

### MISSION

Los Pinos Fire exists to serve the community through prevention, preparedness, and dedicated emergency service. This is accomplished with professionalism and compassion.

### **VALUES**

#### SERVICE:

We prioritize the safety and well-being of our community above all else, delivering professional and compassionate service with integrity and respect.

#### **REVERENCE:**

We commit to upholding the trust placed in us by our community, colleagues, and stakeholders, maintaining a steadfast dedication to doing what is right.

#### MASTERY:

We believe in the power of continuous learning, honing our skills, and expanding our knowledge base to provide unparalleled solutions, deliver exceptional service, and adapt swiftly to evolving challenges.

Community Engagement:

We actively engage with and educate the community on fire safety, prevention, and emergency preparedness, fostering a culture of safety and resilience. This is the foundation of the organization.

# TO PROTECT LOS FINOS PINOS PINOS

### **ABOUT THE DISTRICT**

Los Pinos Fire District provides fire suppression and emergency services to a 325-square-mile area of Southwest Colorado. The Fire District encompasses portions of La Plata and Archuleta Counties and includes the communities of Oxford, Tiffany, Allison, Arboles, and the Town of Ignacio. A substantial portion of the response area consists of Southern Ute Tribal Lands, Bureau of Land Management property, territory belonging to the U.S. Forest Service, Division of Wildlife areas, and land owned by the State of Colorado.

From humble beginnings of helpful residents manning a hose cart to today's staff of career firefighters/EMTs, the Los Pinos Fire Protection District remains ready to serve the citizens of the region in any situation.

On November 16, 1917, the citizens of Ignacio formed a bucket brigade to save the Commercial Hotel and Apaas Store from fire. In December of 1922, a fire hydrant was installed at the corner of what is now Goddard Avenue and Ute Street. The hydrant was installed in anticipation of the delivery of firefighting equipment. Prior to the arrival of the equipment, a fire destroyed Fabian Martinez's restaurant in January 1923. A horse cart with 1000 feet of hose arrived in February 1923. It wasn't until 1948 that the Town of Ignacio purchased their first piece of motorized fire equipment, a 1936 Seagrave.

In 1975 the Ignacio Volunteer Emergency Squad (IVES) was formed to provide emergency medical services, followed by the creation of the Ignacio Volunteer Fire Department (IVFD) in February 1977. Recognizing the need for fire services outside the town limits, the Los Pinos Fire Protection District was established in 1985. In 1987 the LPFD Station 1 in Ignacio and Station 2 in Oxford were completed and equipped. In 2002 the Allison and Arboles areas were incorporated into the District and IVES was integrated into the LPFD in 2005.

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# FIRE CHIEF

#### Greetings,

The following is the Los Pinos Fire Protection District Annual Report for 2023. This report contains a summary of the district's performance, activities, and accomplishments for the year. First off, I would like to acknowledge our staff and district personnel. We have a highly supportive Board of Directors, as well as an administrative and line staff dedicated to the Fire District mission and the community we serve. In July I was sworn in to lead the Fire District and its path toward the future. I fully recognize the responsibility of the position I am entrusted with and am aware of the trust that the Board of Directors, administrative staff, and line personnel have in me. I will strive to work hard and maintain this trust within the organization as well as the community.

While 2023 came with its challenges, there were also many accomplishments the district was able to celebrate. The following is a list of some of these accomplishments:

- Station 5 addition complete. Station 5 opened in May and is staffed with full-time personnel.
- 2 new Pierce engines were placed into service at Station 1 and Station 5.
- · Hired 4 full-time firefighters and 2 reserve firefighters.
- · Promoted two personnel to shift Captain and three personnel to Lieutenant.
- Two earned Paramedic certifications.
- · One was promoted to Deputy Chief.
- Developed our Administrative Captain position.
- Expanded personnel in our wildland division and promoted one to Captain and one to fulltime Engine Boss.
- Continued expansion of our volunteer program.
- Expanded our relationship and capabilities with Southern Ute Dispatch, adding Active 911 and CAD integration.
- Established an MOU with Pagosa Springs EMS.

We started the preliminary steps to work toward the completion of the Fire District strategic plan. We will continue to work on this into 2024 with input from internal and external stakeholders.

