



# Pliocene Ridge Community Services District

Serving the communities of Alleghany, Forest City and Pike City

## 2023 Fire Department Activity Summary

**Emergency Response** The district had a total of 31 “tone-outs” in 2023. Thankfully summer was cooler and damper than usual, with very little fire activity in our area.

**Tone-outs by category:**

Fire	2 calls (6%)	1 structure fire escaped to wildland in Pike and 1 mutual aid call.
Medical	13 calls (42%)	1 mutual aid call.
Hazards	1 call (3%)	Smell of propane.
Service Calls	1 call (3%)	Assist Sheriff’s office.
Good Intent	14 calls (45%)	This category includes public assistance, smoke checks and cancellations. Eleven in this category were for mutual aid requests outside of the district.

**By response area:** 18 calls (58%) within the district boundaries and 13 outside (42%).

**By Fire Dept.** Both Depts: 10 calls, plus Alleghany Fire Dept: 2 calls, & Pike City Fire Dept: 19 calls.

Note: All mutual aid calls were for the Pike City FD for the N. San Juan and Camptonville response areas.

**Training highlights:** Training is an essential part of fire department operations. District personnel logged over 1,000 hours of training in 2023. This included 47 “in-house” weekly 2-hour trainings, a Basic 32 (wildland fire) skills day with the Forest Service and neighboring local agencies, plus a First Responder Medical Skills Day held at the Pike Firehouse and hosted in partnership with the Sierra County Health Dept. and Golden State Risk Management Authority. First responders from the following fire departments participated: Alleghany, Calpine, Downieville, Pike City, and Sierra City, plus four residents from Alleghany.

**Water tender upgrade:** The Pike Fire Dept. water tender is requested by surrounding agencies more than any other piece of equipment. It drafts water from ponds and other sources bringing it directly to fire engines on scene. This greatly enhances the firefighting ability of our local engine crews. The old water tender is almost 50 years old! A much newer (used) water tender was purchased last November for \$32,000. It is in excellent condition, with a shorter wheelbase, making it more maneuverable on dirt roads. It was paid for with a combination of General Fire Fund Money, Donations, and proceeds from past excess vehicle sales.



**Thank you.** The district wishes to acknowledge and thank the AK & CM Jennings Foundation for their generous contributions that helped tremendously with the Water Tender Upgrade!

**You too can contribute!** The district lacks an engine bay in Pike large enough to house the new water tender, or a large fire truck. Two different options for adding two large engine bays in Pike are being analyzed (cost and feasibility). Adding the bays and replacing Pike’s Rescue Truck are the district’s highest priorities. The Pike City Fire Dept. rescue truck had to be taken out of service due to mechanical issues last October. Alleghany’s Brush truck is on loan as a rescue truck but must be returned to Alleghany before wildfire season starts. Donations in any amount will help with these needs. Donations can be earmarked for a specific department or project. Donations without a specific designation are deposited in the General Fire Fund. Send checks to PRCSD, 100 Pike City Road, Pike CA 95960.

## Other activities

- ❖ The district was awarded a little over \$5,000 from the CDF Rural Capacity Grant to cover 50% of the cost to build 10 wildland hose packs. These packs are used to quickly create hose-lays during a wildfire and are often swapped between agencies.
- ❖ NFIRS (National Fire Incident Reporting System): On March 10th the district entered its first run in NFIRS. NFIRS entry is a legal requirement for fire calls and participation will help the district qualify for certain Federal Grants.
- ❖ Annual Financial Audit by independent auditing firm completed, copy available online.



**Firewise communities** Both the Pike and Alleghany Firewise communities are in good standing for another year (through 2024). The new certificates are available on the district website. Follow the link below and click on the Firewise Community Document link for your community on the righthand side.

Some residents have been able to get fire insurance discounts by submitting the certificate to their carrier! Firewise resources can be found at the following link <https://www.plioceneridge.org/firewise> if you do not have internet access you can leave a message at 530-288-0624 to have information mailed to you. Email [plioceneridge@gmail.com](mailto:plioceneridge@gmail.com)

### **Know your evacuation zone:**

Pike - SIE083

Forest City - SIE EO85

Alleghany - SIE E087

<http://protect.genasys.com>

Fire Safe Sierra County is working on planning for grant funded vegetation clearance projects for residents. They have assured us that those of you who responded to Pliocene Ridge CSD's interest inquiry last spring are being included, but it might be a good idea to double check with them.

<https://www.firesafesierracounty.org/hazardous-fuel-reduction>



**May 15, 2023. Pike City and Alleghany Fire Department First Responders**

*Back Row Left to Right:* Cameron Shay, Rae Bell Arbogast, "C" Kissinger, Sandie Buckbee, Bob Hale, Christian Gersmehl, Chief Dorn, David Arbogast, Chris King, Ned Cusato, Tim Standley, Jim Buckbee  
*Front Row kneeling:* Chris Buckbee, RJ Deacon, Ethan Esch, Tristan Grew, Zack Kostik  
*absent:* Chris Gibbs & Aaron Wallace, plus Jamie Johnson who has since joined the force and who took the photo.

**Volunteers are needed in all areas of district operations. Training and gear provided to first responders, but there are other ways to help! Vehicle maintenance, administrative tasks, you name it. Please email [plioceneridge@gmail.com](mailto:plioceneridge@gmail.com) for more information or call 530-288-0624.**