wastewater Master Plan contained an assessment of the ARSA pipeline, regionalization, and storage and disposal alternatives.⁷¹⁰ Both ARSA and Sutter Creek are in the process of updating their respective master plans.

Additionally, ARSA, the City of Ione, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation are also in the process of drafting a regional study to ascertain possible regional solutions for wastewater disposal in the lower regional wastewater system. This joint study is planned to be partially financed by the State Water Resources Board, with the remaining portion equally financed among the three stakeholders. In the original agreement between three agencies, there is a reference to the potential of forming a JPA regarding coordination of disposal in the lower system. This joint study is considered a first step toward creating that partnership.

ARSA implements risk management practices, and purchases insurance.

Financing

ARSA reported that it has the financial ability to provide services.

ARSA expenses are paid by member agencies in quarterly payments allocated based on the share of wastewater disposed through the outfall. The allocation may be adjusted by the governing body to reflect any costly differences in the pollutant load in member agencies' wastewater.

In FY 12-13, total ARSA expenses were \$439,650, which was entirely funded by service charges.

ARSA had no long-term debt at the end of FY 12-13.

ARSA had a cash and investment fund balance of \$452,949, and a fixed asset balance of \$914,500 at the end of FY 12-13.

⁷¹⁰ HDR Engineering, *Sutter Creek Wastewater Master Plan: Report to the City of Sutter Creek*, August 2007.

WASTEWATER SERVICES

Nature and Extent

ARSA's powers are to design, construct and operate a regional outfall, and to finance, acquire, construct, manage, operate and maintain the outfall and other wastewater collection, treatment and transportation facilities.

ARSA leases use of a series of pipelines and reservoirs, including Henderson Reservoir, Preston Forebay and Preston Reservoir, and Sutter Creek water rights from the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). ARSA water rights on Sutter Creek are 737 af, and can be diverted into the ARSA pipeline if downstream needs for recycled water exceed supply.⁷¹¹ ARSA does not owe a payment under the lease agreement, although that agreement is subject to expiration with five-year notice by either party.

Prior to and just following Henderson Reservoir, effluent is diverted to irrigate the Bowers and Hoskins Ranch properties, respectively. ARSA also distributes recycled water to 22 stock water troughs along the pipeline. Prior to entering Henderson Reservoir, a portion of the secondary effluent is diverted to provide irrigation water to the Bowers Ranch property which is applied to flood irrigate pasture grass that is consumed by cattle. A portion of the effluent is also reclaimed after it flows out from Henderson Reservoir by the Hoskins Ranch's spray irrigation operation used to grow pasture grass.⁷¹² The Mule Creek State Prison WWTP may discharge up to 350 af annually (equivalent to 0.63 mgd between April and September) to Preston Reservoir.

ARSA effluent flows to City of Ione wastewater treatment facilities under a contractual agreement, which requires at least five years notice to terminate.⁷¹³ Monthly discharges from Preston Reservoir to the Ione system are limited to 10 af (equivalent to 0.21 mgd) between October and March, and to 95 af per month (equivalent to 1.02 mgd) between April and September. ARSA had historically discharged to the former Preston Youth Correctional Facility. When the Preston farmlands disposal area was sold to the developer of the Castle Oaks subdivision and golf course, the City of Ione and the developer agreed in 1990 to mitigate the impacts on ARSA by accommodating its flows. Under the agreement, ARSA committed to continue to provide effluent to the former Preston facility. However, in 2002 Preston's permit for tertiary treatment and disposal was rescinded, due to regulatory non-compliance.⁷¹⁴ ARSA now discharges to Ione.

⁷¹¹ HDR Engineering, *Sutter Creek Wastewater Master Plan: Report to the City of Sutter Creek*, Aug. 2007. The former Preston Youth Correctional Facility has rights to 3,995 afa from Sutter Creek under license 5533, of which 465 af may be stored at Henderson Reservoir and 268 af may be stored at Preston Reservoir.

⁷¹² Amador County, *Infrastructure, Public Facilities, And Services General Plan Update Working Paper*, March 2007.

⁷¹³ California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations, City of Ione and ARSA, *Agreement to Regulate Use of Henderson/Preston Wastewater Disposal System*, Sept. 18, 2007.

⁷¹⁴ Central Valley RWQCB, *Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2002-0013*, 2002. Preston regulatory non-compliance included failure to meet tertiary treatment standards, failure to meet requirements for a dual-plumbed water system, discharging outside the designated area, and lack of signage alerting the public.

Location

The ARSA outfall is located at the Sutter Creek WWTP. Secondary treated wastewater effluent originating in Martell, Amador City and Sutter Creek is disposed through the outfall to the City of Ione for tertiary treatment and disposal. A portion of the effluent is used by ranchers along the pipeline for irrigation.

In the 1978 JPA agreement, the members agreed that the Jackson WWTP service area had 0.65 mgd capacity. Amador County contracted with Jackson to treat wastewater originating in the Martell County Service Area (CSA #4), prior to the area being transferred to Amador Water Agency (AWA) for wastewater services. Jackson withdrew from ARSA in 1982, but the Martell area served by AWA continues to participate.

AWA seeks to promote recycled water to enhance local water supplies; there are potential recycled water customers in Ione Valley and Jackson Valley. AWA considered membership in ARSA in 2009; however, the Agency ultimately chose not to join.

Infrastructure

The outfall is composed of nine miles of pipeline segments and a series of three reservoirs used for effluent storage. The reservoirs are Henderson Reservoir (unincorporated), Preston Forebay Reservoir and Preston Reservoir (at the former Preston Youth Correctional Facility in the City of Ione). Henderson Reservoir was built in 1888, and raised 12 feet in 1929. Recently, the State Division of Safety of Dams asked ARSA to re-evaluate seismic safety of the dam, which was deemed satisfactory through a study completed by Kleinfelder Engineering in November 2011. The Preston Forebay dam was built in 1923, and leaks when operated with less than 12-foot freeboard; the dam needs to be reevaluated and reinforced with a buttress to restore its function to its design capacity. The Preston Reservoir capacity is 235 af. CDCR has agreed to conduct a preliminary feasibility study of raising Preston Reservoir by 16 inches to increase its capacity.⁷¹⁵ This study has not been conducted to date. ARSA needs to reinforce the dams at Henderson and Preston Forebay Reservoirs, if it is to continue to use each in the long term.

The regional outfall is nine miles in length; estimated capacity is 2.0 mgd between the WWTP and the Sutter Creek diversion structure, and 3.9 mgd downstream of the diversion structure.⁷¹⁶ The 4.3-mile segment between the WWTP and Henderson Reservoir was constructed of iron pipe in 1979, and is in fair condition; CCTV evaluation is needed to determine its remaining life.⁷¹⁷ The 3.7-mile segment between Henderson Reservoir and Preston Forebay was constructed of concrete in the late 1920s, is in unknown condition, and needs inspection and most likely repairs. Similarly, the one-mile segment between Preston Forebay and Preston Reservoir was constructed of steel piping, is in unknown condition, and needs inspection and most likely repairs. As of 2013, ARSA had conducted a preliminary draft study that discussed the potential condition of those sections of pipe, but

⁷¹⁵ California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, City of Ione and ARSA, *Agreement to Regulate Use of Henderson/Preston Wastewater Disposal System*, September 18, 2007, p. 5.

⁷¹⁶ HDR Engineering, *Sutter Creek Wastewater Master Plan: Report to the City of Sutter Creek*, August 2007, p. 6-1.

⁷¹⁷ HDR Engineering, *Sutter Creek Master Plan Technical Memorandum: Summary of ARSA Pipeline Condition Assessment*, Oct. 17, 2007.

it has not been finalized and more work needs to be completed to verify the pipe condition. This is reportedly one of the items that the next ARSA Master Plan will likely address. ARSA has completed some repairs to the Henderson/Preston Forebay section of pipe in the past two years (2011 and 2012) consisting of replacement of about 300 feet of pipe.

Between April and September, Preston Reservoir also accepts flows from the Mule Creek Prison WWTP, which in turn treats flows from the prison, the former Preston facility and the CAL FIRE Academy. From Preston Reservoir, ARSA effluent flows to City of Ione wastewater treatment facilities. During the dry season (April to November), flows are directed to the tertiary Castle Oaks Water Reclamation Plant (COWRP) and are ultimately discharged to land for irrigation of the Castle Oaks Golf Course. During the wet season, flows are stored at Henderson and Preston Reservoirs, and excess flows are directed to the Ione secondary WWTP (crossing Sutter Creek) and discharged to nearby ponds. The City of Ione is required to accept up to 650 af (0.6 mgd) in ARSA flows during a wet year. However, there have been certain years when capacity constraints have not allowed Ione to accept the entire contracted amount into its system. During these periods, the agencies work together to ensure that the function of the system is not adversely affected.

Once Ione and CDCR resolve how to provide adequate reclaimed water to Castle Oaks Golf Course and the former Preston Youth Correction Facility, either Ione or CDCR may compel ARSA to stop discharging to the portion of the system below Preston Forebay with five years notice.

ARSA holds rights to dispose 1,300 af (the equivalent of 1.16 mgd on a year-round basis) on the former Noble Ranch where the Gold Rush golf resort is planned. Portions of the project have been constructed, such as a conduit under SR 49, and the remainder could be built as part of the Gold Rush project at an unknown future time when that project commences construction.

AMADOR COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Amador County Transportation Commission (ACTC) is the State designated Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) and Local Transportation Commission (LTC) for Amador County. ACTC was formed in the decade of 1970 when regional transportation planning and Transportation Development Act (TDA) processes were initiated by State law.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

ACTC plans, prioritizes and funds regional transportation projects and programs in Amador County. The Commission's region is countywide, and includes the five incorporated cities.

Each year, the Commission creates an annual overall work program (OWP), a scope of work and budget for transportation planning activities to be accomplished in the coming fiscal year. An OWP is a statement of proposed work and estimated costs that tie specific available transportation planning funding sources to specific transportation planning activities.⁷¹⁸

Regional Transportation Plans (RTP) are adopted every five years; ACTC last updated its RTP in 2004 and because of recent changes to the economy and population projections, has delayed its next update to 2014. The RTP has a long-term horizon (through 2025 or 2035) and identifies existing and future transportation needs in the County. ACTC determines the priorities for RTP projects in conjunction with cities and the County. The RTP attempts to link funding with prioritized projects and programs.⁷¹⁹

ACTC members include three commissioners appointed by the Amador County BOS, three commissioners appointed by the City Selection Committee (from city councils in the County), and one ex-officio member appointed by the Caltrans District 10 Director. Individual members and meeting information are shown in Figure 32-4.

As an RTPA, ACTC receives state and federal transportation planning funds to accomplish regional transportation planning and to administer the Transportation Development Act (TDA) through the activities detailed in its OWPs.⁷²⁰ ACTC utilizes multiple State and Federal grants and formula based State funding apportionments to support an annual operating budget of just over one million dollars per year.

⁷¹⁸ Caltrans, *2007 Regional Planning Handbook, A Guide to Administering Overall Work Programs, Regional Transportation Plans and their Funding Sources*, 2007, p.4.

⁷¹⁹ Ibid.

⁷²⁰ Caltrans, *2007 Regional Planning Handbook, A Guide to Administering Overall Work Programs, Regional Transportation Plans and their Funding Sources*, 2007.

Figure 32-4: Amador County Transportation Commission

Amador County Transportation Commission			
Governing Body			
	Name	Agency	Position
<i>Members</i>	Michael Vasquez	Amador City City Council	Chairman
	Keith Sweet	Jackson City Council	Vice Chairman
	John Plasse	County BOS	Member
	Theodore Novelli	County BOS	Member
	Dave Richards	Citizen	Member
	Jim Swift	Sutter Creek City Council	Member
	John Gedney	Caltrans District 10	Ex-Officio Member
	<i>Richard Forster</i>	<i>County BOS</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
	<i>Aaron Brusatori</i>	<i>Amador City City Council</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
	<i>Marilyn Lewis</i>	<i>Jackson City Council</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
	<i>Tim Murphy</i>	<i>Sutter Creek City Council</i>	<i>Alternate</i>
<i>Manner of Selection</i>	By member agencies (City Selection Committee and Board of Supervisors)		
<i>Length of Term</i>	6 years		
<i>Meetings</i>	Third Wednesday of every month at 6:00pm		
<i>Location</i>	Amador County Transportation Commission		
Contact			
<i>Contact</i>	Chairman or Executive Director		
<i>Mailing Address</i>	117 Valley View Way, Sutter Creek, CA 95685		
<i>Phone</i>	209.267.2282		
<i>Email/Website</i>	info@actc-amador.org, www.actc-amador.org		

AMERICAN LEGION POST 108 AMBULANCE SERVICE

AGENCY OVERVIEW

American Legion Ambulance (ALA) was formed by the members of American Legion Post 108 in 1929. The ambulance service was operated by volunteer members of the Post until approximately 1970, when full-time personnel were hired. ALA has provided advanced life support services since 1983.

The service is overseen and regulated by the Mountain Valley Emergency Medical Services Agency (EMSA), which coordinates and regulates local emergency services in Amador, Calaveras, Alpine, Mariposa, and Stanislaus Counties.

ALA began serving Calaveras County in July 2005, more than doubling the size of its operations to 1,371 square miles. It employs over 80 Paramedics, EMT-I's and registered nurses.⁷²¹

Nature and Extent

ALA provides basic and advanced life support services, as well as emergency medical transport.

Location

ALA provides ambulance service to Amador and Calaveras Counties.

Service Adequacy

Amador County is divided into 18 regions, which are classified as wilderness, rural, suburban or urban. The more populated an area, the faster the response time standard established by Mountain Valley EMSA.

