

**Groveland Community Services District
Fire Department / CALFIRE**

18966 Ferretti Road Groveland, CA 95321

Staff Report

September 16, 2020

To: Board of Directors

From: Andy Murphy, Assistant Chief
By: Jude R. Acosta, Battalion Chief

Subject: Monthly Activity Report – August 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020

Operations:

Emergency Incident Response:

On August 6, 2020, Groveland Fire and CAL FIRE units responded to a report of a commercial structure fire at the Hungry Bear Café. Upon arriving at scene, there was light smoke coming from the front of the building. Fire crews secured utilities and located a partially extinguished grease fire in the kitchen. After fully extinguishing the grease fire, they checked for extension in the ducting and walls. Fortunately, the quick actions of the on-duty cook helped control the fire with a fire extinguisher. The restaurant's fire suppression system did not activate. The cause of the fire is determined to be excess grease build up.

On August 20, 2020, CAL FIRE responded to a vegetation fire on Marshes Flat Road X Highway 49 in Moccasin. Upon arriving at scene, there was 2 acres of grass and brush burning uphill at a moderate rate of spread with an immediate structure threat. Fire crews aggressively attacked the fire protecting the structure. Unfortunately, a slight wind shift allowed the fire to spot on the east side of Highway 49. As the fire was burning on both sides of Highway 49 threatening Hetch Hetchy and the residences on Priest Coulterville Road, CAL FIRE and Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office operated in Unified Command seamlessly. Additional resources were ordered to support an extended fire attack. Due to drawdown of fire resources in the State and fire behavior, it was determined to place an evacuation order in the Groveland, Big Oak Flat, Moccasin, Moccasin Estates, and Greely Hill areas. Notifications through the Everbridge system contacted over 3,500 residences.

Throughout the firefight, smoky conditions hampered aircraft in making penetrating water and retardant drops. Meanwhile the ground troops grinded through the day and night making a stand on Priest Coulterville Road. Additional resources began to trickle in the next several days allowing crews to go direct on the fireline. Firefighters were pushed to their limits but continued determinedly, keeping the major fire at 2800 acres. Support from GCSD to maintain water supply was key also. The cause of the fire is under investigation.



On August 21, 2020, Groveland Fire and CAL FIRE units responded to a vegetation fire in the area of Highway 120 and Elder Lane. Upon arrival, fire crews located a 10th of an acre of timber litter, burning downhill at a slow rate of spread adjacent to 19585 Elder Lane. Firefighters aggressively attacked the fire preventing any additional spread. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Apparatus and Equipment:

Apparatus	Description	Status
Engine 781	2009 Pierce Contender	In Service
Engine 787	2000 Freightliner FL112	In Service
Engine 788	1984 GMC Wildcat	In Service
Engine 783	1996 International, Model 15	Out of Service
Utility 786	2008 Chevrolet 2500	In Service

Training:

In addition to our monthly Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) curriculum and engine company performance standards, Battalion personnel received the following specialized training:

- Deck Gun Operations
- Hydrant Evolutions
- Structure Fire Evolutions
- Radio Communications
- Stokes Rope Rescue
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Evolutions

Defensible Space Inspections:

Inspections: 184
Compliant: 86
Non-compliant: 98

Facility Improvements:

Renovation of the Groveland Fire Station #1 has been completed with a new fresh coat of paint. The facility looks great beautifying Downtown Groveland. Our firefighters appreciate the continued support.



MONTH - August 2020

STATION 78

Alarm Sounding	9
Odor Investigation	4
Debris Fire	0
Medical Aid	31
Fire Menace Standby	0
Fire Other	0
Haz Mat	0
Landing Zone	1
Plane/Heli Crash	0
Public Assist	13
Smoke Check	2
Structure Fire	0
Commercial Structure Fire	1
Vegetation Fire	1
Vehicle Accident	3
Vehicle Accident/Pin in	0
Vehicle Fire	0
TOTAL	65



Auto Aid	Given
Tuolumne County	7

(58 calls in GCSD district, 7 calls in Tuolumne County)

Last Call Logged Run # TCU 009914