



# RESOLUTION No. 24-340

## OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

### RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE PROPOSED FOREST RESERVE (TITLE III) SPENDING PLANS FOR FOREST RESERVE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,400 AND DIRECTING STAFF TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON AUGUST 20, 2024 FOR FINAL APPROVAL

WHEREAS, The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (SRS Act), was enacted to provide five years of transitional assistance to rural counties affected by the decline in revenue from timber harvest on federal lands. SRS funding continued to be extended in subsequent years and has currently been funded through Federal Fiscal Year 2023/24 but at diminishing levels with significant restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the North San Juan Fire Protection District, Nevada County Consolidated Fire District, and Washington Fire Department has submitted a Forest Reserve Fund Title III request plan proposal for consideration; and

WHEREAS, the County of Nevada has available Forest Reserve Funding through current Federal allocations and accumulated fund balance; and

WHEREAS, the SRS Act requires that the Nevada County Board of Supervisors hold a 45-day public comment period, hold a public hearing, and approve a spending plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, accepts the proposed Forest Reserve (Title III) spending plans and hereby directs the Clerk of the Board to publish the Public Hearing Notice to schedule a public hearing for August 20, 2024 for the proposed spend plan from the North San Juan Fire Protection District, Nevada County Consolidated Fire District, and Washington Fire Department for the Forest Reserve Fund Title III for County Fiscal Year 2024/25.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 25th day of June 2024, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward C. Scofield, Lisa Swarthout, and Susan Hoek.

Noes: None.

Absent: Hardy Bullock.

Abstain: None.

Recuse: None.

ATTEST:

TINE MATHIASSEN  
Chief Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 

  
Hardy Bullock, Chair

# NEVADA COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE DISTRICT

## Forest Reserve (Title III), Secure Rural Schools & Community Self-Determination Act

RFA No. 183078 - PART I

# Special Operations

## ROPE RESCUE

The Technical Rope Rescue team responds to a number of emergencies (medical, rope, water and large animal rescues) in remote areas of Nevada County and mutual aid requests from other areas. All staff is trained to the State Fire Training Rope Rescue Operations level.

## CONFINED SPACE

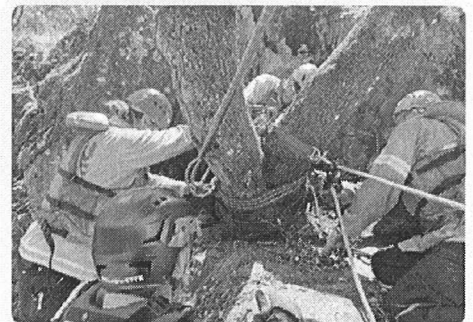
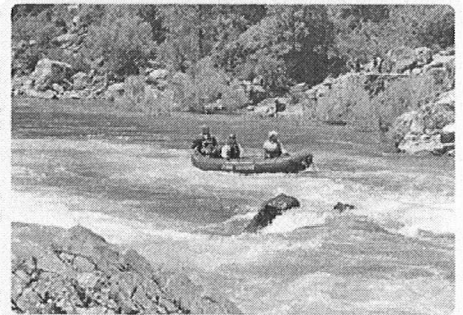
Involves the rescue & recovery of victims trapped in a confined space or places accessible only through confined spaces (underground vaults, silos, sewers.) These rescues are technically challenging due to the narrow, poorly lit environment. All NCC staff is trained to the State Fire Marshal Confined Space Technician level.

## SWIFT WATER RESCUE

Well established and recognized as the leading water rescue team in the area. All district staff are trained to the Swift Water Technician level and respond to all emergencies involving moving and flood waters.

## COLLAPSE & TRENCH RESCUE

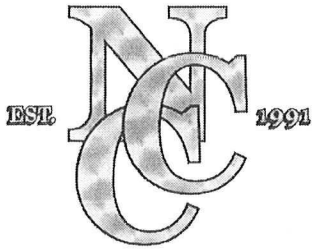
This program is currently in development at NCC Fire. Trench rescue is a specialized form of rescue involving shoring up the sides of a trench and digging a trapped victim out of a collapsed trench. Collapse Rescue is when crews rescue victims from lightweight and heavyweight structural collapses due to natural disasters or human forces.