⁷²¹ American Legion Ambulance, *History*, URL accessed 10/31/13 <http://www.alpost108.org/index.php/about-us/history>

COUNTY OF AMADOR

Amador County provides municipal services to unincorporated areas, as well as countywide services. Municipal services include law enforcement, road maintenance, wastewater, drainage, and cemetery to unincorporated areas of Amador County. Park and recreation services are provided by ACRA, a joint powers authority between the County of Amador, the cities of Amador City, Ione, Jackson, Plymouth, and Sutter Creek, Amador County Unified School District and Volcano CSD.

Other municipal services not covered by the MSR include planning, building and code enforcement, library, and airport services. Countywide services such as welfare, health, coroner, district attorney, and elections are also outside the scope of this study.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Amador County was formed on June 14, 1854. The County was originally part of Calaveras County from statehood in 1850 until 1854 when citizens north of the Mokelumne River became dissatisfied and petitioned the legislature to form a separate independent county. Amador later acquired land north of Dry Creek from El Dorado County and relinquished its easterly Sierra territory when Alpine County was formed in 1863.⁷²²

Local Accountability and Governance

Amador County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors (BOS). The Supervisors are elected by five supervisorial districts to staggered, four-year terms. The most recent supervisor elections occurred in 2010 and 2012. Both the 2010 and 2012 elections were uncontested for all five seats placed.⁷²³⁷²⁴ The upcoming 2014 elections are contested.

Board meetings are held weekly at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesdays in the board chambers at the County Administration Center.

The County apprises residents of meetings and events through legal notices in the newspaper, the local television and radio stations, bulletin board posting at the County Administrative Center, and the County's website, which includes an interactive calendar with links to agendas and minutes. In addition, public materials are distributed by several community based email groups. The County makes available its budget, audited financial statements, general plans, and other documents on its website. The County reported that it has had no Brown Act violations in recent history.

See Figure 32-5 for information on individual supervisors, term expiration dates and BOS contact information.

⁷²² Amador County, *Amador County: Today*, URL accessed 04/02/2014, <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/about/about-the-county>.

⁷²³ Amador County, *General Election Results*, June 8, 2010.

⁷²⁴ Amador County, *General Election Results*, June 5, 2012.

Figure 32-5: Amador County Governing Body

Amador County Board of Supervisors			
Governing Body			
	Name	Position	Term Ends
<i>Members</i>	John Plasse	District 1 Supervisor	2016
	Richard Forster	District 2 Supervisor	2016
	Theodore Novelli	District 3 Supervisor, Chairman	2014
	Louis Boitano	District 4 Supervisor	2016
	Brian Oneto	District 5 Supervisor	2014
<i>Manner of Selection</i>	Elections by supervisorial district		
<i>Length of Term</i>	Four years		
<i>Meetings</i>	Date: Tuesdays at 8:30am, Location: County Administration Center		
<i>Agenda Distribution</i>	Online, Posted		
<i>Minutes Distribution</i>	Online		
Contact			
<i>Contact</i>	Supervisor by District		
<i>Mailing Address</i>	810 Court St. Jackson, CA 95642		
<i>Phone</i>	(209) 223-6470		
<i>Email/Website</i>	www.co.amador.ca.us/government/board-of-supervisors		

The County demonstrated accountability in its disclosure of information and cooperation with LAFCO.

Management

The County government has 43 departments, including the Sheriff's Office, Health and Human Resources Agency, General Services Administration, the Planning Department, Public Works Agency, and the Treasurer-Tax Collector, among others.⁷²⁵ The daily operations of the County are managed by the County Administrative Officer (CAO). The CAO is responsible for the County budget, oversight of departments and programs, and general support to the BOS. The CAO evaluates administrative procedures of the County and makes recommendations to improve operations. The director of human resources, the land use director and the clerk of the board report to the CAO.⁷²⁶

As reported in the 2008 MSR, the County implemented personnel-related management practices between 2005 and 2007, including 1) conducting a countywide classification and compensation survey, 2) providing professional development opportunities for staff, 3) recognizing employee achievements with awards, 4) coordinating succession planning activities, 5) establishing ways for the Board of Supervisors and managers to communicate

⁷²⁵ Amador County, *Department Listing*. URL accessed 04/02/14, <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/departments>

⁷²⁶ <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=236>

attitudes and policies more effectively to each other and to County staff, and 6) creating a human resources department.⁷²⁷

To guide its efforts, the County has adopted several planning documents, including the General Plan (Housing element updated in 2011), a mission statement, a vision statement, a strategic administrative priorities document (including the County's strategic planning process, 2005), a multi-hazard mitigation plan (2006), and an airport master plan (2005).

The County's General Plan identifies goals for services, planning and policies. The last full update to the plan occurred in 1967. A recreation element was added to the plan in 1969. The plan's various elements have been amended or revised independently over the years: the land use element in 1973, the safety element in 1974, the housing element in 2010, and the circulation element in 2006. The County initiated the update of the General Plan in 2011; the newly drafted elements include land use, safety, noise, circulation and mobility, open space, housing, and conservation. The planning horizon of the plan is through 2030.⁷²⁸⁷²⁹

County financial planning documents include an annual adopted budget, annual financial audits and a capital improvement plan. The most recent completed audit is for FY 12⁷³⁰. The County prepares a capital improvement plan outlining needs and anticipated expenditures; however, it was not provided or available on the County's website.

The County's risk management practices include the provision of employee group insurance, worker's compensation insurance, vehicle insurance and liability insurance.⁷³¹

Service Demand and Growth

Amador County covers 594 square miles. Approximately 10.3 square miles are within incorporated cities; the remainder is unincorporated territory.⁷³²

Land Use and Economy

The land use portion of the Amador County General Plan has not been updated since the 2008 MSR; therefore an update to the information was not available.

⁷²⁷ Amador County, 2005-2007 Strategic Administrative Priorities, Spring 2005.

⁷²⁸ Preliminary General Plan Goals and Policies, *Revised Following Comments from GPAC, Agencies and County Departments, September 2008*, URL accessed 04/02/2014, <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=582>

⁷²⁹ The General Plan was still pending as of the drafting of this MSR.

⁷³⁰ Amador County Audit Information available online as of April 2, 2014.

⁷³¹ Amador County, *Budget FY 14*, 2014.

⁷³² Land Use General Plan Update Working Paper, January 2008.

Figure 32-6: Unincorporated Land Uses

As reported in the 2008 MSR, existing land use in unincorporated Amador County consists primarily of forestland, agriculture, and rural residences. There are also some industrial and mineral resource extraction uses. The County's unincorporated communities have a mixture of land uses, including agricultural, commercial and residential uses. The portion of unincorporated land in each use is shown in Figure 32-6. A large portion of the unincorporated land is vacant, with minimal or no improvements on the property, or it is not inhabited. The Eldorado National Forest occupies approximately 79,695 acres in Amador County, or ten percent of the overall size of the forest.⁷³³

Land Use	% of Unincorporated
Residential	12.4%
Commercial	0.6%
Agriculture	0.2%
Timber Preserve	29.7%
Vacant	7.5%
Misc.	1%
Unclassified	1%
Total	100%
Source: Amador County General Plan, Update, Land Use Working Paper 2008.	

Residential land use in the unincorporated territory is concentrated in several communities, including Buckhorn, Camanche, Drytown, Fiddletown, Kirkwood, Pine Grove, Pioneer, Red Corral, River Pines, and Volcano. Residential uses are also concentrated along Ridge Road between Martell and Pine Grove, and the Amador Pines area above Buckhorn.

Commercial land use in unincorporated areas tends to coexist with residential concentrations. The Buckhorn and Martell communities have the largest portions of commercial land, followed by Pine Grove, Pioneer, and Red Corral. There are some additional commercial land uses around Bear River Reservoir and Silver Lake in the eastern portion of the County. Industrial uses are located primarily in Martell (e.g., the Martell and Sierra West Business Parks). There are also some industrial parcels in the Carbondale Industrial Park west of Ione.

Agriculture is scattered throughout the County, but is concentrated west of SR 49 and the Shenandoah Valley, while Timber Preserve Zones are concentrated east of Buckhorn.⁷³⁴ Williamson Act lands make up approximately 83 percent of the agricultural acreage in the County.⁷³⁵ Major crops are wine grapes, walnuts, hay, and pasture.

Industries particularly attracted to the County include mining, state and local government, and retail trade. Significant employers within unincorporated Amador County include the Jackson Rancheria Hotel and Casino, Sierra Pine (lumber manufacturing), Volcano Communications Group (utilities), and East Bay Municipal Utility District. There are also many inns, restaurants and wineries in the area. Although agriculture (particularly wineries) has increased employment in recent years, overall farmland in the County declined

⁷³³ Eldorado National Forest, 2008.

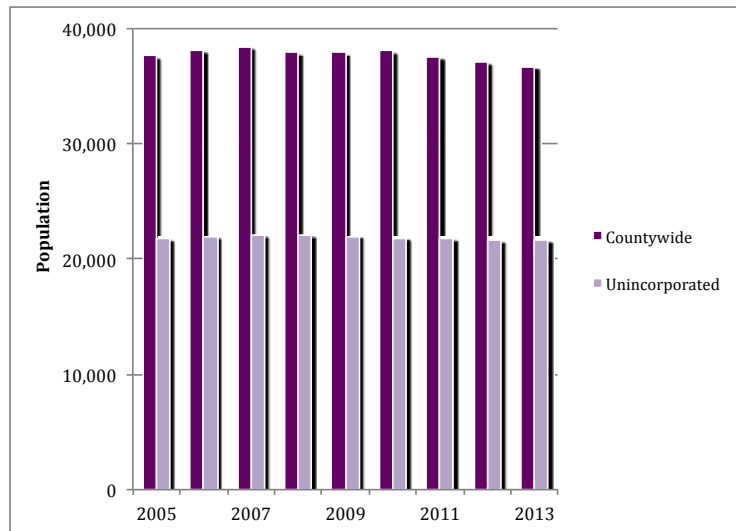
⁷³⁴ Amador County, General Plan Update: Land Use Working Paper, January 2008, p. LU-1.

⁷³⁵ California Department of Conservation, *Land Conservation Act Status Report*, 2012, p. 26. Percentage calculated using 2012 Land Conservation Act acreage divided by total county agricultural acreage reported in 2008 Land Use, General Plan Update Working Paper.

Population

The County had a population of 38,091, of which 21,831 or 57 percent resided in the unincorporated areas, as of April 1, 2010.⁷³⁶ The population projection for 2013 based on the 2010 Census is 36,741 for the County and 21,640 for the unincorporated areas. The population density in the unincorporated territory is 37 per square mile. By comparison, the overall countywide density is 64.

Figure 32-7: Amador County Population, 2005-2013



The countywide population increased by 2,991 residents or 8.5 percent from 2000 to 2010. During the same time period, the unincorporated population grew by 6.5 percent. The California Department of Finance Population Projection reported that the population of Amador County (including cities) would begin to decrease in 2011 through 2013, as seen in Figure 32-7, amounting to a three and a half percent decrease.⁷³⁷ In the same period the DOF estimated the unincorporated population would decrease by seven percent.

As reported in the 2008 MSR, the County issued residential building permits for 1,621 units between 2000 and 2007. Between 2008 and 2012, residential building permits were issued for 356 units. By 2010, the number of permits issued fell to its lowest in the last 12 years with only 27 residential building permits issued.⁷³⁸

The value of new commercial construction in unincorporated areas lags behind the residential permit trend slightly. From 2008 to 2012, the value of new commercial construction averaged \$10.9 million. In the period between 2000 and 2012 the value of construction then peaked in 2005 at \$27 million. Since 2005, the highest value of new commercial construction was \$16.2 million in 2012.

The County’s General Plan does not offer a projection of build-out population in the unincorporated areas.

Development

In the 2008 MSR, there were 24 planned and proposed developments in unincorporated Amador County at the time this report was drafted.⁷³⁹ Of the 24 projects, 23

⁷³⁶ Data from the California Department of Finance, April 1, 2010.

⁷³⁷ California DOF Population Projection is estimated using the 2010 Census benchmark.

⁷³⁸ <http://censtats.census.gov/cgi-bin/bldgprmt/bldgdisp.pl>

⁷³⁹ Amador County, Planning Department. URL accessed 5/30/08, <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/depts/planning/index.cfm?id=8>

were residential developments with plans calling for a total of 2,246 dwelling units at build-out on 18,143 acres (approximately 28 square miles). Non-residential developments approved by the County included the Sierra West Business Park (Phases I and II) and the Martell Business Park. As of January 2013, there are 13 planned and proposed residential developments in unincorporated Amador County that have received tentative approval.⁷⁴⁰ There are proposals and plans for 531 residential units on 661 acres (approximately one square mile), among the projects with available data. Developments with tentative approved proposals would house approximately 1,221 residents at build-out.⁷⁴¹ Figure 32-8 shows planned and proposed developments in unincorporated areas outside the existing SOIs of the five cities.

As reported in the 2008 MSR, a potential development project not listed in Figure 32-8 is Rancho Arroyo Seco. Located to the north, west and south of the City of Ione, the Rancho Arroyo Seco property consists of 16,100 acres of land (15,860 acres in unincorporated territory outside of the City of Ione SOI). According to the Amador County Planning Department, there has been no development and no plans for development on the Rancho Arroyo Seco property, and the land continues to be used for grazing and mining.⁷⁴²

Also reported in the 2008 MSR were three proposals had been approved for a total of 168 units across 261 acres (Fairway Pines PD, Silver Pointe and The Pines at Mace Meadows) in the Buckhorn area. As of January 2013, in the Buckhorn area, only Silver Pointe and The Pines at Mace Meadows have tentative approval from the County, expiring in 2018 and 2015, respectively.

⁷⁴⁰ <http://amadorgov.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=3492>

⁷⁴¹ Population estimates are calculated by multiplying the total number of residential units by the average household size in Amador County (2.3) according to the Department of Finance, 2010.

⁷⁴² Conversation with Susan Grijalva, Planning Director, Amador County on October 11, 2013.

Figure 32-8: Planned and Proposed Developments

Development	Developer/ Subdivider	General Location	Acres	Units	Non- Residential Acres ¹
Within Unincorporated Amador County and Outside Cities' Spheres of Influence					
Black Oak Ridge	Toma Family Partnership	Pine Grove	40.0	7	0
East Ridge Business Park	Aaron Brusatori, et al.	Sutter Creek	9.7	6	10
Mokelumne Bluffs	Sutter Creek Villages, Inc.	Pine Grove	137.9	95	0
Palisades Unit 6	Kirkwood Mountain Resort, LLC	Kirkwood	8.1	21	0
Petersen Ranch (Revised)	Frederick Petersen	Pine Grove	141.2	58	0
Pine Acres North	Thomas Martin & Associates	Pine Grove	44.2	106	0
Quail Ridge	Martin Eng	Pioneer	82.0	81	0
Red Tail Ridge	Paul & Jordon Bramell	Pioneer	31.0	5	0
Revised Pine Grove Bluffs	Del Rapini	Pine Grove	32.0	28	0
Sherrill Subdivision	Gary & Judy Sherrill	Sutter Creek	97.0	4	0
Silver Pointe	Richard Reynolds	Buckhorn	233.0	46	0
The Pines at Mace Meadows	Ciro & Kimberly Toma	Buckhorn	4.1	13	0
Thunder Mountain Lodge (Revised)	TML Development	Kirkwood	2.2	67	0
Thomas Estates	Thomas Estate Company	Drytown	18.8	17	0
Note: (1) Non-residential acres exclude parks and open space.					

In the Kirkwood area, currently there are 239 single-family units and 475 multi-family units completed (714 total), with a potential 699 units remaining to be developed. As well, as of January 2013, there are two tentatively approved subdivisions totaling 88 units on 10.3 acres.

As of 2008, in the Martell area there were two tentative proposals for large-scale residential developments. The Wicklow Development that would include 750 units on 201 acres. The Golden Vale Development would entail 607 units on 383 acres, although some of these units may be commercial as Golden Vale is a mixed-use development. As of January 2013, there are no tentative approvals by the County in the Martell area. As such the Wicklow Development and the Golden Vale Development have not been developed nor does there appear to be plans to pursue development at this time.

In the Pioneer area there were two approved development proposals, Red Tail Ridge and Quail Ridge that would yield 86 units on 113 acres at build-out. As of January 2013, both of these development proposals remain on the tentative approved subdivision manifest. The units and acreage at build out remain unchanged.

As of 2008, there were two approved proposals for residential developments in Pine Grove—Pine Groves Bluff and Peterson Ranch—that would yield 86 single-family units on 173 acres at build-out. There were also two tentative proposals in 2008, Mokelumne Bluffs and Pine Acres North, detailing an additional 201 units on 182 acres. As of January 2013, all four of these developments remain on the tentative approval list by the County, with the same number of projected units and acreage at build-out. In addition, there is a new approved development in the Pine Grove area called Black Oak Ridge with seven units planned on 40 acres.

In 2008, there were two approved subdivisions located in unincorporated Amador County in the vicinity of incorporated areas. In the Sutter Creek area, beyond the SOI for the City, the Sherrill and Aparicio subdivisions had both been approved by the County. These proposals involved low-density residential use, with five units on 31 acres for the Aparicio subdivision and four units on 97 acres for the Sherrill Subdivision. As of January 2013, only the Sherrill subdivision has been approved by the County.

New tentatively approved developments by the County since 2008 include a commercial project called East Ridge Business Park in the Sutter Creek area with six units planned on 9.7 acres and Thomas Estates in the Drytown area, which plans for 17 residential units at build-out on 18.8 acres.

Growth Strategies

The preliminary guiding goals for land use and development in Amador County include maintaining and enhancing distinct communities, the retention of important farmlands, developing a business-friendly environment, improving the job-housing ratio, protecting resources important to tourism, and maintaining the rural lifestyle valued by County residents.⁷⁴³

In the March 2009 Draft Economic Development Element section of the General Plan for the County, three economic development strategies are identified to retain and expand business activities in the County. The first strategy is to provide economic and development incentives to County residents. As such the County committed to continuing to provide a favorable business environment for new and existing businesses.⁷⁴⁴ The second strategy put forward is to promote higher and continuing education in the County.⁷⁴⁵ The third economic strategy is to promote tourism in the County.⁷⁴⁶

In addition to the economic strategies identified, the County also has specific agricultural strategies related to development. As previously mentioned, agriculture plays a significant role in the economy in Amador County. The County has strategized to provide

⁷⁴³ Amador County, Preliminary General Plan Goals and Policies, August 2007.

⁷⁴⁴ Amador County General Plan, March 2009, pg. E-21.

⁷⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁴⁶ Ibid.

specific agricultural economic and development incentives, including a focus on agri-tourism and succession of agricultural lands.⁷⁴⁷

Residential growth is generally limited to areas with slopes under 25 percent and west of the Range 13 East line; a vertical boundary located approximately 2.5 miles east of Buckhorn.⁷⁴⁸

Financing

The County finances its general government, law enforcement, public assistance, education and parks and recreation services primarily with money received from taxes and secondarily with intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) and charges for services.

The Board of Supervisors annually adopts budget instructions, which provide assessment of the current financing requirements and adequacy of funding levels. The County did not provide an assessment as to whether the current financing level is adequate to deliver services. However, the FY 12 financial audit notes that total expenditures by the County exceeded revenues by \$917,318.

The County tracks its financial activities separately through various funds. The general fund is the County's main operating fund. Other major governmental funds include a social services fund, a mental health fund, a road fund, a water development fund and a miscellaneous governmental fund. The County tracks its landfill and airport activities through separate enterprise funds.

The County's total revenues were \$57.8 million in FY 12, of which \$32.8 million were general fund revenues. The County's general fund revenue sources include taxes (62 percent), intergovernmental revenue (22 percent), charges for services (10 percent), fines and penalties (three percent), and other revenues (two percent).⁷⁴⁹

Taxable transactions per capita in unincorporated areas are higher than in the cities. Taxable transactions per capita were \$17,581 in 2012 in the unincorporated areas.⁷⁵⁰ By comparison, the countywide average was \$13,296, and the statewide average was \$14,743. The County has experienced a significant increase in sales tax revenue in recent years in the unincorporated areas as a result of the Martell commercial development.

County expenditures were \$58.7 million in FY 12, of which \$32 million represent general fund expenditures. Approximately 50 percent of annual expenditures are attributable to public protection in unincorporated areas, and 15 percent to countywide public safety (e.g., district attorney, coroner, etc.). Monies toward health and sanitation totaled 14 percent of expenditures. Road maintenance services comprised eight percent of costs. General government costs comprised nine percent of total expenditures.

⁷⁴⁷ Amador County General Plan, March 2009, pg. E-22-23.

⁷⁴⁸ Amador County, Land Use General Plan Update Working Paper, January 2008, p. LU-7.

⁷⁴⁹ Financial data collected from the County FY 12 Audit, pg. 20-21.

⁷⁵⁰ This indicator is calculated as the ratio of taxable sales at all outlets in 2012 to the average annual household population in the unincorporated areas in 2012.

The County had \$17.1 million in long-term debt at the end of FY 12.⁷⁵¹ The debt consisted primarily of \$7.9 million in notes payable and certificates of participation, \$6.4 million related to the landfill closure and post closure costs, \$2.1 million in compensated absences, and the remainder is comprised of capital leases and liability for self-insurance and other post employment benefits.

The County does not have a formal policy on maintaining financial reserves. The County had a \$31 million general fund balance at the end of FY 12. Of the total balance 39.5 percent is available and the remainder is committed, restricted or non spendable. These funds represented 54 percent of general fund expenditures in FY 12. In other words, the County maintained over six months of working reserves. The water development sinking fund had a balance of \$5.5 million at the close of FY 12.

The County engages in joint financing arrangements related to pensions, insurance and investments. The County provides retirement-related benefits to its employees through the California Public Employees Retirement System, a multiple-employer defined benefit plan for public employees. The County is a member of the California State Association of Counties Excess Insurance Authority, a risk-sharing pool for excess workers' compensation, liability, property, and medical malpractice insurance coverage.

In addition, the County participates in the Amador County Recreation Authority (ACRA), which is a joint powers authority formed in 2003 between the County, the cities of Amador City, Ione, Jackson, Plymouth, and Sutter Creek, Amador County Unified School District, Volcano CSD.⁷⁵² ACRA is empowered to plan, finance, acquire, construct, manage, and operate recreation programs and facilities in Amador County. ACRA is funded by member contributions of \$5.00 per resident within the member entities' boundaries.

WASTEWATER

Nature and Extent

The County formerly owned a community leach field system in the community of Fiddletown until it was transferred to Fiddletown CSD in late 2010, following completion of the annexation of all parcels receiving service.⁷⁵³ The County formerly operated a wastewater system in River Pines; however, responsibility for that wastewater system transferred from the County to River Pines PUD in June 2008. Please refer to Chapter 14 of this document for information on the leach field system in Fiddletown and Chapter 22 for information on the River Pines system. For information on the monitoring of septic systems in unincorporated Amador County please refer to Chapter 31, CSA 6.

⁷⁵¹ FY 12 Audit, pg. 9.

⁷⁵² See ACRA profile in Chapter 32 of this service review.

⁷⁵³ As reported by Mike Israel from Amador County via email in August 2013 and confirmed by Jane O'Riordan in January 2014.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Nature and Extent

The Amador County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) provides patrol, investigation, and dispatch services.⁷⁵⁴ Specialized units within ACSO include a dive team, a search and rescue team, SWAT, a marijuana suppression unit, a marine enforcement unit, community policing, and off-highway vehicle enforcement. Although California Highway Patrol holds primary responsibility for traffic enforcement and accident investigation in unincorporated territories with a focus on state highways, ACSO provides traffic enforcement services as well.

ACSO provides contract patrol and dispatch services to Amador City and the City of Plymouth. The cities share one ACSO officer. The Sheriff also provides contractual services to East Bay Municipal Service District (EBMUD) and all County waterways (via the California Department of Boating and Waterways). Land owned by EBMUD (by Lake Camanche and Pardee Reservoir) is patrolled during one to two shifts per day.

Amador County provides assistance to El Dorado County in portions of El Dorado County that are inaccessible to El Dorado County safety providers during winter months. ACSO also provides services to USFS lands within Amador County through a limited MOU, as the local USFS stations lack an independent patrol.

Bomb squad and hazmat services are provided by Calaveras and San Joaquin Counties through an MOU. Calaveras County has provided these services for many years, but recently a more complex agreement was formed with San Joaquin County. ACSO responds for initial scene control and containment for these events within Amador County.

ACSO employs 40 sworn officers and seven non-sworn personnel dedicated to law enforcement services. In addition there are 13 staff (11 full time, two part time) working in dispatch, three staff working as court bailiffs, one part time staff working in the narcotics task force, 30 officers and staff operating the jail, 17 staff (16 full time, one part time) working in the probation department and five staff working in the local community corrections department.⁷⁵⁵

Total call volume has decreased by 12 percent from 2007 to 2012, consistent with a decrease in violent crimes, property crimes and arrests in the same period.

In the 2008 MSR, ACSO reported that the office and jail were both functioning at maximum capacity. As well, the clerical, evidence processing and management areas were understaffed. It appears that ACSO has increased the number of employees since 2008 to accommodate this demand. The ACSO did not provide an update on how service may or may not be affected by new developments in the County.

⁷⁵⁴ Services outside of the scope of this report include security to the superior courts, coroner services, emergency planning, and long-term detention. To facilitate these services, ASCO operates the county jail, the Amador County Office of Emergency Services (OES), and the dispatch and communications Center.

⁷⁵⁵ County of Amador, *Budget FY 14*, p. xii-xiv.

Patrol

Eight overlapping beats are regularly patrolled within the County. Beat assignments are dependent upon the number of patrol officers on a particular shift. If a smaller beat's officer goes off duty, that area is then covered in a larger, overlapping beat. Beats 10, 20 and 30 divide the County into thirds, while Beats 60 and 70 divide the County in half. Beat 80 is the eastern, portion of the County area. Beat 90 is a canine officer who has patrol responsibility for the entire county, overlapping other beats.

Ione, Jackson and Sutter Creek beats are patrolled only when the Sheriff provides backup to their respective law enforcement providers. Together Amador City and Plymouth comprise one beat.

ACSO did not provide an update on patrol information in 2013.

Dispatch

ACSO is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for all of Amador County, and also provides dispatch services for all police departments and ambulance services. Emergency Medical Dispatchers (EMDs) answer all 911 calls. For calls necessitating a police response, ACSO provides dispatch services for the three local police agencies in the County as well as its own officers. For callers with medical emergencies, the EMDs provide pre-arrival medical assistance while American Legion Ambulance is en-route. Fire-related calls are routed to Cal Fire's Communication Center.

The communications center is staffed by 11 full-time staff.

