

# Phones, Fires and Failures

Presented by  
Alan Thompson – W6WN  
And  
Bob Hess – W1RH

on behalf of  
The El Dorado County  
Amateur Radio Club



Club Meeting  
July 24, 2020





GLOBECOMM



CAT

verizon

# Driving Into Paradise

November 18, 2018



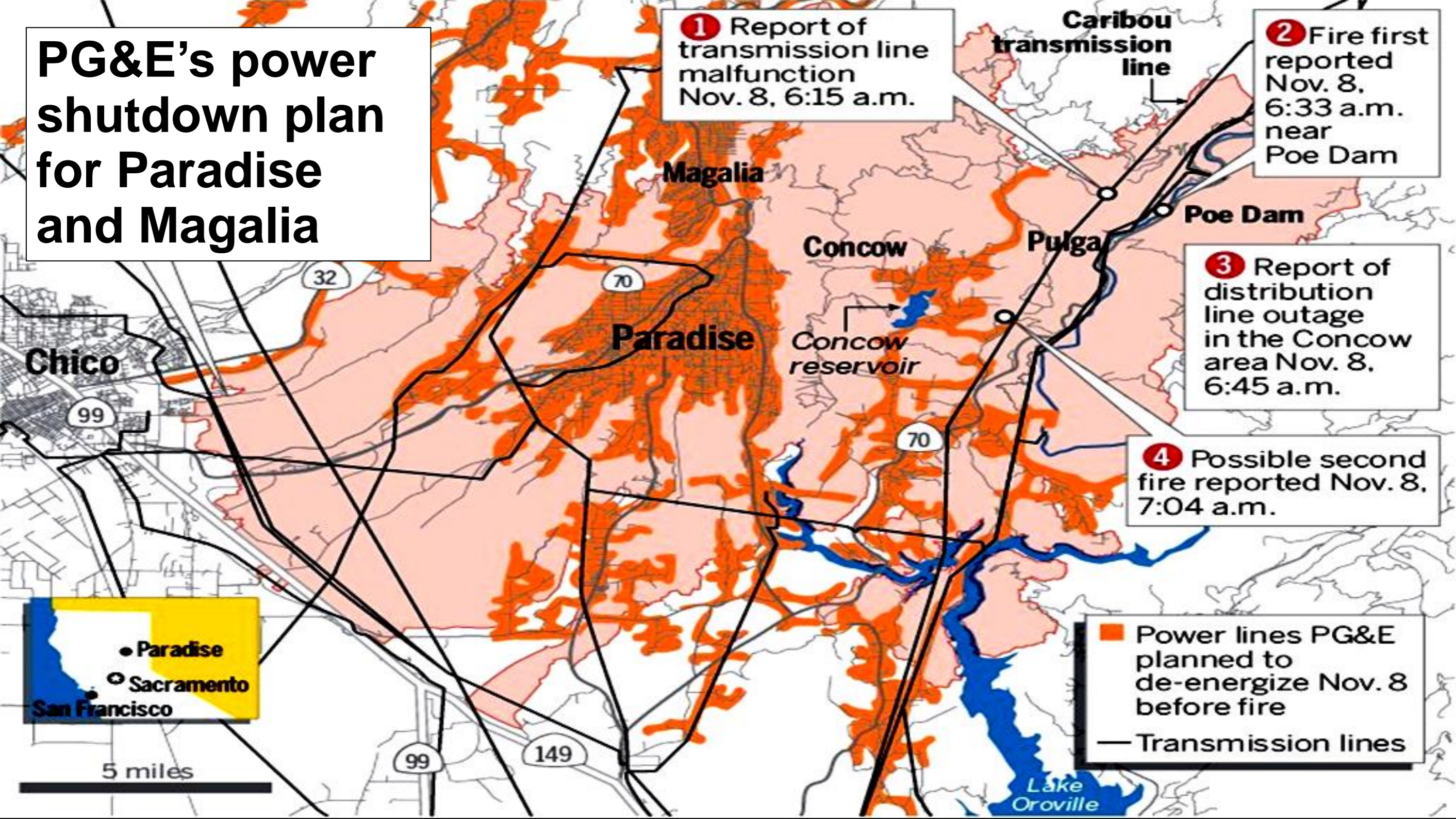
Driving Into Paradise – Sunday, Nov 18, 2018

# The Camp Fire

**Tuesday,  
Nov. 06 2018**



# PG&E's power shutdown plan for Paradise and Magalia











6:55 AM

“LET’S MAKE IT MANDATORY FOR PULGA  
READY AT A MOMENT’S NOTICE FOR  
COMMUNITY”



**Butte County Sheriff** ✓

@ButteSheriff

Follow

EVACUATION ORDER: Due to a fire in the area, an evacuation order has been issued for the town of Pulga. If assistance is needed in evacuating, call 9 1 1.

[#ButteSheriff](#)

7:23 AM – 9 NOV 2018

70 Retweets 41 Likes



2



70



41



**Nancy Springer** @Bdmspringer · 8 Nov 2018

Replying to [@ButteSheriff](#) [@CALFIRE\\_ButteCo](#)

Praying they get it contained fast and all are safe!



1



1



3

1 more reply



**john** @john11862663 · 8 Nov 2018

Replying to [@ButteSheriff](#)

What's percentage of containment?



**7:30 AM**  
**+1 hr 00 min**



**Paradise 9 1 1 Calls  
7:29 AM ~ 7:42AM**

7:29 AM

**CALLER: THERE'S A FIRE IN PARADISE.**

**7:50 AM**  
**+1 hr 20 min**



<https://calfire.app.box.com/s/ioth04321tb09r0aqigxpyyxhza9ock5/file/402325328269>



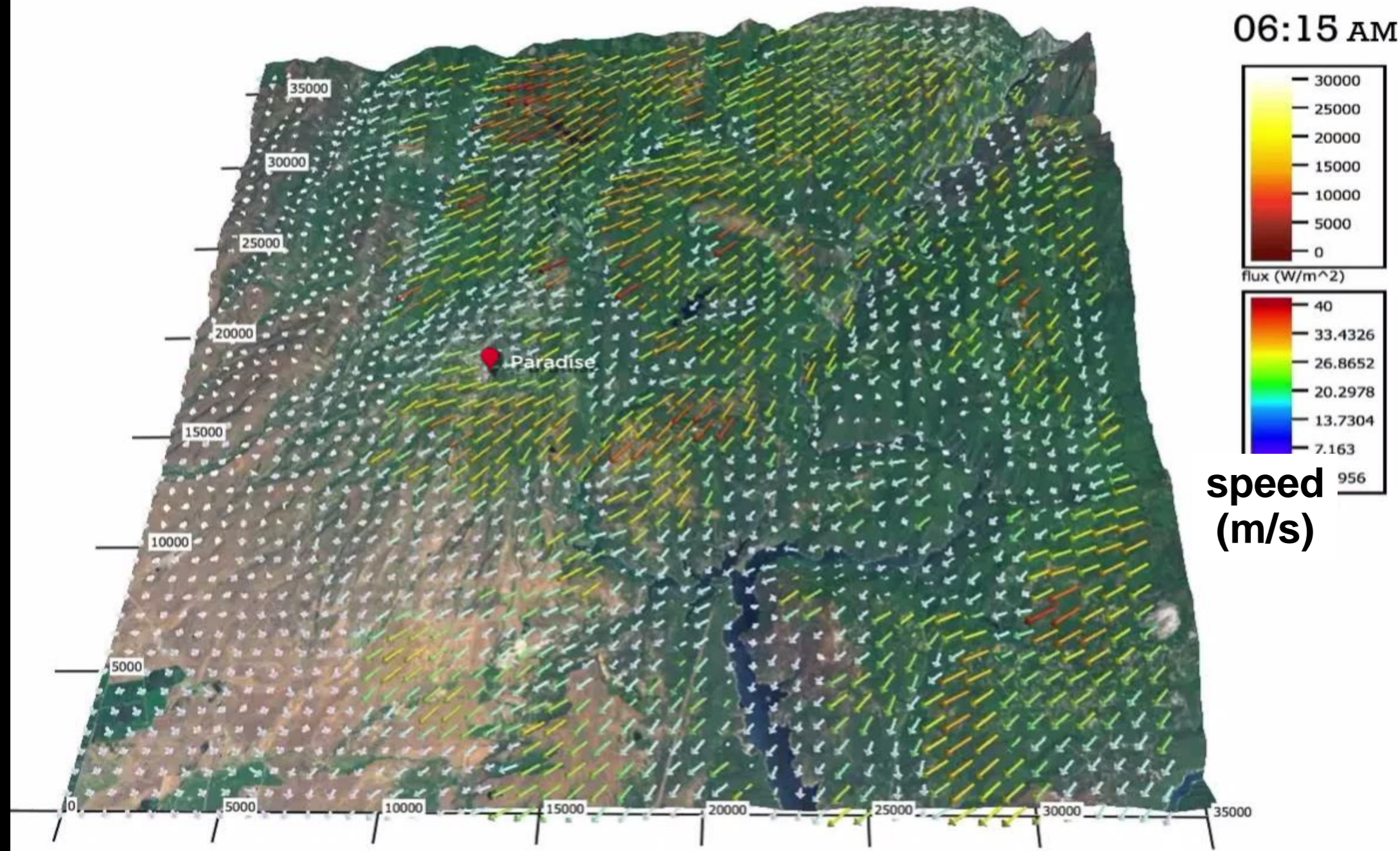
Source: [huffpost.com/entry/northern-california-wildfire-ridgewood-mobile-home-park\\_n\\_5bf610c1e4b03b230f9e8777](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/northern-california-wildfire-ridgewood-mobile-home-park_n_5bf610c1e4b03b230f9e8777)



# 6:15 AM to 1:59 PM

Nov. 8 2018

06:15 AM



# Paradise

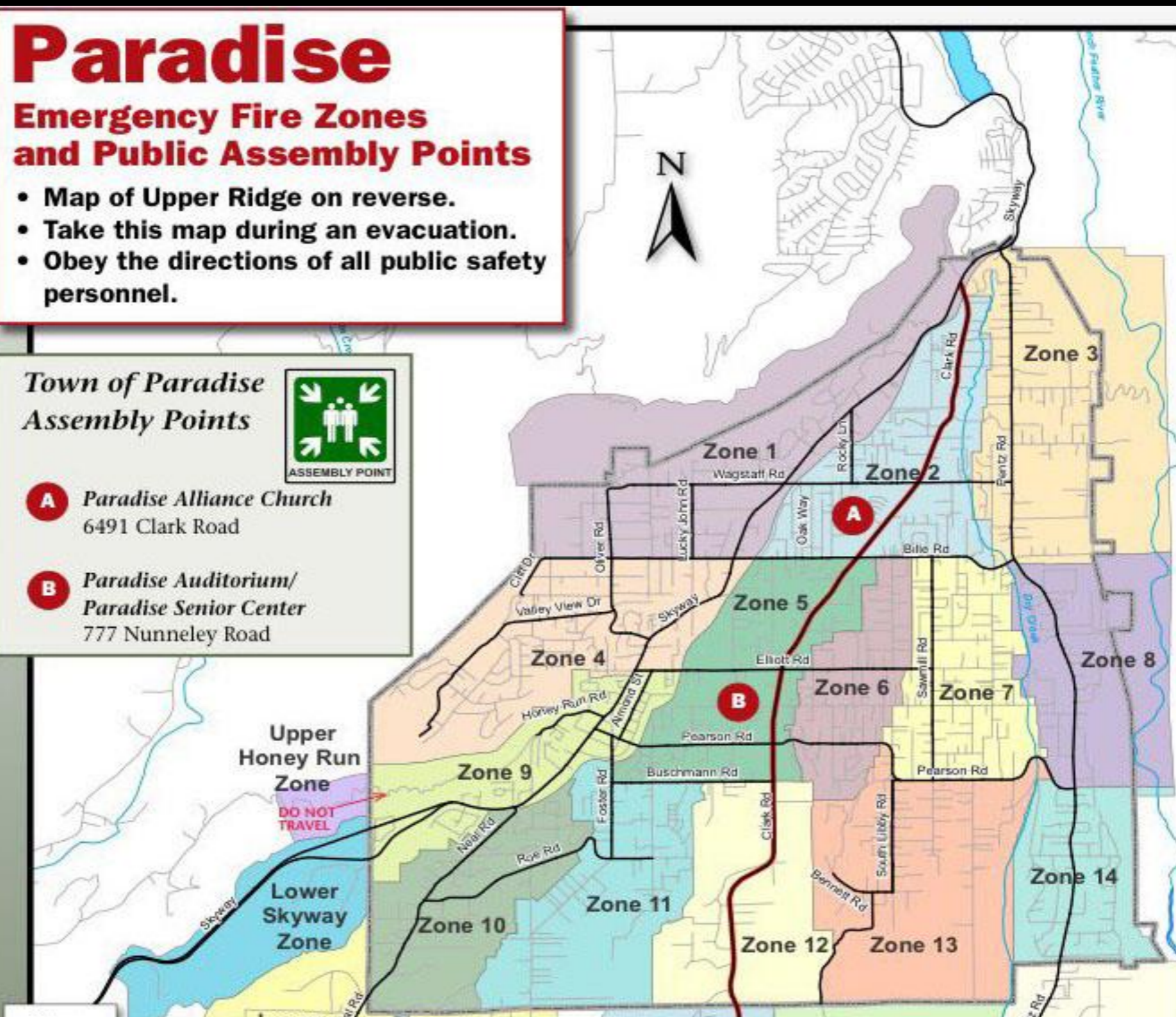
## Emergency Fire Zones and Public Assembly Points

- Map of Upper Ridge on reverse.
- Take this map during an evacuation.
- Obey the directions of all public safety personnel.

### Town of Paradise Assembly Points



- A** Paradise Alliance Church  
6491 Clark Road
- B** Paradise Auditorium/  
Paradise Senior Center  
777 Nunneley Road



**7:50 AM**

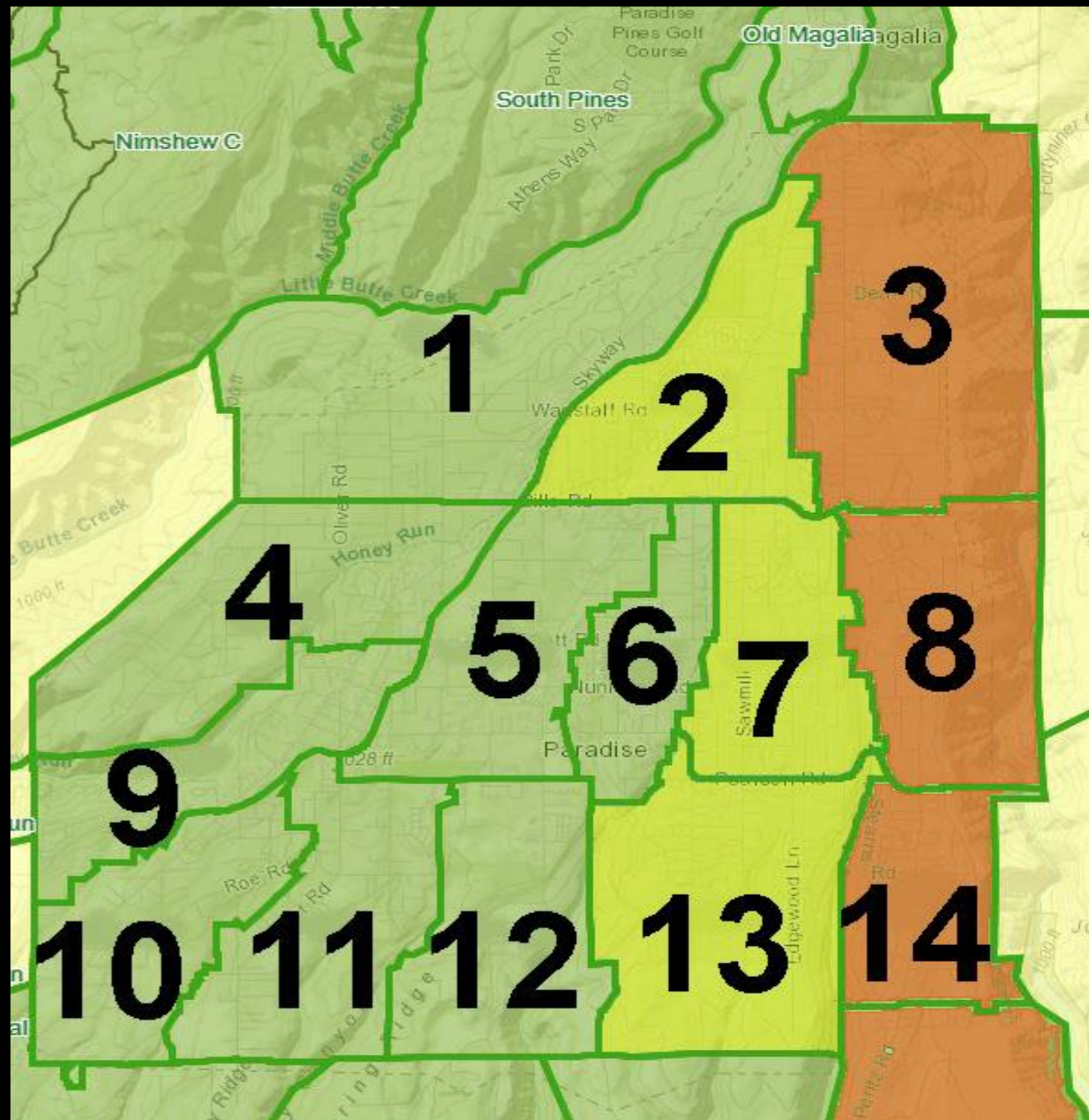
**+1 hr 20 min**

**Mandatory Evacuation**

**Zones 3, 8, 14**

**Evacuation Warning**

**Zones 2, 7 and 13**



**8:03 AM**  
**+1 hr 33 min**



**8:30 AM**  
**+2 hr 0 min**



**8:45 AM**  
**+2 hr 15 min**



Skyway and Elliott Road

[latimes.com/local/california/la-me-camp-fire-tictoc-20181118-story.html](https://latimes.com/local/california/la-me-camp-fire-tictoc-20181118-story.html)

