

6. INDIAN VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Indian Valley Community Services District (IVCSD) provides retail water, fire protection, emergency medical, lighting, park and recreation, and wastewater treatment and collection services. Additionally, the District provides contract general manager services to the Indian Valley Ambulance Service Association through a joint powers agreement. A municipal service review (MSR) for was previously initiated for IVCSD in conjunction with Crescent Mills FPD by LAFCo in 2004, but was never completed. This is the first municipal service review for the District.

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Background

IVCSD was formed in 1993⁵⁵ after a reorganization of Greenville Community Services District, Taylorsville Fire Protection District and Taylorsville County Service Area into a single district. The formation resolution does not identify which services the newly formed district is authorized to provide. The District continued providing services that were offered by its predecessor agencies.

The principal act that governs the District is the State of California Community Services District Law.⁵⁶ CSDs may potentially provide a wide array of services, including water supply, wastewater, solid waste, police and fire protection, street lighting and landscaping, airport, recreation and parks, mosquito abatement, library services; street maintenance and drainage services, ambulance service, utility undergrounding, transportation, abate graffiti, flood protection, weed abatement, hydroelectric power, among various other services. CSDs are required to gain LAFCo approval to provide those services permitted by the principal act but not performed by the end of 2005 (i.e., latent powers).⁵⁷

IVCSD is located in the middle of northern Plumas County and encompasses the communities of Greenville, Crescent Mills and Taylorsville. The nearest providers of similar services are Crescent Mills Fire Protection District and Indian Valley Parks and Recreation District, both of which IVCSD overlaps.

Boundaries

The District's bounds encompass approximately 18.6 square miles. Since its formation, there have been five annexations to the District. The most recent annexation occurred in 1999 and included the North Valley and the Diamond Mountain areas. All boundary changes made to IVCSD are shown in Figure 6-1.

⁵⁵ LAFCo Resolution 93-1.

⁵⁶ Government Code §61000-61226.5.

⁵⁷ Government Code §61106.

Figure 6-1: Indian Valley CSD Boundary History

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Type of Action</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Recording Agency</i>
Pew Annexation	Annexation	1994	LAFCo, BOE
Olding/Seegmiller Annexation	Annexation	1994	LAFCo, BOE
Crescent Mills	Annexation	1995	LAFCo, BOE
Cassity/Kingdon Annex	Annexation	1995	LAFCo, BOE
North Valley/Diamond Mountain	Annexation	1999	LAFCo, BOE

Sphere of Influence

At present, IVCSO does not have an adopted sphere of influence. LAFCo records show that a sphere study was to be conducted following the reorganization of Greenville CSD and Taylorsville CSA in 1993; however, it appears that the study was never completed and an SOI never adopted for the newly formed district. Following the adoption of this service review, LAFCo will begin the process of adopting an SOI for the District.

Extra-territorial Services

Although IVCSO provides fire services to Crescent Mills FPD on occasion through an automatic aid agreement, these services are technically provided within IVCSO’s bounds as it overlaps the entirety of Crescent Mills FPD. IVCSO also maintains mutual aid agreements with all other fire service providers in Plumas County.

Additionally, each fire provider in Plumas County has informally agreed to a service area that extends outside of their LAFCo-approved boundaries, in order to minimize those areas without a defined first responder. In the case of IVCSO, the District’s service area includes areas within its bounds, with the exception of Crescent Mills, and extends beyond its bounds along the various roads that enter the area. The service area encompasses about 34.7 square miles. IVCSO, similar to other fire districts in the County, does not receive property tax revenue in the territory that lies outside of its bounds, and in effect is providing free services to these areas without reimbursement, with the exception of motor vehicle accidents for which it has an adopted fee schedule. However, it should be noted that there are no records of the District actually billing and receiving payment for these services over the last six years since the fees were adopted.

With regard to water and wastewater services, the District is not aware of any extra-territorial service connections; however, some district-owned property and facilities are outside of the LAFCo-approved boundaries, including a portion of the Greenville system wastewater treatment ponds and the Round Valley Reservoir.

IVCSO’s park and recreation services are available to residents and non-residents of the District alike.

Areas of Interest

Of particular interest to the District is the Crescent Mills community. This area is already within IVCSO’s boundaries, but is also within Crescent Mills FPD’s bounds. Crescent Mills FPD provides first responder fire services to the area; while IVCSO provides fire and emergency medical services in the area through an automatic aid agreement.