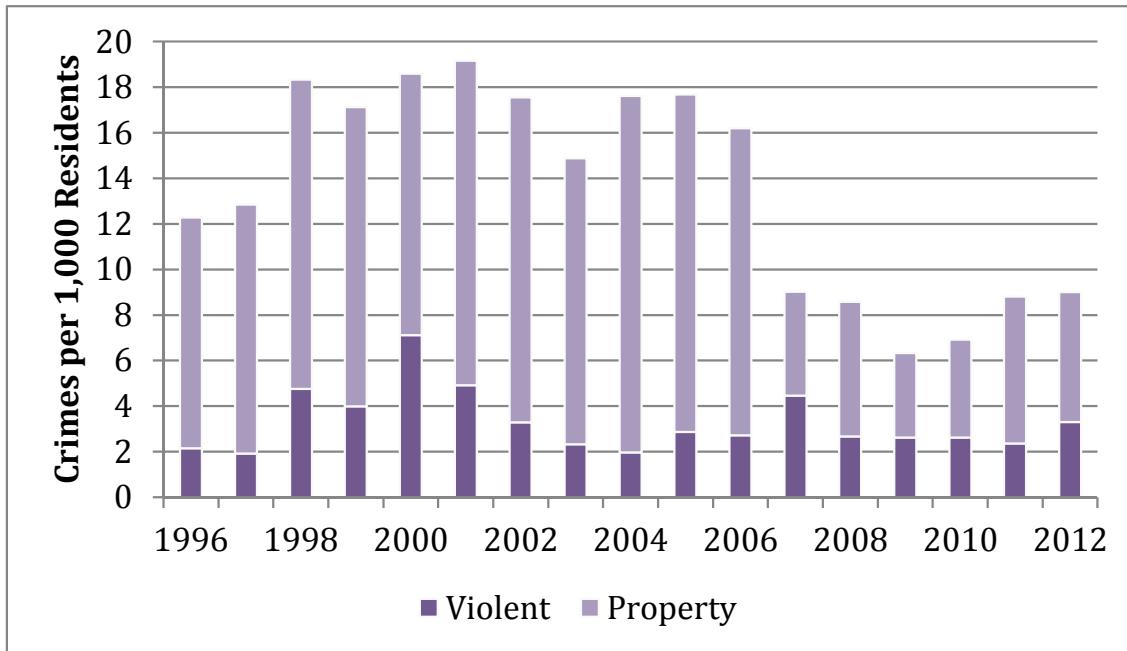
Office of Emergency Services

The Office of Emergency Services (OES) develops and maintains the ACSO's capability to prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from emergencies and disasters. In this capacity, OES develops and maintains the County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan in collaboration with the five Amador County cities, AWA and JVID. OES also assists localities applying for pre-disaster hazard mitigation grants. Other services in OES include managing MOUs with Calaveras and San Joaquin Counties for hazardous materials response and, in case of an event, coordinating disaster and public assistance with the State and FEMA. ACSO reports that Amador County does not have the ability to organize interoperable communications with agencies outside of the County. Should the need arise, ACSO would rely on the State Office of Emergency Services to supply this capacity through equipment or agency assistance.

Demand

Serious crime rates (excluding larcenies under \$400) in the Sheriff's service area (unincorporated territory plus Amador City and Plymouth) ranged between six and nine crimes per 1,000 residents since 2008. Previously, between 1998 and 2008, crime rates ranged between 15 and 20 crimes per 1,000 residents. From 1996 through 2012, the crime rate peaked at 18 crimes per 1,000 residents in 2001. Violent crimes peaked in 2000, with seven violent crimes per 1,000 residents. Rates are shown in Figure 32-9.

Figure 32-9: Amador County Sheriff's Service Area Crime Rates, 1996-2012



Comparatively, statewide crime rates were significantly higher than in the ACSO service area. There were 32 crimes on average per 1,000 residents in 2012 and only nine crimes per 1,000 in the same year in the Sheriff's service area. While there has been a general decline in the crime rates statewide, there has been a more significant decline in crime in the unincorporated areas of Amador County since 2006.

Location

The Sheriff's Office serves all of unincorporated Amador County. In addition, ACSO serves the Cities of Amador and Plymouth by contract, as well as land owned by EBMUD (by Lake Camanche and Pardee Reservoir) and waterways in the County. Also within the County, ACSO serves USFS lands under a limited MOU.

Outside of the County, ACSO serves the area of El Dorado County bounded by SR 88, east from Dew Drop to the Amador-Alpine county line. This area has limited access from El Dorado County and is inaccessible during the winter months except from Amador or Alpine Counties.

Infrastructure

Key law enforcement infrastructure operated and maintained by ACSO includes the main station in Jackson, a communications center (inside the main station), a vacant substation in Pioneer, and the jail. All of the facilities were identified as being in need of repair or replacement in 2008, an update was not provided in 2013.

The main station is outdated and overcrowded; there is insufficient office space, locker room space, and parking, as reported by the County. The County is currently adding new lockers to the men's locker room, but all lockers have been downsized to accommodate the increase in the number of lockers. There is no space for additions or expansions.

Within the main office, the County’s communications center is also overcrowded. It was designed for three consoles with no room for expansion. All three consoles are used during busy periods; any increased demand may necessitate an additional console. There were no plans to expand the main office or communications center as of the drafting of this report.

The ASCO’s substation is in poor condition and has been closed due to mold and safety hazards.

The County jail is overcrowded and reportedly exceeds State-approved capacity limits on a daily basis. The County performed a needs assessment study for a new jail and selected a site on Conductor Boulevard in Martell. This new facility would replace the current jail. It would house 167 beds, an increase of 91 beds from the existing facility. There was no timeline or financing mechanism in place as of the drafting of this report. Consultants projected total costs of \$30.3 million (2008 dollars). State funding is expected to cover 75 percent of construction costs, but the County is required to contribute 25 percent in matching funds.⁷⁵⁶

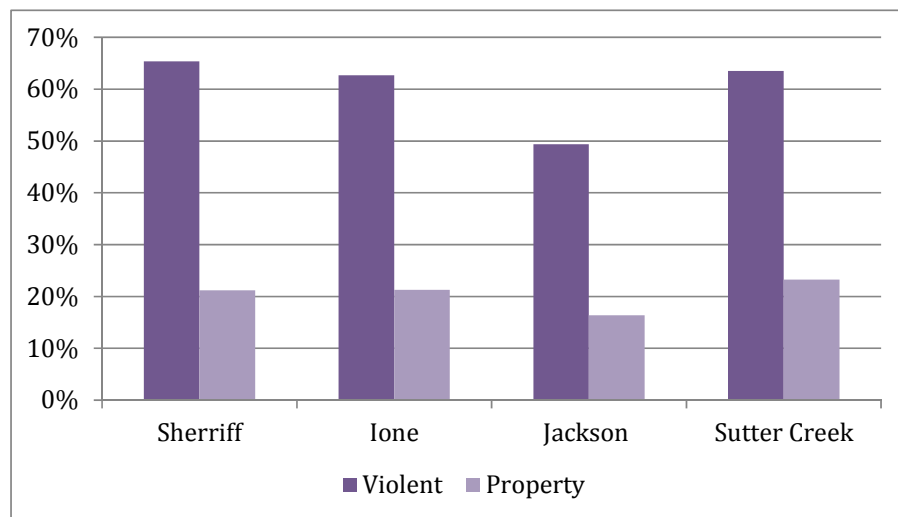
The County did not report any equipment needs or deficiencies; however, according to the Amador County Budget for FY 14, ACSO allotted funds toward a boat in FY 12 in the amount of approximately \$17,000.

Service Adequacy

The effectiveness of a law enforcement agency can be gauged by many factors, including crime clearance rates (the portion of crimes that are solved),⁷⁵⁷ response times and staffing ratios.

Figure 32-10: Law Enforcement Crime Clearance Rates, 2002-12 Average

ACSO’s crime clearance rates are comparable to other providers in the County. ACSO’s average violent crime clearance rate from 2002-2012 was 65 percent. For 2012 alone, the clearance rate was 73 percent. Other law enforcement



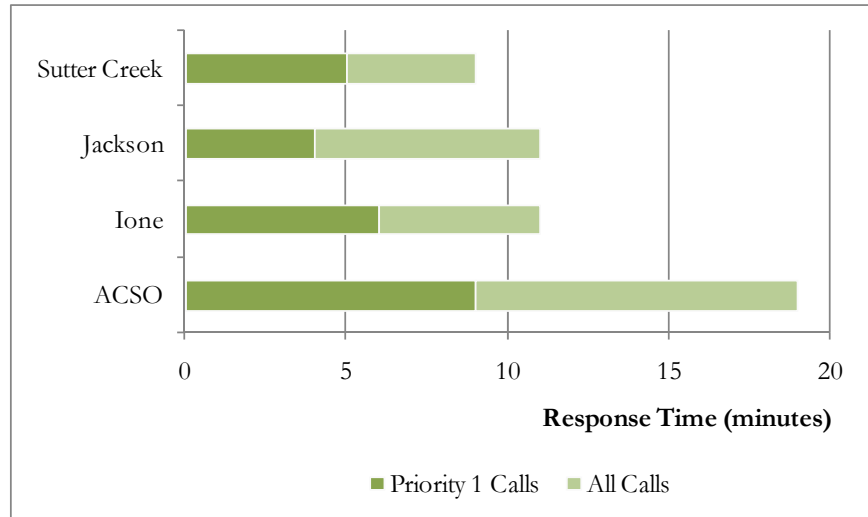
⁷⁵⁶ Marks, J., “Support for reentry facility may help county get new jail,” *Amador Ledger-Dispatch*, August 31, 2007.

⁷⁵⁷ Cleared crimes refer to offenses for which at least one person was arrested, charged with the offense, and turned over to the appropriate court for prosecution. A crime is also considered cleared by exceptional means if the offender dies, the victim refuses to cooperate or extradition is denied.

providers in the County have violent crime clearance rates ranging from 49 to 65 percent. ACSO's average property crime clearance rate from 2002-2012 was 21 percent. Other providers' average rates ranged from 16 to 23 percent.

Figure 32-11: Law Enforcement Providers Average Response Times, 2007

The Sheriff's office average response time for all calls in 2007 was 19 minutes. For priority one calls, the response time averaged nine minutes. These response times are longer than the Ione, Jackson and Sutter Creek Police Departments, which averaged between nine and 11 minutes for all calls and between four and six minutes for priority one calls. This is likely explained by the larger service area of the ACSO relative to the limited service areas of the cities' providers. Each of the law enforcement providers in the County were unable to provide updated response information for this MSR update.



This is likely explained by the larger service area of the ACSO relative to the limited service areas of the cities' providers. Each of the law enforcement providers in the County were unable to provide updated response information for this MSR update.

The number of sworn officers per capita is also a service level indicator. ACSO has 1.7 paid sworn officers per 1,000 residents.⁷⁵⁸ Other providers in the County have from 1.4 to 2.0 sworn staff per 1,000 residents.

⁷⁵⁸ Authors' calculations based on FY 14 police staffing levels reported by ACSO in the *Amador County Budget for 2013-2014* and population estimates from the California Department of Finance for unincorporated Amador County, Amador City and the City of Plymouth for 2010 (23,021).

Figure 32-12: Amador County Sheriff's Office Service Profile

Police Service			
Service Configuration		Service Demand	
Patrol	Direct	Statistical Base Year	2012
Dispatch	Direct	Total Service Calls ¹	6,725
Search and Rescue	Direct	% 911 Calls	11%
Crime Lab	Department of Justice	% Non-Emergency Calls	89%
SWAT	Direct	Calls per 1,000 people	292
Temporary Holding	Direct	Arrests 2012	594
Bomb Squad	Calaveras County	Violent Crime Rate per 1,000	3.2
Canine Services	Direct	Property Crime Rate per 1,000	5.6
Service Adequacy		Resources	
Average Response Time	19	Total Staff	113
Average Priority One Response Time	9	Total Sworn Staff	40
Response Time Base Year	2007	Sworn Staff per 1,000 ²	1.7
Clearance Rate of Violent Crimes ³	65%	Staffing Base Year	2013
Clearance Rate of Property Crimes	21%	Marked Police Vehicles ⁴	25
Service Challenges			
USFS lands are difficult to patrol in winter months due to inclement weather conditions.			
Facilities			
Station	Location	Condition ⁵	Built
Main Station	700 Court St., Jackson, CA 95642	Fair	1984
Substation	Buckhorn Ridge Rd., Pioneer, CA	Poor (closed)	1984
County Jail	700 Court St., Jackson, CA 95642	Fair	1984
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies			
Previously reported that the County needs a new jail and a new or expanded station(s). No update was provided in 2013 on infrastructure needs and/or deficiencies.			
Facility Sharing			
All law enforcement agencies in Amador County may request outside agency assists.			
Future Opportunities: No opportunities were identified.			
Notes:			
(1) Call volume data retrieved from http://www.amadorsheriff.org/operations_division/communications_bureau/			
(2) Population of unincorporated Amador County as well as population of Amador City and Plymouth (23,021).			
(3) Clearance rates are aggregated for the period between 2002-2012.			
(4) As reported in 2008.			
(5) As reported in 2008.			

ROADWAY SERVICES

Nature and Extent

The County directly provides minor street maintenance services and limited street sweeping services in retail sales and business park areas. Major roadway reconstruction projects and street light maintenance are performed by contract with private providers.

Signalized intersections within the unincorporated area are limited to state routes. Caltrans bills the County for electricity for these signals.

Location

Roadway services are provided within the unincorporated areas of the County on roads accepted into the County-maintained road system. County staff notes that some small roadway segments currently maintained by the County may be appropriate for maintenance by cities. The County does not provide any street services outside its bounds or for privately maintained roads.

Infrastructure

The County's key road infrastructure includes 410.6 centerline miles of roads. Nearly 225 miles (55 percent) are rural local roads; an additional 184 miles (45 percent) are rural collectors (minor and major). The remainder consists of rural arterials, urban collectors and urban locals. Circulation within the County is also provided by 127.4 miles of state highways, including SRs 16, 26, 49, 88, 104, and 124.

There are no signalized intersections maintained by the County in the unincorporated areas. There are 57 streetlights, which are owned and maintained by PG&E. New streetlights are the responsibility of developers; the lights are then ceded to PG&E. The County is billed for electricity, which is funded through property assessments for new areas through CSA 5.

It was reported in the 2008 MSR that County roadways are in need of significant improvements. Based on a lack of adequate funding, the RTP reports that the average pavement condition rating (APCR) for 68 percent of County roads could drop below 30 out of 100 by 2025.⁷⁵⁹ The estimated cost of upgrading County roadways to meet the target APCR of 75 is over \$50 million.⁷⁶⁰ Including curve corrections, bridge improvements, and other projects, the County's list of 135 improvements in 2004 added up to approximately \$100 million in repairs.⁷⁶¹

State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funding priorities include three projects defined in an MOU with Calaveras and Alpine Local Transportation Commissions, including projects on SR 4, SR 49 and SR 88. The three counties have pooled their STIP

⁷⁵⁹ A PCR of 75 or more is considered to be very good condition, PCR of 60-74 is good condition, PCR of 45-59 is fair condition, and PCR below 45 is poor condition.

⁷⁶⁰ Amador County, General Plan Update: Circulation Background Working Paper, August 2007, p. CIRC-56.

⁷⁶¹ Amador County, Regional Transportation Plan Update, 2004, p. III-7.

funding for these projects. Once these three projects are completed, Amador's STIP funding priorities are SR 88 improvements in Pine Grove and Jackson, and the Lone Interim West Bypass.⁷⁶²

The Amador County Department of Transportation and Public Works is currently in the process of replacing four bridges within the County: Fiddletown Road Bridge, Bunker Hill Road Bridge, Old Amador Road Bridge and Bell Road Bridge.⁷⁶³ All four bridges are being funded through the Federal Highway Bridge Program covering 88.5 percent of the cost, while the County will cover the remaining portion. The expected date of completion is December 2015 and December 2016, respectively.

Service Adequacy

The County policy is to maintain LOS "C" for roads in rural areas and LOS "D" for roads in urban or developing areas.⁷⁶⁴ The information regarding LOS for roads in Amador County has not been updated since the 2008 MSR. It appears as though the County is in the process of updating the Circulation Element; therefore there was no updated information available. In 2007, local roadway segments within unincorporated Amador County that currently operate at an average of LOS "D" or worse include three portions of Ridge Road: west of Old Ridge Road (LOS "D"), east of Old Ridge Road (LOS "E"), and west of New York Ranch Road (LOS "D"). These three segments are all classified as major collectors. Six State highway segments within unincorporated Amador County currently operate at LOS "D" or worse. Five of the six are along SR 88, including three at LOS "E". The sixth highway segment is along SR 16.⁷⁶⁵ The Circulation Element Workshop presentation noted that Amador County roadways are expected to exceed LOS policies by 2025.

The County recommended allotting \$2.7 million dollars toward roadway projects for FY 14; however, this amount was not adopted in the FY 14 budget. In FY 14, \$100, 000 has been budgeted for minor projects.⁷⁶⁶

⁷⁶² Amador County, General Plan Update: Circulation Background Working Paper, August 2007, p. CIRC-23.

⁷⁶³ Amador County Four Bridges Replacement Project, <http://www.co.amador.ca.us/home/showdocument?id=14095>

⁷⁶⁴ Preliminary Draft General Plan Update, March 2011, pg. CM-6.

⁷⁶⁵ Amador County, General Plan Update: Circulation Background Working Paper, August 2007, p. CIRC-23.

⁷⁶⁶ Amador County FY 14 Budget, pg. 125.

Figure 32-13: Amador County Roadway Services

Street Service Configuration and Demand			
Service Configuration			
Street Maintenance	Direct & Contract	Signal Maintenance	Caltrans
System Overview			
Total Maintained Miles	411	Urban Maintained Miles	2.0
Rural Maintained Miles	409	Signalized Intersections	0
Service Demand			
Daily Vehicle Miles of Travel, 2012 ¹	194,250	DVMT per Street Mile, 2012 ²	473
Street Sweeping Frequency	Retail and business park areas swept twice per month.		
Street Service Adequacy and Operations			
Service Adequacy			
Miles Rehabilitated FY 13	77.9	Maintenance Cost per Street Mile ³	\$5,869
Pavement Condition			
Pavement Management System	Yes	PMS last updated	2013
Miles Needing Rehabilitation	NP	Pavement Condition Index, 2012	NP
Infrastructure Needs/Deficiencies			
County roadways are in need of significant improvements. In the Amador County Transportation Commission Overall Work Program for 2013/2014, the Pine Grove SR 88 Corridor has been identified for improvements. The County has budgeted \$100,000 for minor projects and \$3.5 million for Special Funding Projects in FY 14.			
Level of Service (LOS)			
Current:	One road segment maintained by the County is at LOS "E" and two segments are at LOS "D."		
Policy:	LOS "C" in undeveloped areas; LOS "D" in developed areas		
Build-Out:	Some road segments will decline to LOS "E" and "F" by 2025.		
Service Challenges			
Funding is the primary service challenge. Road maintenance crews are understaffed.			
Facility Sharing			
Current Practices:	No facility-sharing practices were reported.		
Opportunities:	No facility-sharing opportunities were identified.		
Notes:			
(1) Daily vehicle miles of travel (DVMT) in 2012, according to the California Department of Transportation.			
(2) 2012 DVMT divided by total mileage of County-maintained public road system in 2012.			
(3) City road maintenance expenditures in FY 12 divided by centerline miles of street.			

continued

Street Light Service Profile			
Service Configuration			
Street Lighting	PG&E	Number of Street Lights	57
Maintained by Contract	All	Maintained by City	None
Development Fees and Requirements			
Traffic Impact Fees			
Traffic mitigation fees are based on the average daily trips (ADT) by development type. For residential units, the fee is \$300 per ADT (10), for a total impact fee of \$3,000.			
Street Service Financing			
General Financing Approach			
Street services are financed primarily by gas tax revenues and other receipts from the State.			
Streets and Roads Financial Information, FY 12¹			
Revenues		Expenditures	
Total	\$4,993,412	Total ⁶	\$4,448,199
Gas Tax	\$662,592	Maintenance	\$1,187,258
VLF In-Lieu ²	\$48,397	Street	NP
Traffic Congestion Relief	\$229,836	Lights & Signals	NP
Other State Revenues	\$655,737	Other	NP
Federal Revenues	\$1,209,109	Capital	\$608,555
Local Revenues ³	\$812,000	New Construction ⁷	NP
County Revenues	\$883,295	Reconstruction	NP
Interest	\$24,002	Signals & Lights	\$0
Bond proceeds	\$0	Other	NP
General Fund	\$260,836	Undistributed Costs ⁸	NP
Assessments ⁴	\$0	Salaries and Benefits	\$2,473,814
Other ⁵	\$598,457	Other Public Agencies	\$178,572
Note:			
(1) Financial information as reported in the <i>Annual Street Report</i> to the State Controller.			
(2) Includes motor vehicle license fees used for street purposes and/or being accounted for in a street-purpose fund.			
(3) Includes other funds distributed by the local agencies other than the County and the cities.			
(4) Includes benefit assessments (also called special assessments) collected to finance street improvements and street lighting under the Landscape and Lighting Assessment Act of 1972, the Improvement Act of 1913 and the Street Lighting Act of 1931.			
(5) Includes traffic safety funds, development impact fees, redevelopment agency funds, and miscellaneous local sources. Excludes payments from other governmental agencies for contract services.			
(6) Total before adjustments for reporting changes since prior years.			
(7) Includes new construction and betterment of streets, bridges, lighting facilities, and storm drains, as well as right-of-way acquisitions.			
(8) Engineering costs that are not allocated to other expenditure categories or projects because the work is not specific or such allocation is impractical. Administration cost is an equitable pro rata share of expenditures for the supervision and management of street-purpose			

DRAINAGE SERVICES

There are two large rivers in Amador County: the Cosumnes River borders the County to the north, and the Mokelumne River borders the County to the south. Both are tributaries to the San Joaquin River, which they meet to the west of Amador County. Smaller flows in the County include Dry Creek, Sutter Creek and Jackson Creek.

Portions of the County are within a 100-year flood plain; these are concentrated in the lower elevations of the foothills in the west. The majority of the 100-year flood plain and possible flood events are located near or adjacent to incorporated areas. Low-lying areas in Jackson, Ione and Sutter Creek are particularly susceptible.⁷⁶⁷ Unincorporated Amador County has a total of 140 improved parcels and roughly \$34,854,825 of structure and contents value in the one percent annual chance floodplain (100-year floodplain). An additional improved parcel and roughly \$1,577 of structure and contents value in the 0.2

⁷⁶⁷ Amador County, General Plan Update: Public Health and Safety Background Working Paper, January 2007, p. PHS-11.

percent annual chance floodplain (500-year floodplain), for a combined total of 141 improved parcels and \$34,856,402 of total value in FEMA floodplains.⁷⁶⁸ Of the 67 improved residential parcels within the 100-year floodplain, only 21 (58.2 percent) of those parcels maintain flood insurance. When the remainder of the County is factored in, there are 124 policies in force, indicating 36.8 percent of the parcels in the 100-year flood zone in the Amador County Planning area maintain flood insurance.⁷⁶⁹

Amador County has a history of storm and flood-related emergencies. This is due to high annual rainfall, many watercourses and development adjacent to flood-prone areas.⁷⁷⁰ Topography also contributes to flood risk. Based on historical flooding events, the portion of the County in the Dry Creek watershed is more likely to experience flooding than areas of the County in the Mokelumne and Cosumnes watersheds.⁷⁷¹ There have been thirteen state of emergencies declared and fourteen federal declarations of emergency related to storms, rainfall and flooding for Amador County since 1950 through 2013.⁷⁷²

Nature and Extent

Amador County provides flood control and storm water drainage through its Public Works Agency by maintaining roadside ditches and road cross-culverts.⁷⁷³

Rural areas in the County do not have storm water drainage systems that serve an entire community because the level of runoff does not necessitate such a system. Larger development projects such as ski resorts and those that generate substantial amounts of storm water runoff generally construct privately maintained site-specific storm water systems that discharge into onsite detention basins.⁷⁷⁴

Location

The County provides routine drainage ditch maintenance and cleaning to unincorporated areas.

Infrastructure

The County's drainage system consists of open roadside ditches along most roadways. There is approximately 0.5 miles of piped storm drain in the Martell Business Park development. More recently developed commercial areas have gutters, with drainage flowing to privately-maintained detention ponds before overflowing into existing drainage

⁷⁶⁸ Amador County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, November 2013, pg. 186.

⁷⁶⁹ Ibid, pg. 189.

⁷⁷⁰ Amador County, Amador County Multi Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2006.

⁷⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷⁷² Amador County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan, November 2013, pg. 6.

⁷⁷³ RMC Waster and Environment, Mokelumne, Amador, and Calaveras Interagency Regional Water Management Plan, 2006.

⁷⁷⁴ Amador County, Infrastructure, Public Facilities, and Services General Plan Update Working Paper, March 2007, p. IPS-36.

ditches. There are approximately 25 such inlets. Inlets are not inspected on a regular basis.

It was reported in the 2008 MSR that there were extensive maintenance needs, including hundreds of miles of open ditches and hundreds of culverts and easements in need of cleaning. As of 2013, there continues to be significant maintenance needs.

Need for improvements and extensions of existing storm water drainage facilities are determined on a case-by-case basis when new development is proposed. The Amador County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies several flood-related projects needed in the County. The 2013 Plan identified construction of a new bridge at Hale Road in order to mitigate flooding risks as a high priority item with an estimated cost of \$1.3 million.

CEMETERY SERVICE

Nature and Extent

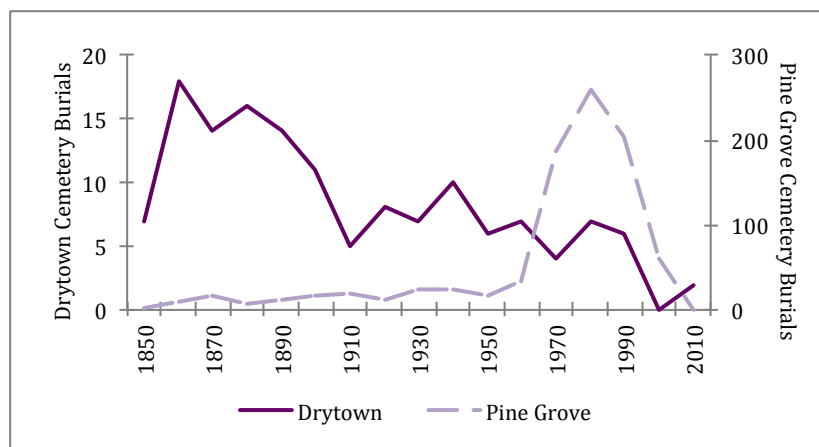
The County owns and maintains three cemeteries: Drytown Public Cemetery, Fiddletown Community Cemetery and Pine Grove Historic Cemetery. General Services is responsible for maintaining all County property including cemeteries. In addition, volunteers and community workers maintain the cemeteries. The County provides weed abatement services. The County reported that it does not contract with other providers for cemetery services.

The County Board of Supervisors appoints a seven-member volunteer cemetery board to establish restoration and preservation policies. This board meets every other month to update policies and goals. The County provides the cemetery board with an annual budget of about \$1,500. The board also has a trust fund that can be used for any cemetery in the County.