\$34,300



Nevada County Consolidated Fire District  
Jason Robitaille, Fire Chief  
640 Coyote Street, Nevada City, CA 95959  
530-265-4431 - FAX 530-265-4438  
[www.nccfire.com](http://www.nccfire.com)



## Nevada County Consolidated Fire District

640 Coyote Street, Nevada City, CA 95959  
(530) 265-4431 FAX (530) 265-4438  
[nccfire@nccfire.com](mailto:nccfire@nccfire.com) • [www.nccfire.com](http://www.nccfire.com)

February 21, 2024

Desiree Belding CPPO, CPPB  
Nevada County Purchasing Division  
950 Maidu Ave.  
Nevada City, CA 95959

RE: Forest Reserve Fund Grants / Special Operations Training

To Whom it May Concern,

Nevada County Consolidated Fire District (NCCFD) is dedicated to enhancing the quality of service and ensuring the safety of our community and neighboring agencies. As part of our mission, we have identified the need for special operations training to better serve the constituents and visitors of Nevada County. The terrain and unique challenges of Nevada County necessitate specialized training for emergency responders to effectively handle various situations, including rope rescues, confined space, swift water, large animal, collapse, and trench rescue. Specialized training must be completed to enhance NCCFD personnel's ability to respond to special operations incidents safely and effectively. NCCFD is currently working on being typed as an OES Type III Urban Search & Rescue and a Type III Swift Water Rescue entity to become a regional and state rescue source. The proposal is divided into Specialized Operations Training and Motorized Boat Rescue Operations. Our priority is the Specialized Operations Training.

NCCFD has invested approximately \$19,000.00 in special operations training and has identified an additional \$34,300.00 in specialized training needs. The proposed training programs are conducted by certified instructors with expertise in each specialized area. The training expense breakdown is below:

- Rope Rescue Technician
  - \$8,000.00 (8 people)
- Confined Space Rescue Technician
  - \$3,000.00 (4 people)
- Swift Water Rescue Technician
  - \$4,000.00 (4 people)
- Large Animal Rescue Technician
  - \$1,800.00 (4 people)
- Collapse Rescue 1 and 2
  - \$10,000.00 (8 people)
- Trench Rescue Technician
  - \$7,500.00 (hosted course)

NCCFD will collaborate with neighboring agencies, including law enforcement, search and rescue teams, and medical responders, to enhance interagency coordination during special operations incidents.

We appreciate your time and consideration of our application.

Thank you,

Jason Robitaille, Fire Chief

[jasonrobitaille@nccfire.com](mailto:jasonrobitaille@nccfire.com)

(530) 265-4431 (office)

(530) 913-5542 (cell)



## Entity Description

The Nevada County Consolidated Fire District (NCCFD) was formed in July of 1991 by the consolidation of the Gold Flat and Bullion Fire Protection Districts. In January 1993, Alta-Oaks-Sunset Fire District consolidated with NCCFD. Next, the Watt Park Fire Protection District was consolidated in January 1998. The most recent consolidation occurred in October 2003, adding the 49er Fire Protection District to NCCFD. These consolidations improved the service to the citizens that reside within the fire district.

NCCFD is one of the eleven fire districts in Nevada County. NCCFD proudly serves the rural areas of Nevada County surrounding the Cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City. NCCFD is a full-time paid staff district covering 143 square miles of residential, commercial, industrial, and rural areas through five service areas and ten stations. There are four staffed District-owned stations and five un-staffed District-owned stations. We are currently co-staffing Rough & Ready Fire Station 59 with Penn Valley.

NCCFD operates under the mission of providing the highest level of emergency services to our community by valuing its members, promoting positive leadership, and dedicating ourselves to excellence. We owe our residents the highest quality of service possible, characterized by responsiveness, integrity, and professionalism that we continue to strive to improve. NCCFD prides itself on its mission, adjusting to the communities served and recognizing our responsibility to be a leader in the provision of regional and cooperative services among all communities within Nevada County.

NCCFD works with neighboring agencies and will host local joint trainings. One of the classes we plan to host is Trench Rescue, in which NID and Truckee Fire have both voiced interest in participating. This opportunity will promote interoperability while creating a solid baseline to build our program on. The district will leverage its resources and seek partnerships within Nevada County in hopes of expanding our local response and expertise in various fields of special operations.