Indian Valley Fire Protection Providers

Range 9 East

Range 10 East

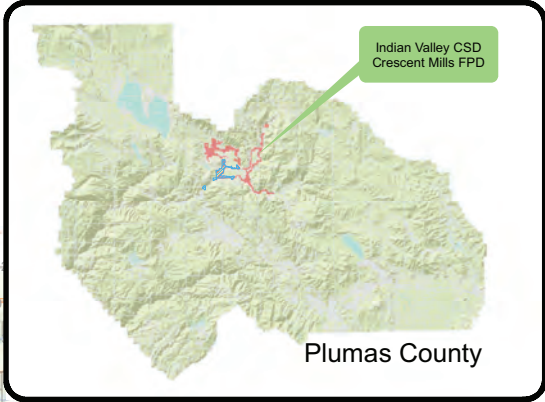
Range 11 East

Township 28 North

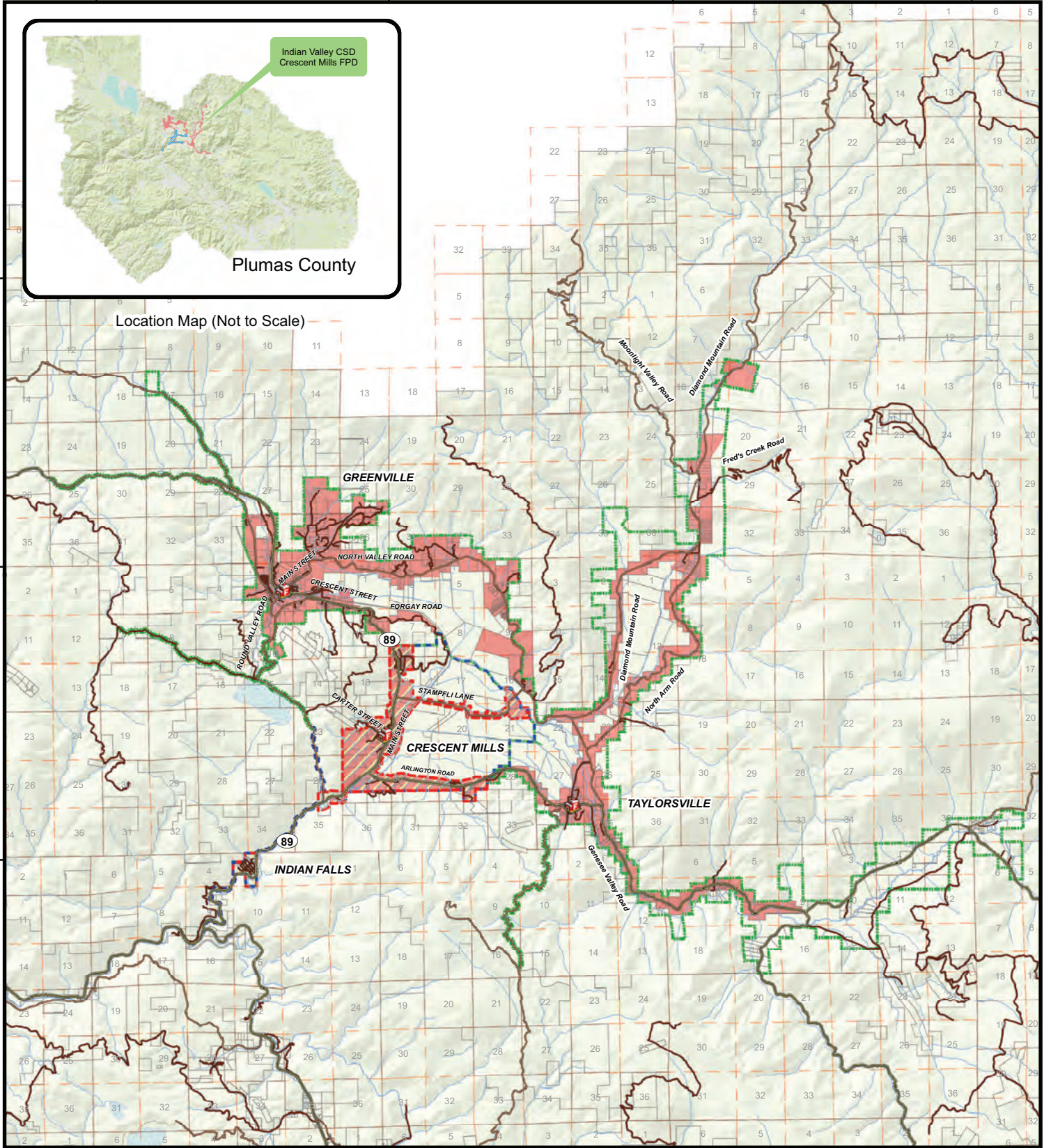
Township 27 North

Township 26 North

Township 25 North



Location Map (Not to Scale)



Legend

- Highways
- Major Roads
- Stream / River
- Waterbodies

- Parcels
- Sectional Grid (MDB&M)
- Fire Station

- Indian Valley CSD
- Crescent Mills FPD
- Crescent Mills FPD (SOI)
- Crescent Mills FPD (ESN)
- Indian Valley CSD (ESN)



0 0.5 1 2 Miles

Indian Valley CSD
Resolution: 93-1
Formed: April 28, 1993

Crescent Mills FPD (SOI)
Resolution: 08-10
Adopted: June 9, 2008

Source: Plumas LAFCo Map Created 9/28/2013

Accountability and Governance

The District’s governing body consists of a five-member board that is elected at large to four year terms. Elections are generally uncontested. Board members and their respective term expiration dates are shown in Figure 6-3.

Board meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. Ten months of the year the meetings are held at the Greenville Townhall; during the other two months, one meeting is held in Taylorsville and one meeting in Crescent Mills. Meeting agendas are posted on the district website, at the CSD office, Greenville and Crescent Mills post offices, fire station in Taylorsville, and Evergreen grocery store. Minutes are made available on the District’s website, at the CSD office, and in the subsequent meeting agenda package.

Figure 6-3: Indian Valley CSD Governing Body

Indian Valley Community Services District					
<i>District Contact Information</i>					
Contact:	Jesse Lawson, General Manager				
Address:	P.O. Box 899, 127 Crescent Street, Greenville, CA 95947				
Telephone:	530-284-7224				
Website:	http://www.indianvalleycsd.com/home.htm				
<i>Board of Directors</i>					
Member Name	Position	Began Serving	Term Expires	Manner of Selection	Length of Term
Jane Braxton Little	Director	2004	2015	Elected	4 years
Blake Shelters	Director	2011	2017	Elected	4 years
Mike Yost	Director	2004	2015	Elected	4 years
Brad Smith	Chair	2009	2017	Elected	4 years
Judy Yocum	Director	2009	2017	Elected	4 years
<i>Meetings</i>					
Date/Time:	Second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm				
Location:	IVCSD Office 10 months, Taylorsville 1 month, Crescent Mills 1 month				
Agenda Distribution:	Agendas are posted on the district website, the CSD office, Greenville and Crescent Mills post offices, fire station in Taylorsville, Evergreen grocery store				
Minutes Distribution:	Available on the District’s website, at the CSD office, and in meeting agenda packages				

Constituent outreach efforts, in addition to the legally required agendas and minutes, consist of mailing out the annual water quality report to district residents, inserts in water bills regarding any update of interest to the public, and a district website. The District makes available public documents, meeting information, contact information, and board meeting recordings on its website. The District also operates a Facebook page where additional information is made available.

Complaints are accepted via website, email, phone call, or in person. All complaints are documented in a complaint book covering the type of complaint, the employee assigned to address the complaint, and the resolution. The general manager is responsible for ensuring the complaints are handled to resolution. Occasionally, the Board’s public relation

committee will meet and address complaints or community concerns, particularly when there is a pattern or trend in complaints. In 2011, there were six complaints—the primary complaint was that office hours were not consistent. In 2012, there were nine complaints—one third of which were related to taste and color of water and most other complaints were regarding problems with water meters.

IVCSD demonstrated accountability in its disclosure of information and cooperation with Plumas LAFCo. The District responded to the questionnaires and cooperated with interview and document requests.

Planning and Management Practices

IVCSD employs four full-time and two part-time staff, consisting of full-time office manager, chief water/sewer operator, water treatment and sewer operator, and fire chief positions, a part-time general manager position, and a seasonal general maintenance position. Additionally, the District's fire department relies on 24 volunteers to provide fire services. The fire chief, office manager, and chief water operator report to the general manager, who in turn reports to the Board of Directors at monthly meetings. The water operator and general maintenance staff report to the chief water operator. Ambulance, accounting, bookkeeping, audit, lab water testing, legal counsel and business services are provided by contract service providers.

Employees have not been evaluated regularly. The District plans to initiate annual staff evaluations as it moves forward with making district-wide improvements. Staff work load is documented in time sheets, which are broken down by division and geographic area. Additionally, maintenance logs are maintained at each site.

Service on a district-wide level has not been evaluated, meaning that benchmarking with other similar providers or annual reports have not been completed. IVCSD reported that it intended to begin strategizing for future work needs, such as infrastructure and employment needs. The District is evaluated on a regular basis by various regulating agencies, such as the Regional Water Quality Control Board, the California Department of Public Health, and the Insurance Service Office.

The District has adopted the following mission statement: To provide and manage the necessary services, for our community health, safety, well-being, and prosperity. Other than the mission statement, the District does not presently have any documents where goals are defined and adopted, such as a strategic plan. The District does maintain a complete set of policies, which are currently under review by the Ordinance Committee. Financial management practices include an annually adopted budget and historically sporadic audits. The District has not regularly conducted financial audits; however, it is in the process of rectifying this situation. The most recent audit was completed for FY 07. At present, the audits for FYs 08, 09 and 10, as well as a forensic audit, are in draft form and nearing adoption. Upon adoption of these audits, the District will begin work on the FYs 11, 12 and 13 audits. The District plans to complete the FY 11, 12 and 13 audits in May 2014, and the FY 14 audit will be completed on time. There are no other planning documents of note, such as a capital improvement plan or master plans. Capital improvement needs are planned for on an annual basis in the budget.

IVCSD has had challenges complying with audit requirements in the past. With the new management, the District is working to bring all financial records up-to-date and ensure transparency in expenditures that was previously lacking. Similarly, IVCSD failed to submit the financial report to the State Controller’s Office in FY 10-11 and FY 11-12, which is required to be submitted annually by State law.⁵⁸

Existing Demand and Growth Projections

The lands within the District consist of several land use designations, including single family residential, rural residential, secondary suburban residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural preserve, and resort and recreation. The District’s bounds encompass approximately 18.6 square miles.

Population

As of 2010, the District had a population of approximately 2,479 residents, based on GIS analysis.

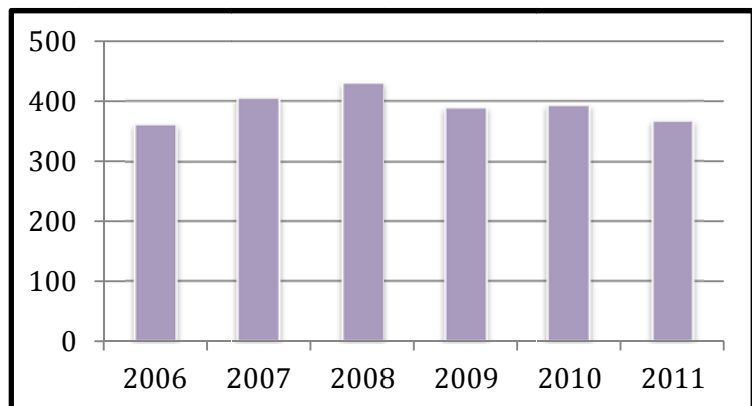
Existing Demand

The District reported that demand for services in recent years had been relatively static. Occupancy in the area has reportedly marginally decreased, and related demand for services has remained relatively unchanged.