**9:02 AM**

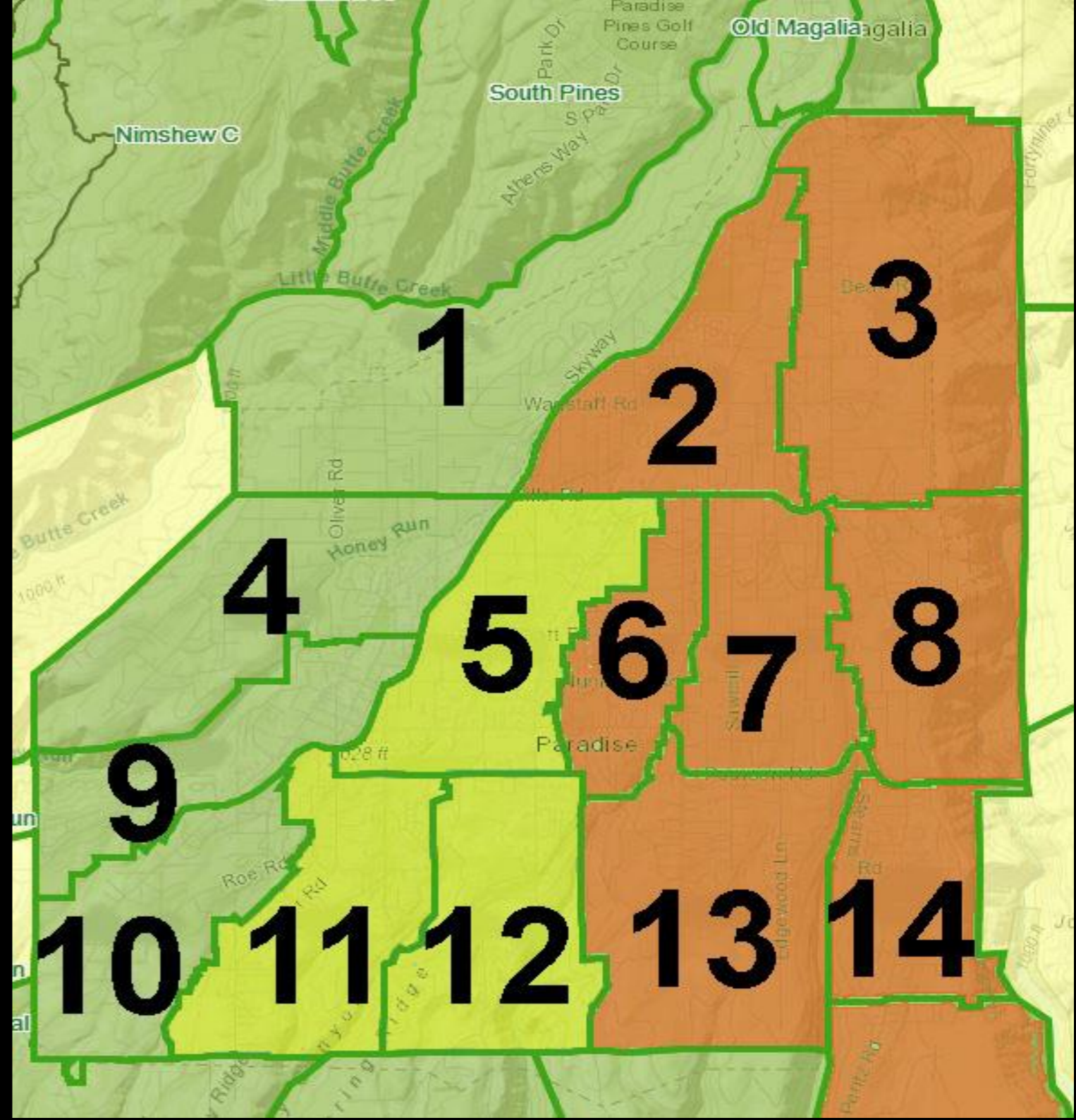
**+2 hr 29 min**

# **Evacuation Order**

Zones 2, 6, 7, 13

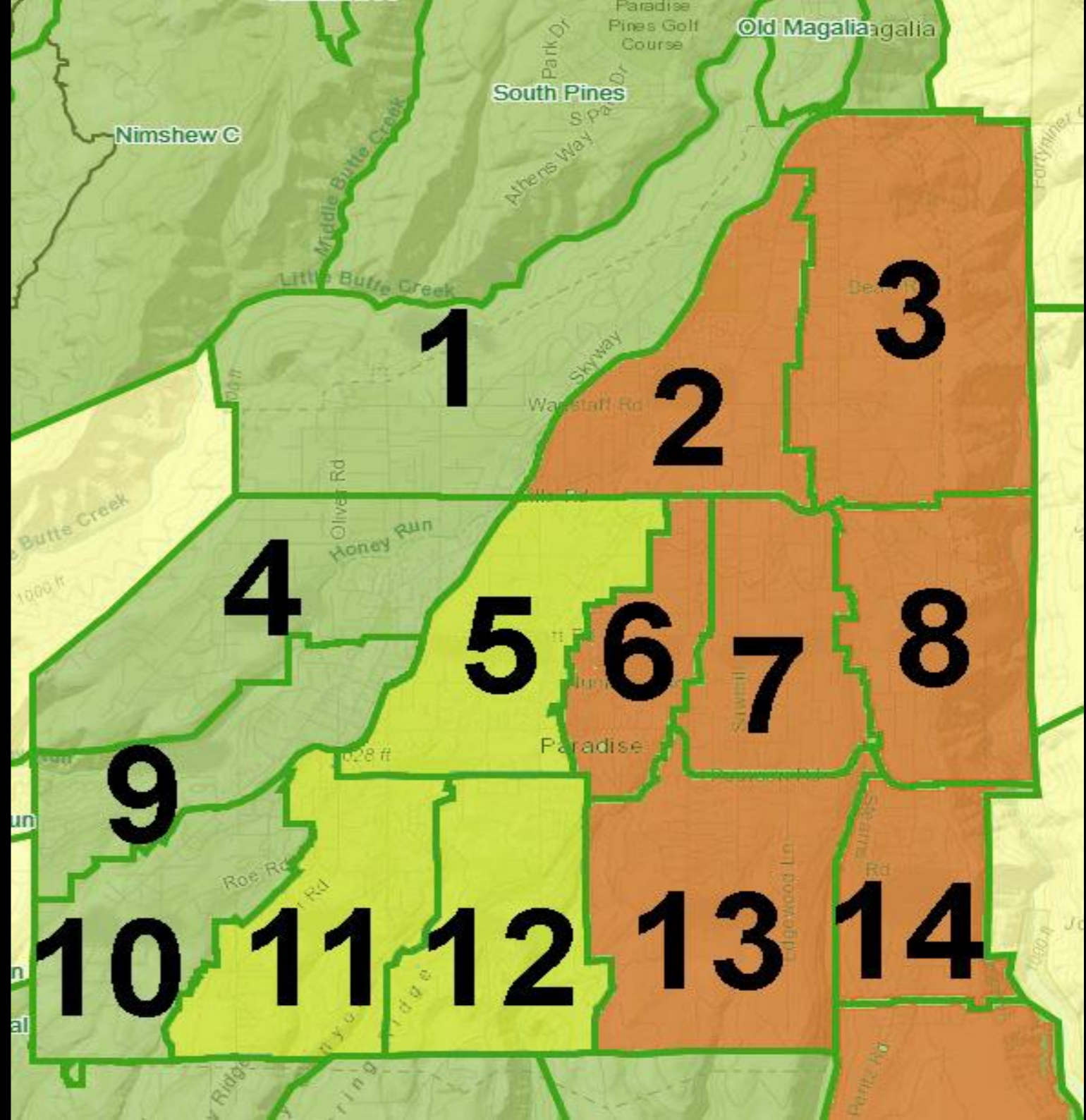
# **Evacuation Warning**

Zones 5, 11, and 12



# NO Evacuation Warnings

Zones 1, 4, 9, 10  
(~ 6 mi<sup>2</sup> of Paradise)





