

Community Wildfire Protection Plan
Pine Valley Fire Protection District
San Diego County, CA
April 26, 2006

Introduction

This Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) was developed by the Pine Valley Fire Protection District Fire Safe Council with guidance and support from the County of San Diego, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the United States Forest Service. The Pine Valley Fire Protection District provides protection for the communities of Pine Valley, Guatay and Corte Madera. This CWPP supplements San Diego County, Department of Planning and Land Use documents referenced in Appendix A.

The process of developing a CWPP can help our communities clarify and refine its priorities for the protection of life, property, and critical infrastructure in the wildland-urban interface. It can also lead community members through valuable discussions regarding management options and implications for the surrounding watershed.

COLLABORATION:

COMMUNITY/AGENCIES/FIRE SAFE COUNCILS

Representatives involved in the development of the Pine Valley Fire Protection District CWPP are included in the following table. Their organization, and roles and responsibilities are indicated below:

CWPP Development Team:

Organization	Roles / Responsibilities
Pine Valley Fire Protection District Fire Safe Council CWPP Coordinator	Primary development of CWPP and decision-making, community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods.

Rancho Corte Madera Fire Safe Council	Existing Fire Safe organization within the Fire Protection District advising in cooperative community protection plans.
County of San Diego, Land Use and Environment Group	Primary development of CWPP and decision-making, community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods.
County of San Diego, Office of Emergency Services	Provides input and expertise on planning and hazard mitigation.
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF)	Facilitation of planning process and approval of CWPP process and minimum standards. Provides input and expertise on forestry, fire and fuels, and FireWise concepts.
United States Forest Service	Provides input and expertise on federal lands forestry, fire and fuels, and FireWise concepts.
San Diego County Fire Safe Council	Provides information support for hazard assessment, and defensible space.
Pine Valley Fire Protection District Pine Valley, CA.	Provides local information and expertise. This could include community risk and value assessment, development of community protection priorities, and establishment of fuels treatment project areas and methods.
Forest Area Safety Task Force (FAST)	Assists with establishing priorities for fuel reduction and grant expenditure.

Community Overview

Pine Valley Fire Protection District envelopes over 75 square miles surrounding the communities of Pine Valley, Guatay and Corte Madera. The district is roughly 45 miles east of San Diego along the Interstate 8 corridor. Nestled in and around the Pine Creek areas just west of the Laguna Mountains, the district ranges in elevations from 3200 to over 5000 feet. The wide range of lands are covered in chamise and mixed chaparral at the lower elevations, changing into oak woodlands and mixed conifer near the summits. Elevations reach 5,100 feet along the Sunrise Highway.

Vegetation ranges from mixed conifer forest with pine species, incense cedar, white fir, black oak, canyon live oak, and big-cone Douglas fir. Annual and perennial grasses occupy the mountain valleys with areas of chaparral and oak woodland on the drier southern aspects.

Some of Pine Valley FPD's areas have burned in fires over the years. The Forest Service has an ongoing prescribed burning project along with the districts ongoing fuels management program. Corte Madera in cooperation with local fire agencies continues its fuels management efforts. The area, although always threatened, has not had a major fire in recent history.

The combined district's residents number over 2,000 within the three primary communities.

The community of Pine Valley consists of approximately 500 homes. Most homes are used as full-time residences, while others are used only part-time. This community's estimated full-time residency is 1,600. However, up to 300 people may be staying at the Pine Valley Bible Conference Center, and countless visitors may be visiting the surrounding Cleveland National Forest recreational areas.

The community of Guatay consists of approximately 200 homes. Most homes are used as full-time residences, while others are used only part-time. This community's estimated full-time residency is 600.

The community of Corte Madera consists of approximately 20 homes. Most homes are used as part-time residences, while a few are used full-time. This community's estimated full-time residency is 70. The remaining homes are spread throughout the community.

Identification of Values at Risk

Using technology and local expertise, the Pine Valley Fire Protection District Fire Safe Council will develop a series of maps depicting the site and situation of the districts Communities. (Appendix B). The maps will act as a visual aid from which community members can assess and make recommendations. This CWPP includes the following maps:

1. An overview map of each community
2. A map showing inhabited areas and values that could be threatened by wildland fire.
3. A preliminary designation of your community's wildland-urban interface (WUI) zone using the State of California's definition (see <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov>).

4. Topographic contour line map that adequately depicts the topographic variation in our communities.
5. A map showing the vegetation classes within and adjacent to your community
6. A map showing publicly owned lands that are within and adjacent to our community.

Local Preparedness and Firefighting Capability

1. Pine Valley Fire Protection District provides response to all fire, medical, and associated emergencies in the communities of Pine Valley, Guatay and Corte Madera.
2. The Pine Valley Fire Protection District assisted by units from the United States Forest Service responds to wildland fires in our communities.
3. Wildland fire responsibilities within the Cleveland National Forest (CNF), including State Responsibility Lands (SRA) within the PVFPD belong to United States Forest Service.

PRIORITIZED FUEL REDUCTION TREATMENTS:

Within the PVFPD

1. Conduct brush management projects whereby fuel loads are reduced along selected ingress/egress routes, and homes in the community.
2. Map all roads, road markers, and water sources in the communities.
3. Measures to reduce structural ignitability
 - a. Weed abatement inspections conducted by Pine Valley Fire Protection District and USFS and forced abatement by the County of San Diego.
 - b. Construction enhancements through County building and fire code requirements.
 - c. Class A re-roofing through County building and fire code requirements.

Existing Projects

Agency Projects within and adjacent to the PVFPD communities. This information gathered from collaborating with agencies/organizations/individuals from our collaboration meetings.

1. Fire Safety and Fuels Reduction Program, funded by the Natural Resource Conservation Service, United States Forest Service, and the County of San Diego's Land Use and Environment Group, has projects in place to remove all dead, dying, and diseased trees within the Pine Valley Fire Protection District. FAST supports these projects.
2. Fire Safety and Fuels Reduction Program also has three open space projects planned and funded to remove all dead, dying and diseased trees in our area. FAST supports these projects.
3. The Corte Madera Fire Safe Council is conducting brush management projects whereby fuels loads are being reduced along major ingress/egress routes within the community.
4. The Pine Valley Fire Protection District Fire Safe Council process has been initiated and is conducting brush management projects whereby fuels loads are being reduced along major ingress/egress routes within the community.
5. The County of San Diego, Department of Planning and Land Use has funding and is currently collecting water source, road, and road marker data and plans to have these data completed and mapped in the near future.
6. CDF / USFS Past Projects include:
 - Pine Mountain-Mt. Laguna-160 acres (Burned in Cedar Fire 03)
 - East Mesa/Tragedy-300 acres (Burned in Cedar Fire 03) Fire suppression personnel successfully used this project to divert the Cedar Fire 03 away from Mt. Laguna and Pine Valley
7. Future CDF / USFS Projects include:
 - In the Corte Madera Ranch Forest Health Project, CDF / USFS crews have felled dead hazard trees and prepared many acres for future burning on the Corte Madera Ranch Project.
 - CDF /USFS crews have created the Pine Valley Community Fuel Break near Pine Valley. Here, crews prepared 100 acres for broadcast burning in the spring. Also crews have treated 156 tons of slash and brush by chipping.

TREATMENT OF STRUCTURAL IGNITIBILITY

In cooperation with the County of San Diego, and the Pine Valley Fire Protection District, Pine Valley Fire Protection District Fire Safe Council supports and promotes Firewise activities. Pine Valley Fire Protection District Fire Safe Council supports and educates its citizens in ways to reduce structure ignitibility through meeting County of San Diego Building and Fire Code requirements.

The partnership that exists between the listed organizations (federal, state, local, and citizens) allows the communities within the Pine Valley Fire Protection District to reduce hazardous vegetative fuels that could ignite residences and commercial facilities during Santa Ana wind fire conditions. The Natural Resource Conservation Service has already declared removal of dead, dying, and diseased trees an “exigency” task. Maintaining properties with the appropriate defensible space is a key factor to protecting lives and property in the mountain community (*Fire Defensible Space and You...*, 2005).

1. Fuels reduction, defensible space and structural ignitibility education within our communities will greatly reduce structure loss.
2. The development of our Fire Safe Council, dedicated wildfire protection team and gaining local community support will include direct homeowner participation in saving property.

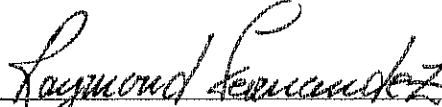
The Community Wildfire Protection Plan developed for the communities within the Pine Valley Fire Protection District

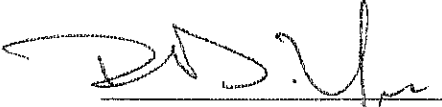
- Was collaboratively developed. Interested parties and federal land management agencies in the vicinity of Pine Valley Fire Protection District have been consulted.
- This plan identifies and prioritizes areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommends the types and methods of treatment that will protect Pine Valley, Guatay and Corte Madera].
- This plan recommends measures to reduce ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan.

The following entities attest that the standards listed above are proposed to be met and mutually agree with the content of this Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

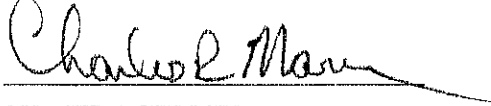
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Mandatory Signature Page


APPLICABLE GOVERNMENT
San Diego County Land Use and
Environmental Group (SD LUEG)

 11 MAY '06 -
LOCAL FIRE
Pine Valley Fire Protection District
Pine Valley, CA.

 5-11-06
APPLICABLE GOVERNMENT
San Diego County Fire Service Coordinator


STATE AGENCY
California Department of Forestry
and Fire Protection
Chief Charles Maner

Appendix A

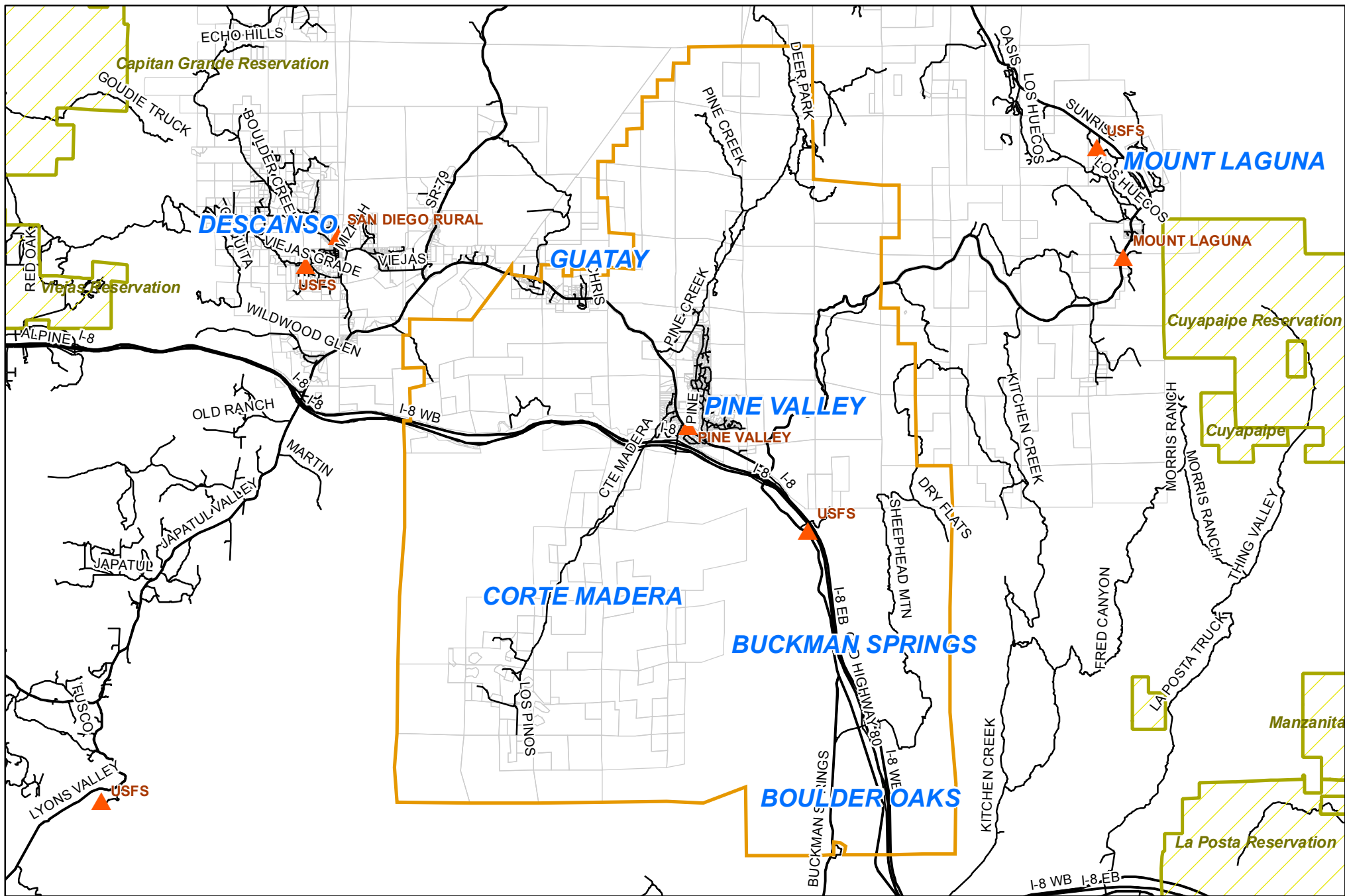
Documentation Affecting Fuels Reduction, Building Construction, and Community Fire Protection.

LIST OF REFERENCES:

1. County of San Diego Building Code, Attachment B (2004)
2. County of San Diego Fire Code, Attachment A (August 2004)
3. San Diego of County Code of Regulatory Ordinances, Title 6 Health and Sanitation, Division 8. Sewage and Refuse Disposal, Chapter 4. Removal of Combustible Vegetation and Other Flammable Materials (August 2004)
4. County of San Diego, OES *Hazard Mitigation Plan* (2004)
5. County of San Diego, *Fire, Defensible Space and You...* (2005)
6. County of San Diego, *Fire Safety and Fuels Reduction Program Overview* (2005)
7. <http://frap.cdf.ca.gov> for additional maps, data, and documents
8. <http://www.cafirealliance.org> California Fire Alliance website for additional documents.
9. <http://wildfire.cr.usgs.gov/fireplanning> California Fire Alliance mapping tool for additional planning and documents.
10. http://www.iafc.org/grants/wildland_fire.asp#downloads
11. <http://www.livingwithfire.com> Sample of information from Nevada Living with Fire program.
12. Pine Valley FPD Wildland Fire Plans

Appendix B

- Figure 1: *Communities Map*
Shows the main population centers.
- Figure 2: *Assets at Risk*
Shows improvements in the community according to the County Assessor. Some improvements, not in the Assessors parcels, may not be shown in this map.
- Figure 3: *200-foot Topographic Contour Map*
- Figure 4: *Fire Threat (modeled by CDF FRAP)*
Combines expected fire frequency with potential fire behavior to create 4 threat classes.
- Figure 5: *Fire History 1910 – 1993 (CDF FRAP)*
Large fire history, generally 300-acre minimum for CDF fires since 1950 and 10-acre minimum for USFS fires since 1910, but many smaller fires as well.
- Figure 6: *Wild land-Urban Interface zone designations (CDF FRAP)*
Depicts areas where there is wildland fire threat to human development.
- Figure 7: Public Land Ownership
Shows the lands under public ownership that are adjacent to the community.
- Figure 8: *Vegetation Classification*
Shows vegetation classified using Holland 95 classification schema. Last updated July 2005.

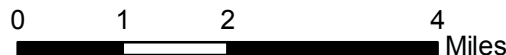


-  Pine Valley FPD
-  Sycuan Indian Reservation
-  Assessor Parcels
-  Fire Stations
-  Roads



PINE VALLEY CWPP

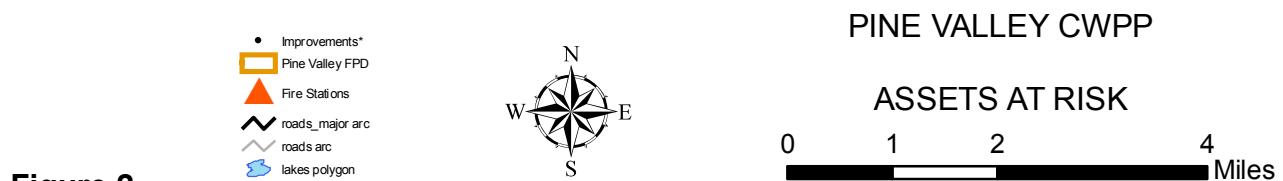
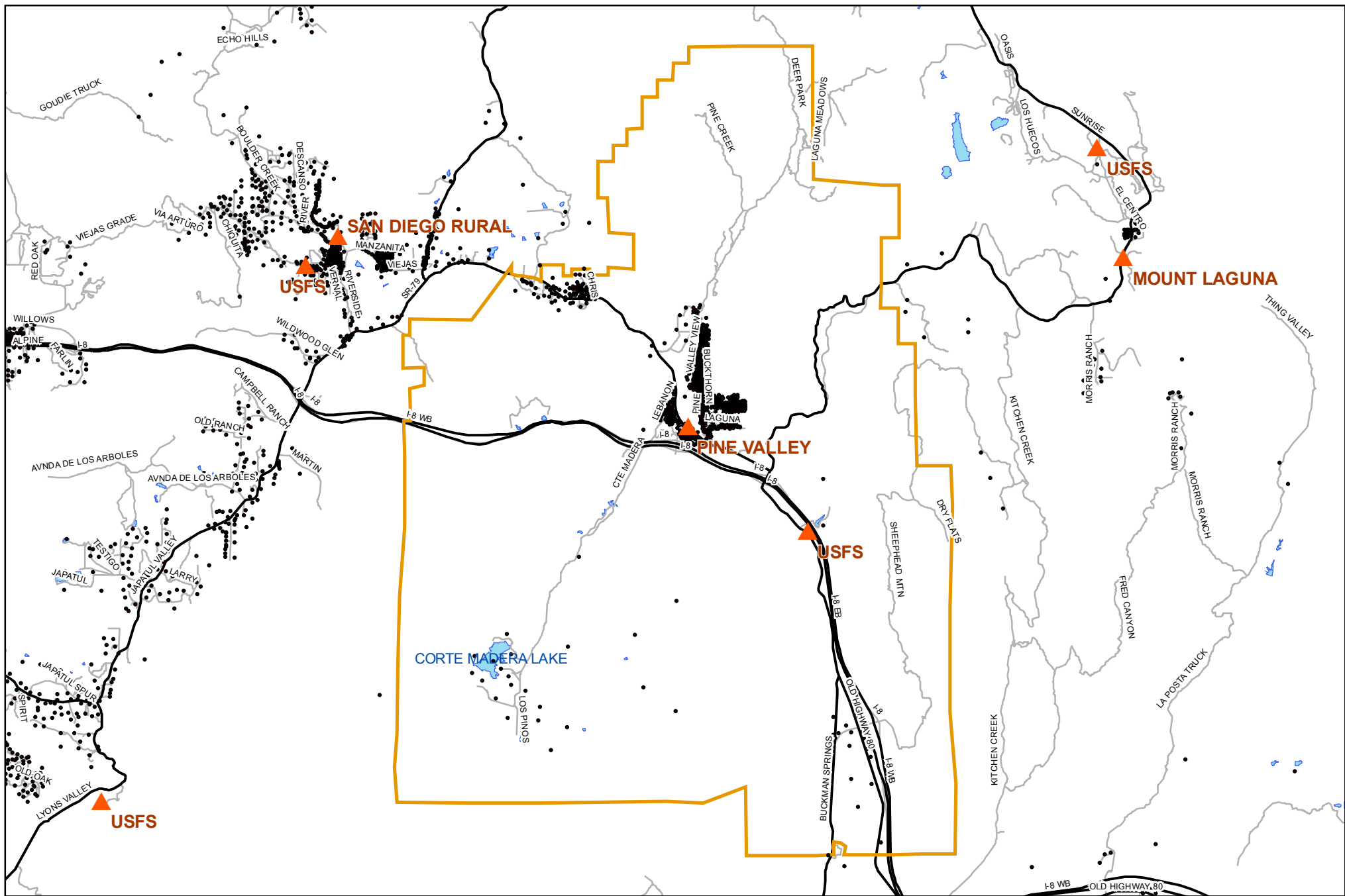
COMMUNITIES MAP



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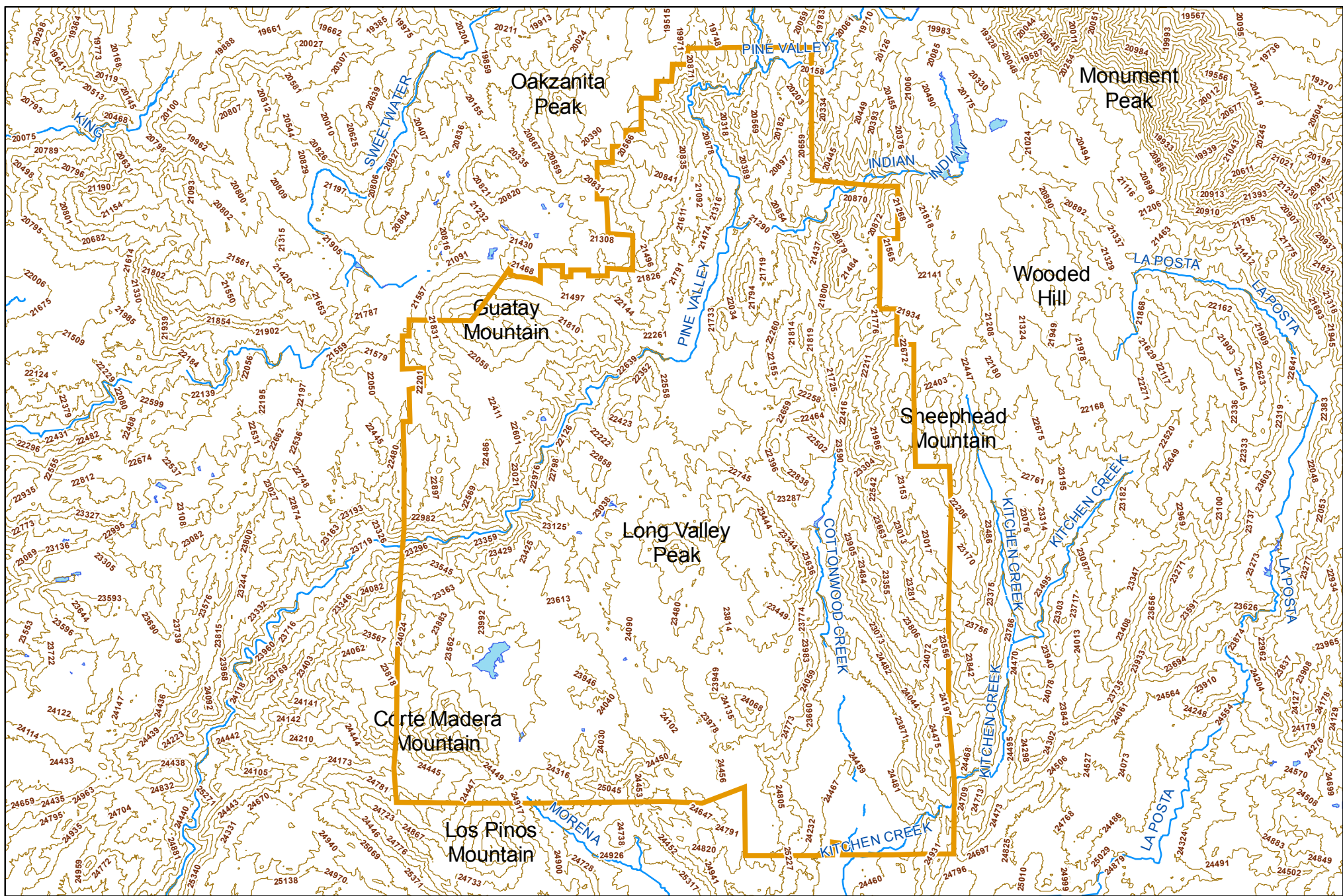
Figure 1.