While demand associated with population has remained unchanged, such as the number of water or wastewater connections, other factors have had an impact on the amount of water provided and the amount of wastewater treated. For example, the District has made efforts to minimize the amount of unaccounted lost water in the distribution systems, which has reduced the volume that must be taken from the water sources. Similarly, the District has taken steps to reduce infiltration and inflow in the wastewater systems, resulting in a reduction in wastewater treated during wet weather.

Figure 6-4: Indian Valley CSD Calls for Fire Service, 2008-2011

Figure 6-4 shows the number of calls for emergency services in recent years. As can be seen, the number of calls peaked in 2008 and has steadily declined to the present.



The District reported that it experienced peak call volume in the early morning hours (5am). Calls for medical emergencies are consistently high in volume throughout the year, similar to other fire districts in the region.

⁵⁸ Special districts must submit a report to the State Controller of all financial transactions of the district during the preceding fiscal year within 90 days after the close of each fiscal year, in the form required by the State Controller, pursuant to Government Code §53891. If filed in electronic format, the report must be submitted within 110 days after the end of the fiscal year.

Projected Growth and Development

IVCSD does not make any formal population projections, but generally anticipates little change in population growth in the area over the next few years.

There is one planned subdivision in the area. Permits for the Round Valley development have been issued for 29 lots. Building of these lots has not yet begun, as the landowner has entered foreclosure. The District has filed liens on all lots in the proposed development. IVCSD planned to provide services to the new development upon completion.

The addition of the Round Valley connections would maximize the capacity of IVCSD's Greenville wastewater system. Any additional connections (inside the District's bounds in the Greenville area) will reportedly require capacity enhancements to the wastewater system. The water system and water sources reportedly have sufficient capacity to provide services to anticipated demand, as does the fire department.

The State Department of Finance (DOF) projects that the population of Plumas County will grow by four percent in the next 10 years. Thus, the average annual population growth in the County is anticipated to be approximately 0.4 percent. Based on these projections, the District's population would increase from 2,479 in 2010 to approximately 2,578 in 2020. It is anticipated that demand for service within the District will increase minimally based on the DOF population growth projections through 2020.

Growth Strategies

The District is not a land use authority, and does not hold primary responsibility for implementing growth strategies. The land use authority for unincorporated areas is the County.

With respect to fire services, the County enforces the codes that it has enforcement power over, which does not encompass all State fire codes. The County ensures that new construction meets the requirements of the latest adopted edition of the California Building Standards. The County enforces the County codes that have been adopted in lieu of the California Fire Safe regulations. The County does not have authority to enforce PRC 4291, which requires defensible space around structures; however, the County does have some enforcement authority over vegetation removal around buildings that was adopted prior to PRC 4291. In addition, the Board of Supervisors, through the adoption of the General Plan and county codes, regulates development standards to be followed in processing subdivisions, including fire protection.

The proposals for new developments are sent for review to the appropriate fire provider, if a development is within district's boundaries. The County reported that as SOI maps have not been digitized, it has been challenging to ensure that proposals go to the appropriate district if a proposed development was within that district's SOI but outside its boundaries. The County and Plumas LAFCo are working on a process to ensure that all appropriate districts are contacted for review of proposed developments.

The County has several policies in the existing general plan, which impacts the fire providers of new developments.

- 1) Turnouts are now required in every new development.⁵⁹
- 2) The County encourages development to be located adjacent to or within areas where fire services already exist or can be efficiently provided.⁶⁰
- 3) The County requires new developments within areas not currently served by a fire provider to be annexed into an existing fire district or create a funding mechanism, such as a CSD, to cover the costs of fire service provision.⁶¹
- 4) Sustainable timber and biomass production and harvesting as well as intensive forest management practices are encouraged to reduce the danger of catastrophic wildfires.⁶²
- 5) There is a minimum requirement of two roadway access points, which are maintained on a year-round basis by the County or the State.⁶³
- 6) Minimum public and private road standards: roads providing access to two or more lots have to conform to a two-lane standard of no less than 16-foot traveled way.⁶⁴
- 7) Bridges are required to be designed for an 80,000 pound vehicle load.⁶⁵
- 8) All access roads must be marked with an approved sign; and all lots must be identified by an address.⁶⁶
- 9) All developments within boundaries of a structural fire service provider may be required to contribute to the maintenance of the structural service proportionate to the increase in demand for fire service resulting from the development.⁶⁷
- 10) As a condition of development it is required to provide long-term maintenance of private roads to the standards of original improvements, including roadside vegetation management.⁶⁸
- 11) The County encourages biomass thinning programs in high fire risk areas.⁶⁹

The County is in the final stages of updating its general plan. The suggested new policies in the General Plan update that would impact fire service providers, but had not yet been adopted as of the drafting of this report, include:

⁵⁹ Plumas County Code of Ordinances, Title 9 Section 9-4.604 (k).

⁶⁰ Plumas County, *General Plan*, 1984, pp. 28 & 29.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, p. 28.

⁶² *Ibid.*, p. 32.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, p. 16.

⁶⁴ *Ibid.*,

⁶⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶⁶ *Ibid.*

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*

⁶⁸ Plumas County Code of Ordinances, Title 9 Section 9-4.601.

⁶⁹ Plumas County Code of Ordinances, Title 4 Section 4-2.101.

- 12)The County shall review and update its Fire Safe ordinance to attain and maintain defensible space though conditioning of tentative maps and in new development at the final map or building permit stage.
- 13)The County will consult Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps during the review of all projects. The County will work with fire protection agencies to develop community fire plans and require appropriate building setbacks and fuel modification requirements within fire hazard zones.
- 14)In order for the new development to be approved, the County must conclude that adequate emergency water flow, fire access and firefighters and equipment are available.
- 15)New developments have to show that they have adequate access for emergency vehicles to access the site and for private vehicles to evacuate the area.
- 16)New developments within high and very high fire hazard areas are required to designate fuel break zones that comply with fire safe requirements.
- 17)The County will work with Forest Service and fire districts in developing fire prevention programs, identifying opportunities for fuel breaks in zones of high and very high fire hazard and educating public.
- 18)Fire, law enforcement, EMS, resource management, and public health response partners are encouraged to conduct joint training exercises.⁷⁰

The County has not adopted the new standards for development yet. The revised General Plan may be adopted in 2013. County zoning code will then go through a revision process in order for the zoning code to implement the General Plan.

Not all private property in Plumas County is located within a local structural fire protection district. This issue has been well-documented in Board of Supervisor reports and correspondence, newspaper articles, and former Grand Jury reports. Identifying and reducing the number of such parcels has been the task of local fire districts, county staff, the feasibility study group and volunteer groups who collectively have spent countless hours quantifying the problem, educating the public, and encouraging solutions.

Over the past few years, these efforts have been very successful. A summary of the activities and their impacts are listed to help solve this important problem:

- ❖ Updated General Plan Policies: The updated General Plan will require fire protection for any new development, preventing the number of parcels outside a fire district from increasing and encouraging annexations.
- ❖ Building Permit Review: Applications for new construction are reviewed by County staff to determine if the property is outside a district. Permit applicants are provided a resources and a handout on what it means to be outside a district.
- ❖ GIS Website Update: The Planning Department's GIS data on fire district boundaries is now available on the County's website, making it easy for fire districts and the public to determine whether a parcel is within a district.

⁷⁰ Plumas County General Plan, *Draft Goals, Policies and Implementation Measures*, 2010.

- ❖ District Sphere of Influence Updates: The Local Agency Formation Commission continues work on updating fire districts' spheres of influence. These spheres indicate areas of likely district growth and serve as a blue print for possible future district annexations.
- ❖ Fire Protection Communication Plan: Completed in August 2012, the Fire Protection Communication Plan is a comprehensive tool to guide fire districts through the process of educating the public and gaining support for service agreements or annexations.
- ❖ Close-of-Escrow Notification on Fire District Status: As directed at the October 2, 2012 Board of Supervisors meeting, County staff is investigating options for escrow notification of property buyers regarding fire district status.
- ❖ Firewise and Fire Safe Communities Development: The Plumas County Fire Prevention Specialist continues working throughout the County to encourage firewise and fire safe activities to reduce the risk and consequences from wildfire.

With regard to governance structure options, the District has considered consolidation with Crescent Mills FPD in some form; however, no serious steps towards reorganization have been taken to date. IVCS D's Fire Department has indicated interest in operating independently of the CSD, whether it is as a newly formed fire protection district or if the current territory served were annexed into Crescent Mills FPD. IVCS D's Board plans to consider these options, as well as the option of continuing to provide fire services under the umbrella of the CSD. Should the CSD choose to continue to provide fire services, it is recommended that the District come to LAFCo to differentiate between the fire and water and wastewater service areas, which would ensure ease of annexation of additional territory for the purpose of fire service provision and promote the goal of a valley-wide fire provider.

Additionally, another governance option is some form of reorganization of park services with Indian Valley Recreation and Park District, given that the two agencies provide a similar category of park and recreation services within bounds that overlap one another. IVCS D has also recently sent a letter of support to the County for a countywide lighting district, which would result in the divesting of lighting services by the District.

Financing

The District reported that its existing financing levels were adequate to deliver services if used appropriately. However, the District faces a particular challenge serving an area with a high rate of low-income households, where property tax income has declined and bills are sometimes unpaid. Additionally, the District's population has been aging, as families with children have migrated out of the community.

The District is looking for potential additional funding sources, such as State grants for disadvantaged communities, asking for donations, or selling surface water. Simultaneously, the District has worked to reduce costs by using a hydroelectric generator (currently in the testing phase) to reduce electricity costs.

There are concerns of fraud and embezzlement on the part of former management. Consequently, the District is in the process of conducting a forensic audit for the time

period in question (FYs 07-12). Financial records from FY 08 to FY 12 are lacking, and the District is piecing together this information as it goes through the audit process. Starting in FY 13, when the District hired new management, district financial records became more transparent. As the District has not yet completed an audit for FY 12 (the time period covered for all other districts reviewed in this document) and clear unaudited records are not available for that fiscal year, all information reported here is based on unaudited actuals as reported by IVCSO for FY 13.

The District relies on property tax revenue and donations to finance the fire, park and recreation, and lighting services. Water and wastewater utilities are financed through rates collected for the respective utility. Each utility is tracked through a separate enterprise fund by system (i.e., Greenville, Taylorsville).

In FY 13, total revenues were \$833,621, of which 26 percent was property tax income, and the other 74 percent came from charges for water and wastewater services.

The District last updated water and wastewater rates in 2013. Effective rates for water consist of a flat monthly rate dependent upon meter size (i.e., \$32.09 per 5/8 inch meter) and usage rates of \$2.47 per 100 cubic feet of water. Additionally, water users pay a fee of \$3.00 per month, which goes toward the Plumas County loan and a fee of \$2.44, which is allocated to the USDA loan reserve. Sewer system users pay a flat rate of \$18 per month for each living unit on the property.

Additionally, the District has reportedly adopted a fee schedule for a fire service cost recovery program. The District has adopted charges for services provided to motor vehicle accidents to which it responds outside of its bounds; however, there are no records of the District billing for services and collecting the revenue. Rates are hourly for equipment and personnel as follows:

Each truck: \$85/hr
Chief : \$30/hr
Officers: \$25/hr
EMT: \$22/hr
Firefighter: \$21/hr
Base Operator: \$18/hr

In FY 13, expenses totaled \$731,939. Primary expenses included payroll (37 percent), professional services (15 percent), utilities (10 percent), and permits and inspections (eight percent).

The District does not have a formal capital improvement plan. Capital projects are planned for on an annual basis. The District uses a combination of debt financing and cash to cover capital expenses. As of the end of FY 13, the District had \$2.9 million in long term debt, of which \$2.2 million is attributable to purchase of and improvements to the Greenville water system. The remaining debt consists of \$261,992 attributable to expansion of the Greenville sewer system, \$169,757 for improvements to the Crescent Mills water system, \$132,204 for a fire rescue vehicle, and \$130,000 on a Rural Community

Assistance Corporation bridge loan. Annual payments on these loans total approximately \$192,000.

The District does not have any formal policies regarding reserves. IVCSO is required to maintain a reserve as part of its USDA loan in the amount of one year of payments for each loan, which totals \$157,088. IVCSO is not presently meeting this requirement, as the District's fund balance at the end of FY 13 was minimal.

IVCSO participates in several joint powers authorities to jointly finance or manage services or property. The District is a member to an agreement with Indian Valley Recreation and Park District regarding Triangle Park. IVCSO agreed to accept ownership of the newly constructed park and provide necessary watering for landscaping. IVRPD agreed to administer grant funds it had received for the construction of the park and to be responsible for any necessary maintenance or repairs at the park. Also, the District provides contract general manager services to the Indian Valley Ambulance Service Association through a joint powers agreement.

FIRE AND EMS SERVICES

Service Overview

IVCSD provides structural and wildland fire protection, emergency medical (consisting of basic life support), hazardous material first response, and rescue services to the residents of Indian Valley.

Collaboration

IVCSD has an automatic aid agreement with Crescent Mills FPD for the entirety of the territory within Crescent Mills FPD with the exception of Indian Falls. The District has mutual aid agreements with all fire providers in Plumas County, including Cal EMA, USFS and CAL FIRE. The District is a member of the Plumas County Fire Chiefs' Association.

Dispatch and Communications

The County Sheriff is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP); consequently, most land line emergency calls (9-1-1 calls) are directed to the Sheriff. Most cell phone emergency calls (9-1-1 calls) are answered by the Sheriff's Office; however, some are answered by CHP and redirected to the Sheriff. The Sheriff provides dispatching for most fire providers in the County except for the ones in the northern part of the County, which are served by the Susanville Interagency Fire Center. The Forest Service has its own dispatch. The sheriff dispatch center has a first responder map, which it uses to identify what provider to dispatch to an incident. All territory within the County has a determined first responder; although, many areas lie outside the LAFCO-approved boundary of the districts and lack an officially designated fire provider.

IVCSD reported that it was satisfied with the level of dispatch service provided by the Sheriff's Office. The District did not identify any aspects of the service there were in need of improvement.

Staffing

IVCSD Fire Department has 24 sworn personnel, which consists entirely of volunteer officers and firefighters overseen by a paid chief. The full-time chief is the only paid sworn staff with a monthly salary of \$2,400; all other firefighters are not compensated. The median age of the firefighters is 54.6, with a range from 25 to 83.

The District reported that staffing levels have remained relatively unchanged in recent years. At present, IVCSD's roster is full; consequently, the District is not actively conducting any recruitment activities.

Currently, there are three certifications in the California firefighter series; Volunteer Firefighter, Firefighter I, and Firefighter II. While the Volunteer Firefighter focuses on skills and tasks necessary to assure safety on the fire ground, Firefighter I & II prepares the firefighter to perform essential and advanced fire ground tasks, as well as allowing entry into all tracks of the certification system. According to the California State Fire Marshal, all paid, volunteer and call firefighters must acquire Firefighter I certification; however, there is no time limit as to how long they may work before attaining certification. Firefighter I certification requires completion of the 259-hour Firefighter I course, which includes

training on various fire ground tasks, rescue operations, fire prevention and investigation techniques, and inspection and maintenance of equipment. In addition to this course, Firefighter I certification also requires that the applicant have a minimum of six months of volunteer or call experience in a California fire department as a firefighter performing suppression duties.⁷¹ IVCS D has 16 Volunteer Firefighter, no Firefighter 1, four First Responder EMT, four EMT 1, and two Paramedic certified personnel.

