
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit

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New CALFIRE Unit Chief for the Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit

Susanville – The Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit of CALFIRE is pleased to announce the appointment of Unit Chief Don Gordon. Don began his fire service career as a volunteer firefighter in Napa County. While attending college, Don worked as a firefighter at UC Davis Fire Department. Don began his CAL FIRE career in February 2000, as a Staff Services Analyst in the Shasta Trinity Unit (SHU) responsible for the administration of the Schedule A budget. In July 2002, he completed a Training and Development assignment to Fire Apparatus Engineer working at State and cooperative agreement stations, the Camp Program and Training in SHU.

In July 2005, Don accepted a limited term Fire Captain position in SHU assigned to Big Bend Fire Station, and in 2006, was promoted to a permanent Fire Captain position in SHU, working at Sugar Pine Conservation Camp. In 2007, Don graduated the POST Basic academy and was assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau as a Fire Captain Specialist and, in 2009, promoted to Battalion Chief serving as the Schedule A Fire Marshal in SHU. In July 2011, Don served as the Administrative Officer in Shasta before transferring to the Northern Region as a Civil Cost Recovery Case Manager. In May 2013, Don promoted to Assistant Chief, overseeing the Fire Prevention Engineering program in the Northern Region. Don transferred to the Northern Region Law Enforcement Coordinator position in January 2015.

Don earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry with a minor in English, and a Masters of Business Administration focusing on Natural Resource Economics and Governmental Accounting from UC Davis. Don attended the UC Berkeley Forestry Program as a graduate student, completing his Master's Thesis on structure survival during the 1991 Tunnel Fire in the Oakland Hills. Don holds certificates as a Fire Officer and as a POST Basic, Intermediate, Advanced Officer and Supervisor.

We congratulate Don on his new assignment and welcome him to the Lassen-Modoc-Plumas Unit.

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