

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sanger VFD upgrades fleet with slip-on unit

August 25, 2016 — SANGER, Texas — Sanger Volunteer Fire Department recently upgraded one of their trucks with a \$18,000 slip-on unit grant through Texas A&M Forest Service's Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Grant Program.

A slip-on unit is a complete, self-contained firefighting apparatus designed for a pickup truck or custom built vehicle platforms. It is intended to become a fast, initial-attack firefighting component used for wildland firefighting, structure and automobile fires.

“The grant that we received helped us to replace a 1999, 300-gallon slip-on that did not have foam capability,” said Sanger VFD Chief David Pennington. “We were also having problems with the old unit overheating when we were fighting a grass fire for an extended period of time.”

The new slip-on unit consists of a 400-gallon water tank, 10-gallon foam tank and 100-foot hose reel.

“We needed something dependable since we have about 1600 calls a year across the 142 sq. miles that we cover. There are a lot of 3-10 acre ranchettes plus open ranch land where grass fires and hay field fires can increase with the dry weather,” explained Pennington.

“This slip-on unit has already been a huge benefit to the community and surrounding area,” said Texas A&M Forest Service Resource Specialist Keith Vaughan. “Sanger VFD provides mutual aid for another fire department in Wise County and they used this unit to respond to a wildland fire there that was over 200 acres.”

Texas A&M Forest Service is committed to protecting lives and property through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program, a cost-share program funded by the Texas State Legislature and administered by Texas A&M Forest Service. This program provides funding to rural VFDs for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry-hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

To learn more about the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program, and other programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, please visit <http://texasfd.com>.