The District offers at least 12 hours of training for sworn personnel each month, of which volunteers are required to attend at least eight hours. The District reported that one of the primary challenges to training is the limited availability of volunteers.

Facilities and Capacity

IVCS D owns and operates four fire stations located throughout Indian Valley, all of which are unstaffed.

The Greenville Fire Station was previously owned by the Greenville Fire Protection District, prior to the reorganization of the districts in the area; based on information provided by the County Assessor's Office, the station appears to continue to be owned by Greenville FPD, although the agency technically no longer exists. It is recommended that IVCS D ensure that the property is in the name of the proper owner. The station is located at 121 Ann Street in Greenville. The station was built in 1932 and is considered to be in fair condition by the District, due to its age and size constraints. The station houses two pumpers, one rescue vehicle, and one water tender.

The Taylorsville Station, the North Arm Station, and the Genesee Station were previously owned by the Taylorsville Fire Protection District prior to reorganization; similar to the Greenville Station, records on ownership of these stations continue to show the former fire protection district as the owner although the agency no longer exists. The Taylorsville Station was built in 1952 and is reportedly in good condition. Similar to the Greenville Station, the Taylorsville Station houses two pumpers, one rescue vehicle, and one water tender. The North Arm Station was built in 1995 and is reportedly in good condition. The North Arm Station houses two pumpers. The Genesee Fire Station was built in 1998, and is also considered to be in good condition. The Genesee Station does not house any vehicles.

With regard to water storage that can be used for fire protection purposes, the District maintains one million gallons in storage tanks located at the two water systems (Greenville and Crescent Mills). The District also has two water tenders with a combined storage capacity of 7,700 gallons.

It appears that the District has sufficient capacity to provide adequate services within its boundary area. Facilities and equipment appear to be sufficient. Volunteer time constraints are a concern should demand increase in the future.

⁷¹ State Fire Marshal, Course Information and Required Materials, 2007, p. 44

Infrastructure Needs

The District reported that the Greenville Fire Station is outdated and overcrowded. As the main district station, the District reported it would like to have room for two more vehicles, plus equipment. At present, the District does not have plans for improvements or expansion to the station, given financing constraints.

Although the vehicles are somewhat older, they are reportedly in good working condition, and no replacements are necessary at this time.

Challenges

Areas that are considered the most difficult to serve within IVCSO are Genesee and Antelope Lake, due to the distance from the center of the District. The primary challenges to service identified by the District include limited funding and unreliable volunteer availability. Given the nature of operating an entirely volunteer fire department, availability of personnel is dependent on daily job and personal schedules of the individual firefighters. This constraint can limit the number hours volunteers are able to conduct training and the times that the firefighter can respond to calls for service.

Service Adequacy

While there are several benchmarks that may define the level of fire service provided by an agency, indicators of service adequacy discussed here include ISO ratings, response times, and level of staffing and station resources for the service area.

Fire services in the communities are classified by the Insurance Service Office (ISO), an advisory organization. This classification indicates the general adequacy of coverage, with classes ranking from 1 to 10. Communities with the best fire department facilities, systems for water distribution, fire alarms and communications, and equipment and personnel receive a rating of 1. IVCSO has an ISO rating of four in urban areas and 8 in rural areas. These results are based on an evaluation in 2005.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has issued a performance standard for volunteer and combination fire departments (NFPA 1720). This standard, among other guidelines, identifies target response time performance for structure fires. The response time is measured from the completion of the dispatch notification to the arrival time of the first-responder at the scene. Though not a legal mandate, NFPA 1720 does provide a useful benchmark against which to measure fire department performance. NFPA 1720 recommends that the response times for structure fire be nine minutes in urban demand zones at least 90 percent of the time, 10 minutes in suburban zones at least 80 percent of the time and 14 minutes in rural zones at least 80 percent of the time. Response times in remote zones are directly dependent on travel distances.⁷² IVCSO falls under the definition of rural and remote demand zones.

⁷² Urban demand zone has population density of more than 1,000 people per square mile; suburban zone—between 500 and 1,000 people per square mile, rural zone—less than 500 people per square mile, and remote zone is identified by eight or more miles of travel distance to an incident.

Emergency medical response time standards vary by level of urbanization of an area: the more urban an area, the faster a response has to be. The California EMS Agency established the following response time guidelines: five minutes in urban areas, 15 minutes in suburban or rural areas, and as quickly as possible in wildland areas. The District's response zones include rural and wilderness classifications. The District tracks its response times for each incident. Based on a sample of response times provided by IVCSO for September 2013 its median response time is five minutes, and 11.6 minutes 90 percent of the time. Median and 90th percentile response times include incidents that occurred outside of the District's boundaries, but within its service area.

The service area size⁷³ for each fire station varies between fire districts. The median fire station in Plumas County serves approximately eight square miles. A station in La Porte FPD services the most expansive area of 151 square miles. Densely populated areas tend to have smaller service areas. For example, the average service area for Quincy FPD's fire station is six square miles. By comparison, each fire station in IVCSO serves approximately 8.7 square miles.

The number of firefighters serving within a particular jurisdiction is another indicator of level of service; however, it is approximate. The providers' call firefighters may have differing availability and reliability. A district with more firefighters could have fewer resources if scheduling availability is restricted. Staffing levels in Plumas County vary from nine call firefighters per 1,000 residents in Quincy FPD service area to 231 in La Porte FPD. By comparison, IVCSO has approximately 10 firefighters per 1,000 residents.

⁷³ Service area refers to the area that the agency will respond to, based on a first responder map used by the Sherriff's office.

Figure 6-5: Indian Valley CSD Fire Service Profile

Fire Service					
Facilities					
Fire station	Location	Condition	Staff per Shift	Vehicles	
Greenville Fire Station	121 Ann St. Greenville, CA	Fair	Unstaffed	2 pumpers, 1 rescue vehicle, 1 water tender	
Taylorville Fire Station	4290 Nelson St. Taylorville, CA	Good	Unstaffed	2 pumpers, 1 rescue vehicle, 1 water tender	
North Arm Fire Station	6433 North Arm Rd. Taylorville, CA	Good	Unstaffed	2 pumpers	
Genesee Fire Station	5497 Fir Fork Rd. Taylorville, CA	Good	Unstaffed	None	
Facility Sharing					
Current Practices: IVCSO does not currently share fire service facilities with other agencies or organizations.					
Future opportunities: IVCSO did not identify any future facility sharing opportunities.					
Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies					
The Greenville Fire Station is outdated and lacks necessary space for vehicles and equipment. As the primary district station, it should have room for two more vehicles and equipment. There are presently no plans for expansion or new facilities given financing constraints.					
District Resource Statistics		Service Configuration		Service Demand	
Staffing Base Year	2013	Configuration Base Year	2013	Statistical Base Year	2011
Fire Stations in District	4	Fire Suppression	Direct	Total Service Calls	367
Stations Serving District	4	EMS	Direct	% EMS	64%
Sq. Miles Served per Station ¹	8.7	Ambulance Transport	South Lassen EMS	% Fire/Hazardous M	14%
Total Staff ²	24	Hazardous Materials	Direct	% False	Unknown
Total Volunteer Firefighters	23	Air Rescue/Ambulance Helicopter	CHP	% Misc. emergency	4%
Total Call Firefighters	1	Fire Suppression Helicopter	USFS	% Non-emergency	17%
Total Sworn Staff per Station ³	6	Public Safety Answering Point	Sheriff	% Mutual Aid Calls	NP
Total Sworn Staff per 1,000	9.7	Fire/EMS Dispatch	Sheriff	Calls per 1,000 people	148
Service Adequacy			Service Challenges		
Response Time Base Year	2013	Areas that are considered the most difficult to serve are Genesee and Antelope Lake due to distance from the center of the District. Service challenges include limited funding and volunteer availability.			
Median Response Time (min)	5	Training			
90th Percentile Response Time (min)	11.6	The District offers 12 hours minimum of volunteer firefighter training per month.			
ISO Rating	4/8				
Mutual & Automatic Aid Agreements					
IVCSO has an automatic aid agreement with Crescent Mills FPD for the entirety of the territory within Crescent Mills FPD with the exception of Indian Falls. IVCSO also maintains mutual aid agreements with all other fire service providers in Plumas County.					
Notes:					
1) Primary service area (square miles) per station.					
2) Total staff includes sworn and non-sworn personnel.					
3) Based on ratio of sworn full-time and call staff to the number of stations. Actual staffing levels of each station vary.					