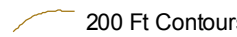



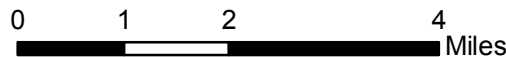
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*According to the County of San Diego Assessor's Office





-  Pine Valley FPD
-  Streams
-  200 Ft Contours
-  Lakes



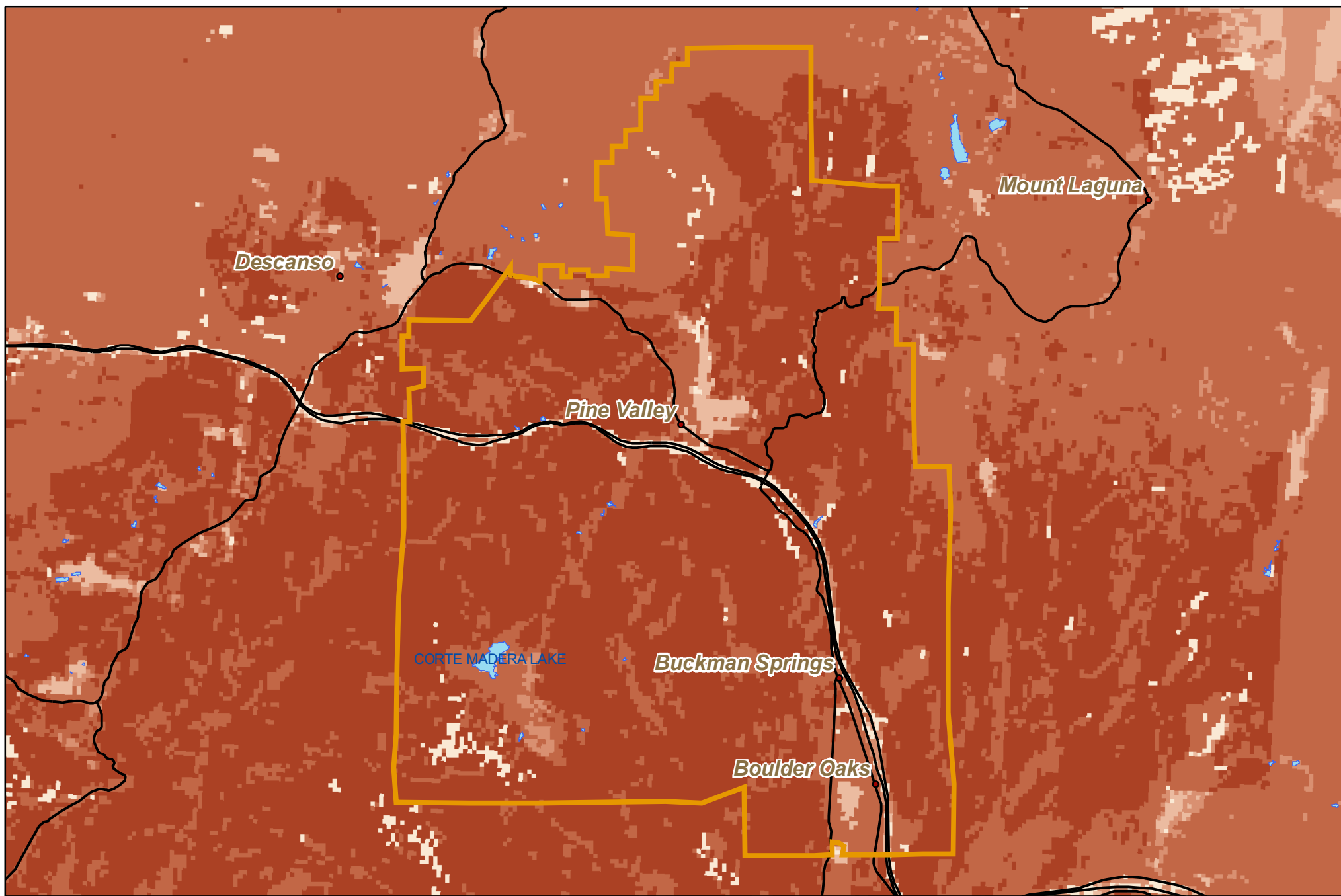
PINE VALLEY CWPP

TOPO MAP

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Figure 3.



Pine Valley FPD

Fire Threat (2004)