**9:50 AM**

**+3 hr 20 min**







**9:50 AM**  
**+3 hr 20 min**



**9:51 AM +3 hr 21 min**



**10:15 AM**  
**+3 hr 45 min**



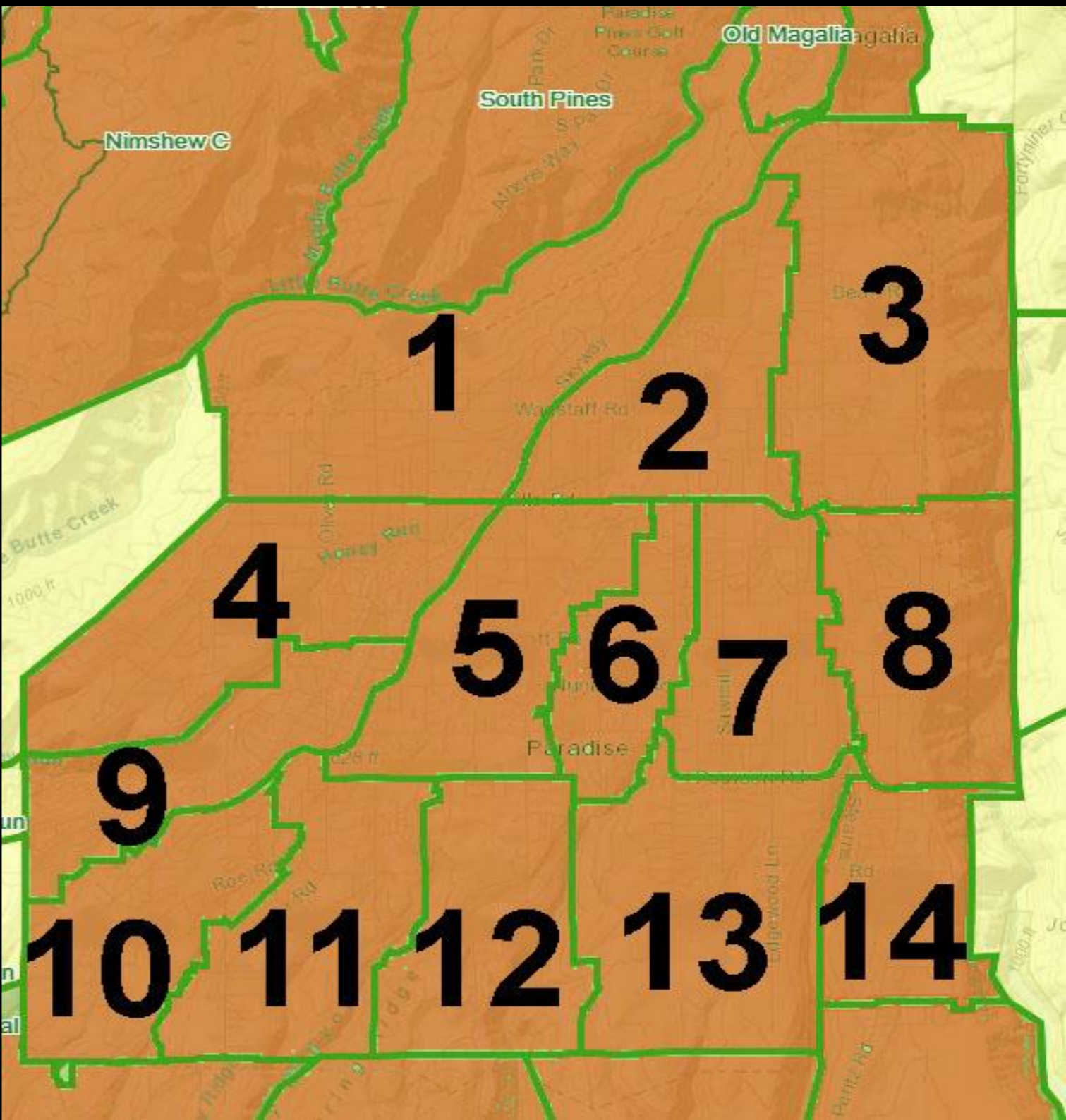
**10:45 AM**  
**+4 hr 15 min**



**2:30 PM +8 hr 00 min**

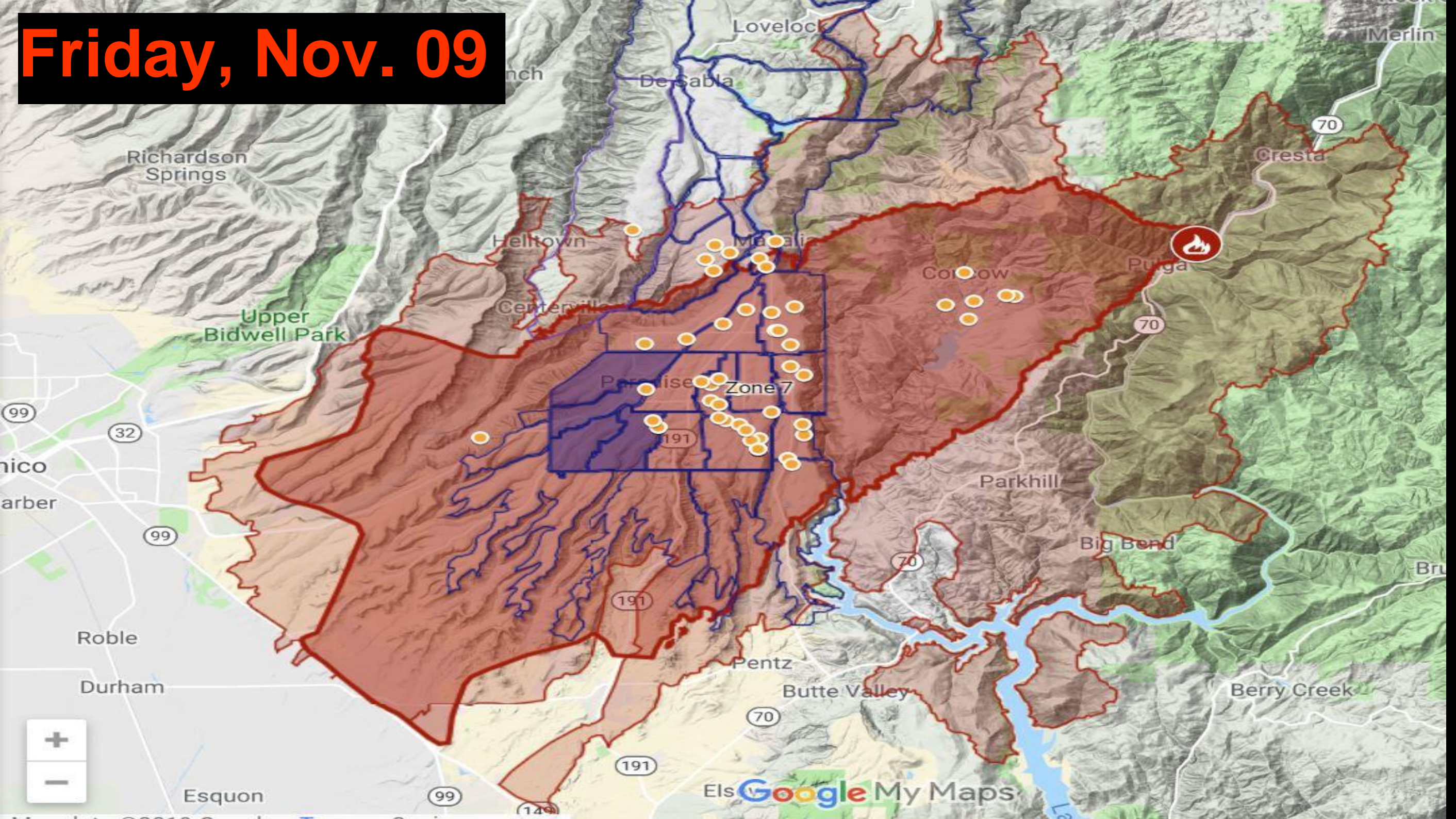
**Public Evacuation Order**

All Zones





Friday, Nov. 09





ELIZABETH GAAL

ELIZABETH GAAL  
MAY 1944 - OCT 2018  
Her life is remembered by the families and friends  
of Elizabeth Gaal who were gathered for the service.

Crosses donated by Greg Zanis



***If you are not within the immediate hazard area  
and not directed to evacuate by public officials,  
remain at your location and shelter in place.***



THANK YOU

FIRST RESPONDERS

FOR KEEPING

US SAFE





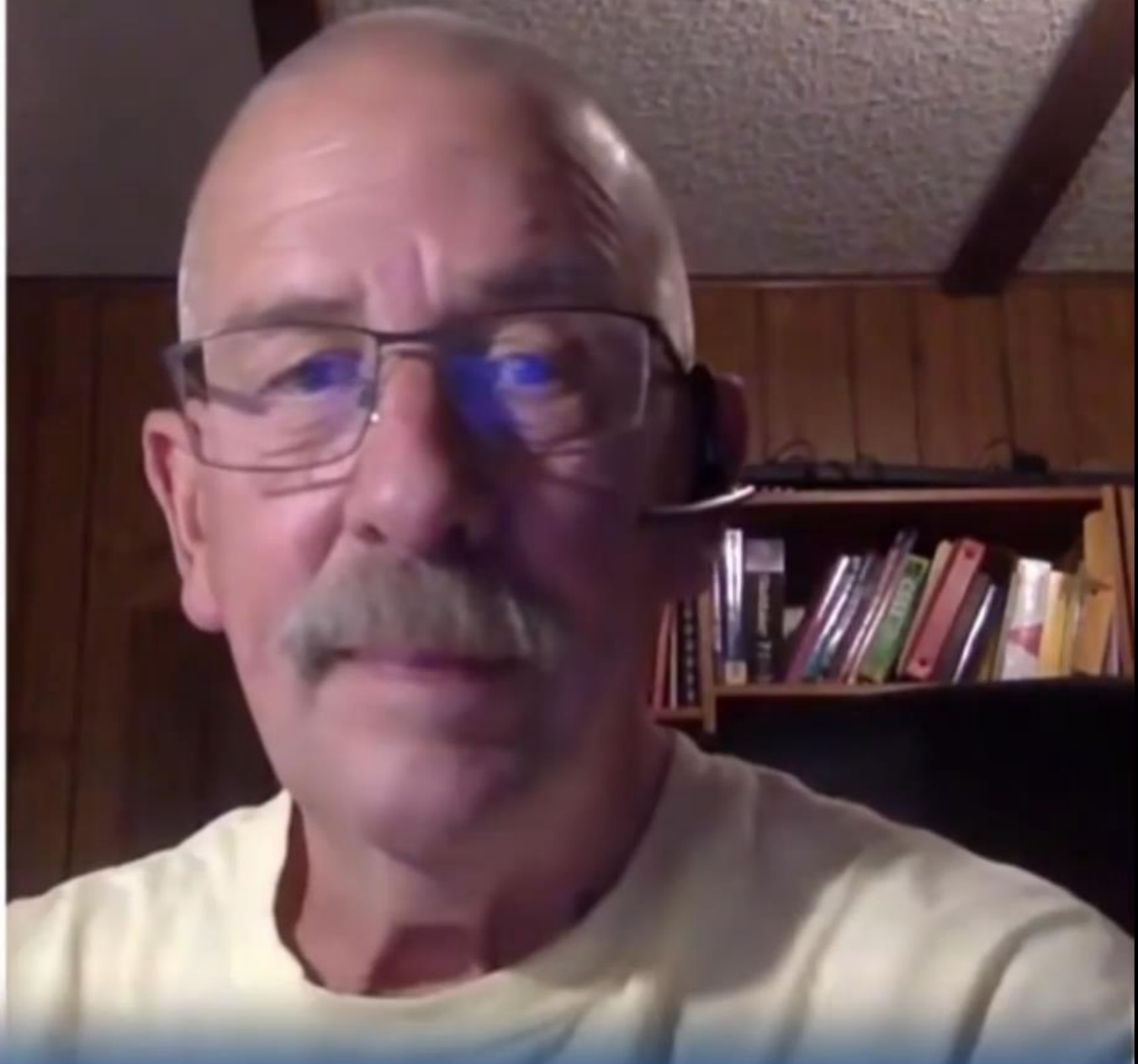
**Red Cross Opens 11 Shelters**



**Ham  
Nation**

**Episode 376**

**Wednesday 14 November 2018**



**Greg Kruckewitt, KG6SJT  
Sac Valley ARES SEC**



# Butte County Sheriff's Comm Reserve





# Communications

CH1 - COMMAND 1

CH2 - COMMAND 2 (CORONERS)

CH3

↓

CH12

> TACA-TAC

EMERGENCY

911

S U T







**North Valley Animal Disaster Group  
70 Teams – 3 Emergency Shelters**





ANIMAL  
RESCUE

360 B

SHERIFF

# Jon Trojanowski, KM6ICQ

Jon lost his home  
in the Camp Fire





**“Unleash The Barnyard...”**







[https://about.att.com/innovationblog/cows\\_fly](https://about.att.com/innovationblog/cows_fly)



