



**GLOSSARY OF TERMS
ICS-010-1**

July 10, 2019

This document contains information relative to the Incident Command System (ICS) component of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). This is the same Incident Command System developed by FIRESCOPE.

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INTRODUCTION

The Glossary of Terms included in this document are those commonly used in ICS and emergency response disciplines. The Glossary of Terms for each discipline are specific to that discipline and may have similar terms that are used in other areas of ICS and emergency response. INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM (ICS)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

A

Action Plan – See Incident Action Plan

Agency – An agency is a division of government with a specific function, or a Non-governmental organization (e.g., private contractor, business, etc.) that offers a particular kind of assistance. In ICS, agencies are defined as jurisdictional (having statutory responsibility for incident mitigation) or assisting and/or cooperating (providing resources and/or assistance). (See Assisting Agency, Cooperation Agency, and Multi-agency.)

Agency Administrator or Executive – Chief executive officer (or designee) of the agency or jurisdiction that has responsibility for the incident.

Agency Dispatch – The agency or jurisdictional facility from which resources are allocated to incidents.

Agency Representative – An individual assigned to an incident from an assisting or cooperating agency that has been delegated authority to make decisions on matters affecting that agency's participation at the incident. Agency Representatives report to the Incident Liaison Officer.

Air Operations Branch Director – The person primarily responsible for preparing and implementing the air operations portion of the Incident Action Plan. Also responsible for providing logistical support to helicopters operating on the incident.

Air Transportable Mobile Weather Unit (ATMWU) – A portable weather data collection and forecasting system used by a National Weather Service Fire Weather Forecaster.

Allocated Resources – Resources dispatched to an incident.

All-Risk – See All Hazard

All-Hazard – Any incident of event, natural or human-caused, that warrants action to protect life, property, environment, public health or safety, and to minimize disruption of government, social, or economic activities.

Area Command (Unified Area Command) – An organization established to oversee the management of (1) multiple incidents that are each being handled by an ICS organization, or (2) large or multiple incidents to which several Incident Management Teams have been assigned. Area Command has the responsibility to set overall strategy and priorities, allocate critical resources according to priorities, ensure that incidents are properly managed, and ensure that objectives are met and strategies

followed. Area Command becomes Unified Area Command when incidents are multijurisdictional. Area Command may be established at an emergency operations center facility or at some location other than an Incident Command Post.

Assigned Resources – Resources checked in and assigned work tasks on an incident.

Assignments – Tasks given to resources to perform within a given operational period, based upon tactical objectives in the Incident Action Plan.

Assistant – Title for subordinates of the Command Staff positions. The title indicates a level of technical capability, qualifications, and responsibility subordinate to the primary positions.

Assisting Agency – An agency or organization providing personnel, services, or other resources to the agency with direct responsibility for incident management.

Available Resources – Resources assigned to an incident, checked in, and available for a mission assignment, normally located in a Staging Area.

B

Base – The location at which primary Logistics functions for an incident are coordinated and administered. There is only one Base per incident. (Incident name or other designator will be added to the term Base.) The Incident Command Post may be collocated with the Base.

Bomb/Explosives Group Supervisor – The Bomb/Explosives Group Supervisor reports to the Operations Section Chief or Law Branch Director (if activated). The Bomb/Explosives Group Supervisor is responsible for investigating suspicious packages, explosive devices, rendering them safe, and conducting criminal investigations at the scene of an explosive device or explosion.

Branch – The organizational level having functional or geographic responsibility for major parts of the Operations or Logistics functions. The Branch level is organizationally between Section and Division/Group in the Operations Section, and between Section and Units in the Logistics Section. Branches are identified by the use of Roman numerals or by functional name (e.g., medical, security, etc.).

C

Cache – A pre-determined complement of tools, equipment, and/or supplies stored in a designated location, available for incident use.

California Multi-Agency Coordination (CalMAC) – During periods of significant statewide emergency activity that require high levels of emergency resource commitment, it may become necessary to activate a statewide MACE, herein referred to as CalMAC. The purpose of CalMAC is to prioritize incidents and manage resource

allocation on a statewide basis. CalMAC may be activated when a Geographic Area exceeds its ability to meet resource needs and must rely on resource commitments from other Geographic Areas. During periods of statewide resource drawdown, even though only one Geographic Area may be experiencing multiple incidents, it may be necessary to activate CalMAC to manage resource allocation on a statewide basis.

California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG) – The California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group is established to provide an interagency approach to wildland fire management and all-risk support on all land ownerships within the State of California. The purpose of CWCG is to further interagency cooperation, communications, coordination, and to provide interagency fire management direction and all-risk support for the Northern and Southern California Geographical Areas.

Camp – A geographical site, within the general incident area, separate from the Incident Base, equipped and staffed to provide sleeping, food, water, and sanitary services to incident personnel.

Chain of Command – A series of management positions in order of authority.

