Woolsey Fire Recovery
Calabasas Landfill

SWANA Chapter Workshop
January 17, 2019
Districts’ Solid Waste Facilities

Transfer Stations/Materials Recovery Facilities
1. South Gate
2. DART
3. Puente Hills MRF

Refuse-to-Energy Facilities
4. SERRF

Active Landfills
5. Calabasas
6. Scholl Canyon

Closed Landfills
7. Puente Hills
8. Spadra
9. Palos Verdes
10. Mission Canyon
Calabasas Landfill

- Opened in 1961
- Defined Wasteshed
- Receives approximately 1,000 tons per day of MSW
Calabasas Landfill

- Scales & Main Field Office
- Disposal Area
- Flare Station & Offices
- Power Plant & Equipment Yard
Woolsey Fire Proximity to Landfill

Woolsey Fire Ignition at 2:18 p.m. 11/8

Calabasas Landfill on Fire Morning of 11/9

70 mph Wind Gusts
Woolsey Fire Arrives at Calabasas Landfill the Morning of November 9, 2018
Staff Battles Flames
November 9, 2018
Flare Station and Power Plant Saved from Destruction
Staff Abandons Site
Later That Day
Districts’ Mobilize Task Force and Prepare Logistics

● Prepare for Return
  – Mobilize Crafts & Assign Responsibilities
  – Anticipate Equipment Needs

● Prioritize Tasks
  – Eliminate Hazardous Conditions
  – Restart Flares and Blower Station
  – Restore Power and Communications

● Prepare to Reopen Landfill
Staff Returns Next Morning

- Fire Still Burning
- Emergency Generators Deployed
- Site Assessment
- Flare Station and Blowers Started
- Triage Gas Collection Systems
Extent of Damage

236 Acres Burned

Calabasas Landfill

- Gas Collection
- Water Main
- Structures
- Drainage
- Boundary Probes
- LCRS
- Material Storage
Landfill Gas Collection System

- Extensive damage to lateral piping
- Some Headerlines
**Liquids Collection and Pumping System**

- Extensive damage to liquids collection system
Infrastructure & Communication Systems

- Field Office Contained Communication & Network Infrastructure
- Site Using Cell Phones and Wi-Fi Hotspots
Landfill Reopened in 4 Days!
Rain in the Forecast

- Install BMPs in Burn Areas
- Reduce Impact of Potential Debris Flows
Steps Taken to Date

- Over 40,000 linear feet of piping purchased
- Several generators brought onsite to provide local power
- Onsite work
  - *Four contractors/LACSD Staff/Vendors*
    - LFG System and Condensate System Repair
    - Communications/Utilities
    - Drainage/Erosion Control
- Daily/weekly monitoring of boundary probes near local community
- Weekly ambient air monitoring (when possible)
Documenting Damage & Repairs

- Use of Mobile GIS
  - GPS Coordinates
  - Condition Data Collection
  - Snap Photos
  - Live Upload of Data
Deploying Custom Web Applications
Benefits of Data Collection

- Quick deployment and detailed documentation

- FEMA & Insurance Requires Evidence be Treated Similar to a Crime Scene
  - Document condition before removal
  - Document repairs
  - Document disposal