Petunia



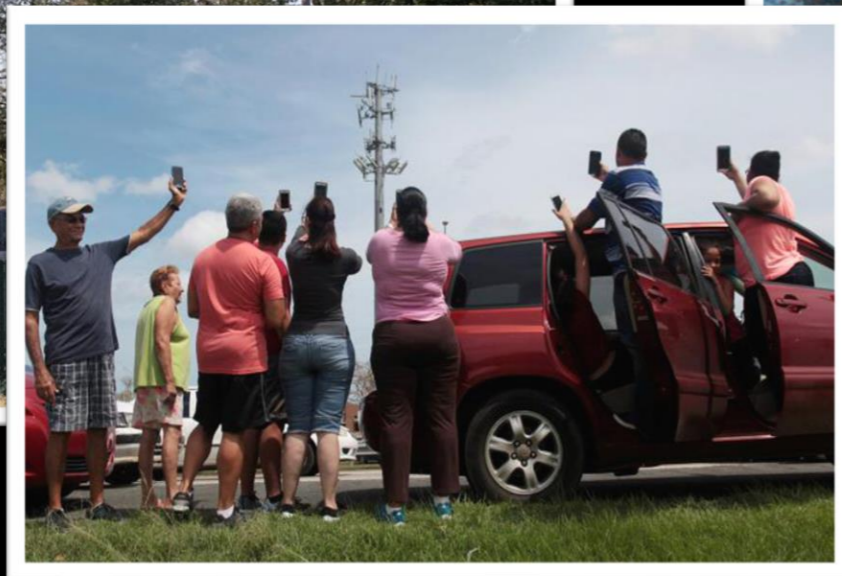


FIRSTNET™  
Built with AT&T



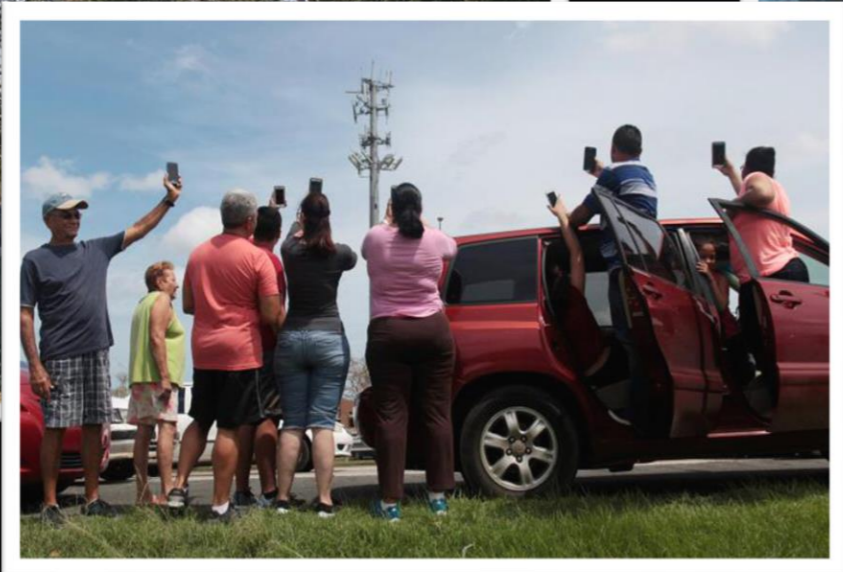
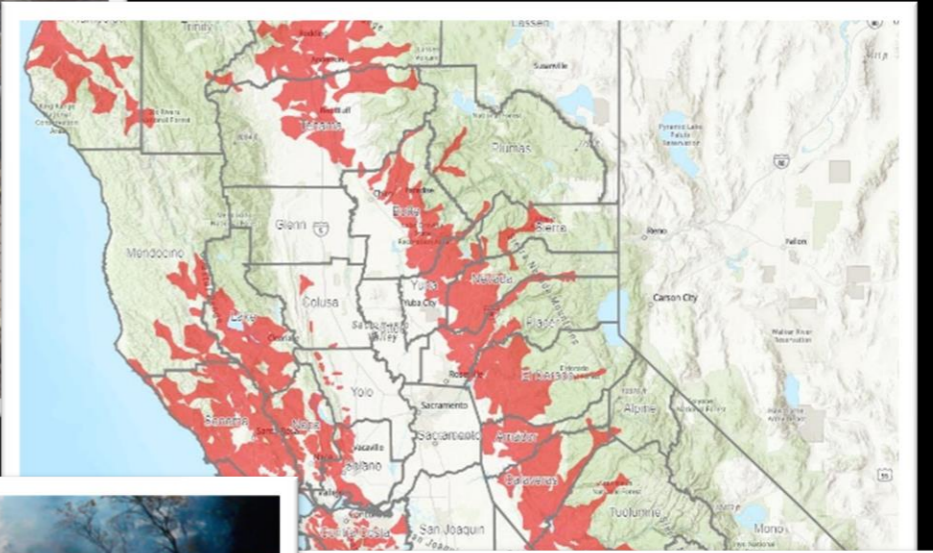
FIRSTNET™  
Built with AT&T

# “Why Telecom Fails”





**“WTF!”**





Behind Feather River Hospital



Behind Magalia Community Church



Behind Feather River Hospital



Behind Magalia Community Church



**~ 25% CodeRED Opt-in (~13,000)**



**56% Connection Success (~7,300)**







WIRELESS  
EMERGENCY  
ALERTS





**EAAS**

**Emergency Alert System**

# Mass Call Events (MCEs)



# Mass Call Events (MCEs)






**SAVE LARRY**

**Call: 1-900-720-1808**

**KILL LARRY**

**Call: 1-900-720-1909**

*(except on the West Coast)*

A still from the movie "Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events" showing Will Smith as Mr. Poe in a kitchen. He is wearing a tuxedo and holding a large lobster. The scene is overlaid with a poll graphic.

**FINAL VOTE**

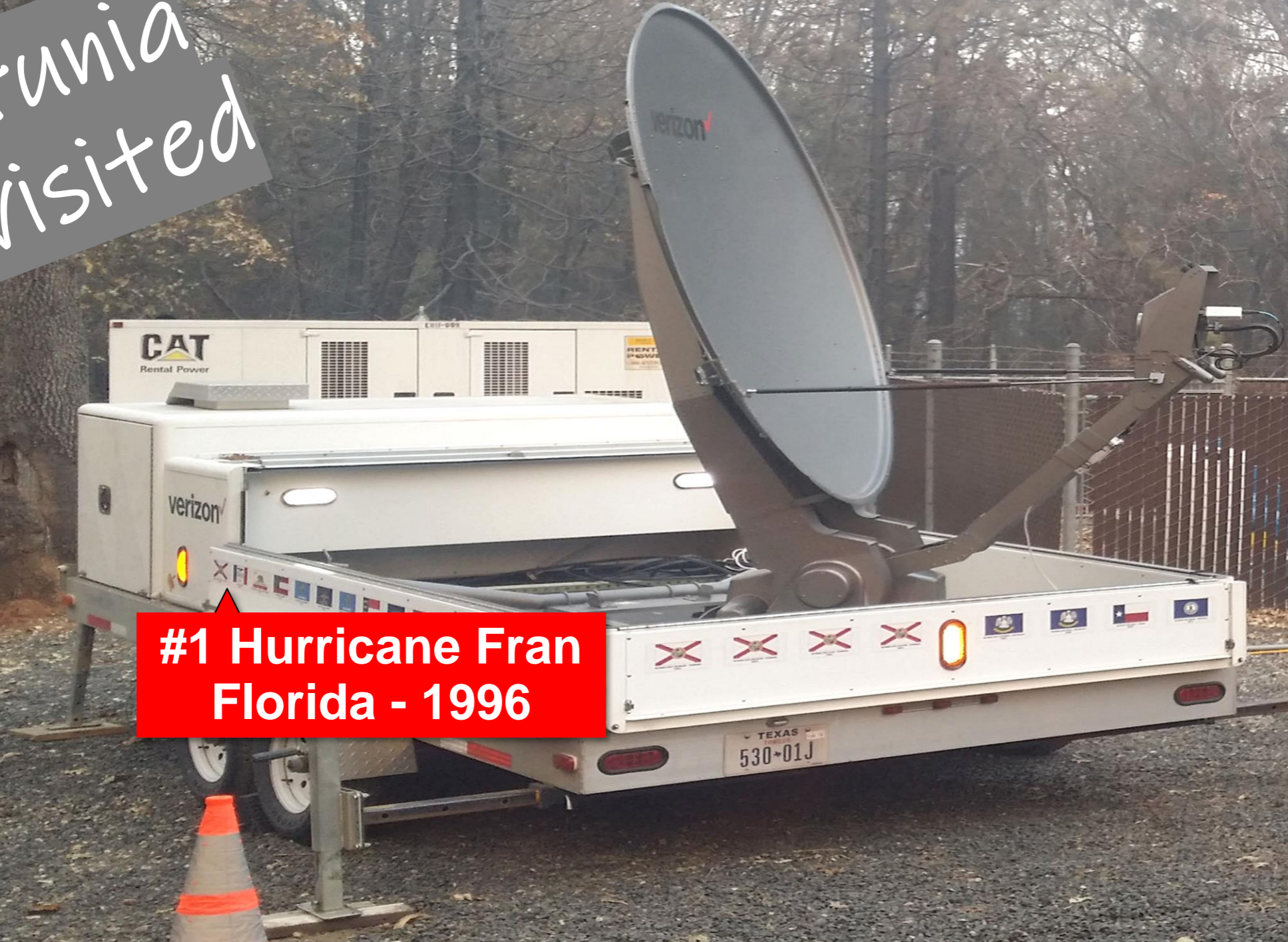
**SAVE LARRY: 239,096**

**KILL LARRY: 227,452**





Petunia  
revisited



#1 Hurricane Fran  
Florida - 1996



**#18 Hurricane Katrina  
Louisiana - 2005**

**1,000 cell towers disabled (70%)**



**#22 Superstorm  
Sandy - 2012**

**25% of cell, Internet & TV service disabled across 10 states**



**500 CAPITOL**  
Tranquillity Park ★  
Downtown Aquarium →  
Wortham Theater  
Sesquicent Park  
Hobby Center ←  
City Hall  
Sam Houston Park  
→