## Special Operations Training Project Description

Nevada County Consolidated Fire District (NCCFD) is requesting funding to improve our special operations program within Nevada County. NCCFD aims to further develop the emergency response and capabilities of the fire district to manage specialized incidents within the county, region, and state effectively. The training will enhance the safety and well-being of constituents and responders during specialized incidents. The special operations training will also improve the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency response operations and strengthen interagency collaboration.

The special operations training request is to fund the training necessary to increase the number of personnel certified as technicians for specific rescue operations such as rope rescue, confined space, swift water, large animal, collapse rescue, and trench rescue. NCCFD has started the training process for our members and incurred costs of approximately \$19,000.00 in tuition and travel expenses. As we work towards becoming a Type III Urban Search and Rescue and Type II Swift Water Rescue for Cal OES to utilize, we need to continue to train more qualified members.

The training programs are designed to meet the specific needs of each special operation and include both classroom instruction and hands-on exercises. The training instructors are certified with expertise in each specialized area and will conduct the training to ensure that personnel receive high-quality instruction. These specialized classes have high tuition and are typically located out of the area, adding lodging and fuel to the costs required to attend. As more personnel complete specialized operations training, the district is developing and updating policies to provide clear guidance on responding to and managing specialized incidents safely and effectively.

The project will be regularly evaluated to ensure personnel get the needed training by June 2026, to ensure the grant funds are expended per the requirements.



## Special Operations Budget and Financials

Nevada County Consolidated Fire District requests \$34,300.00 to complete special operations training for approximately 28 personnel. The table below shows the course, the number of personnel we would like to send to the training with grant funds, and how many personnel have already taken the course this fiscal year.

The grant funds we request are for the training course only; although many of these courses are not local, the district will pay for transportation and lodging.

Course Name	Course Cost per person	# of personnel in grant request	# of personnel already taken
Rope Rescue Technician	\$1,000.00	8	3
Confined Space Rescue Technician	\$750.00	4	0
Swift Water Rescue Technician	\$1,000.00	4	2
Large Animal Rescue Technician	\$450.00	4	4
Collapse Rescue 1 & 2	\$1,250.00	8	4
Trench Rescue Technician	\$7,500.00	Hosted Course	0







## NORTH SAN JUAN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Post Office Box 299, North San Juan, CA 95960

(530) 292-9159 • Fax: (530) 292-1417

e-mail: [info911@nsjfire.org](mailto:info911@nsjfire.org) • [www.nsjfire.org](http://www.nsjfire.org)

*Serving Since 1862*

February 23, 2024

To: Desiree Belding, Deputy Purchasing Agent

Re: Forest Reserve Fund Grants

Dear Ms. Belding,

Enclosed, please find an application for the Forest Reserve Fund Grant for North San Juan Fire Protection District.

Applicant: North San Juan Fire Protection District

Physical Address: 13200 Tyler Foote Road  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Mailing Address: PO Box 299  
North San Juan, CA 95960

Contact: Lynn McGarva, Finance and Facilities Manager  
530-292-9159, 530-292-1417 (fax)  
[districtmanager@nsjfire.org](mailto:districtmanager@nsjfire.org)

Heidi Ryan, Operations and Personnel Manager  
530-292-9159, 530-292-1417 (fax)  
[districtsecretary@nsjfire.org](mailto:districtsecretary@nsjfire.org)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason Flores", written over a horizontal line.

Jason Flores, Fire Chief

North San Juan Fire Protection District

#### **8.5.TAB A: ENTITY DESCRIPTION (Maximum of 250 words):**

8.5.1. In 1862 the North San Juan Fire Department was founded; it is the oldest volunteer fire department in Nevada County. In 1986, the Department was incorporated as the North San Juan Fire Protection District (NSJFPD or District), authorized and charged to provide emergency response and fire protection services (its mission) in a service area considered by CAL FIRE to be a very high fire hazard zone. The District covers some 87 square miles of often difficult to reach terrain that includes the San Juan Ridge, French Corral, North Columbia, North San Juan, and all territory between the South and Middle Yuba Rivers, from Bridgeport to Malakoff Diggins.

8.5.2. Two District Managers operate under the direction of Fire Chief Jason Flores. Lynn McGarva, District Manager of Finance and Facilities, is responsible for conducting District financial and business operations. Heidi Ryan, District Manager of Operations and Personnel, interfaces with District personnel, local and state agencies and the public in handling Board and Department duties.