Figure 32-14: Amador County Burials by Decade

Drytown Public Cemetery had 156 occupied burial sites in 2013.⁷⁷⁵ The earliest marked grave is dated 1850. There have been two burials since 2000. The County reports that fifty percent of plots are occupied.

Pine Grove Cemetery has 1,006 occupied burial sites. The earliest marked grave is dated 1860. There were



about 15 burials at the cemetery annually between 2000 and 2004. There have been no burials at the cemetery since the 2008 MSR, as the cemetery is at capacity and inactive.

⁷⁷⁵ Conversation with Barbara McMahon, Amador County Cemetery Board member, April 8, 2014.

Fiddletown Cemetery has approximately 491 occupied plots.⁷⁷⁶ The County reported that no burials took place at the cemetery in 2006 or 2007; however, there have been approximately 8-12 burials since 2008.⁷⁷⁷

Plot Acquisition

The County reports that plots are available at both Drytown Cemetery and Fiddletown Cemetery, estimating that Drytown Cemetery is at 50 percent capacity and Fiddletown Cemetery is at 80-85 percent capacity.⁷⁷⁸

Fees at Drytown Cemetery are \$500 for a single plot, \$1,000 for a double plot, and \$250 for cremation. Only Drytown residents or immediate family of those already buried in the cemetery may purchase plots.⁷⁷⁹

Fees at Fiddletown Cemetery are \$500 for a single plot and \$1000 for a double plot. Only Fiddletown residents or immediate family of those already buried in the cemetery may purchase plots.

Location

All three cemeteries are located within unincorporated areas of Amador County. Drytown Cemetery is located northwest of Drytown and is completely surrounded by private land. Pine Grove Cemetery is located south of Pine Grove, near Irish Town Road. Fiddletown Cemetery is on American Flat Road in Fiddletown.

Infrastructure

Drytown Cemetery is in excellent condition. Because it is surrounded by private property, it can only be visited by arrangement with the General Services Administration. Infrastructure needs include tombstone restoration. A new fence was built at the cemetery in May 2008 and is in very good shape.

Pine Grove Cemetery covers approximately three acres and is in excellent condition. All tombstones that were in need of restoration have been attended to since 2008. Fiddletown Cemetery is in good condition. While some tombstones have been attended to in recent years, it requires additional tombstone restoration. Neither of these sites have restrictions on visitor access.

The County reported no plans for expansion of cemetery services, and no adjacent land available on which to expand at the three existing County cemeteries. However, the General Plan Advisory Committee has established a goal that land is to be made available for future cemetery use.

The County does not practice facility sharing related to cemetery services and did not identify any future collaborative opportunities.

⁷⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷⁷ Ibid. Number is unofficial, based on cemetery walk-throughs and visual assumption.

⁷⁷⁸ Conversation with Barbara McMahon, Amador County Cemetery Board member, April 8, 2014.

⁷⁷⁹ Board of Supervisors Resolution 05-304, adopting fee schedule at Drytown Cemetery.

Service Adequacy

The County reported that Drytown Cemetery and Fiddletown Cemetery have sufficient capacity to serve their communities given recent demand. Current funding levels allow for sufficient maintenance that has retained two of the three cemeteries in excellent condition. Fiddletown Cemetery would benefit from additional resources allocated towards improvements on tombstone restoration.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) provides fire prevention, suppression, and fire related law enforcement for timberlands, wildlands and urban forests. CAL FIRE also responds to other types of emergencies, including structure fires, vehicle accidents, medical aids, swift water rescues, search and rescues, hazardous material spills, train wrecks, and natural disasters. Other services outside of the scope of the MSR project are provided by CAL FIRE, such as the Resource Management Program, which promotes the protection of California's natural resources through enforcement of timber harvesting regulations, forest conservation education programs, and pest management.

CAL FIRE operates from 21 units in two regions to serve the State. The Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Unit (AEU) serves Amador, El Dorado, and Alpine counties as well as portions of Sacramento and San Joaquin counties.⁷⁸⁰

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Nature and Extent

The primary responsibility of CAL FIRE is to suppress wildfires within the state responsibility area (SRA). CAL FIRE also responds to all incidents, which require a fire response in Amador County through a countywide mutual aid agreement. CAL FIRE staffs six Type III Engines, one Type II Bulldozer, and four Type I Fire Crews from four stations and one Conservation Camp in Amador County. CAL FIRE responds to all service calls in the County, in addition to a response by the fire agency with jurisdiction for the area where the incident occurs.

For over 50 years, CAL FIRE provided all risk cooperative fire protection services to Amador County under the Amador Plan Contract. This agreement is used in many counties across the State between CAL FIRE and local governments, but was first implemented in Amador County. The basis of the agreement was to provide fire protection and EMS services to Amador County in the non-declared fire season. Unlike a full service Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement, the Amador Plan concept used State equipment and facilities with the County paying a portion of salaries and infrastructure. The original Amador Plan Contract was set up with three stations staffed but reduced over the years to a single station being staffed in the non-declared fire season. The financial information and staffing provided for the Amador Plan Contract from 2008 through 2012 are shown in Figure 32-5.

⁷⁸⁰ CALFIRE. Amador-El Dorado Fire Plan, 2012.

Figure 32-15: Amador Plan Contract Financials

CAL FIRE Amador Plan Contract			
<i>Financials</i>			
	Agreement Cost	Actual Cost	Staffing Provided
FY 09	\$402,757	\$334,118	2 fire stations, 6 firefighters, 2 battalion chiefs
FY 10	\$404,570	\$346,614	2 fire stations, 6 firefighters, 2 battalion chiefs
FY 11	\$233,255	\$214,653	1 fire station, 3 firefighters, 3 battalion chiefs
FY 12*	\$246,154	\$206,044	1 fire station, 3 firefighters, 3 battalion chiefs
Notes	* Contract cancelled		

At the end of FY 12, Amador County opted to cancel the Amador Plan Contract. CAL FIRE has committed to staffing a single station at Sutter Hill in the non-declared fire season and provides assistance to all fire agencies within Amador County. However, without a contract, staffing levels and staffing location reside under the authority of CAL FIRE and the equipment can be moved out of the County at any time.

Amador County retains a contract for dispatch services with the CAL FIRE Interagency Emergency Command Center (ECC) located in Camino, CA. This ECC is a secondary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and provides full service dispatching, emergency medical dispatch (EMD), and quality assurance (QA) for all of its customers. In FY 12, the dispatch contract agreement was \$227,018. The actual cost billed to the County was \$168,760.

During declared fire season (mid-May to mid-November), all six CAL FIRE engines are staffed with three personnel. In addition to CAL FIRE staff, Dew Drop Station is staffed with five US Forest Service (USFS) personnel for an additional engine during fire season.

In addition to fighting fires, CAL FIRE provides fire prevention education by interacting directly with citizens, hosting public forums, information publications and project work. All CAL FIRE personnel are trained to the EMT level for emergency medical response. CAL FIRE also has an intensive training program and the statewide CAL FIRE training academy is located in Ione. CAL FIRE is committed to aggressive fire prevention inspections as dictated by Public Resources Code 4291. Each engine company is responsible for a pre-determined number of inspections in high hazard areas. In addition, AEU has dedicated additional firefighters in the pre-season months to complete 4,291 fire prevention inspections.

Dispatch and Communications

CAL FIRE provides fire dispatch services for El Dorado, Amador, Sacramento and Alpine Counties, as well as Eldorado National Forest and the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. These services are housed at the Camino Interagency Emergency Command Center (CAL FIRE ECC) in cooperation with the US Forest Service (USFS). Emergency calls that require a fire response are routed to the Amador County Sheriff's dispatch center and are transferred to the CAL FIRE ECC. Cell phone calls are first answered by the California Highway Patrol in Stockton, and then are routed to the Sheriff's dispatch center. The CAL FIRE ECC strives to provide efficient emergency dispatch services for the area with regard to cooperative fire, aviation management, emergency medical response, law enforcement, and rescue service through communications and cooperation.

All fire agencies in Amador County, including CAL FIRE, communicate through the same radio systems. Due to shared radio frequencies, CAL FIRE is able to communicate with other providers. When multiple service providers respond to an incident, the first unit to arrive is responsible for incident command. Regardless of jurisdictional authority, the incident commander is responsible for professional and efficient command, control, and resource ordering through the CAL FIRE ECC.

Location

The SRA extends countywide, surrounding local responsibility areas (i.e., cities) and a limited amount of federal responsibility area. The SRA covers 75 percent of Amador County (283,778 acres), plus an additional 10,767 acres (three percent of the County) of SRA directly protected by the USFS.⁷⁸¹ The State Responsibility Area (SRA) is the area of the state where the State of California is financially responsible for the prevention and suppression of wildfires. SRA does not include lands within city boundaries or in federal ownership.⁷⁸² LRA are areas located either inside the boundaries of a city or areas of SRA, because of urbanization, that have been moved to the LRA by the Board of Forestry.

Resources

CAL FIRE serves Amador County through four fire stations and a Conservation Camp. The South Division of AEU (Amador County) is divided into two Battalions. A Battalion Chief commands each Battalion. A Division Chief is responsible for all CAL FIRE operational and administrative functions within Amador County and also supervises four Type I fire crews from Pine Grove Conservation Camp 12. Amador County is served by the totality of AEU including an additional eight CAL FIRE Type III engines located in the North Division (El Dorado County) and mutual aid CAL FIRE resources from Calaveras, Tuolumne, and Placer Counties. CAL FIRE also provides aviation assets from both Grass Valley and Columbia Air Attack Bases that can be on the scene of a fire in Amador County within 20 minutes from time of dispatch.

The Department has an ongoing capital replacement program, and the next project scheduled for Amador County is to replace Station 60, currently reported as being in fair condition. Other stations are in good or excellent condition, and the Department reports no other infrastructure needs.

Staffing levels at the four stations vary throughout the year, with an annual average of 17 sworn staff on duty at any given time. In addition, there are two non-sworn communications positions supported by Amador County.

As a state agency, CALFIRE does not have an ISO rating, but the agency's services have a positive impact on local providers' ratings in the County.

⁷⁸¹ Amador Fire Safety Council, Amador County Fire Hazard Reduction Plan, 2004

⁷⁸² <http://www.firepreventionfee.org/>

Figure 32-16: CAL FIRE Profile

Fire Service				
Service Configuration		Service Demand		
Fire Suppression	Direct	Statistical Base Year		2012
EMS	Direct	Total Service Calls		7,228
Ambulance Transport	American Legion	% EMS		56.6%
Hazardous Materials	Calaveras and San Joaquin Counties ¹	% Wildland Fires		4.8%
Air Rescue & Ambulance Helicopter	CHP, Private	% Structure Fires		0.6%
Fire Suppression Helicopter	Direct	% Other Fires		5%
Public Safety Answering Point	Sheriff	% Haz Mat		1%
Fire/EMS Dispatch	Direct	% Public Service		32%
		Calls per 1,000 people		195.2
Service Adequacy		Resources		
ISO Rating	NA ²	Fire Stations in District		4
Median Response Time (min)	NP	Fire Stations Serving District		4
90th Percentile Response Time (min)	NP	Sq. Miles per Station		148.2
Response Time Base Year	2012	Total Staff ³		38
Training		Total Full-time Firefighters		36
All firefighters must complete training through the CAL FIRE fire academy. Requirements depend on level of certification.		Total Call Firefighters		0
		Total Sworn Staff per Station ⁴		3 to 9
Service Challenges		Sworn Staff per 1,000		0.08 to 0.24
No challenges were identified.		Staffing Base Year		2012
		Fire Flow Water Reserves		N/A
Facilities				
Station	Location	Condition	Staff per Shift	Apparatus
Station 10	29300 Dew Drop Bypass Pioneer, CA	Excellent	3	One engine
Station 30	15035 Shenandoah Rd. River Pines, CA	Good	3	One engine
Station 60	11660 Highway 49 Sutter Creek, CA	Fair	9	Two engines, one dozer
Station 80	19597 Highway 88 Pine Grove, CA	Good	7	Two engines
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies			Mutual/Automatic Aid Providers	
Current Practices: The CAL FIRE dispatch center used for a multi county area, and Dew Drop Station is shared with USFS.			There is a mutual aid agreement between AFPD, CAL FIRE, the City of Ione, the City of Jackson, JVFPD, LFPD and SCFPD.	
Opportunities: No additional opportunities for sharing or collaboration were identified.				
Notes:				
(1) CAL FIRE has a MOU with Calaveras County and a secondary MOU with San Joaquin County for Hazmat services.				
(2) ISO ratings are not assigned to state agencies.				
(3) Total staff includes sworn and non-sworn personnel.				
(4) Based on ration of sworn full time and call staff to the number of stations. Actual staffing levels of each station vary.				

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

AGENCY OVERVIEW

California Highway Patrol (CHP) provides traffic control, investigation, and law enforcement related to vehicles on state highways, freeways and unincorporated roads. The CHP has primary jurisdiction on roads used for hazardous material transport.

Nature & Extent

Amador County is one of 18 areas served by the CHP Valley Division. This Division maintains several specialized units, including two helicopters and two fixed-wing aircraft assigned to traffic regulation, a unit enforcing commercial vehicle regulations, a unit assigned to vehicle theft reduction and recovery operations, as well as the Specially Marked Patrol Vehicle team working on traffic problem areas and issues. There is also a traffic complaint hotline program.