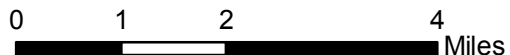
Threat

- LITTLE OR NO THREAT
- MODERATE
- HIGH
- VERY HIGH
- EXTREME



PINE VALLEY CWPP

Fire Threat

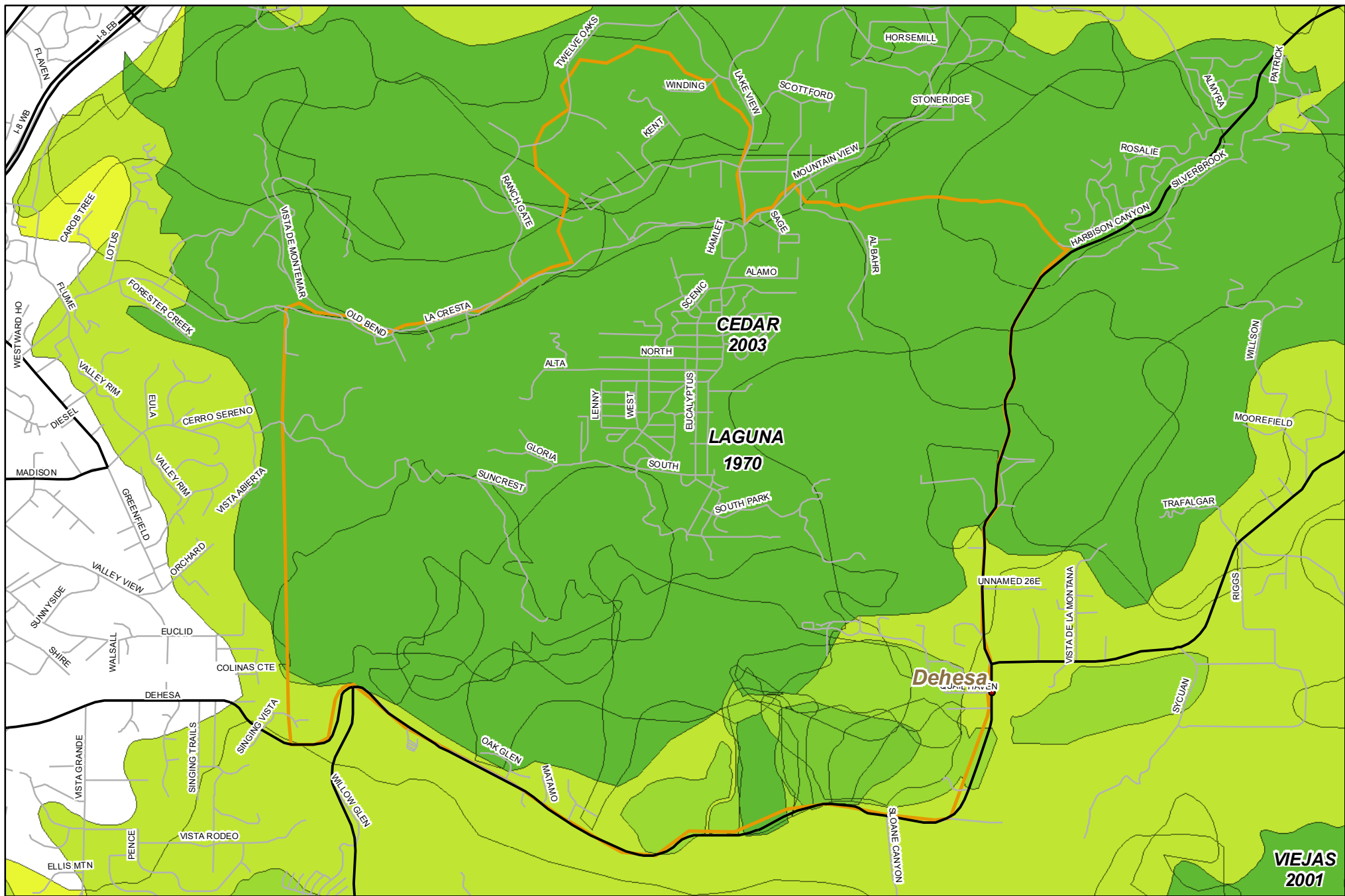


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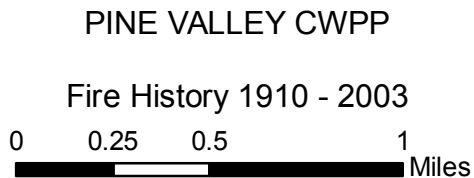
Data Source: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Figure 4.



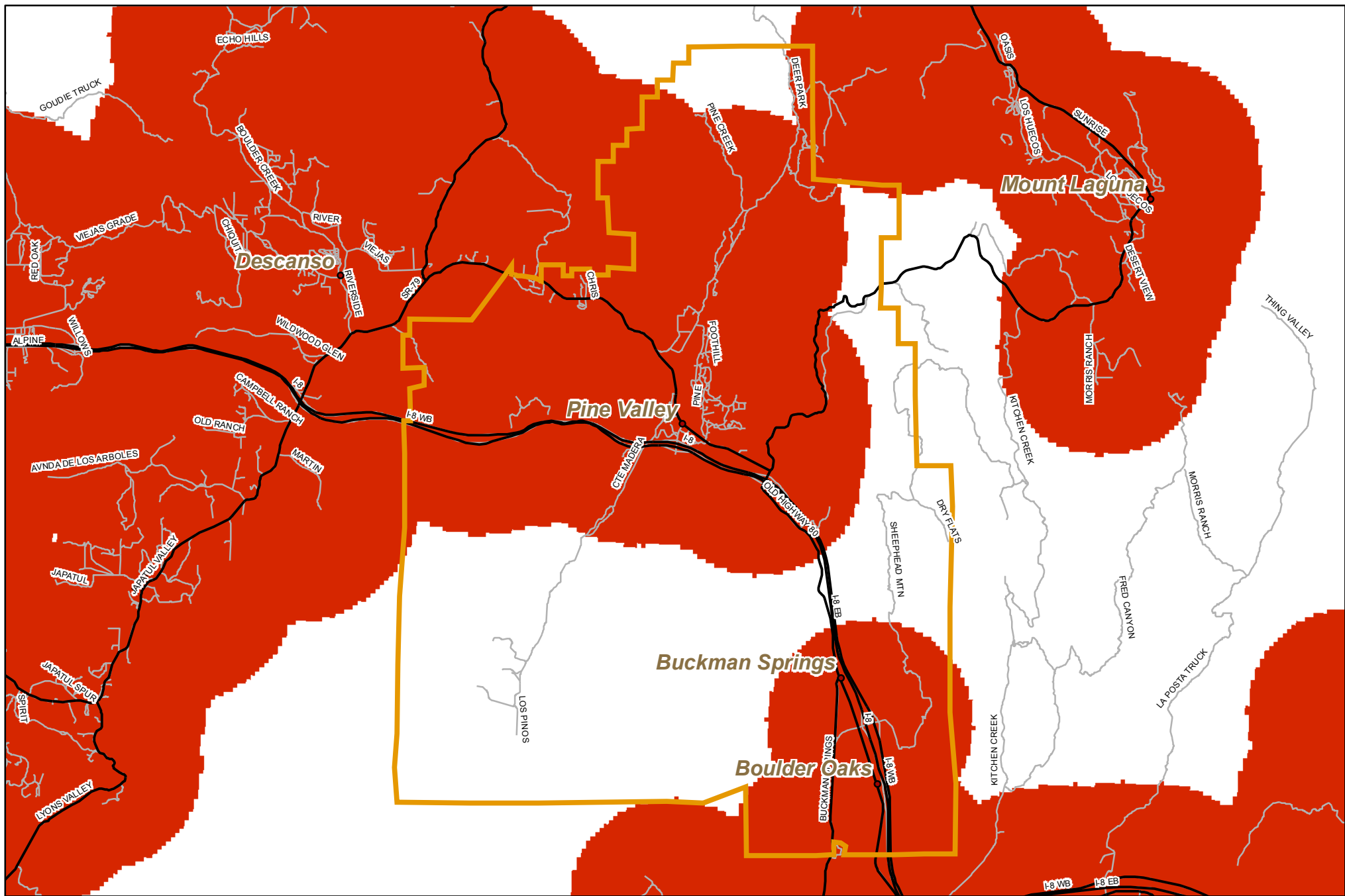
Fire History YEAR	Color
1950 - 1959	Lightest Green
1960 - 1969	Light Green
1970 - 1979	Medium Green
1980 - 1989	Darker Green
1990 - 1999	Dark Green
2000 - 2003	Darkest Green