**P**  
**5**  
**THEATER DISTRICT PARKING**  
Hobby Center  
City Hall Annex  
City Hall

**LANE ENDS  
MERGE  
RIGHT**

Bagby

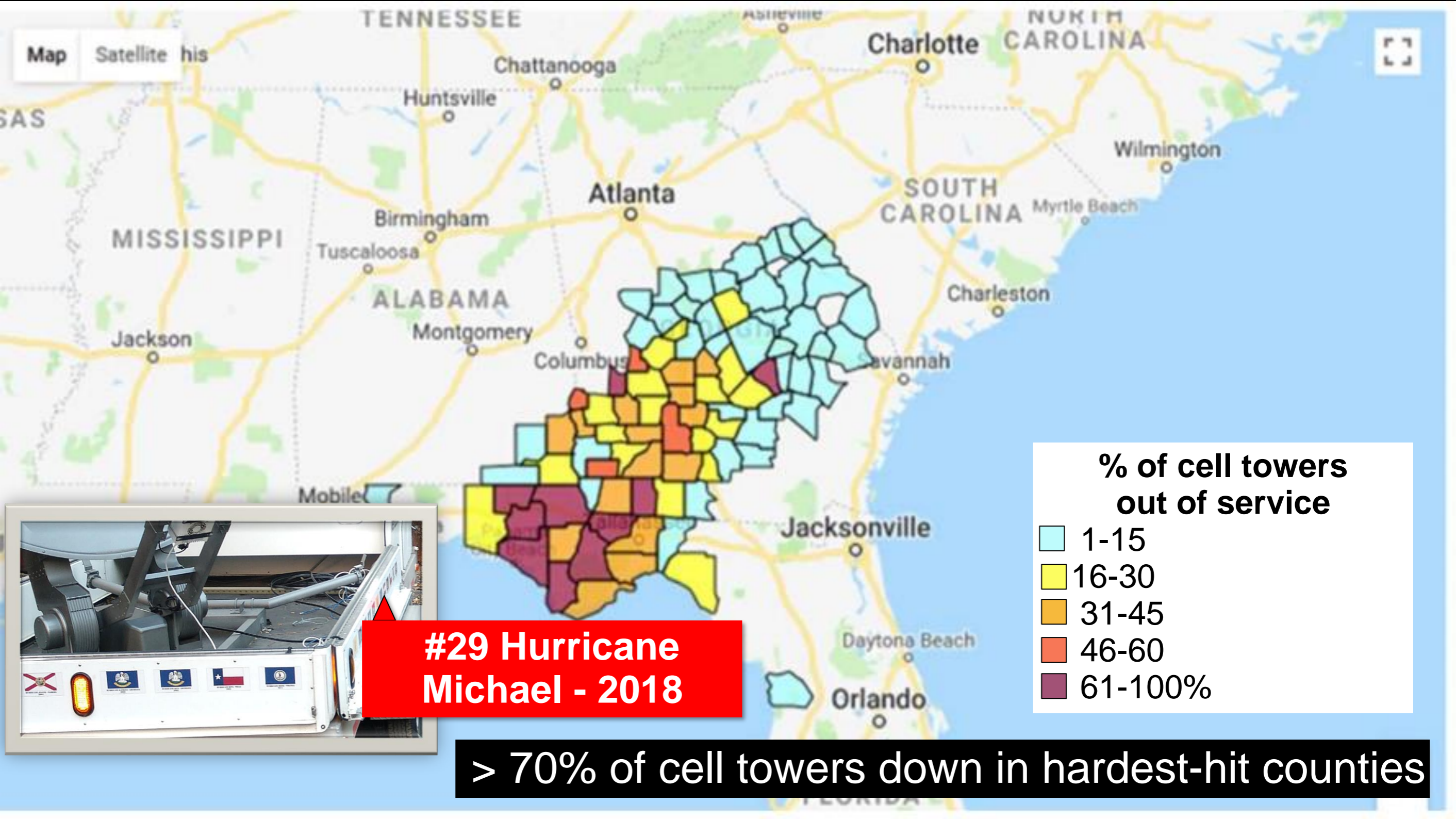
RIGHT LANE  
MUST  
TURN RIGHT

SOFTLAYER  
MERRILL CORPORA  
315 Capitol



**#26 Hurricane  
Harvey - 2017**

**364 cell towers disabled / 95% service outage**





RR FIRE



verizon

Can you hear me now?