WATER SERVICES

Service Overview

IVCSD supplies potable water to the communities of Greenville and Crescent Mills. All other areas (i.e., Taylorsville) within the District's bounds rely on private well systems. The District serves a total of 664 water connections—582 connections in the Greenville system and 82 connections in the Crescent Mills system. All connections in both systems are metered, and monthly billings are made according to water usage.

IVCSD does not collaborate with other agencies on the provision of water services.

Staffing

IVCSD maintains one chief operator/general manager, and one operator/maintenance employee who are responsible for all aspects related to the operation, maintenance and repair of both the water and sewer systems, along with any equipment maintenance and repair. Personnel are also charged with some capital improvement projects.

The chief operator maintains a certification level of T2 for treatment systems and D2 for distribution systems, which meets the system requirements for treatment and exceeds system requirements for distribution.

Facilities and Capacity

The water system for the town of Greenville is made up of groundwater from two wells, a water treatment plant with a 720,000-gallon storage tank, a 92,000-gallon tank, and 26 miles of pipes. Groundwater from two wells is the primary water source for the Greenville system. Wells 1 and 2 were drilled in 2009 and 2011. The two wells are able to pump up to 270 gallons per minute (gpm) combined of water from the Indian Valley groundwater basin. The District presently pumps approximately 240 gpm on average. Based on a recent groundwater report from a firm hired by IVCSD, the groundwater basin appears to have a sustainable yield of 260 gpm. The water is generally of good quality; however, in 2007, Radium 228 was found in excess of recommended health limits. Since then, Radium 228 has returned to acceptable levels.

The Greenville treatment plant was built in 2009 and is considered by the District to be in excellent condition. The plant can provide membrane treatment to up to one million gallons per day (mgd) of water. On average, the District treats 0.29 mgd, which constitutes 29 percent of the treatment plant's capacity. During peak demand periods the District treats 0.44 mgd or 44 percent of the plant's capacity.

The Greenville distribution system consists of a combination of steel boiler tube pipe dating from the 1930s (10 percent), asbestos cement (10 percent), PVC (40 percent), high density polyethylene (10 percent), and C900 (30 percent). The system is entirely gravity fed. The mains are generally in poor condition as indicated by the high rate of unaccounted for loss in the system. Approximately 50 percent of treated water was lost from the Greenville system and was not sold to customers in 2012. This loss is attributed primarily to breaks and leaks—the steel portions are most prone to these leaks. The loss has been reduced somewhat over the last seven years. In 2005, the system lost approximately 68

percent of treated water. A portion of the loss can be attributed to a replacement project in which new C900 lines were installed, but the old steel lines were not shut down upon completion of the project. These lines have been identified and turned off. Additionally, the District is working to replace deficient sections, as opposed to just making repairs. Most recently, the District completed replacement of 1,200 feet of main and 12 service connections.

Residents of Crescent Mills are served by a separate system, which is comprised of groundwater from a spring, a treatment plant, and a 231,000-gallon storage tank, as well as three miles of distribution mains. The Crescent Mills system also has one well, which is used for back up purposes. The District has rights to 47 percent of the flow from Russell Springs, which flows out of Old Green Mountain Mine Tunnel #6. Total flow from the spring averages 0.3 cubic feet per second (cfs), 47 percent of which is 0.13 cfs or 83,870 gpd. The spring water is generally of good quality; however, in 2008, arsenic in excess of the legal limit was found in the Crescent Mills water. Since then, arsenic levels have returned to acceptable levels. Additionally, the water source has three main contaminants of interest that are naturally occurring—iron, manganese, and turbidity. A majority of the turbidity is believed to be related to the iron concentration. The treatment plant provides a treatment process for both iron and manganese; however, the concentration of manganese in the treated water can occasionally exceed the maximum contaminant limit.

It is unknown when the treatment plant was constructed in Crescent Mills; however, the plant is reportedly in good condition. The plant can provide greensand filter treatment to up to 100,000 gpd of water. On average in 2012, the District treated 28,650 gpd at this plant, which constituted 29 percent of the treatment plant's capacity. During peak demand periods the District treated 58,400 gpd or 58 percent of the plant's capacity.

The Crescent Mills distribution system consists of 75 percent C900, 20 percent PVC, and five percent steel. The system is entirely gravity fed. The mains are generally in good condition. While the Crescent Mills system previously experienced high water losses similar to that of the Greenville system, improvements to the system have resulted in significant improvements to accountability. In 2005, the system experienced a loss of 76 percent of all treated water. In 2012, the total loss of water was reduced to 43 percent. Most recently, in 2013, the District is experiencing losses of only about four percent.

In addition to the water sources already discussed, IVCS D maintains two additional wells—one at Clay park that is used for irrigation and the public pool, and one inactive well at Greenville Community Park. IVCS D also reportedly maintains pre-1914 rights to surface water from North Creek (2cfs), Round Valley Reservoir (Lake Bidwell), and Buckeye Springs.

Infrastructure Needs

The Greenville distribution system suffers from a particularly high rate of unaccounted for loss of 50 percent. This means that somewhere between the treatment plant and the connections, almost half of the treated water is lost through breaks and leaks. This is a particularly high rate of loss that the District is working to address. The District has plans to replace all steel mains; however, there are financial constraints, which limit funding for

any significant capital improvements. The District's current priority is to build reserves; once financially viable, the District plans to complete the replacement projects.

In the long term, the District would like to address some undersized mains and areas that are distant from hydrants in the Greenville system.

Challenges

The District reported that the primary challenge to providing adequate services is limited funding. Until recently, water charges had not been increased since 2006, and the District was marginally able to cover all operating expenses, with little left over for necessary capital improvements. In 2013, the District updated rates to ensure revenues will adequately cover operational, capital, and reserve needs.

Service Adequacy

This section reviews indicators of service adequacy, including the California Department of Public Health system evaluation, drinking water quality, and distribution system integrity.

The DPH is responsible for the enforcement of the federal and California Safe Drinking Water Acts and the operational permitting and regulatory oversight of public water systems. Domestic water providers of at least 200 connections are subject to inspections by DPH. The Greenville system exceeds 200 connections and is therefore subject to DPH inspections. The most recent inspection occurred in September 2013; however, the report had not been finalized as of the drafting of this report. Prior to that, the most recent inspection occurred in 2008; consequently, that review is too dated to be informative for the purpose of this review.

The County Environmental Health Agency is responsible for the enforcement of the federal and California Safe Drinking Water Acts, and the operational permitting and regulatory oversight of public water systems of 199 connections or less. These systems are subject to inspections by the County Environmental Health Agency. IVCS's Crescent Mills system is subject to inspections by the County. The most recent inspection occurred in January 2012. The report states "overall the system appears well managed," and also notes that "the water system continues to accomplish improvements as time and resources allow." The inspection identified a need for a written treatment plant operations plan, line disinfection program, valve maintenance program, and line flushing program. The report also offered praise for the water accountability program that the District had instituted.