As a Fire District, we are strong proponents of professional development and continuous training. In 2023, our personnel completed numerous hours of training in various disciplines, along with the completion of various certifications. While not all-inclusive, these included subject matter encompassing firefighting, hazardous materials, technical rescue, leadership, peer support, and driver operator.

I would like to conclude that none of this would be possible without the exceptional personnel that we have working for the Fire District. These individuals embody professionalism and are committed to carrying out the Fire District mission of "Serving the community through prevention, preparedness, and dedication to emergency service. Accomplished with professionalism and compassion." Further detailed information regarding the Fire District and its performance is contained within this report.

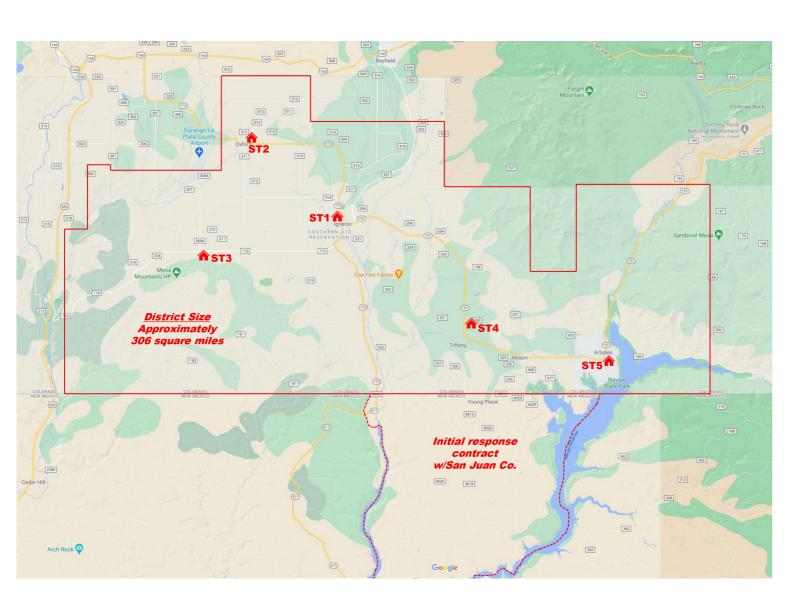
Respectfully,

Fire Chief Josh Lorenzen JLorenzen@lospinosfire.com

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# FIRE DISTRICT MAP



**STATION 1: 275 Browning Ave, Ignacio** 

**STATION 2: 8018 HWY 172, Oxford** 

**STATION 3: 3072 CR 318, Ignacio** 

STATION 4: 378 CR 330, Allison

STATION 5: 308 CR 982, Arboles



#### STATION 1

Located in Ignacio, serves as the main business hub. The personnel on duty at this station handle fire and emergency medical services for districts #1, #2, and #3. Additionally, they play a crucial role in prevention, inspection, and public events. Part of this station is the original building from the conception of the Fire district in 1985.

#### STATION 2

Located in the Oxford area near the intersections of CR 513 and Hwy 172, primarily serves as the base for the wildland division. It houses seasonal wildland firefighters and the necessary equipment to handle local and national resource orders. This station is the result of a collaboration with the Oxford Grange organization, where we utilize the bays while Grange organization use the meeting room and kitchen for their local and organizational activities.

#### STATION 3

Located near the CR 318 and CR 309 intersections, operates as a volunteer station. It houses various apparatus and has a readily available water supply of 80,000 gallons to support the Heli tank at the center of the property. During the summer, the station property was utilized for camping by contracted BIA wildland crews and a mitigation crew.

#### STATION 4

Located in the 300 block of CR 330 in the Tiffany area, serves as a volunteer station, and houses additional firefighting equipment. The strategic placement of this station allows crews responding from Station #1 or #5 to acquire any necessary additional apparatus, particularly a water tender, when responding to incidents.

### STATION 5

Located in the 500 block of CR 982, recently opened in May 2023 as a manned station. It is currently staffed by two personnel. The station is equipped with a range of firefighting apparatus. It serves as the primary response station from Tiffany to Arboles and along Hwy 151 corridor. The fire district was able to renovate the existing fire station on the property, which had been there since 2005. Initially, two individuals were relocated from Station #1 to Station #5, allowing for the initial staffing level. As the district continues to expand, this station has the capacity to accommodate up to five personnel.