2017 Mendocino Complex Fire

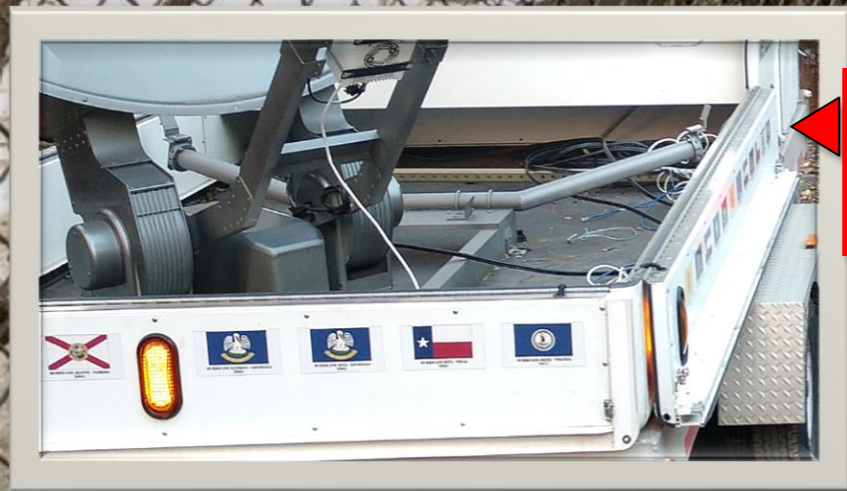


**2018 Tubbs Fire**





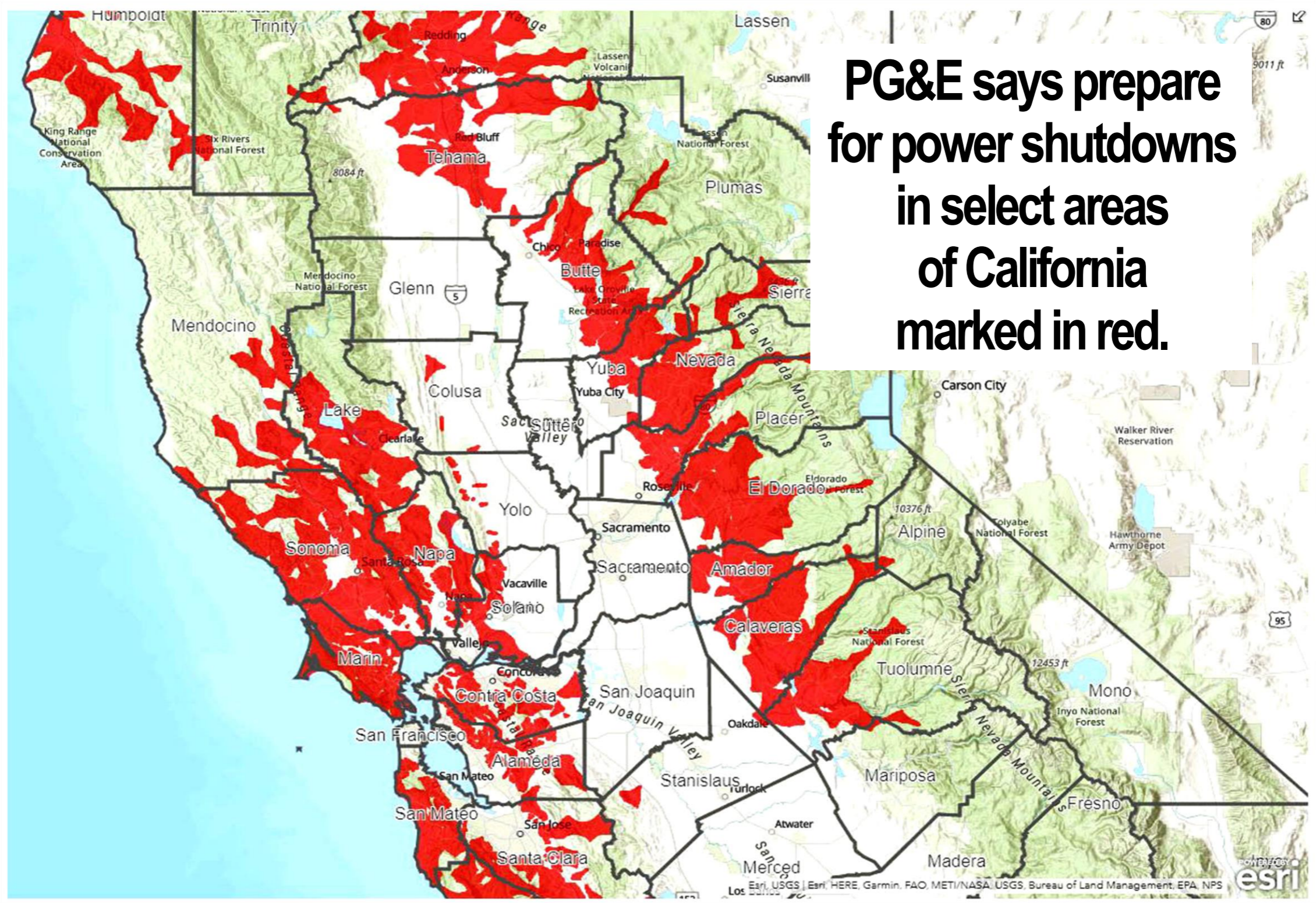
**#33 Camp Fire  
California - 2018**





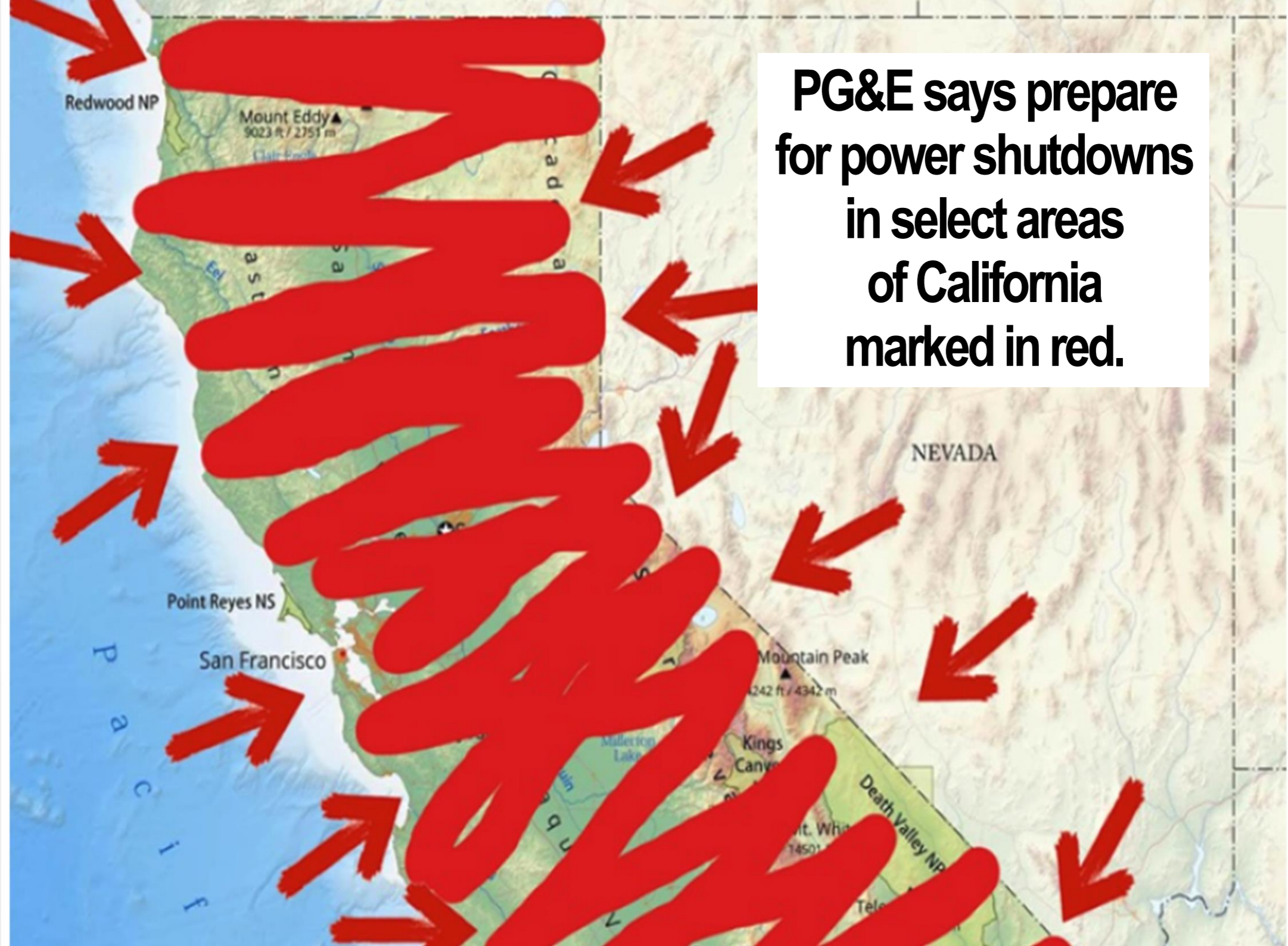
**PUBLIC SAFETY  
POWER SHUT OFF**

**2019 Power Shut Offs**



**PG&E says prepare for power shutdowns in select areas of California marked in red.**

**PG&E says prepare for power shutdowns in select areas of California marked in red.**





**2020 New York City Pandemic**

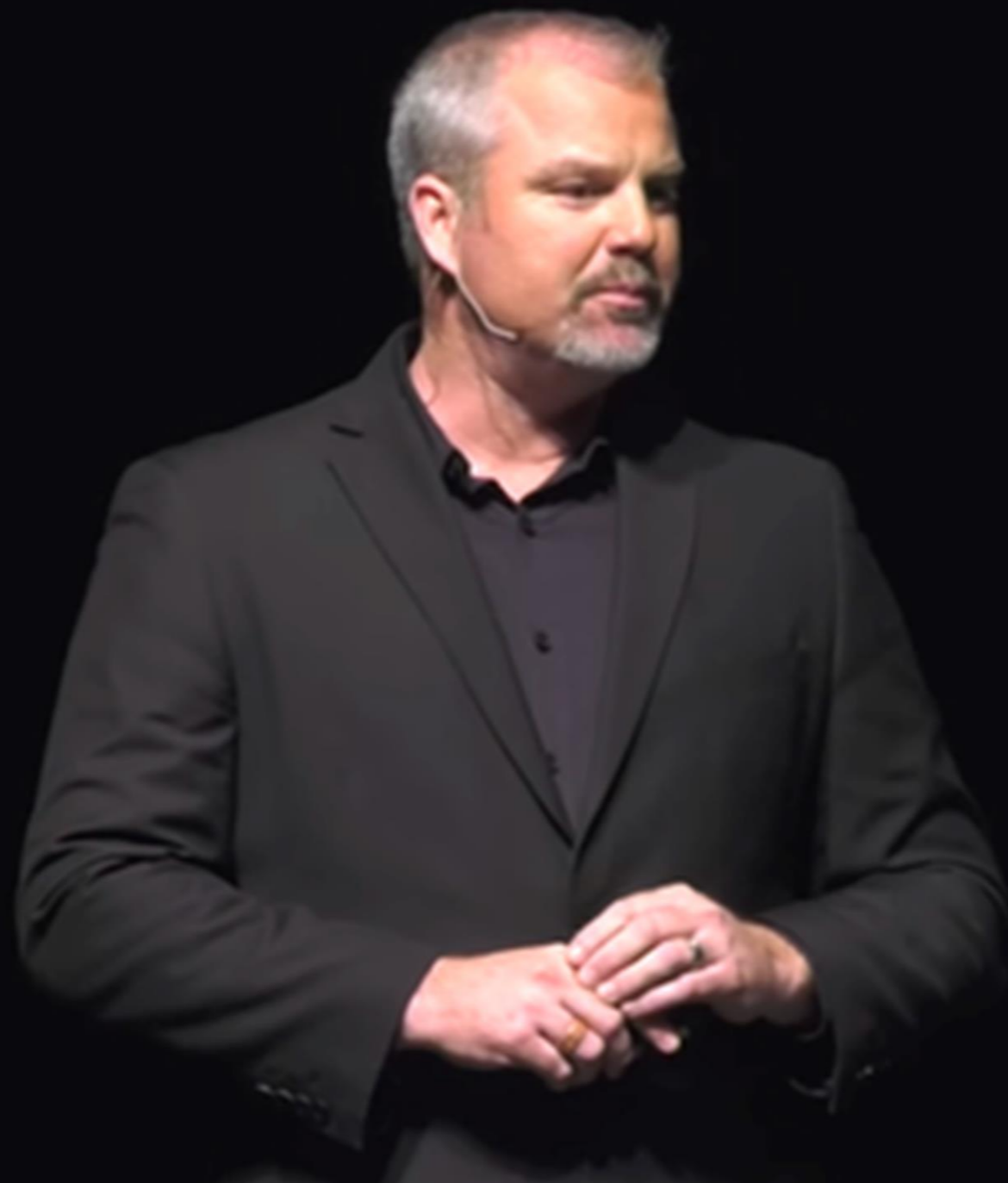
A heatmap of the United States showing the extent of cell service disruption on June 15, 2020. The map uses a color scale from white (low disruption) to red (high disruption). The most significant disruptions, shown in red, are concentrated in the Northeast corridor, the Washington D.C. area, the Southeast, and the West Coast. Yellow and orange areas indicate moderate to high levels of disruption across much of the country. The text "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" is centered on the map.

**UNITED  
STATES OF  
AMERICA**

**June 15, 2020 Cell Service Disruption Across US**



**1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake**

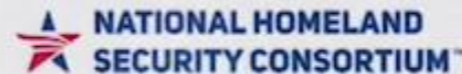


*“Who Will  
Save Us?”*



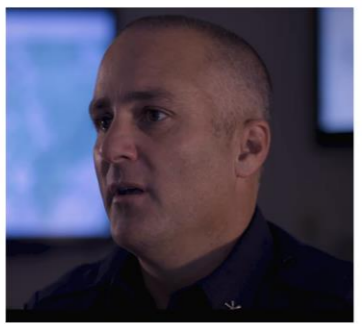
## Question:

How do you tell people that during a disaster first responders cannot rescue everyone that needs help?



