

US Highway 395 Mutual Aid Communications Plan

By and Between

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

And

Susanville Interagency Fire Center

And

Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District

Purpose:

Establish a communications plan for emergencies occurring on US Highway 395 in California between the Sierra County/Lassen County line and the southern end of Constantia Road/US 395.

Responsible Jurisdiction:

Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District via agreement with Hallelujah Junction Fire Protection District.

Participating Agencies:

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD)
Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District (BPFPD)
Susanville Interagency Fire Center (SIFC)

Overview:

The Beckwourth Peak Fire Protection District (BPFPD) has responsibility for emergency response on US Highway 395 from the Sierra County/Lassen County line to the north through the southern intersection of Constantia Road and US395, also known as TM4206, as shown in Appendix A. This is accomplished through an agreement for “Structural Fire Suppression and Emergency Medical Response Services” signed between BPFPD and Hallelujah Junction Fire Protection District (HJFPD). The Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) often travels this section of highway to access parts of northern Nevada. TMFPD has historically responded to calls for service in this corridor as mutual aid, and often was the only responder. The BPFPD was formed in 2024 and now responds to this area via an agreement with HJFPD.

To provide the closest resource response in a safe and effective manner, and ensure single point ordering, it is important that the area departments and dispatch centers mutually work together to provide the fastest response possible within this area. It is mutually beneficial for all agencies to establish an agreement for clear communications between responders and the Susanville Interagency Fire Center (SIFC).

Nothing in this plan shall supersede or change ambulance transport responsibilities or agreements in this area. Nothing in this plan shall be construed as a requirement for TMFPD to respond or reduce its service level to the TMFPD to respond to US395 emergencies.

Response Plan:

BFPFD will be dispatched for emergencies occurring on US Highway 395 in California between the Sierra County/Lassen County line and the southern end of Constantia Road/US 395, also known as TM4206, as per their standing agreement with HJFPD and SIFC.

Upon request, TMFPD will dispatch resources for emergencies in the same area. TMFPD Dispatch will notify SIFC of the unit(s) responding, or if TMFPD is unable to respond.

For significant incidents or multi-company alarms including extrication vehicle accidents, wildland fires, hazardous materials spills, any responding agency may request additional resources through SIFC.

Command Communications:

For general tracking both response agencies may use their home dispatch frequencies to communicate with that center for resource status.

For responses into TM4206, Lassen Fire Net VHF frequency (154.4450/154.0100) tone 7 (seven Lakes) will be used to contact SIFC, coordinate response between units, and order any additional resources as necessary. Lassen Fire Net tone 1 (Shaffer Mountain) will be used as a back up.

In the event these frequencies do not work, the agencies will identify the best alternative channels, and all agencies will operate on the same identified frequencies.

Tactical Communications:

In the event an incident requires the use of a common tactical frequency between agencies, VFire22 and VFire23 will be used in ascending order as needed.

Medical Helicopter Communications:

All cooperators agree to use the Cal Cord frequency to land medical helicopters, and it shall be standard operating policy to have all Dispatch Centers advise REMSA/Care flight and/or Cal Star of this when requesting medical helicopter responses.

Billing:

All cooperators who partake in insurance reimbursement billing should submit to the appropriate insurance company for actions taken while on scene.

Termination:

The mutual aid communication plan may be terminated by mutual consent of both parties or unilaterally by either party without cause upon 30 days written notice. The parties expressly agree

that this plan shall be terminated immediately if for any reason any party's funding ability supporting this plan is withdrawn, limited, or impaired. This plan will be reviewed by the parties every other year to determine if any modifications are necessary.

Summary:

It is critical that incident responses are coordinated and have good communication. Because of this necessity, this mutual aid communications plan has been developed. These departments wish to provide the best possible resources within the most effective means.

Signatures and dates below indicate approval and implementation of this plan.

Richard Edwards,
Truckee Meadows FPD Fire Chief

Date

Jack Rosevear,
Beckwourth Peak FPD Fire Chief

Date

Scott Rice
Susanville IFC Battalion Chief

Date

Appendix A:

