

CHIEFS REPORT – September/October 2025

September Highlights:

IFPD Visited the ICC Town Hall Labor Day Heros event.

IFPD Assisted with the “ROSA Fire ” off HWY 74 near Santa Rosa/Pinion CA.

- IFPD Provided C6200/BC625/BR621/BR625 Crew621/WT621.

IFPD Assisted the USFS with Overhead Coverage on the “BDF wind Support”.

- IFPD Provided: C6200, BC625.

IFPD Assisted the USFS with the “Little Fire ” in Lake Isabella Ca.

- IFPD Provided: C6200, BC621/BC625/AD Members for ORMD/SOFR/PIO/DIV/OSC and many other positions.

IFPD Assisted the USFS with the “Dillon Fire” Six Rivers National Forest CA.

- IFPD Provided: C6200, BC621/BC625/AD Members for ORMD/SOFR/PIO/DIV/OSC and many other positions.

IFPD Assisted the USFS with the “Blue Fire ” Klamath National Forest CA.

- IFPD Provided: C6200, BC621/BC625/AD Members for ORMD/SOFR/PIO/DIV/OSC and many other positions.

IFPD Assisted the USFS with the “Log Fire ” Klamath National Forest CA.

- IFPD Provided: C6200, BC621/BC625/AD Members for

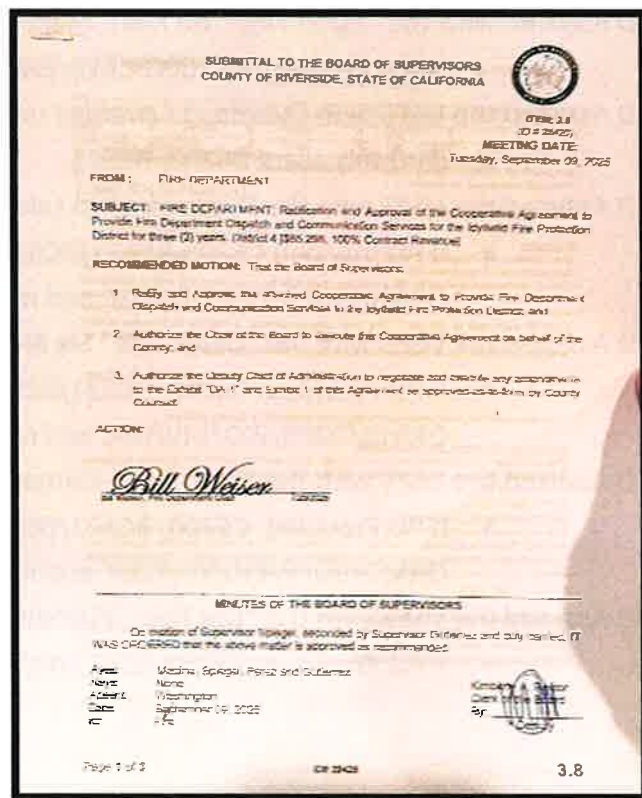


ORMD/SOFR/PIO/DIV/OSC and many other positions. IFPD Crew 621 continued with work on the HWY 243 and Community Thorofare fuels clearance project.

Crew 621 has continued working on these critical fuels reduction projects and will continue this work on into 2026. These fuels projects (though a main priority of the IFPD) are often delayed by fire incidents that our crew gets deployed to for Mutual Aid assistance.



IFPD Completed our Dispatch agreement conversations with Riverside County Fire. (This agreement was signed by the IFPD on July 01, 2025 and ratified by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors on September 9th 2025. * Note – (NO lapse in dispatch coverage took place between the sunset of our previous agreement which ended June 30, 2025 and the September 9th ratification of our new agreement).



IFPD Administrative Staff along with RT Dennis Accountancy and CJ Brown and Associates completed the 2024FY Audit. (See Audit as attached in the November 18th IFPD Board Packet)

Governor's Taskforce Mtg. Keenwild Helibase:

IFPD partnered with the USFS, Riv. Co Fire and State Parks to provide a Wildfire Fuels presentation/discussion with the CA Governor's task force on September 5th 2025. This meeting took place at the Keen wild Helipad where 50 members of the governor's task force were given information pertaining to the critical importance of fuels



management and land use throughout California and the Wildland Urban Interface. The Presenters at this meeting included: Division Chief USFS Chris Fogle, Ken Kietzer CA State Parks, Lynette Short Cal Fire Riv. Co. and Mark LaMont Fire Chief Idyllwild Fire. After the initial presentation, members and guests relocated to Fobes Ranch Rd. for a discussion on the current fuels project at Thomas Mountain in Garner Valley CA. The meeting was emceed by IFPD PIO Amanda Munsey.



October Highlights:

- IFPD Held a Quarterly Chief Officers and Admin. Meeting. (Scheduling the annual year end All Staff Meeting for November)
- IFPD Staff and Crew joined the Idyllwild Bible Church for Fire Safety Night at Awanas for kids.

Training with the Lake Isabella Men's Recovery Group.

In 2024 I had the incredible opportunity to meet Ryan Surtec, As I was working with our Incident Management Team on the Borel Fire near Lake Isabella. I was feeling the pressures of the work we were doing and the mountain of work we had ahead of us. Each morning, I noticed a Man walking across the camp just after briefing. As much as Ryan's gait could have been what captured my attention it was his incredible Smile that seemed to be permanently planted on his face that had actually caught my eye. After the fourth or fifth day I made a point to walk over to Ryan and exclaim to him how much I really appreciated his work and moreover the smile that brightened each of my mornings there at Camp 9. (Those of you that have visited camp 9 know that it's not the nicest of campgrounds, in fact, it's ok if I never stay at camp 9 ever again). So, as I thanked Ryan for lifting my Spirits each morning with his smile Ryan responded and said, "can I tell you where this smile comes from" (?) I of course said, "Please do". Without hesitation Ryan exclaimed, JESUS put this smile on my face, and HE is the reason for my Hope, and my Joy. WOW... GOD certainly knows just what we need, and right when we need it. For me, at that moment nothing could have made me happier. Several days earlier our Team was in briefing with the forest supervisor to get up to speed and take this fire over from another incident management team the next morning, all this while over 500 residences were being overrun with fire in the town of Havilah, several of our team members and I ran into the community of Havilah to help out assisting citizens that were attempting to evacuate, helping to load hoses and other livestock into trailers and immediately getting them on the road and out to safety. In the picture you will see that I am giving an afternoon update to one of the concerned residents of the area (Five year old, Octavia). Octavia was concerned for her, her brother and "brand new baby sister" she told me "That fire is sure too close to our house". I assured her that we would work hard to keep her family safe, and to save her home from the fire... As it turned out, we were in fact able to keep her and her family safe and save their home.

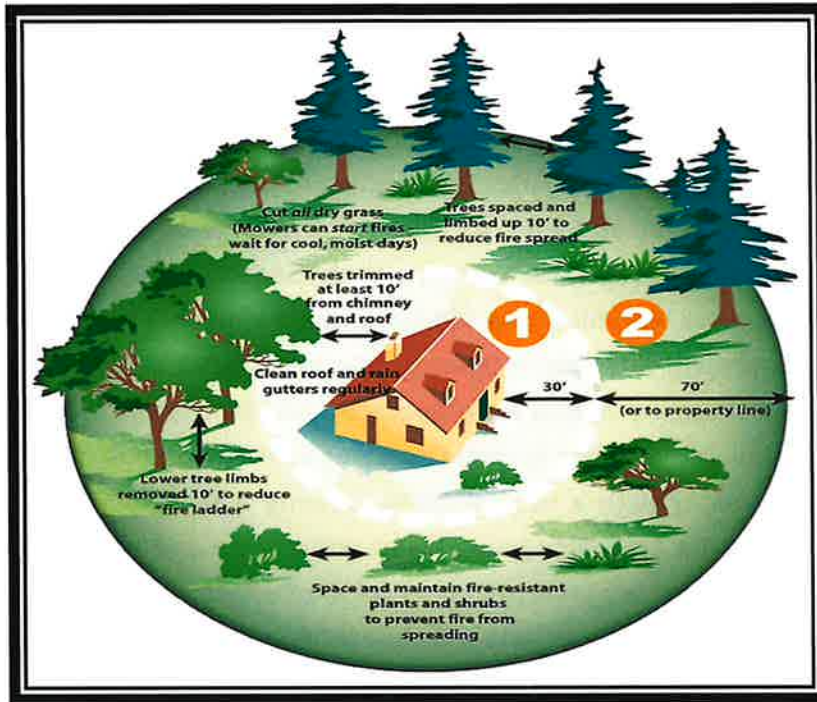


Ryan, who lives in Wofford Heights near lake Isabella was working to ensure that each of the Fire responders had Hot hand wash stations available for use told me a bit of his personal story and went on to share what he is doing for Men throughout the Lake Isabella area by providing recovery assistance and a place to live while these folks get their lives back on track. In my numerous conversations with Ryan I found that I could not keep his story to myself and brought Ryan to one of our evening Operational downloads. After the evening briefing Ryan shared his story and what he is doing with our OPS group and what a blessing that was for all of us. Since then Ryan and I have kept in touch, Ryan has also set out to work with the Sequoia National Forest working on fuels reductions and trails work with his group of Men that are spending time at the recovery home. One hurdle to this endeavor was proper training, in order to work on the forest lands Ryan would need to ensure that these individuals are properly trained for use and safety of the tools and equipment they would be utilizing. Here is where we come in. IFPD hosted a training event for Ryan and his Men's group along with a recertification training with IFPD Crew621 October 27th – 30th. During this training our Crew along with Ryans group were given classroom courses of study and field work to ensure that our crew members got a refresher, and Ryans folks got the required training they would need to be safe and effective while working on fuels and trails work in the Forest. What an incredible opportunity this has been. We are looking forward to many additional opportunities to work with Ryan and his group in the years ahead. You never know what encouragement you may bring to someone else, even without knowing you're doing it, as it turns out, even a simple smile can bring someone Joy, and brighten someone's day!

- IFPD Joined the Idyllwild School for a BBQ.
- We also assisted the school in an annual photo opportunity by putting up our Ladder on T621.
- The IFPD participated in the annual Autumn Festival in the town center by providing a booth with candy and pumpkins for the kids.
- The IFPD had the opportunity to read with the Kids at the Idyllwild Library.

IFPD Completed the Firefighter EMT Examination process.

- We have made an offer of employment to (1) of the candidates, Probationary Firefighter EMT Collin Howe will begin his position as probationary Firefighter EMT on October 1, 2025.
- The IFPD has also presented a conditional employment letter to Ezekiel Rodriguez as Probationary Firefighter with an anticipated start date of January 01, 2026.
- The IFPD is currently considering (1) additional candidate which was successful with the testing process for a possible hiring at a future date.



Property Abatement 2025:

Our annual notification Postcards were mailed out early this year.

As with previous years, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District will continue inspecting ALL (3829) properties for compliance with ORD 19-01. This local ordinance is in addition to the CA State abatement regulations: (IFPD abatement Inspections begin late spring generally Early to Mid-April – Early June each year).

This year's 3rd inspections were conducted and failed notices were mailed out to 826 property owners.

Final inspections began June 15th, 2025. (TOTAL FINAL FAILS = 270 and Citations have been mailed) Those failing the final inspection have received a citation per IFPD ORD 19-01

It is important to note that the following items top the "Failed" inspection list each year:

- **Address Numbers – These must be 4" or greater in size and must be visible from the street in a contrasting color. (270* address only)**
- **Clearance around Propane Tanks – Must have a minimum of 10' clearance around LP tanks.**
- **Roof clear of flammable debris – Your roof must be free from pine needles, leaves, and other flammable debris.**
- **Thirty (30') ft. clearance of all vegetation around your home.**



Mutual Aid Assistance:

The IFPD Continues to meet the challenge of providing assistance through the Mutual Aid system to those communities in their time of need. IFPD thanks our Cooperators and Partners for their strong commitment to this critical system of emergency service.

Currently the IFPD has responded to the following Mutual Aid Incidents during 25/26FY:

- Wolf Fire (Riverside County CA)
- BDF Support (San Bernardino NF)
- Green (Shasta NF)
- Dale (Riverside County CA)
- Rosa Fire (San Bernardino NF)
- Gifford Fire (Los Padres National Forest)
- Gold Fire (Big Bear California)
- Little Fire (Lake Isabella / Kernville CA)
- Garnet Fire (Sierra National Forest)
- Dillon Fire (Six Rivers National Forest)
- Blue Fire (Klamath NF)
- Log Fire (Klamath NF)

The IFPD has Invoiced \$ 2,935,000.00 in Mutual Aid to date for 25/26FY.

Previous Mutual Aid Invoicing for FYs 19/20 – 20/21 – 21/22 – 22/23 – 23/24 – 24/25:

In the 2024/25 FY IFPD Invoiced: \$ 4,666,858.00

In 2024 IFPD invoiced \$2,427,631.09

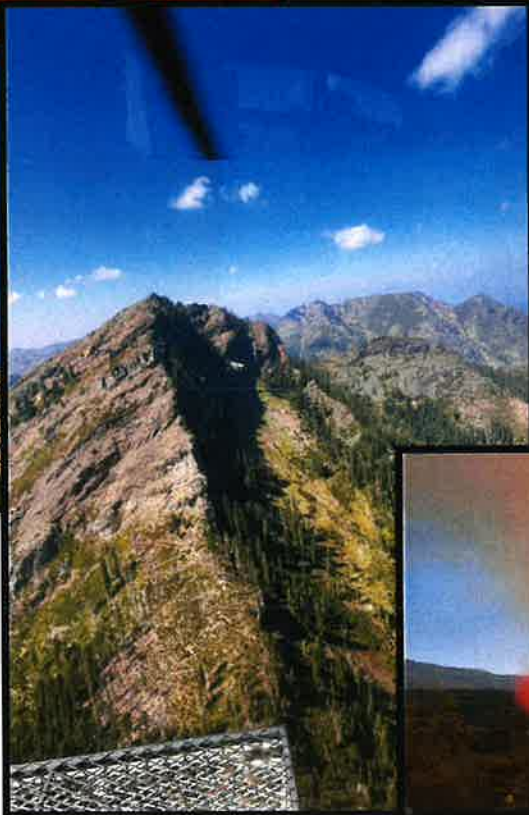
In 2023 IFPD invoiced: \$ 1,353,000.00

In 2022 IFPD invoiced: \$ 2,010,000.00

In 2021 IFPD invoiced: \$ 1,205,000.00

In 2020 IFPD invoiced: \$ 500,000.00





Equipment Update:

Suppression Equipment:

Unit	Mileage	Condition	Notes
T-621	30285	Good	2025 Ladder test completed.
E-621	38275	Good	Repairs completed.
RE-622	65075	Good	Front line
BR-621	69088	Fair	PM Scheduled
BR-622	133652	Good	PM Scheduled
BR-625	42362	Excellent	NA
OES-6608	24813	Excellent	NA
WT- 1	7670	NEW	Excellent

Ambulances:

Medic Unit One 1	69495	Excellent	NA
Medic Unit Two 2	50597	Excellent	NA
Medic Unit Five 5	54075	Excellent	Air Conditioning Repair
Medic Unit 626	64865	Good	NA

Administrative/Other Units

		Condition	Notes
C-6200	90310	Excellent	NA
B-621	42550	Excellent	NA
B-622	44812	Excellent	NA
B-625	87640	Excellent	NA
Supt. 1	03112	Excellent	<i>NEW Supt. Vehicle (CRW)</i>
S-621	53922	Good	NA (Squad 621 CRW)
U-621	134618	Good	NA (Utility 621 CRW)
CRW-1A	103225	Excellent	CRW Vehicle
CRW-1B	45305	Excellent	CRW Vehicle

Please remind your family, friends, and neighbors that Fire Prevention and Abatement efforts are a year-round commitment.

DON'T GIVE EMBERS A PLACE TO CALL HOME.
Create **defensible space** and give your property an increased chance of surviving a wildfire.

The infographic depicts a residential property with a house, a red barn, a utility pole, and a green recycling truck. Various callout boxes provide specific fire safety instructions:

- TREES SHOULD BE SPACED 10 FEET FROM THE HOUSE AND OTHER TREES.
- TREES SHOULD BE SPACED 10 FEET FROM POWERLINES.
- KEEP FIREWOOD PILES AND LUMBER 30 FEET AWAY FROM ANY BUILDING.
- STORE BBQ PROPAANE TANKS 30 FEET AWAY FROM THE HOME OR IN AN OUTBUILDING.
- KEEP VEGETATION 10 FEET AWAY FROM PERMANENT PROPAANE TANKS.
- KEEP GRASS MOWED TO UNDER 4 INCHES.
- MAKE SURE THE DRIVEWAY IS ACCESSIBLE TO FIRST RESPONDERS AND THE ADDRESS SIGN IS VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD.
- REMOVE TREE NEEDLES, LEAVES, AND MULCH FROM 100 FEET AROUND THE HOME OR OTHER BUILDINGS.
- INCORPORATE FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS IN YOUR LANDSCAPING.
- FOR TREES MORE THAN 18 FEET TALL, REMOVE BRANCHES SIX FEET FROM THE GROUND. FOR TREES LESS THAN 18 FEET TALL, REMOVE BRANCHES UP TO 1/3 THE HEIGHT OF THE TREE.
- CHIP, COMPOST, OR RECYCLE YARD DEBRIS. DON'T BURN IT.

Thank you for your efforts in helping to keep Idyllwild Fire Safe!

Emergency Siren Testing

*3rd Saturday of each month @
1:00pm.*



IFPD Response Time Averages: (time of dispatch to time of arrival)

Medical Aid Incidents. 3.02 Minutes

Fire Related Incidents. 3.40 Minutes

Overlapping Incidents 37.88%

*From our Family to Yours,
“You are our Mission.”*