#### TRAINING-MAINTENANCE YARD

Located in the 17000 block of Hwy 172 just south of Ignacio, serves multiple purposes. Keeping over 35 apparatus in a state of readiness is a full-time responsibility. Approximately 80-90% of the district's repairs can be handled by our skilled mechanic. Over the past decade, we have also assembled numerous wildland apparatus at this facility, resulting in substantial cost savings for the district. In addition to serving as a repair center, the yard provides a dedicated space for training both current and future firefighters. It offers various props and buildings that enable firefighters to enhance their skills through practice sessions, including confined space scenarios, SCBA maze drills, rescue operations, and live fire exercises. Moreover, the facility offers ample space for setting up driving courses and conducting tender operations. This versatile training facility has also been utilized by the CFFA, Red Willow production, and local law enforcement agencies for their employee training needs.

# OPERATIONS DIVISION

- Placed two new Pierce Engines into service with CAFS (compressed air foam system) capability; replacing apparatus that was over 20 years old.
- Replaced outdated SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus), as well as fire hose, appliances, nozzles, and extrication equipment that were beyond recommended standards lifespan. We were able to utilize grant funding to offset some of the costs.
- Improved our ability to deliver EMS care with additional Lucas Compression devices for CPR and added ultrasound capability. We were able to utilize grant funding to help pay for this equipment. Upgrades to the technology used for our patient care reporting system.
- Obsolete Equipment that the district no longer utilized was sold for purchase on a national fire auction site. This included a piece of apparatus and two trailers. This allowed the district to upgrade and purchase a trailer that is utilized for training purposes, allowing for the transport of training props and materials. We also donated equipment to other departments who could use it but did not have the funding otherwise to purchase new equipment.

#### FLEET SERVICES

Fleet Services consists of one full-time fleet mechanic who is responsible for the repair and maintenance of all fire district vehicles and apparatus. Fleet services participate in all fleet purchases, as well as coordinating and performing all required NFPA compliance testing.

In 2023 we added 2 Type I engines and replaced an administrative vehicle. Additionally, we sold several trailers and a heavy rescue that no longer served district needs, purchasing a new trailer that fit district needs with funds obtained from those sales.

#### Los Pinos Fleet

- 5 Type I Engines
- 1 Aerial 107' Ladder Truck
- 5 Water Tenders
- 4 ALS Ambulances
- 5 Type 6 Brush Trucks
- 1 Type 3 Brush Truck
- 1 Chief Vehicle
- 1 Deputy Chief Vehicle
- 1 Division Chief/Fire Marshal Vehicle
- 1 Battalion Chief/Volunteer Coord, Vehicle
- 2 Utility Vehicles
- 1 Mechanic Utility Vehicle
- 1 Mechanic Service Vehicle

Los Pinos Facilities 5 Fire Stations



TROY BRADY
Troy Brady
Mechanic



# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

#### **REVENUES**

Property Tax: \$2,968,065.00

Specific Ownership Tax: \$292,033.00

Contract Service/Wildland/Ambulance: \$850,157.00

Misc. Revenue: \$352,459.00 **TOTAL:** \$4,462,714.00

### **EXPENSES**

Personnel/Administrative: \$2,816,985.00

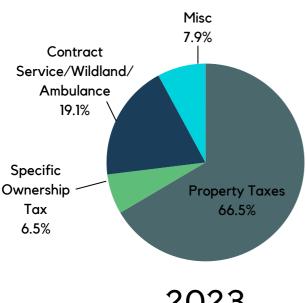
Operations: \$515,869.00 Training: \$23,840.00 Apparatus: \$112,401.00

Capital Outlay Expense: \$759,525.00

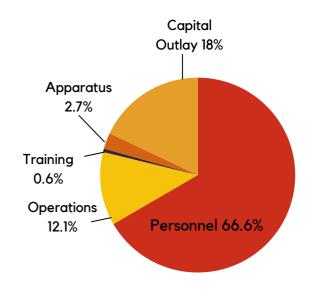
TOTAL: \$4,228,620.00

Copies of past comprehensive financial reports are available on the District's website:

### HTTPS://LOSPINOSFIRE.COM/FINANCIALS.HTML



2023 REVENUES



2023 EXPENSES

# DISTRICT TRAINING

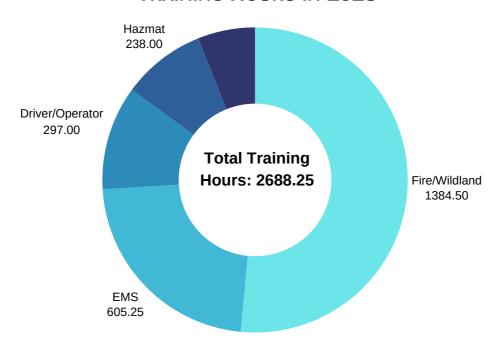
Training plays a crucial role in delivering service to the community and enhancing the retention of essential skills. During their shifts, the on-duty crews aim to engage in two hours of training per day. To ensure consistency, a quarterly training schedule is established, allowing all three shifts to receive the same training each week. On the second day, shifts have open training, allowing individuals to improve specific skill sets to work toward mastery.



Total in-house training hours were 2,688.25. It's important to note that this figure does not account for external training attended by members throughout the year. The district sent 30 individuals to training programs conducted by external organizations. These courses covered a wide range of topics, including leadership, medical skills, and specialized rescue. Personnel attended trainings locally, in New Mexico, and across the state of Colorado. Each participant returned with new skills, innovative ideas, and fresh approaches to better serve the community.

Another significant accomplishment this year was our ability to assist individuals in obtaining their EMS licensing. We provided valuable experience to six EMT students by offering them ridealong opportunities during their clinical shifts. Additionally, we supported one Reservist and one Career employee by providing them with patient contacts as they pursued their Paramedic schooling. Los Pinos prioritizes and supports our personnel in their pursuit of expanding their education and certifications.

#### **TRAINING HOURS IN 2023**



# VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

### "You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." - Winston Churchill

I have truly enjoyed this year because of the Volunteer Program's progress and the changes the fire district has gone through.

The Volunteer Program started the year with four adults and one junior volunteer with one living "in-district" and we are finishing out the year with five adults and five junior volunteers with five living "in-district"!

Our volunteers are averaging 21 hours a week of service, which does not include training hours. We have had 162 hours of service between November 12 and December 12!

We began instructing HAZMAT Awareness & Operations in November and look to finish the second week of February 2024. We will then begin the Firefighter 1 Certification course which will wrap up in the middle of May 2024. Upon completion of the State written and practical testing, we will have 10 volunteers with a FF1 Certification. We currently have two volunteers with EMT-B certifications and four looking to take their EMT-B coursework in 2024.

I am very pleased specifically with our Junior Volunteer program. They are the most active with responding to calls and communicating over the radio. I consistently receive praise from our Shift Captains concerning their work ethic, ability to follow directions, and interest in learning. We have three high school seniors who will all have completed their coursework to be qualified to be an entry-level Firefighter/Medic. I believe our Junior Volunteer program can be a model for districts that struggle to find career-oriented personnel. A bonus to these students is that if they begin their career at 18 years old, they can retire at 43!

My goals for 2024 are to have a 10% increase in participation and to have a strong focus on incident response.

I am proud to have been chosen to develop and implement our volunteer program and even prouder of the men and women who are giving their resources to serve others.



Sut Yavis
Scot Davis
Battalion Chief
Volunteer Coordinator





# PHOENIX RECYCLING FIRE

At 7:03 pm on June 29, crews from Los Pinos Fire District were paged to a working fire at the Phoenix Recycling station in Ignacio. The initial crew found heavy fire on the exterior of the building within waste recycling piles that impeded the exterior of the structure. Crews also found the fire had extended to the interior of the building. Crews remained on scene throughout the night to continue fire extinguishment and overhaul. No injuries to firefighters or civilians were reported. Crews from Upper Pine Fire District and Durango Fire District responded with mutual aid. In total, there were two medic units, six tenders, and 3 engines totaling 25 personnel on scene. Fire personnel would remain on scene for several days following the initial fire, continuing to extinguish hotspots and overhaul.







### FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

Business Life Safety Inspections- 18

Re-Inspections- 15

Fire Investigations- 5

#### **Events:**

Medical Standby Events- 17 (includes- rodeo, football, bear dance)

Educational Events- 9 (includes-fire extinguisher trainings, fairs)

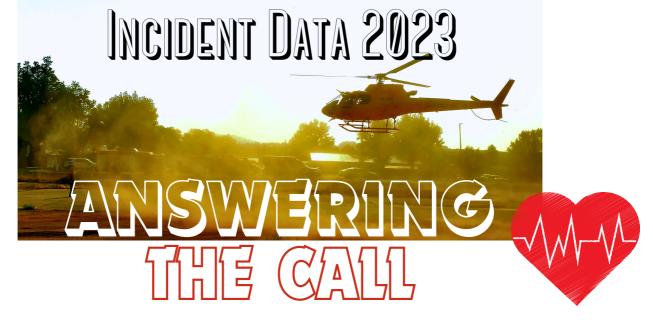
Other Special Events- 14 (includes- parades, color run, easter egg hunt)



**Brad Egger**Brad Egger, IAAI-CFI, FO1, EMT-I
Division Chief/Fire Marshal







### **LOS PINOS RESPONDED TO 961 CALLS IN 2023**

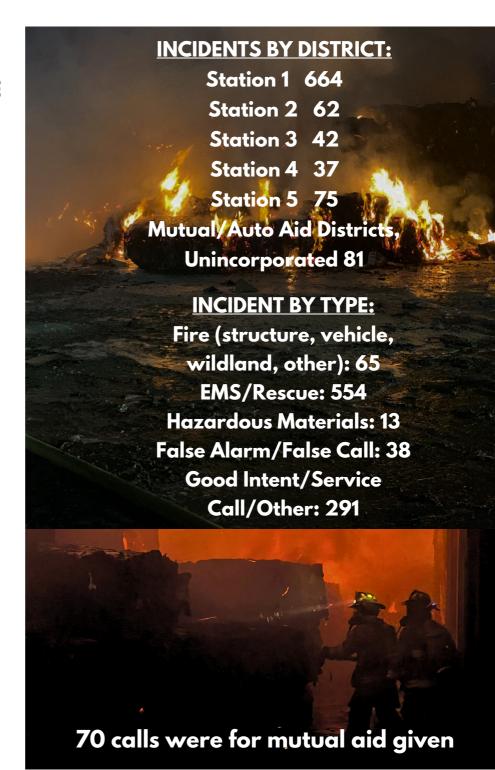
2023 SAW A 2.13% INCREASE IN CALL VOLUME

STATION 1 RESPONDED TO 664 CALLS

EMS/RESCUE MADE UP 554
OF THE CALLS

278 CALLS WERE
OVERLAPPING
MAKING UP 28.92%
OF THE CALL VOLUME

4-5pm had the highest call volume was most calls during the most call during the most calls during the most ca



# WILDLAND REPORT

The 2023 Los Pinos Wildland Division operated with a dedicated team comprising a full-time wildland coordinator, one full-time engine boss, and seven seasonal wildland firefighters. Throughout the 2023 fire season, our personnel responded promptly to incidents at the local, regional, and national levels.

The winter of 22-23 blessed our region with heavy snowfalls, contributing to a significant recovery of fuels not only within our fire district but also across the western United States.

However, as the calendar progressed, fire activity gained momentum towards the end of June and extended into July, coinciding with the district's gradual drying. Despite the initial reprieve, the season persisted into November locally. This extension was attributed to the curing of grasses and lighter fuels, influenced by late summer and fall conditions characterized by minimal precipitation.

Sending out engines, overhead, and crews is a great way to add depth in experience and to bring in revenue back to the District. Along with the local severity assignments with the BIA and Forest Service, when conditions where favorable in our region we were able to send crews out of our area., Our crews went to fires in California, Texas and New Mexico. With a total of 210 days on fire assignments.





#### **TRAINING**

The Wildland Division of Los Pinos Fire is continually participating in training activities with the rest of the department. All of our crew members are encouraged to have tasks books open for their next qualification, and we look for opportunities for our crew members to complete those tasks as much as possible.







#### **COMMUNITY BURNS**

The Wildland Division of Los Pinos Fire provides an engine crew (when available) that performs agricultural burns in our district. The engine crew also assists with slash pile burns for those that feel uncomfortable burning piles.



# WE ARE HIRING



# FULL -TIME & RESERVE FIREFIGHTER/EMTS





# SCAN TO APPLY LOSPINOSFIRE.COM



### Qualifications

- High school diploma or GED equivalent.
- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must possess, by time of hire, a valid driver's license. Must be able to obtain a driver's license applicable to fire district apparatus within 60 days after employment begins.
- Must be able to read and write the English language.
- Have a current Colorado or other International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) or Pro-Board Accredited Firefighter 1 and Hazardous Materials Operations certification.
- Be a Colorado and/or Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician-Basic, AEMT, Intermediate, or Paramedic.
- Current CPR certification and ACLS (ALS providers)
- Basic Wildland S-130/S-190 Certification.
- Meet current physical requirements under National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1582 standards.
- Ability to learn the operation of fire suppression and other emergency equipment.
- Ability to learn and apply standard firefighting, emergency medical, hazardous materials mitigation, and fire prevention techniques.
- Ability to perform strenuous or peak physical effort during emergency, training, or station maintenance activities for prolonged periods under conditions of extreme heights, intense heat, cold, or smoke.
- Ability to act effectively in emergency and stressful situations.
- Ability to follow verbal and written instructions.
- Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing
- Ability to establish effective working relationships with employees, other agencies, and the general public.
- Ability to establish a cohesive and trustworthy work environment with crew personnel in a shift work setting.
- · Working knowledge of driver safety.

### **Looking to Volunteer?**

RECRUITING VOLUNTEER WILDLAND FIREFIGHTERS AND GENERAL VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

# RETIREMENTS & PERSONNEL



RETIRED FIRE CHIEF TONY HARDWIG SERVING SINCE 1983

This year brought significant changes to the department in terms of leadership and personnel. In July, Chief Tony Harwig retired after an impressive 40-year career. During his four-year tenure as Fire Chief, he made important strides such as increasing the mill levy, upgrading equipment, and envisioning the expansion of Station #5. Chief Harwig deserves recognition for setting the department on a new path and establishing a solid foundation.



FIRE CHIEF JOSH LORENZEN SERVING SINCE 1998

Following Chief Harwig's retirement in July,
Deputy Chief Josh Lorenzen was chosen by the
fire district board to take on the role of Fire Chief.
Chief Lorenzen brings a wealth of experience from
25 years spent in the fire/EMS service.
Throughout his career, he has held various
positions, including Captain, Training Captain, and
Deputy Fire Chief.



DEPUTY CHIEF JIM OWENS SERVING SINCE 1996

Captain Jim Owens has been an integral part of the Los Pinos Fire since 1996, having joined the community in 1994. He began as a volunteer and played a crucial role in the department's transition to career staffing. Owens was promoted to Captain in 2007 and maintained that position until his July 2023 promotion to Deputy Chief.

### MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS



BOARD PRESIDENT
CHELSEA HAMILTON



VICE PRESIDENT PRESTON REA



BOARD SECRETARY
TOM ARTHUR



BOARD MEMBER
JAMES BROWN

TREASURER

DON WOODMANSEE

(NOT PICTURED)