Check-In – The process whereby resources first report to an incident. Check-in locations include: Incident Command Post (Resources Unit), Incident Base, Camps, Staging Areas, Helibases, Helispots, and Division Supervisors (for direct line assignments).

Chief – The ICS title for individuals responsible for functional Sections: Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration.

Clear Text – The use of plain English in radio communications transmissions. No Ten Codes or agency-specific codes are used when utilizing clear text

Command – The act of directing and/or controlling resources by virtue of explicit legal, agency, or delegated authority. May also refer to the Incident Commander.

Command Post – See Incident Command Post

Command Staff – The Command Staff consists of the Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, and Liaison Officer. They report directly to the Incident Commander. They may have an Assistant or Assistants, as needed

Communications Unit – An organizational Unit in the Logistics Section responsible for providing communication services at an incident. A Communications Unit may also be a facility (e.g., a trailer or mobile van) used to provide the major part of an Incident Communications Center.

Community Refuge Area – A protective action term used for a designated location that is considered to provide a greater level of survivability than Shelter-In-Place.

Compacts – Formal working agreements among agencies to obtain mutual aid.

Company – Any piece of equipment having a full complement of personnel.

Company Unity – A term to indicate that a fire company or unit shall remain together in a cohesive and identifiable working group, to ensure personnel accountability and the safety of all members. A company officer or unit leader shall be responsible for the adequate supervision, control, communication and safety of members of the company or unit.

Compatibility – The matching of personal protective equipment (PPE) to the hazards involved providing the best protection for the worker.

Compensation/Claims Unit – Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for financial concerns resulting from property damage, injuries, or fatalities at the incident.

Complex – Two or more individual incidents located in the same general area that are assigned to a single Incident Commander or to Unified Command.

Cooperating Agency – An agency supplying assistance other than direct operational or support functions or resources to the incident management effort.

Coordination – The process of systematically analyzing a situation, developing relevant information, and informing appropriate command authority of viable alternatives for selection of the most effective combination of available resources to meet specific objectives. The coordination process (which can be either intra- or interagency) does not involve dispatch actions. However, personnel responsible for coordination may perform command or dispatch functions within the limits established by specific agency delegations, procedures, legal authority, etc.

Coordination Center – A facility that is used for the coordination of agency or jurisdictional resources in support of one or more incidents.

Cost Sharing Agreements – Agreements between agencies or jurisdictions to share designated costs related to incidents. Cost sharing agreements are normally written but may also be oral between authorized agency or jurisdictional representatives at the incident

Cost Unit – Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for tracking costs, analyzing cost data, making cost estimates, and recommending cost-saving measures.

Covered – A Station should be considered **covered** when the normal daily apparatus and staffing are in place.

Crew – See Single Resource

Crew Transport – Any vehicle capable of transporting personnel in specified numbers.

D

Damage Inspection (DI) – A systematic survey of an incident, collecting and recording damage to property, infrastructure, environmental resources and other items as needed to provide a clear understanding of the impact of a disaster has had and provide information for loss analysis.

Delegation of Authority – A statement provided to the Incident Commander by the Agency Executive delegating authority and assigning responsibility. The Delegation of Authority can include objectives, priorities, expectations, constraints, and other considerations or guidelines as needed. Many agencies require written Delegation of Authority to be given to Incident Commanders prior to their assuming command on larger incidents.

Demobilization Unit – Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for assuring orderly, safe, and efficient demobilization of incident resources.

Deputy – A fully qualified individual who, in the absence of a superior, could be delegated the authority to manage a functional operation or perform a specific task. In some cases, a Deputy could act as relief for a superior and therefore must be fully qualified in the position. Deputies can be assigned to the Incident Commander, General Staff, and Branch Directors.

Diminished – Coverage of a Station is *diminished* at any time that regular apparatus or staffing levels are below the normal assignment level for that Station. This could be due to apparatus being assigned to an incident, moved up to cover another Station or below normal staffing levels because of the unavailability of qualified staff.

Director – The ICS title for individuals responsible for supervision of a Branch.

Dispatch – The implementation of a command decision to move a resource or resources from one place to another.

Dispatch Center – A facility from which resources are ordered, mobilized, and assigned to an incident.

Division – Divisions are used to divide an incident into geographical areas of operation. A Division is located within the ICS organization between the Branch and the Task Force/Strike Team. (See Group.) Divisions are identified by alphabetic characters for horizontal applications and, often, by floor numbers when used in buildings.

Documentation Unit – Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for collecting, recording, and safeguarding all documents relevant to the incident.

Dozer Company – Any bulldozer with a complement of personnel.

Drawdown – The degree of response capabilities of an agency due to the impact of emergency activity within their home jurisdiction and/or their commitment of resources to the mutual aid system for incident response outside of their jurisdiction. This may be expressed as a percentage of remaining capability.