CENTER FOR HOMELAND  
DEFENSE AND SECURITY  
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

*“When you need me most,  
I probably won’t be able  
to get to you...”*



# LESSON

**John Messina Captain, CalFire**

# PREPARE TO HELP YOURSELF

**FIRST RESPONDERS CARE  
BUT GET OVERWHELMED**





**A High and Awful Price – Documentary by Chris Smith** [youtube.com/watch?v=bo0yBOCvuwU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bo0yBOCvuwU)



(1982)  
Motorola DynaTAC 8000X



(1996)  
Motorola StarTAC



(2002)  
BlackBerry 5810



(2003)  
Nokia N-Gage

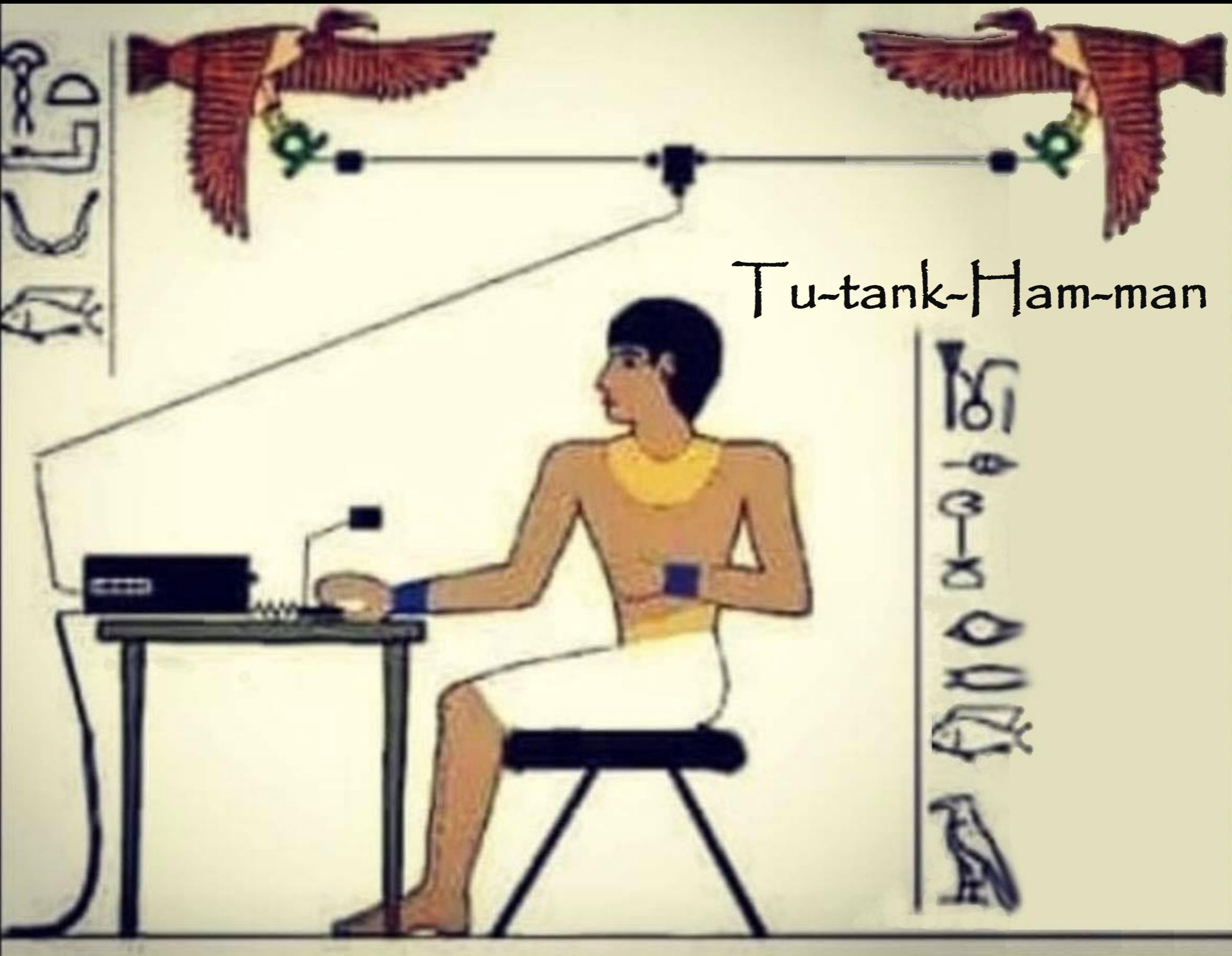


(2007)  
Apple iPhone



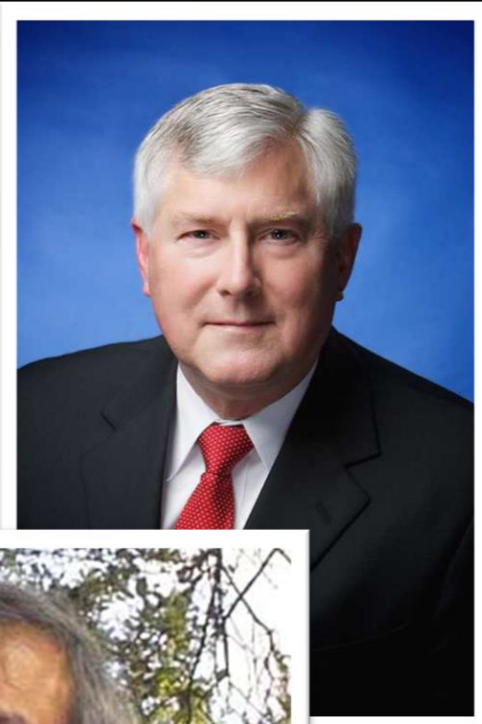
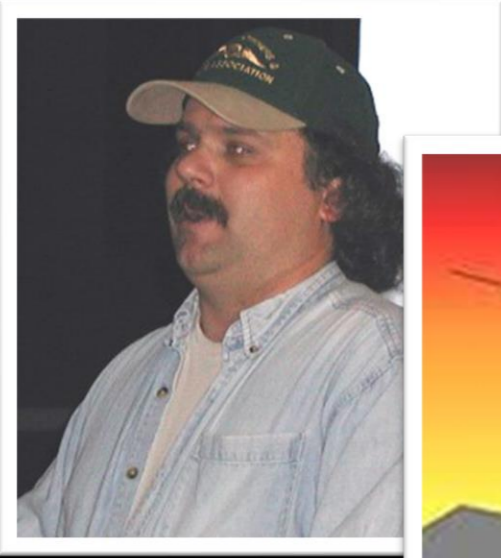
1983<<

>>2020

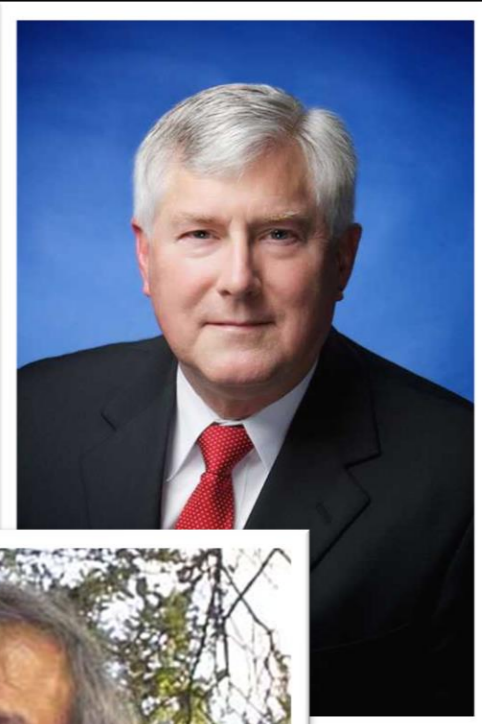
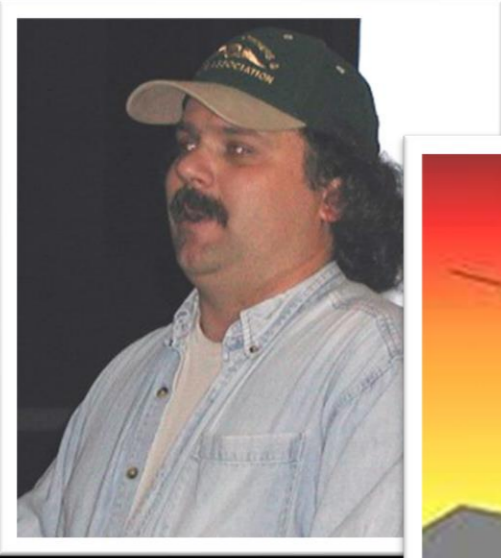


Tu-tank-Ham-man

# What can your Club do?



# Who better to lead the way?





It's in our "DNA..."





**§ Part 97.1 Basis and purpose:**

***Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.***

***“Think Outside the Go-Box”***



**Los Altos CERT**





**Stephen Murray**

December 15, 2018 · 🌐

Appletree Village Mobile Home Park

I got to see some of our residents today. The love and smiles mean so much to me. And we found 2 more residents that were unaccounted for. That just leaves 2 more to go. And we will all have made it out safe. ❤️❤️



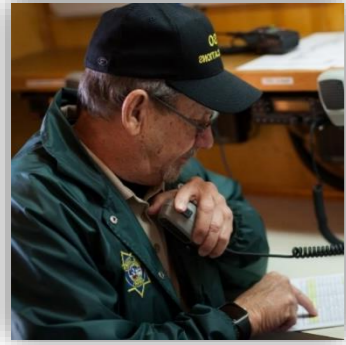
[paradisewasburning.com/stephen-murray/](http://paradisewasburning.com/stephen-murray/)





***Radio For The Rest of Us...***

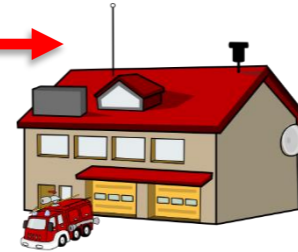
# Neighbors with GMRs and Ham Radios



Monitoring and Relays -  
County-wide and Beyond



“NEWSpacer”  
Neighborhood  
Early Warning  
System



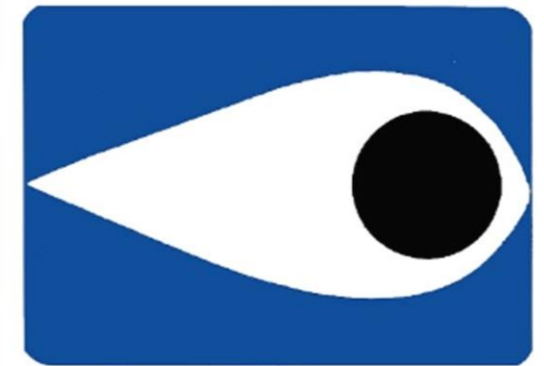
## Neighbors with GMRS Radios



“Simplex”  
radio to radio



## Neighbors with FRS Radios



NEIGHBORHOOD  
RADIO WATCH

WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER™



# Final Thoughts



# Final Thoughts

