

Chief's Update Summer 2018  
29, 2018

August

Our Fire District has completed the first year under new leadership with many significant changes and we continue moving forward with enthusiasm and a vision of constant advancement in all of our divisions. I am proud to serve as your Fire Chief and committed to leading the dedicated men and women of our Fire Districts on the path forward to ensure we always fulfill the tenets of our organizations mission statement.

***“We will strive to protect life and property in our Community by providing the highest quality Fire, Medical and Rescue service possible, within the limits of our resources. We will utilize professionalism and Compassion.”***

We have all continued building upon the established foundation and working together as a unified, cohesive team to accomplish the initial short-term goals established shortly after I was selected to lead Placer Hills, Foresthill and Newcastle Fire Protection Districts as your Fire Chief in June of 2017. We continue to all work collectively towards accomplishing our long-term goals and objectives, which will provide ongoing improvements in our capacity to provide emergency preparedness, fire prevention, emergency response and hazard mitigation.

We have experienced an unprecedented fire season with many of our personnel deployed for extended assignments in support of the multiple ongoing disastrous fires throughout Northern California this summer. All of our personnel have exhibited a very high level of professionalism and commitment to their communities and an unwavering dedication to public service with several long periods of time away from their families. I appreciate all of your continued efforts to ensure we are always able to properly cover our own Fire Districts and also support the California Office of Emergency Services within our Placer County Operational Area and throughout the State of California.

We continue to concentrate every division, within our internal organizational structure and multiple agencies, on efficiency and streamlining to ensure we are maximizing the capabilities of all of our available resources. Our Administrative, Operational, Training, Emergency Medical Services, and Fleet Services personnel continue to develop progressive, cost saving ideas, methods and procedures to increase our value to the communities we serve.

My entire focus, and our objective as both an individual organization and collaboratively with all of our Independent Fire Districts, is to continue moving forward with constantly improving the level of services we provide the community. We will always be evaluating new opportunities and implementing a progressively focused vision for our future service delivery model. Our aspiration is to provide our citizens the highest level of emergency services in the most fiscally responsible and efficient manner possible.

I am honored to serve as the Fire Chief for such fine organizations and the great employees who entrust my leadership, which is always focused on integrity, trust, mentoring and empowerment.

Respectfully,

**Kirk Kushen**

**Fire Chief**

**Placer Hills, Foresthill, Newcastle**

**Fire Protection Districts**