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Figure 5.

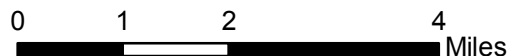


Wildland-Urban Interface Zone

- No
- Yes
- Pine Valley FPD



**PINE VALLEY CWPP
Wildland-Urban Interface**

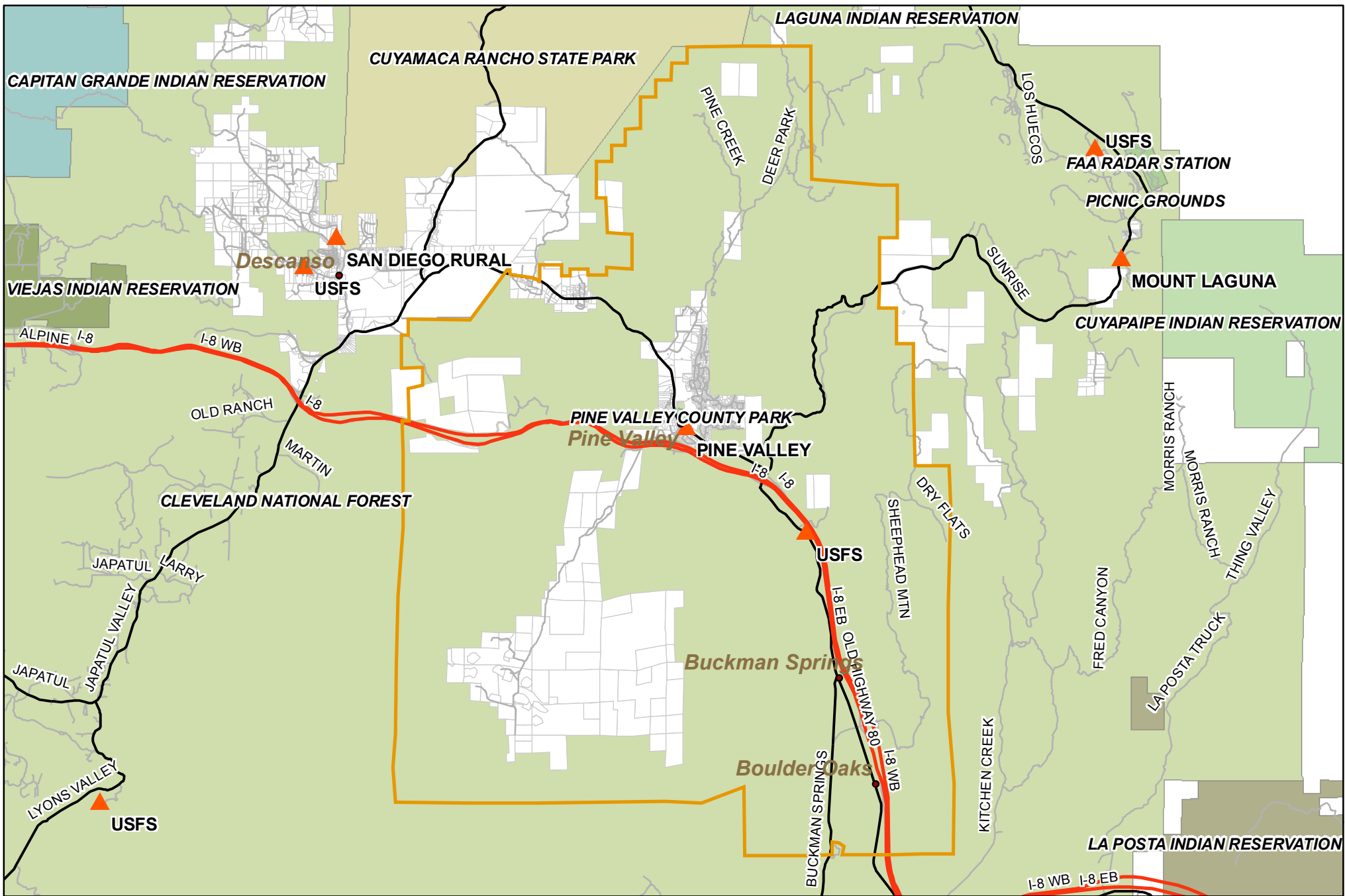


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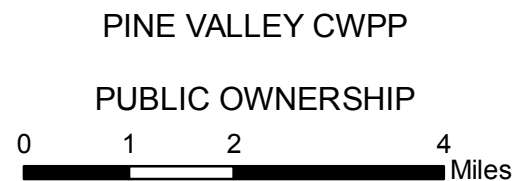
Data Source: California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Figure 6.