Dispatch

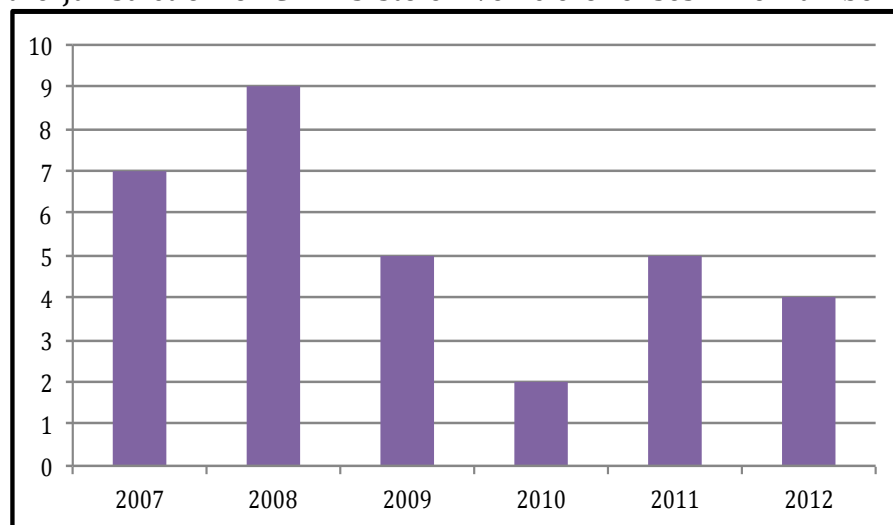
All 911 calls made from landlines in Amador County are automatically routed to the Amador County Sheriff's communications center (the Public Safety Answering Point). Once the County Sheriff dispatcher determines a call requires CHP response on a highway or unincorporated road, it relays the call to the CHP dispatch office, which directly dispatches officers.

Calls from cellular phones are initially routed to the CHP and CHP personnel are dispatched, if needed, or the call is relayed to the Sheriff.

Demand

Figure 32-17: CHP Property Crimes, 2007-2012

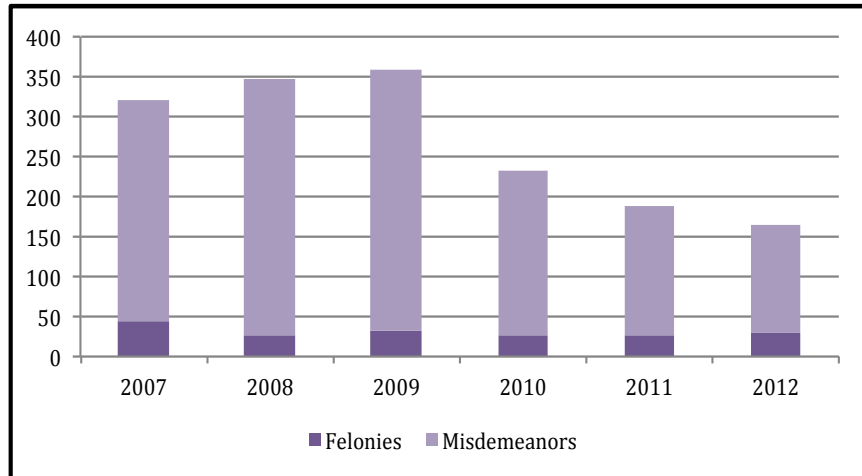
Property crime under the jurisdiction of CHP is stolen vehicle offenses. The number of property crimes for the CHP in Amador County has decreased by 57 percent from 2007 to 2012; there were four such property crimes in 2012. The number peaked at nine in 2008. Of significant note, is the reduction in property crimes between 2007 to 2012 as compared to 1996 to 2006.



Between 1996 and 2006 property crimes increased 96 percent; there were 45 such property crimes in 2006 and a peak of 80 in 2004. CHP attributed the recent decline in property crimes to its efforts to target and incarcerate automobile thieves.

Figure 32-18: CHP Arrests, 2007-2012

The number of arrests increased from 2007 to 2009, and has been decreasing since then, as shown in Figure 32-8. The highest number of arrests occurred in 2009; however, this was not the year with the highest number of crimes committed per Figure 32-7.



The CHP did not provide information on the number or type of service calls received.

Complaints

Complaints against a CHP officer can be registered with the local Amador Area office, or the Office of Internal Affairs via the online form or by mail. Once a complaint is received, the officer's commander oversees the investigation. After the investigation has been completed to the commander's satisfaction, the report undergoes review by the commander's superiors. Once the report is approved, the citizen receives a written response indicating the outcome of the complaint.

Location

The Amador CHP Area Office is located at 301 Clinton Rd. in Jackson, CA. The office provides services throughout the County on state highways, freeways and unincorporated roads.

Infrastructure

CHP officers patrol Amador County from the area office in the City of Jackson. Four patrol cars are used to patrol the County during each shift. Division-wide, CHP employees include 785 uniformed officers and 250 non-uniformed personnel.

CHP did not provide information on the type and condition of patrol cars and other equipment.

JACKSON RANCHERIA

Jackson Rancheria provides wastewater, law enforcement, and fire protection services.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwuk Indians established a formal government in 1979 under the auspices of Margaret Dalton, who served as the chairperson until May 24, 2009, at the time of her death. She was succeeded by her brother, Bo Marks until January 2013, when her son, Adam Dalton, was elected to the position of Tribal Chairperson.⁷⁸³

In order to become self-sufficient, the Tribe opened a bingo hall, which grew into the Jackson Rancheria Hotel and Casino in Amador County. The hotel and casino is the largest employer in the County, employing more than 1,000 workers, and has spent and donated tens of millions of dollars into the local economy.

The casino and hotel have afforded the Tribe a medical and dental clinic, a recreation center, water and sewage treatment plants, an auto mechanic shop, and a general store. The Tribe built a new access road in 2006 in order to bring traffic directly from State Highway 88 to the Casino, reducing the impact on county roads.⁷⁸⁴

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

The Jackson Rancheria Fire Department is the County's first and only non-state paid fire agency. The Department was created in response to growth on the tribal lands. Trainees were recruited from existing Casino staff and graduated from training in October 2007. The Department responds to service calls on tribal lands between SR 88 and Ridge Road. The Department is headed by a fire chief, and each 24-hour shift is staffed by a captain, an engineer and a firefighter.⁷⁸⁵

In the previous MSR it was reported that there was a mutual aid agreement between Jackson Rancheria Fire Department and CAL FIRE for fire service provision. However, as reported in 2013, the relationship between the Jackson Rancheria Fire Department and CAL FIRE was described as an informal automatic aid agreement, where the County as a whole works on a closest resource concept, and as such, any large-scale incident would automatically dispatch resources into or out of Jackson Rancheria. There is no reimbursement for this automatic aid agreement.⁷⁸⁶

The Tribe previously had a police department staffed with post-certified federal officers. The Amador County Sheriff's Office reported that Jackson Rancheria disbanded their police department a few years ago; however, Jackson Rancheria maintains a security team and the Sheriff's Office works with that team when necessary.⁷⁸⁷

⁷⁸³ Jackson Rancheria Hotel & Casino. URL accessed 10/31/13, <http://www.jacksoncasino.com/tribal/history>.

⁷⁸⁴ Jackson Rancheria Hotel & Casino. URL accessed 10/31/13, <http://www.jacksoncasino.com/tribal/community.aspx>.

⁷⁸⁵ Jackson Rancheria Hotel & Casino. URL accessed 10/31/13, <http://www.jacksoncasino.com/tribal/jackson-rancheria-fire-department>.

⁷⁸⁶ Correspondence with CAL FIRE Division Chief, Brian Estes, 11/1/13.

⁷⁸⁷ Correspondence with James Wegner, Undersheriff, Amador County Sheriff's Office, 10/31/13.

The Tribe constructed a LEED-certified Public Safety Building, which houses the Tribal Fire Department and a network operations center.⁷⁸⁸

As reported in the previous MSR, the Rancheria has a 240,000 gallon per minute (gpm) wastewater reclamation plant, with a 500,000-gallon reclaimed storage tank and a 350,000-gallon emergency storage tank. Reclaimed water is disposed of on leach fields and spray fields. Other infrastructure includes three miles of reclaimed water lines and fire hydrants, and a fire booster pump station with a hydro-pneumatic tank.

⁷⁸⁸ Jackson Rancheria Hotel & Casino. URL accessed 10/31/13, <http://www.jacksoncasino.com/tribal/index.aspx>.

MULE CREEK STATE PRISON

In addition to its primary law enforcement role, Mule Creek State Prison (MCSP) provides fire suppression, emergency medical response in the form of basic life support, wastewater collection, and wastewater treatment and disposal services. Advanced life support and medical transport services are provided by American Legion. AWA supplies treated water to the prison.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

MCSP opened on June 10, 1987 and covers 866 acres. The State-owned facility is located in Ione. Custody levels range from minimum security (Level I) to the highest level of security (Level IV). There are three semi-autonomous facilities to maximize control of inmate movement. A five-acre minimum-security facility is located outside of the double-perimeter fences that surround the main facility.

The prison provides rehabilitation services and health care to inmates. Rehabilitation at the prison is performed through educational services, including academic and vocational education, religious programs, and prison industries. MCSP industries include coffee roasting, laundry, meat cutting, and digital mapping. Minimum-security inmates also serve as community work crews in the County. In addition, several self-help groups are provided to inmates.

MCSP was built to house approximately 1,700 inmates; however the facility has exceeded this number in the past. In 2008, MCSP reported it had 3,656 inmates⁷⁸⁹ and in order to accommodate the large prisoner population, prison gymnasiums were converted into housing areas with three-tier beds. The current prisoner population at MCSP is 2624,⁷⁹⁰ and as such the previously occupied gymnasiums are no longer used for housing.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Wastewater Services

MCSP provides wastewater services for the prison as well as the CAL FIRE Academy and the former Preston Youth Correctional Facility (PYCF), which is now closed. Sewage from each facility is collected by its own collection system and conveyed to the prison's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP).

Although PYCF is now functionally closed as a correctional facility, four maintenance staff continue to work at the facility. These positions were allotted by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to keep the institution at a minimum functional level in the event the facility was to be repurposed in the future.⁷⁹¹

⁷⁸⁹ MCSP response to LAFCO request for information, January 28, 2008.

⁷⁹⁰ As reported by MSCP Public Information Officer, 2013.

⁷⁹¹ Information provided by Mike Williams, Plant Operations MCSP.

Infrastructure

The WWTP is located on prison property. The permitted capacity is 0.74 million gallons per day (mgd) average dry weather flow with a peak wet weather flow of 2.2 mgd. By comparison, the prison reported its flow was 0.4 mgd in 2012. Of this amount, the Preston Youth Correctional Facility and CAL FIRE Academy contributed .025 mgd, with peak flows of 1.0 mgd or more during wet weather.⁷⁹²

The WWTP consists of an oxidation ditch, two clarifiers, hypo-chlorination facilities, a belt filter press for dewatering sludge, a 5,500-gallon hypo-chlorination storage tank, and a 525-acre foot (af) storage reservoir.⁷⁹³ Effluent is disposed via spray irrigation on 296 acres of irrigated pastureland, by evaporation or percolation from the effluent storage reservoir, and a portion is conveyed to Amador Regional Sanitation Agency (ARSA).

By contract, MCSP may convey up to 350 af of treated effluent to ARSA at Preston Reservoir. From there, effluent flows to the City of Ione's tertiary Castle Oaks Water Reclamation Plant (COWRP), and treated effluent is ultimately discharged to land for irrigation of the Castle Oaks Golf Course. ARSA previously discharged to the Preston Youth Correctional Facility for tertiary treatment and disposal until 2002, when Preston's permit was rescinded, due to regulatory non-compliance.⁷⁹⁴

ARSA effluent flows to City of Ione wastewater treatment facilities under a contractual agreement, which requires at least five years notice to terminate.⁷⁹⁵ Monthly discharges from Preston Reservoir to the Ione system are limited to 10 af (equivalent to 0.21 mgd) between October and March, and to 95 af per month (equivalent to 1.02 mgd) between April and September.

The MCSP wastewater collection system is composed of approximately seven miles of sewer pipe and two lift stations. The collection system was built in 1987, and was described as in good condition. However, the MCSP WWTP handles flows originating at PYCF, where an aged collection system generates heavy peak flows when the facility is in operation.

MCSP completed a long-term plan in 2008 for wastewater facilities to accommodate future flows in its service area by making improvements to storage and disposal facilities. MCSP has received capital improvement funding and preliminary utility surveys have taken place. All capital improvements are planned to be completed by 2016.

MCSP and the City of Ione are working on an agreement to dispose of disinfected secondary wastewater at an offsite location. The intent is to develop a permanent source of recycled water, as well as improve treatment and disposal capacity at the MCSP and Ione facilities.

⁷⁹² Information provided by James Hernandez, MCSP Public Information Officer, October 21, 2013.

⁷⁹³ ECO:LOGIC Engineering, *Amador County Regional Wastewater Management Plan*, October 2005, p. 4-23.

⁷⁹⁴ Central Valley RWQCB, *Cease and Desist Order No. R5-2002-0013*, 2002. Preston regulatory non-compliance included failure to meet tertiary treatment standards, failure to meet requirements for a dual-plumbed water system, discharging outside the designated area, and lack of signage alerting the public.

⁷⁹⁵ California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitations, City of Ione and ARSA, *Agreement to Regulate Use of Henderson/Preston Wastewater Disposal System*, Sept. 18, 2007.

Service Adequacy

The regulatory agency, Central Valley RWQCB, has removed the Cease and Desist Order that was formerly placed on the MCSP wastewater operation. All regulatory requirements appear to be consistently met.