Drinking water quality is determined by a combination of historical violations reported by the EPA since 2000 and the percent of time that the District was in compliance with Primary Drinking Water Regulations in 2011. Since 2003, the District has had four health violations, all of which were related to treatment technique, and four monitoring violations. All violations were regarding the Greenville system. This equates to approximately 6.25 violations per 1,000 connections served. In 2012, the District was within legal limits for all contaminants in the Greenville system 100 percent of the time, while the level of manganese exceeded maximum contaminant limits on two occasions in the Crescent Mills system.

Indicators of distribution system integrity are the number of breaks and leaks in 2011 and the rate of unaccounted for distribution loss. IVCS D reported approximately 66 breaks and leaks per 100 miles of pipe lines in 2012 in the Crescent Mills system and approximately 211 breaks and leaks per 100 miles of pipe lines in the Greenville system. The District estimated that approximately 50 percent of water is lost between the water source and the connections served in the Greenville system. In 2012, the Crescent Mills system was only slightly better with approximately 40 percent of water lost; however, it appears that losses have declined to about four percent in 2013.

WASTEWATER SERVICES

Service Overview

IVCSD provides wastewater collection and treatment at its facilities in Taylorsville and Greenville. The two systems are subject to two separate permits issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).⁷⁴ The permit for the Taylorsville system became effective in 1995 and expired in 2005. The Greenville permit became effective in 1999 and is set to expire in 2015.

Maintenance services include regular repairs, as well as inspections of the system through CCTV and smoke testing to look for breaks or leaks. The District has in the past targeted certain areas of concern for smoke inspections. The District is planning to start a regular CCTV inspection of portions of the systems each year, with the goal of inspecting both systems in their entirety.

The Taylorsville system serves 91 users. The Greenville system is made up of 351 connections. In total, the District serves 430 residential connections and 12 commercial connections. Over the last 10 years, wastewater flow has remained relatively static in both systems.

Within the District's boundaries, IVCSD estimates that there are approximately 15 parcels that are unserved as they rely on private septic systems.

IVCSD does not collaborate with other agencies on the provision of wastewater services.

Staffing

IVCSD maintains one chief operator/general manager, and one operator/maintenance employee who are responsible for all aspects related to the operation, maintenance and repair of both the water and sewer systems, along with any equipment maintenance and repair. Personnel are also charged with some capital improvement projects.

The chief operator maintains a certification level of Wastewater Operator Grade 1, which meets the requirements of the system.

Facilities and Capacity

The Taylorsville system consists of five miles of collection mains and one lift station with two pumps. Effluent is collected into a community leachfield system. The system was constructed in the mid-1980s. Effluent is discharged into an 81,000-gallon septic tank prior to disposal to seven acres of leachfields. The collection system is comprised of 100 percent PVC pipes. The design flow capacity of the system is 40,000 gallons per day (gpd). The District treats on average 11,500 gpd in the Taylorsville system, which is 29 percent of the system's design flow.

The Greenville system is made up of 11 miles of collection mains, five pump stations, 170 manholes, and 29 acres of lagoons. The Greenville system was initially built in 1959. A

⁷⁴ RWQCB Waste Discharge Requirements 99-046 (Greenville) and 95-162 (Taylorsville).

majority of the collection system is made of vitreous clay pipe, which is in need of replacement. The design flow of the system is 0.4 million gallons per day (mgd). The District treats on average 0.13 mgd in the Greenville system, which is 32 percent of the system's design flow.

Infrastructure Needs

The Greenville collection system is aged and in need of replacement. The mains suffer from infiltration and inflow (I/I) during wet periods. It is recommended that the District develop a regular replacement schedule to ensure that all deficient segments are replaced and the current I/I issue mitigated.

While not apparent on average days of demand, the flows during wet weather have exceeded the design capacity of the Greenville treatment plant. The Greenville system is in need of an engineer's report to determine the extent of any remaining capacity, identify necessary improvements to maximize available capacity in the system, and minimize I/I, prior to the addition of any new connections. The District has made great efforts at reducing the I/I problem by smoke testing to identify infiltration points and making appropriate repairs. In 2011, during a peak wet weather event, the plant experienced flows of 26 mg, which is 20,000 percent more flow than on an average day. During that particular event, the pond overflowed into Wolfe Creek. Subsequent to this overflow, the District conducted smoke testing and identified 138 infiltration points in the system and made repairs. Following these repairs, during a 2012 rain event of similar proportion to the 2011 event, the plant had flows of six mg, which is significantly reduced from the prior year, but still in excess of the capacity of the plant.

The District does not have plans to make replacements to the system in the near future, but instead plans to inspect the entire system with CCTV and continue to make targeted repairs.

While not strictly an infrastructure deficiency, it is recommended that the District develop a more detailed and effective Sewer System Management Plan to address deficiencies in the systems.

Challenges

The District reported that the primary challenge to providing adequate services is restricted funding. Until recently, wastewater charges had not been increased since 2006. At the previous rate structure, the District was marginally able to cover all operating expenses, with little left over for necessary capital improvements. In 2013, the District reviewed rates and made appropriate changes to ensure satisfactory funding.

Service Adequacy

This section reviews indicators of service adequacy, including regulatory compliance, treatment effectiveness, sewer overflows and collection system integrity.

IVCSD had two violations between the period from January 1, 2010 to October 15, 2013. Both violations were for unauthorized discharges of untreated effluent into Wolf Creek—

one on August 30th 2010 and one on April 12th 2011. Both discharges resulted in notice of violations from the RWQCB, but no formal enforcement action was taken.

Wastewater treatment providers are required to comply with effluent quality standards under the waste discharge requirements determined by RWQCB. The District reported that in 2012, it was never out of compliance with effluent quality requirements.

Wastewater agencies are required to report sewer system overflows (SSOs) to SWRCB. Overflows reflect the capacity and condition of collection system piping and the effectiveness of routine maintenance. The sewer overflow rate is calculated as the number of overflows per 100 miles of collection piping. IVCSO reported two overflows in its Taylorsville system during the period from 2010 to 2012, and consequently, the overflow rate is 40. In the Greenville system, IVCSO also reported two overflows during the same period, so the overflow rate is 18.

There are several measures of integrity of the wastewater collection system, including peaking factors, efforts to address infiltration and inflow (I/I), and inspection practices. Wastewater flow includes not only discharges from residences, businesses, institutions, and industrial establishments, but also infiltration and inflow. Infiltration refers to groundwater that seeps into sewer pipes through cracks, pipe joints and other system leaks. Inflow refers to rainwater that enters the sewer system from sources such as yard and patio drains, roof gutter downspouts, uncapped cleanouts, pond or pool overflow drains, footing drains, cross-connections with storm drains, and even holes in manhole covers.⁷⁵ Infiltration and inflow tend to affect older sewer systems to a greater degree. Infiltration and inflow rates are highest during or right after heavy rain. They are the primary factors driving peak flows through the wastewater system and a major consideration in capacity planning and costs. The peaking factor is the ratio of peak day wet weather flows to average dry weather flows. The District reported that the peak day flows in 2013 in the Greenville and Taylorsville systems were 1.1 mgd and 18,000 gpd, respectively. While the average dry weather flows of these systems in 2013 were 67,000 gpd in the Greenville system and 11,500 gpd in the Taylorsville system. Therefore the Greenville system has a peaking factor of 16, while the Taylorsville system has a peaking factor of 1.6. The Greenville peaking factor is indicative of the extremely high I/I discussed earlier. The Taylorsville peaking factor indicates minimal I/I in the relatively new system.

⁷⁵ A sewer cleanout is a pipe rising from the underground sewer line to the ground surface with a removable cap; it is used to access the sewer line to clear blockages.

PARK AND RECREATION SERVICES

Service Overview

IVCSD offers park and recreation services in the form of ownership and maintenance of three parks and ownership of a community pool, all of which are made available to residents and non-residents alike. The District does not offer or plan recreation programs at these facilities through district staff, but leases the pool to Indian Valley Recreation and Park District (IVRPD) for operation and recreational activities during the summer and maintains a memorandum of understanding with the local Little League for use of the baseball fields.

