

Calaveras County
Water District

August 14, 2024

Aero Fire – After Action Review



Timeline of Events

3pm June 17, 2024



- Most staff get off work at 3:30 pm
- Retaining Key staff was critical at the outset
- Technology proved key to gaining information early
- This information allowed us to prioritize our first objectives

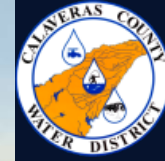
- **4:30** – Power out, CCWD staff at Reed’s Turnpike Pump Station Wiring in a trailer-mounted generator
- Strong northerly winds – 15-20 mph sustained with gusts of 25 – 35 mph

Mission

Protect, enhance, and develop Calaveras County's water resources and watersheds to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective services to our communities.

Vision

To be a trusted leader, to collaborate with our valued partners, and provide healthy, innovative, and resilient water resources solutions.



Timeline of Events

4:30 pm June 17, 2024



- 15 staff members in the evacuated area
- Collections Crew inspecting Lift Stations & Staging Equipment
- Treatment Plant Operators optimizing storage
- Distribution System Operators anticipating need + Coordinating closely with Cal-Fire and Copper Fire
- Electricians & Mechanics providing generator power
- Managers at the Emergency Operations Center

Monday June 17,
3:59pm



Timeline of Events

6:30 pm June 17, 2024



- Fire was threatening Town Square
- Pumped Down Lift Stations
- Stored pumper trucks at Connor's Main Lift Station
- Reed's Turnpike PS operating on trailer-mounted generator
- Staff out of Copper @11:30pm
- The Fire reached approx. 5,000 acres





Fed by the Reed's
Turnpike Pump
Station

Copper Tank



Timeline of Events

July 18, 2024 0500



- Copper Tank level dropped 5 ft. overnight
- 0800 Cal-Fire worked to Open an Incident Command Center at Frogtown
- C-Tank Generator Failed overnight
- Fire Burned around Old Town & Town Square
- Fire Still 0% contained



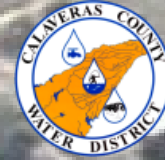
Timeline of Events

July 18, 2024 0500



- Requested Cal-FIRE no longer pull from Copper Tank- moved them to the C Tank Zone
- Brought a trailer-mounted generator to C-Tanksite
- Management at the EOC
- Copper Distribution took the opportunity to fix service line leaks in busy areas
- Fueled Generators into the evening





Aero Fire



Aero Fire





Aero Fire



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Timeline of Events

June 19, 2024



- 0500 – Fueled and inspected generators
- 0800 - Participated in the OES Briefing
- 1000 - Participated in the Cal OES Incident Command Briefing – Planning for Re-population – PG&E finalizing their re-energization plan – provided an update RE water supply availability
- Staff worked throughout the night to ensure an adequate supply of water from B Tank to C Tank





Aero Fire





Aero Fire

Timeline of Events



June 20, 2024

- 0500 – Power restored
- 0800 - Participated in the OES Briefing
- 1000 - Participated in the Cal OES Incident Command Briefing – RE-Population Effort began – Cal-Fire confident full containment would be achieved soon-last Briefing
- Fire Crews pulled heavily off C Tank overnight – Un-bagged Copper Tank hydrants
- Continued actively directing Fire Crews to optimal hydrants to pull from for clean up



Aero Fire



Aero Fire





- Started: June 17, 2024 @ 1517
 - Cause: Under Investigation
 - Acreage: 5,285
 - Engines: 129
 - Water Tenders: 21
 - Helicopters: 5
 - Dozers: 36
 - Hand Crews: 11
 - Other: 146
 - Total Personnel: 1,014
 - Numerous Firefighting air tankers from throughout the State flew fire-suppression missions as conditions allowed

Aero Fire – By the Numbers





Aero Fire – By the Numbers

- Potable water used to fight the fire = approx. 3 Million gallons
- CCWD Field staff = 15

Strengths

What we got right



- Safety focus always
- Effective Communication
- Clear Objectives
- Standby generator deployment
- Water Production – WE NEVER RAN OUT OF WATER FOR THE FIREFIGHT
- Staff accountability and availability
- Pumped-down lift stations early on – WE NEVER SPILLED WASTEWATER OR HAD A WASTE ISSUE
- Unending dedication to the Objectives



Challenges

Where We Can Improve

- Training – on-going work to close holes in the effort and reduce uncertainty
- Emergency Related Equipment – hydrant meters, signage, etc.
- SOPs – Develop emergency-related plans to assist staff in optimizing operations during an emergency



What Next?



- SOP Development
- Tabletop Exercises
- ICS Training
- Continued Engagement – Utilities Coordination Meetings, Fire Depts, OES, etc



Questions?



**ROAD
CLOSED**



**SPEED
ENFORCED
BY
RADAR**

