



North Tahoe and Meeks Bay Fire Protection Districts



Date: July 15, 2021
To: Meeks Bay Fire Board of Directors
From: Steve Leighton, Fire Chief
Subject: July Board Report

It is my pleasure to share that our Station and Personnel Directives were updated last month, and effective July 6, 2021, stations reopened to the public without restriction. Fully vaccinated people are not required to wear a face mask in District facilities and in non-medical situations. Crews will continue to wear masks while on medical responses and in medical settings. Those who are unvaccinated will continue to wear masks in District facilities.

The Rubicon Fire incident occurred on June 9th, with North Tahoe Fire, CAL Fire and US Forest Service in unified command. The fire ignited as a result of a downed tree into a power line. The highway was briefly closed by California Highway Patrol and D.L. Bliss state park temporarily evacuated as a precaution. The fire was located in the State Responsibility Area (SRA), with CAL Fire having the authority of jurisdiction.

The holiday weekend saw more than double the calls in the Meeks Bay area as compared to 2020. Our community is on high alert, and our campaign of "see something, say something" is working, as 38%, or five of the 13 calls for service in Meeks Bay, were for ordinance calls reporting illegal fire activity.

Our new Defensible Space Inspectors have hit the ground running and are up to speed. Inspector Heki is primarily assigned to the West Shore, and Inspector Gonzalez is primarily assigned to the North Shore for efficiency and to minimize drive time. The inspectors are making good progress on target hazard inspections in the Tahoma grid. CAL Fire received additional funding and staffing to meet Assembly Bill 38 inspections, so they will be the lead agency completing those defensible space inspections for real estate transactions. Residents can schedule grant-funded (non-real estate) defensible space inspections and curbside chipping services directly on Meeks Bay Fire and North Tahoe Fire's websites.

The Meeks Bay sign trailer is up and running but is unable to be programmed remotely at this time. Currently staff must program the messaging at the trailer, and Erin continues to work with the vendor to resolve the issue.

Meetings and Assignments:

- North Tahoe, Meeks Bay, and Alpine Meadows Board Meetings
- Eastern Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Chiefs Meeting
- Lake Tahoe Regional Chiefs Association
- Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators
- Executive and Command staff Meetings
- Fleet Services Update Meetings
- National Weather Service conference calls
- Meeks Bay Stakeholder Restoration Project Meeting
- Tahoe Basin (XTB) Operational Area Coordinator Meetings and Duty Chief
- Labor Management L3729 Meeting
- Bi-State Dispatch Meeting
- Fire District Association of California Board Member Meeting
- Placer County Breakfast Club Meeting
- Lake Tahoe Region Multi-Agency Meeting
- Budget Priorities Meeting w/Staff
- Eastern Placer County Town Hall Meeting
- 4th of July Emergency Response Meeting