The District previously managed a campground, which it leased from the U.S. Forest Service. The lease expired in 2012 and was not renewed.

As previously mentioned in the Financing section, the District owns Triangle Park through a joint powers agreement with Indian Valley Recreation and Park District (IVRPD). Operations and maintenance of the park are conducted in coordination with IVRPD.

There appears to be some overlap in the type of services offered with IVRPD, as both agencies provide services within the same general park and recreation category. However, IVCSD's services largely focus on making park facilities available for public use, while IVRPD operates a recreation center and the pool, which offer more recreational activities. There may be potential for further collaborative efforts between the two districts, or perhaps some form of functional consolidation or reorganization to eliminate this duplication of efforts by the two agencies.

Staffing

During six months of the year when the parks are open to the public, district staff dedicate approximately 20 hours a week to park maintenance on average. In addition to regular maintenance activities, the District also conducts necessary special maintenance and improvement projects, which require supplementary staff time. During the period when the parks are open, IVCSD hires a seasonal part-time employee to conduct regular maintenance activities. The general manager and operator are also available when required.

Facilities and Capacity

IVCSD owns three parks (two in Greenville and one in Taylorsville) and a pool. The Greenville Community Park (7.5 acres) and Chuck Clay Park (0.3 acres) are considered to be in good condition. The Triangle Park (0.02 acres) is reportedly in excellent condition. The Indian Valley Community Pool is operated by IVRPD and is considered to be generally in good condition by IVCSD.

Infrastructure Needs

No significant needs at the parks were identified. The District does not presently have plans for significant park facility improvements or new facilities.

While the pool is considered to be in good condition, the District has plans for certain maintenance activities, due to root intrusion in the cement surrounding the pool. The District recently replaced the cement around the pool, and plans to remove the encroaching cedar tree to prevent further damage. The fencing surrounding the pool also needs to be relocated/expanded.

IVCSD is reportedly working with the County and IVRPD to ensure that an adequate level of park facilities is made available in the area. The District has not yet adopted a goal or standard for the number of acres of parkland it would ideally like to make available.

Challenges

IVCSD did not report any particular challenges with regard to park and recreation services; however, similar to other districts that rely on property tax revenue to provide services, the District reported that financing constraints were the primary hurdle to providing an adequate level of services.

Service Adequacy

Based on the information regarding facilities offered, financing adequacy, and acres of park facilities offered, IVCSD's level of park and recreation services appears to be moderately adequate.

IVCSD offers a limited range of recreational facilities. It is recommended that the District evaluate resident needs with regard to developed recreational facilities to determine if there are any needs that are not being met at the existing facilities.

While the District faces financing constraints, it is one of the few park and recreation providers in the County that receives regular revenues in the form of property taxes.

The national park acreage standard per the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) is four acres per 1,000 residents. NRPA is currently leading a charge to move towards a goal of five acres per 1,000 residents. At present, IVCSD makes available almost six acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, which exceeds the NRPA standard.

LIGHTING SERVICES

Service Overview

IVCSD is responsible for providing street lighting for both Greenville and Taylorsville. Responsibilities include paying the utility bill for electricity and forwarding any complaints to the utility company (PG&E) for repair. The District is not responsible for maintaining street lights.

Staffing

The District does not maintain any staff dedicated to these services. The office manager pays the regular utility bill.

Facilities and Capacity

The District estimated that there are approximately 20 street lights within its bounds for which it is responsible.

Infrastructure Needs

All of the lights are operable. No infrastructure needs were identified.

The California Department of Transportation is in the process of planning a streetscaping project along SR 89. There is discussion to install energy efficient lighting in conjunction with these improvements. An independent Streetscaping Committee is responsible for choosing lighting for the project.

Challenges

The District reported that there were no particular challenges to providing street lighting services, other than the cost, which is not reimbursed.

Service Adequacy

There are no industry standards with regard to street lighting services, such as response times to a service request. Additionally, the District is not responsible for maintenance of the lights, making it difficult to determine service adequacy.

INDIAN VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT DETERMINATIONS

Growth and Population Projections

- ❖ Indian Valley Community Services District (IVCSD) had an estimated population of 2,479 in 2010.
- ❖ There has been no population growth within the District's bounds over the last five years. This trend is anticipated to continue over the next few years. The District anticipates little or no change in service demand in the near future.

The Location and Characteristics of Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Agency's SOI

- ❖ The population threshold by which Plumas LAFCo will define a community is yet to be determined. Specific disadvantaged unincorporated communities and characteristics of the communities will be identified when appropriate as other areas are to be annexed to the District.

Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs and Deficiencies

- ❖ The Greenville wastewater system is nearing capacity. The system is in need of an engineer's report to determine the extent of any remaining capacity, identify necessary improvements to maximize available capacity in the system, and minimize infiltration and inflow, prior to the addition of any new connections.
- ❖ At present, the District only makes use of approximately 29 percent of the Taylorsville wastewater system's capacity. The system is relatively new and in good condition with no identified infrastructure needs.
- ❖ Both water systems and water sources appear to have sufficient capacity to provide services to anticipated demand. However, the Greenville water system continues to need substantial improvements to reduce significant unaccounted for water loss.
- ❖ With regard to fire services, it appears that the District has sufficient capacity to provide adequate services within its boundary area. Facilities and equipment appear to be sufficient; although, the Greenville Fire Station is outdated and overcrowded and in need of expansion to hold two additional vehicles. Volunteer time constraints are a concern should demand increase in the future.
- ❖ IVCSD is reportedly working with the County and IVRPD to ensure that an adequate level of park facilities is made available in the area. The District has not yet adopted a goal or standard for the number of acres of parkland it would ideally like to make available. At present, IVCSD makes available almost six acres of parkland per 1,000 residents, which exceeds the National Recreation and Park Association standard.

Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

- ❖ The District reported that its existing financing levels were adequate to deliver services if used appropriately.
- ❖ There are concerns of fraud and embezzlement on the part of former management. Consequently, the District is in the process of conducting a forensic audit for the time period in question. Financial records from FY 08 to FY 12 are lacking, and the District is piecing together this information as it goes through the audit process.
- ❖ IVCSO is required to maintain a reserve as part of its USDA loan in the amount of one year of payments for each loan. IVCSO is not presently meeting this requirement, as the District's fund balance at the end of FY 13 was minimal.
- ❖ As of the end of FY 13, the District had \$2.9 million in long term debt. Annual payments on these loans total approximately \$192,000 or 23 percent of the District's total revenue in that year.

Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

- ❖ The District practices facility sharing with the Indian Valley Recreation and Park District (IVRPD). IVCSO owns the community pool and IVRPD operates the pool. These districts also have a joint powers agreement whereby IVCSO owns Triangle Park, and IVRPD funded the construction of the park.
- ❖ The District does not practice facility sharing at its fire, water and wastewater facilities.
- ❖ No additional opportunities for facility sharing were identified.

Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

- ❖ IVCSO demonstrated accountability in its disclosure of information and cooperation with Plumas LAFCO. The District responded to the questionnaires and cooperated with the document requests.
- ❖ The IVCSO Board is considering whether to continue to offer fire services or to divest itself of the power to provide the service, with services continued by a newly formed fire protection district or the area annexed by Crescent Mills FPD. Should the CSD choose to continue to provide fire services, it is recommended that the District come to LAFCO to differentiate between the fire, water and wastewater service areas, which would ensure ease of annexation of additional territory for the purpose of fire service provision and promote the goal of a valley-wide fire provider.
- ❖ Another governance option is some form of reorganization of park services with Indian Valley Recreation and Park District, given that the two agencies provide a similar category of park and recreation services within bounds that overlap one another. IVCSO has also recently sent a letter of support to the County for a countywide lighting district, which would result in the divesting of lighting services by the District.