8.5.3. The San Juan Ridge region is a rural community with an estimated permanent population of 3,000 people. In a 2018 Nevada County Transit Commission survey, 14.8% of respondents identified as single parent, 5.3% as veterans, 17.43% as individuals with a disability, 12.8% as students, 25.33% as economically disadvantaged, and 1.3% as homeless. The region also provides services to approximately 500,000 summer visitors annually.

8.5.4. Partners include the Montezuma Ridge Firewise Community (MRFWC), local residents, and other fire districts assisting in the region.

#### **8.6.TAB B: PROJECT DESCRIPTION (Maximum of 500 words):**

8.6.1. The District anticipates increased activity within District boundaries and outlying areas, in part due to increasing population growth and recreational use. It determined a need for additional water supply for use in remote areas based on an assessment of monthly District data and from concerns of individual property owners about time delays for firefighting efforts in outlying properties of the District. The time delay (including turnarounds) for one water tender to fill a 10,000 gallon tank at 3000 gallons at a time can, depending on location, result in a 5 hour delay in fire protection activities! In response, the District passed "Resolution to Enhance Strategic Water Storage Throughout the NSJFPD (Resolution 22-04)" which increases the ability of the District to protect the community by the installation of water tanks at strategic locations with the District. To date, the District has successfully installed one 10,000 gallon water treatment system on Cruzon Grade and now has a commitment from private property owners in the Montezuma Ridge Firewise Community to provide and clear property with an easement to the District for a second 10,000 gallon water storage system. The proposed location is near the intersection of Murphy and Purdon Roads, which serve as an evacuation route for the Ridge community in the Southwest precinct of the District and for visitors to the South Yuba River. If funded, the District will purchase all required parts, install, and maintain, fill and record data on the system. This system will provide water for protecting property and lives, will meet FWC criteria for required activities, provide the purchase of equipment directly related to emergency services, and may be integrated into wildfire protection plans.

8.6.2 If funded, the below schedule to prepare land, construct, and put into service a 10,000 gallon water supply system for use in firefighting activities will be followed:

September 16, 2024. The property easement will be finalized.  
October 20, 2024. The land will be cleared and prepared for the water supply system.  
December 2, 2024. All materials will be purchased.  
April 30, 2025. Installation and inspection of the water supply system will be completed. June 30, 2025. Final report will be submitted to the County.

8.6.3 The deliverable is a 10,000 gallon water storage system installed to meet Nevada County Fire Safe Standards for emergency water storage; measurable outcomes include 1) a signed easement agreement between the property owner and the NSJFPD, 2) preparation of the site for tank installation, 3) purchase of all required components for the water storage system, 4) installation and testing of the completed water storage system, 5) inspection of the system by the District, 6) addition of the site to the District on-going maintenance schedule, 7) collection and reporting of tank filling and usage data along with flow test records, and 8) preparation of the Final Report to the County.

**8.7.TAB C: BUDGET AND FINANCIALS (maximum of 250 words):**

The proposed project cost is estimated at \$39,763 for materials and labor; \$18,000 would be provided by the Forest Reserve Fund, \$18,000 would be matched with committed funds from the NSJFPD, and \$3,763 would be provided by community members in in-kind support. Cash funds will be used in tank foundation preparation, pad installation, tanks (2) and fitting costs, installation, and the addition of security devices (e.g., locks, motion detection cameras, vehicle posts). Items to purchase include two 5,000 gallon polyethylene tanks with 4 inch outlet and overflow pipes and a lockable inspection hatch, flexible PVC piping, a quarter turn bronze valve in an underground utility box, schedule 40 PVC pipe manifolds and fittings, steel pipe risers, 4.5 inch hydrants, adaptors, paint, and bollards.

In-kind support will be provided by the Montezuma Ridge Firewise Community with approximately 100 hours of in-kind work in site clearing, grading, and easement development. Based on data from the Independent Sector (retrieved on February 21, 2024 from <https://independentsector.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Value-of-Volunteer-Time-by-State-2001-2022.pdf>), which reports the value of volunteer hours for tax preparation with the IRS, the value of a volunteer hour in California as of August of 2023 is \$37.63 per hour. This translates to in-kind support for this project of \$3,763 and does not include the in-kind use of tools and equipment. Preparation of the final "Project and Expenditure Report" will be prepared by District staff as a part of the District monthly and annual reporting to the Board and the public.





# WASHINGTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

P.O. BOX 34  
15406 Washington Road  
WASHINGTON, CA 95986  
FIRE CHIEF: Mike Stewart

Application for Funding

Forest Reserve Fund Grants

Forest Reserve (Title III), Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-  
Determination Act

Contact: Mike Stewart, Fire Chief  
Firehouse 530-265-4720 ext. 1  
Cell 530-362-2267  
Email [waftac.chief@gmail.com](mailto:waftac.chief@gmail.com)  
No FAX number

Mike Stewart, Fire Chief

## 8.5. TAB A

The Washington Fire Department is an entity under the Washington County Water District as allowed by the California State Water Code. The Water District was formally established in 1966 and is governed by a 5 member board of Directors elected by the resident voters of Washington. The Fire Department consists of 7 firefighters lead by the Fire Chief who answers to the Board of Directors.

The Fire Chief, who will oversee the project, is a 42 year veteran of the fire service, having served 25 years with Nevada County Consolidated Fire District and 9 years with CalFire. Chief Stewart is a California State Certified Company Officer and a NWCG certified Division/Group Supervisor.

While the District boundary encompasses only about 1 square mile around the town of Washington, the Fire Department responds to incidents within approximately 25 square miles, area not served by another fire district.

The Washington Fire Department has a long history of working closely with the Tahoe National Forest regarding fire related issues. With the dramatic increase of Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) users to the area we have expanded that working relationship to include law enforcement concerns. We have begun working with NCSO and CHP, as well as USFS law enforcement to address the issues caused by the increased usage, and have just begun discussions with California State Parks OHV Division who have indicated a desire to assist with enforcement issues. This project will also include volunteers from "Knuckles Up, NorCal", a Facebook based group of "Side by Side" OHV enthusiasts.

## 8.6. TAB B

The proposed project is twofold, Education and Enforcement.

Loosely modeled after the River Ambassador Program, volunteers from the Knuckles Up club will join Washington Fire members staffing an information center that moves to various concentration points during holiday weekends, coupled with Knuckles Up members wearing volunteer marked vests and flying flags from their vehicles identifying themselves as "Trail Stewards". These "Trail Stewards" will use water bottles marked with the county logo and trail etiquette standards to initiate conversation with OHV visitors to the area. Once a conversation has been initiated, USFS Motor Vehicle Use Maps, Survey Questionnaires, and other information can be exchanged. These efforts would be concentrated on holiday weekends on the most traveled routes.

Enforcement of state and federal regulations has been limited due to a few factors. USFS Law Enforcement is better staffed than they ever have been, but the size of the Tahoe National Forest dilutes their effectiveness. Recently we have been in contact with California State Parks OHV Division who have indicated a willingness to help targeted enforcement days by supporting USFS efforts with teams of Parks Law Enforcement officers specially trained and equipped for OHV enforcement.

Of major concern and frustration is the amount of drivers who are under the influence of alcohol. The two hurdles that the USFS officers are facing is their lack of field "Breathalyzers" and what to do with the passengers if no sober adult is available to drive the vehicle. CHP has stepped up and offered to assist with their experience and field "Breathalyzers" during targeted enforcement days, solving that piece. The passenger problem can be solved by staffing the Washington Fire Department Side by Side (6 seats), and transporting the passengers back to their camp or a road where a family member can be met.

The timeline for implementation would be hinged on funding, the staff would be available immediately, purchasing consumables could be accomplished within two weeks of funding. The goal would be to be effective for the Memorial Day Weekend, if that isn't attainable, then for the Father's Day Weekend in 2025. Staff funding is calculated to be expended by December 2025.

Deliverables and measurable outcomes will be very straightforward. Volunteer contacts with the public will be logged, indicating how many people were contacted daily, surveys completed, maps distributed, and passengers transported. Law Enforcement already logs vehicle stops, citations issued, and arrests made.



8.6. TAB C

Volunteer ID Vests	10 ea @\$20	\$200
Volunteer ID Flags	10 ea @\$20	\$200
Shade Shelter	1 ea@\$1300	\$1300
Folding Tables	2 ea @\$100	\$200
Folding Chairs	2 ea @\$50	\$100
Tri Fold Brochures	500 ea @\$2	\$1000
Lettered Water Bottles	500 ea @\$10	\$5200
Patrol Staff Hours	180 hours@\$40	\$7200
		-----
		\$15,400

Vehicles, vehicle maintenance, fuel, and salaries of county, state, and federal employees will be the responsibility of that agency.