Persons living along Mule Creek complained of black water in Mule Creek in 2006. Some homeowners' wells contained high levels of nitrates, possibly caused by inadequately treated wastewater from the prison. Amador County's Environmental Health Department tested water in wells near the prison in 2006, and found that nitrate levels in local wells exceeded the maximum contaminant level permissible for drinking water (69 mg/l versus the permissible 45 mg/l), and reported that MCSP's sprayfield operations may have significantly contributed to this contamination.⁷⁹⁶ One well test reported trace amounts of a chemical associated with dry cleaning solvent. This was speculated to have come from a dry cleaning plant on prison grounds.

In 2007, the RWQCB required MCSP to install 10 groundwater-monitoring wells at various locations on prison grounds. Test results continued to show that nitrate and other contaminant levels on prison grounds are lower than those found in area water wells. MCSP subsequently closed its dry cleaning operation and made improvements to its sprayfields. Sprayfield improvements included capping off sprinkler heads, installing water cannons to increase evaporation and reduce discharge to the fields, cutting berms around field edges, tree trimming and brush clearing, hourly inspections, and re-piping of an area where there had been frequent spills.⁷⁹⁷

Mutual Support

MCSP provides mutual support to PYCF, CAL FIRE, ARSA, and the City of Ione.

⁷⁹⁶ Amador County Grand Jury Report, FY 06-07, p. 42.

⁷⁹⁷ Interview with MCSP Correctional Plant Manager, Ray Eisert, January 28, 2008.

Figure 32-19 MCSP Wastewater Profile

Wastewater Service Configuration and Demand				
Service Configuration				
Service Type	Service Provider(s)			
Wastewater Collection	Mule Creek State Prison			
Wastewater Treatment	Mule Creek State Prison (secondary); City of Ione (tertiary)			
Wastewater Disposal	Mule Creek State Prison (secondary); City of Ione (tertiary)			
Recycled Water	Mule Creek State Prison			
Service Area				
Collection:	Mule Creek State Prison			
Treatment:	Mule Creek State Prison, Preston Youth Correctional Facility, CAL FIRE Academy			
Recycled Water	None			
Sewer Connection Regulatory/Policies				
All discharges at the facility are connected to the prison sewer system.				
Onsite Septic Systems in Service Area				
None				
Projected Demand (in millions of gallons per day)				
	2005	2012	2025	Build-Out
Avg. flow	0.73	0.4	NP	NP
Avg. dry weather flow	NP	NP	NP	NP
Peak wet weather flow	NP	1	NP	NP
Note:				
(1) NA: Not Applicable; NP: Not Provided.				

continued

Wastewater Infrastructure			
Wastewater Treatment & Disposal Infrastructure			
System Overview			
Treatment level: Secondary treatment is provided at MCSP plant. During the dry season, a portion of the effluent receives tertiary treatment by the City of Ione.			
Disposal method: Secondary-treated effluent is discharged to land at the prison site for irrigation, disposed by evaporation and percolation at the prison site, and during irrigation season conveyed via ARSA to the City of Ione for tertiary treatment and disposal to irrigate the Castle Oaks Golf Course.			
Facility Name	Capacity	Condition	Year Built
MCSP WWTP	0.74 mgd	Fair to Poor	1987
Treatment Plant Daily Flow (mgd)		Average Dry	Peak Wet
MCSP WWTP		0.73	NP
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies			
Existing storage and disposal is adequate to handle effluent flows.			
Wastewater Collection & Distribution Infrastructure			
Collection & Distribution Infrastructure			
Sewer Pipe Miles	7	Sewage Lift Stations	2
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies			
The sewer collection system was built in 1987, was described by MCSP as in good condition with no serious inflow and infiltration issues.			
Infiltration and Inflow			
MCSP reported no serious I/I problems.			
Wastewater Regional Collaboration and Facility Sharing			
Regional Collaboration			
MCSP provides treatment services to Preston and the CAL FIRE Academy, and shares CCTV equipment with Preston. MCSP shares use of Preston Reservoir with ARSA. The City of Ione provides wastewater treatment and disposal services to MCSP and ARSA.			
Facility Sharing Opportunities			
The City and MCSP are working collaboratively to develop off site spray fields at the local ranch.			

continued

Wastewater Service Adequacy, Efficiency & Planning			
Regulatory Compliance Record, 2007-12			
Formal Enforcement Actions	0	Informal Enforcement Actions	0
Enforcement Action Type	Date	Description of Violations	
NA	NA	NA	
Service Adequacy Indicators			
Sewer Overflows 2012 ¹	1	Sewer Overflows 2012 ²	1
Treatment Effectiveness Rate ³	100%	Sewer Overflow Rate ⁴	14
Total Employees (FTEs) FY 12	4	Response Time Policy ⁵	NP
Employees Certified?	4	Response Time Actual	NP
Source Control and Pollution Prevention Practices			
MCSP closed down its dry cleaning operation, due to concerns of impacts on groundwater.			
Collection System Inspection Practices			
MCSP conducts visual and CCTV inspections of the collection systems under a preventive maintenance program mandated by CDCR.			
Service Challenges			
None reported.			

FIRE SERVICES

Mule Creek State Prison Fire Department provides fire suppression and emergency medical response services in the form of basic life support.

The station is staffed by five full-time personnel: one fire chief and four fire captains. In addition, eight inmate firefighters assist staff. Inmate firefighters must be classified as the lowest security level and may have no prior weapons charges, history of violence, or any grand theft or arson charges. They typically have shorter sentences at the prison. Inmates receive certified training for firefighters; each one spends 25 to 30 hours per week in training. They are paid \$48 per month. Inmates do not go to wildland incidents outside the County.

All service calls on the grounds are dispatched through the prison's emergency phone system. There are also automatic alarms.

The prison provides automatic aid services to the former Preston Youth Correctional Facility, AFD, and the City of Ione. Fire prevention and suppression is still provided to PYCF despite its closure. The AFD agreement covers response for fires, traffic accidents, and hazmat incidents within a six-mile radius, and the Ione agreement covers all non-medical calls.

The Prison has offered some certified training courses to outside participants and would like to continue partnering with other area providers by hosting further training events.

A total of 292 calls for service were received in 2012. The majority of calls (46 percent) were categorized as 'other'. Eleven percent of calls were for medical response. Two percent of calls were for fire suppression. Of all calls, 46 percent were mutual aid assistance to other agencies. The response time to Ione is approximately 3-6 minutes, 12-18 minutes to Jackson Valley, and 7-12 minutes to Willow Creek. Response time to the City of Jackson averages 18 minutes. The Department reports that mutual aid to MCSP from other providers is uncommon.

Location

The prison fire station is located just outside the secure portion of the prison grounds. The primary area of responsibility for the Mule Creek FD is prison property, but the Department also responds to mutual aid calls in the vicinity as needed. Most mutual aid calls are to the City of Ione and surrounding areas.

Infrastructure

The Department has one fire station, three fire engines, and one utility vehicle.

MCSP fire department reported that they do not meet the equipment water flow requirements for one of the wood frame construction buildings on site. However, with the new infill project coming up, fire equipment purchased for that facility will help MCSP meet the requirement.

Figure 32-20: MCSP Fire Profile

Fire Service				
Service Configuration			Service Demand	
Fire Suppression	Direct		Statistical Base Year	2012
EMS	Direct		Total Service Calls	292
Ambulance Transport	American Legion		% EMS	11%
Hazardous Materials	Counties ¹		% Fire/Hazardous Materials	2%
Air Rescue & Ambulance Helicopter	CHP, Private		% Vehicle Accidents	0%
Fire Suppression Helicopter	CAL FIRE		% Other	41%
Public Safety Answering Point	Sheriff		% Mutual Aid Calls	46%
Fire/EMS Dispatch	CAL FIRE		Calls per 1,000 people	N/A
Service Adequacy			Resources	
ISO Rating		N/A	Fire Stations in District	1
Median Response Time (min)		NP	Fire Stations Serving District	1
90th Percentile Response Time (min)		NP	Sq. Miles per Station ²	N/A
Response Time Base Year		2012	Total Staff ³	13
Training			Total Full-time Firefighters	5
Captains train for approximately 120 hours annually. Classes are taken through the State Fire Marshal, college courses, and in-house instruction.			Total Call Firefighters	8
			Total Sworn Staff per Station	13
			Total Sworn Staff per 1,000	N/A
Service Challenges			Staffing Base Year	2012
No service challenges were reported.			Fire Flow Water Reserves	N/A
			Facilities	
Station	Location	Condition	Staff	Apparatus
MCSP	4001 Highway 104 Ione, CA	Fair	1 chief, 4 fire captains, 8 inmate firefighters	3 fire engines, 1 utility vehicle
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies				
MCSP reported that they currently do not meet the water flow requirements for one of the wood frame construction buildings in the service area.				
Facility Sharing				
Current Practices: With the conclusion of the Amador Plan where CAL FIRE provided supplementary services in the County, MCSP is not a part of any current facility sharing practices.				
Opportunities: No opportunities were identified.				
Mutual & Automatic Aid Agreements				
MCSP Fire Department has mutual aid agreements with all providers in the County and automatic aid agreements with PYCF, AFD and the City of Ione.				
Notes:				
(1) CAL FIRE has a MOU with Calaveras County and a secondary MOU with San Joaquin County for hazmat services.				
(2) Primary service area (square miles) per station.				
(3) Total staff includes sworn and non-sworn personnel.				

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

The USFS provides law enforcement, emergency medical response, fire prevention, fire suppression and fire education services to national forest land within Amador County. Law enforcement patrol services are provided by Amador County Sheriff's Office.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) manages public lands in national forests and grasslands across the Country. It was established in 1905 as an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The USFS' mission is "to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations."⁷⁹⁸

Eldorado National Forest (ENF) is located in the central Sierra Nevada Mountains, including portions of Alpine, Amador, El Dorado, and Placer counties. The forest is bordered on the north by the Tahoe National Forest, on the east by the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, on the southeast by the Humboldt-Toiyabe, and to the south by the Stanislaus National Forest.

ENF is divided into ranger districts for the provision of care by USFS personnel. Amador County is within the Amador Ranger District.

ENF has over 80 developed campgrounds and picnic area and hundreds of miles of roads and trails. There are multiple large lakes and reservoirs in the forest for recreational use. Silver Lake, a reservoir, is located within Amador County and is stocked with a variety of fish depending on the time of year. The Amador Ranger District also oversees seven campgrounds, an information center, two vista points, trailheads and four picnic areas. ENF hosts over 2.1 million visitors each year.⁷⁹⁹

The forest is open year-round and has winter, and summer activities. Several trails are open for snow shoeing, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. Two resorts, Sierra At Tahoe and Kirkwood Mountain Resort, operate within ENF for down-hill skiing.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Nature and Extent

The Amador Ranger District provides law enforcement, emergency medical response, fire prevention, fire suppression and fire education services. Educating citizens about wildland fires includes interaction with individual citizens, public forums, public events, schools, publications, and grants.⁸⁰⁰

In addition to public safety services, the Amador Ranger District provides street maintenance, maintenance to bridges/culverts, public open spaces, public recreation

⁷⁹⁸ Eldorado National Forest, 2008.

⁷⁹⁹ Ibid.

⁸⁰⁰ Amador Fire Safety Council, "Amador County Fire Hazard Reduction Plan," 2004.

programs, and land use planning. Services to campgrounds include wholesale water supply, soil conservation, refuse collection and recycling.⁸⁰¹

Amador County Sheriff's Office provides law enforcement patrol services to USFS lands within Amador County through a limited contract.⁸⁰² USFS staffing is dependent upon the USFS contract as well as operational needs.⁸⁰³

During peak season, 45 USFS personnel serve the Amador Ranger District. In non-peak season, 27-30 USFS personnel serve the District.⁸⁰⁴

Location

The Amador Ranger District of the USFS is limited to national forest lands in the County. Approximately 79,695 acres (ten percent) of ENF's overall 786,994 acres are located in Amador County.⁸⁰⁵ Put into context of the County's size, the USFS has land management responsibility for 21 percent of the land in Amador County.⁸⁰⁶

The federal responsibility area in the County is concentrated at the eastern portion of Amador and also along the central Amador-Calaveras County line. Small areas of federal responsibility are strewn throughout the County.

Infrastructure

The Amador Ranger Station is located in Pioneer on SR 88 at 26820 Silver Drive.

Dew Drop Fire Station, also in Pioneer, is open year-round and has one fire engine. It is operated cooperatively with CAL FIRE.

Regional Collaboration

USFS maintains an annual operating plan (AOP) with AFD for cooperative fire protection services of natural resource fires (wildland). The closest force available to an event responds, although the more appropriate provider may take over upon arrival (i.e., USFS for wildland fires, AFD for structure fires). The AOP establishes hourly rates for personnel and apparatus.⁸⁰⁷

The Amador Ranger District sometimes participates as a minor partner in regional planning efforts in Amador County as requested by local agencies.⁸⁰⁸

⁸⁰¹ Confirmed by Donna Cooney, Administrative Coordinator, Eldorado National Forest, Amador Ranger District, 11/1/13.

⁸⁰² Communication with Captain Glenn Humphries, Amador County Sheriff's Office, March 26, 2008.

⁸⁰³ Communication with Undersheriff James Wegner, ACSO, October 31, 2013.

⁸⁰⁴ Email correspondence with Donna Cooney, Administrative Coordinator, Eldorado National Forest, Amador Ranger District, 11/1/13.

⁸⁰⁵ Eldorado National Forest, 2008.

⁸⁰⁶ Amador Fire Safety Council, "Amador County Fire Hazard Reduction Plan", 2004

⁸⁰⁷ Confirmed by AFD Chief Jim McCart via email 10/31/13.

⁸⁰⁸ Communication with Roger Ross, Resource Officer, USFS Amador District, February 2008.