# PROMOTIONS

### CAPTAIN PROMOTIONS



ADMIN CAPT. CRAIG FISCHER, EMT-I SERVING SINCE 2003



CAPT. DAKOTA BALLEY, EMT-B SERVING SINCE 2016



CAPT. RYAN MULAY, EMT-B SERVING SINCE 2017

### LIEUTENANT PROMOTIONS



LT. BEAU MATTISON, FF/EMT-P SERVING SINCE 1993



LT. THOMAS BARNES, FF/EMT-P SERVING SINCE 2004



LT. JUSTIN SHOOPMAN, FF/EMT-P SERVING SINCE 2007

### WILDLAND PROMOTIONS



CAPT. DAN DOSCH,
WILDLAND COORDINATOR
SERVING SINCE 2007



HUNTER FLINDERS, ENGINE BOSS SERVING SINCE 2017

### PARAMEDIC PROMOTIONS



MIKE COCHRAN, FF-EMI-F SERVING SINCE 2021



ROBYN GURULE, FF-EMT-P SERVING SINCE 2019

### FULL-TIME HIRES

RON BAKKEN
BRIAN QUINTANA
TYLER ST. CYR
TORREY SCHAEFER

### STAGE 1 FIRE RESTRICTIONS

BANNED



All personal uses of fireworks are prohibited.



Any fire not within a permanently constructed fire pit, ring or grate on public or private land.



Smoking outdoors in an area that is not cleared of all combustible materials.



Fires contained within portable devices (chimneys, charcoal grills and tiki torches with no shut-off valve) on undeveloped lands.



No explosive targets or incendiary (tracer) rounds. These are never allowed in federal lands.



Using any internal or external combustion engine without a spark-arresting device.



Welding or operating acetylene or other torch with open flame in an area that is **not cleared** of at least 10 feet in diameter and not in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.



Professional fireworks displays.



Fires contained within liquid fueled or gas fueled stoves, lanterns or heating devices on PUBLIC or PRIVATE land.



Shooting or discharging firearms on PRIVATE land or at a PUBLIC shooting range.



**ALLOWED** 

Fires contained with permanently constructed fire pit, ring or grate on PRIVATE land or within a fee-charged PUBLIC recreational site, such as campgrounds.



### Smoking within an enclosed vehicle,

building, developed recreation site or in an area that is cleared of all combustible materials.

Using internal or external combustion engines WITH a sparkarresting device.



**Welding or operating acetylene** or other torch with open flame in cleared areas of at least 10 feet in diameter and in possession of a chemical pressurized fire extinguisher.



# HOUSE NUMBERS SAVE LIVES

Check your house and mailbox and make sure your numbers are:

- 3 inches tall or larger, block numbers not script or text
- > VISIBLE FROM THE STREET and with proper lighting
- > As close to your front door as possible
- > On a contrasting background
- > On BOTH sides of your mailbox
- Unobstructed by trees or light Fixtures

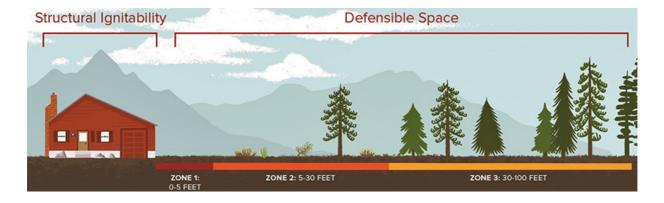




Help first responders when every second counts!

### WILD FIRE MITIGATION ASSESSMENT

### ON-GOING MAINTENANCE TIPS Create a 3-5 ft. non-combustible "vegetation free" perimeter around all structures. Store firewood piles, scrap lumber and other flammable debris at least 30 ft. from all structures. Always keep wildland grass cut to a max height of 6 in. within 30 ft. of all structures. Be sure gutters and rooflines are always clear of pine needles and leaves. Make sure the top and underside of decks and porches are always clear of pine needles and other flammable debris. Screen all attic, roof, soffit and foundation vents with 1/8 in. metal screening. TREE TRIMMING & SPACING TIPS Zone 1 (within 30ft. of structures): Ideally remove all tall trees from this zone. If a select prize tree remains make sure no branches overhang the roof or are within 10 ft. of the chimney. Zone 2 (30-100 ft. or more of structures): Selectively thin trees so small clumps of 2-3 trees remain with large 20 to 30 ft. openings between clumps. If your home is located on steep slopes increase the size of Zone 1 and 2 on downhill side. Low limb most remaining conifers in Zones 1 and 2 so lowest limbs are 6-10 ft. from the ground or 1/3 the height of the tree, whichever is less. Remove most ladder fuels in Zone 1 and 2 from underneath remaining trees.









IGNACIO, COLORADO

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WWW.LOSPINOSFIRE.COM