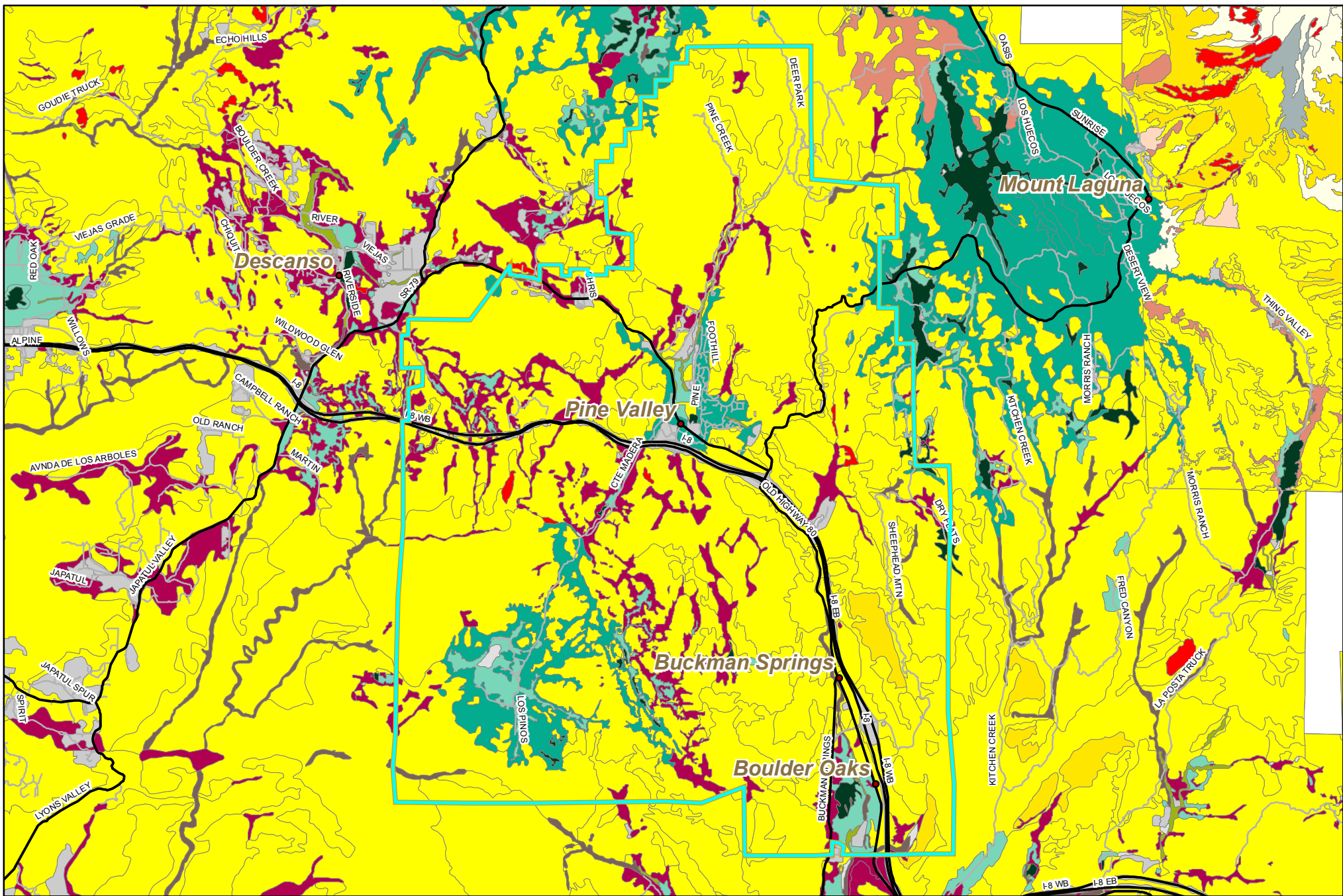
-  Pine Valley FPD
-  Fire Stations
-  Communities
-  freeways arc
-  roads_major arc
-  roads arc



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Figure 7.

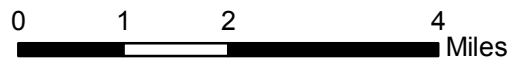


 Pine Valley FPD

See attached legend
for vegetation classifications



PINE VALLEY CWPP Vegetation Classifications
























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Figure 8.

Vegetation Communities (Holland 95 Classification)

	<i>Southern Foredunes, Beach, Saltpan, Mudflats</i> (13300, 13400, 21230)
	<i>Coastal Sage Scrub</i> (31200, 32400, 32500, 32700, 32710, 32720)
	<i>Chaparral</i> (35000, 35200, 35210, 37000, 37120, 37121, 37122, 37130, 37131, 37132, 37200, 37210, 37220, 37300, 37500, 37520, 37530, 37540, 37830, 37900, 37A00, 37C30, 37K00, 37G00)
	<i>Grassland</i> (42000, 42100, 42110, 42120, 42200, 42300, 42400, 42470)
	<i>Riparian Scrub</i> (60000, 63000, 63300, 63310, 63320, 63410, 63810, 63820)
	<i>Riparian Woodland</i> (62000, 62300, 62400)
	<i>Riparian Forest</i> (61000, 61300, 61310, 61320, 62330, 61510, 61810, 61820)
	<i>Pinyon Juniper Woodlands</i> (72300, 72310, 72320)
	<i>Other Woodlands</i> (70000, 71000, 71100, 71160, 71161, 71162, 71180, 71181, 71182, 75100, 77000, 78000, 79000)
	<i>Oak Forest</i> (81300, 81310, 81320, 81340)
	<i>Meadow and Seep</i> (45000, 45100, 45110, 45120, 45300, 45320, 45400)
	<i>Marsh</i> (52120, 52300, 52310, 52400, 52410, 52420, 52440)
	<i>Coniferous Forest</i> (81100, 83140, 83230, 84000, 84100, 84140, 84150, 84230, 84500, 85100)
	<i>Desert Dunes</i> (22100, 22300, 24000)
	<i>Playas/Badlands/Mudhill Forbs</i> (46000, 46100)
	<i>Desert Scrub</i> (33100, 33200, 33210, 33220, 33500, 33600, 34000, 34300, 36110, 39000)
	<i>Desert Chaparral</i> (37400, 37800)
	<i>Dry Wash Woodland</i> (29000, 33230, 33300, 36120, 62200)
	<i>Water</i> (Including 11200, 13200)
	<i>Urban, Disturbed Habitat, Agriculture, Eucalyptus Woodland</i>
	<i>Not Mapped (Data Gaps)</i>

Use with Figure 8.