E

Emergency – Absent a Presidentially declared emergency, any incident(s), human-caused or natural, that requires responsive action to protect life or property. Under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, an emergency means any occasion or instance for which, in the determination of the President, Federal assistance is needed to supplement State and local efforts and capabilities to save lives and to protect property and public health and safety, or to lessen or avert the threat of a catastrophe in any part of the United States.

Emergency Management Coordinator/Director – The individual within each political subdivision that has coordination responsibility for jurisdictional emergency management.

Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) – The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support domestic incident management activities normally takes place. An EOC may be a temporary facility or may be located in a more central or permanently established facility, perhaps at a higher level of organization within a jurisdiction. EOCs may be organized by major functional disciplines (e.g., fire, law enforcement, and medical services), by jurisdiction (e.g., Federal, State, regional, county, city, tribal), or some combination thereof.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) – The plan that each jurisdiction has and maintains for responding to appropriate hazards.

Emergency Traffic – The term used to clear designated channels used at an incident to make way for important radio traffic for a fighter emergency situation or an immediate change in tactical operations.

Emergency Traffic Radio Tone – A distinctive tone used on designated channel(s) identified in a standard operating guideline.

Engine Company – Any ground vehicle providing specified levels of pumping, water, hose capacity and personnel.

Environmental – Atmospheric, Hydrologic and Geologic media (air, water and soil).

Evacuation – Organized, phased, and supervised withdrawal, dispersal or removal of civilians from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas.

Event – A planned, non-emergency activity. ICS can be used as the management system for a wide range of events, e.g., parades, concerts, or sporting events.

Exhaustion – The point of drawdown for an agency at which they cannot contribute any resources to the mutual aid system without compromising their acceptable level of emergency service coverage within their own jurisdiction.

E

Facilities Unit – Functional Unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section that provides fixed facilities for the incident. These facilities may include the Incident Base, feeding areas, sleeping areas, sanitary facilities, etc.

Federal – Of or pertaining to the Federal Government of the United States of America.

Field Operations Guide (FOG) – A pocket-size manual of instructions on the application of the Incident Command System. Also known as ICS 420-1

Finance/Administration Section – The Section responsible for all incident costs and financial considerations. Includes the Time Unit, Procurement Unit, Compensation/Claims Unit, and Cost Unit.

FIRESCOPE – An acronym for **Firefighting RESources of California Organized for Potential Emergencies**. The FIRESCOPE organization provides recommendations and technical assistance to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). Through the FIRESCOPE Decision Process, it continues the operation, development, and maintenance of the FIRESCOPE Incident Command System (ICS) and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS).

Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System – A statewide system that allows for the progressive mobilization of equipment and personnel in support of on-scene emergency management.

Fireline Emergency Medical Technician (EMTF) – The EMTF provides basic life support (BLS) emergency medical care to personnel operation on the fireline.

Fireline Paramedic (EMPF) – The EMPF provides advanced life support (ALS) medical care to personnel operating on the fireline.

Fix Site Security Unit Leader – The Fixed Site Security Unit Leader(s) report to the Mobile Field Force Group Supervisor and/or the Patrol Group Supervisor. The Fixed Site Security Unit Leader is responsible for the continuous physical security focused on the protection of people, property, and the sites for a named place(s) or facility(s), including providing or access control for these sites, places(s) or facility(s). This could include incident facilities such as the Incident Command Post and staging.

Flycrew – A handcrew of predetermined size transported to an incident via helicopter.

Food Dispenser – Any vehicle capable of dispensing food to incident personnel.

Food Unit – Functional Unit within the Service Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for providing meals for incident personnel.

Fuel Tender – Any vehicle capable of supplying fuel to ground or airborne equipment.

Function – Function refers to the five major activities in ICS: Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration. The term function is also used when describing the activity involved, e.g., the planning function. A sixth function, Intelligence, may be established, if required, to meet incident management needs.

G

Geographical Area Coordination Center (GACC) – The physical location of an interagency, regional operation center for the effective coordination, mobilization and demobilization of emergency management resources. A coordination center serves, federal, state and local wildland fire agencies through logistical coordination of resources throughout the geographical area, and with other geographic areas, as well.

General Staff – A group of incident management personnel organized according to function and reporting to the Incident Commander. The General Staff normally consists of the Operations Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Logistics Section Chief, and Finance/Administration Section Chief.

Geographic Information System (GIS) – A Geographic Information System (GIS) is an organized collection of computer hardware, software, geographic data, people, and methods designed to efficiently capture, store, update, analyze, and display all forms of geographically referenced information.

Ground Support Unit – Functional Unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for the fueling, maintaining, and repairing of vehicles, and the transportation of personnel and supplies.

Group – Groups are established to divide the incident into functional areas of operation. Groups are composed of resources assembled to perform a special function not necessarily within a single geographic division. (See Division.) Groups are located between Branches (when activated) and Resources in the Operations Section.

H

Hand Crew – A number of individuals that have been organized and trained and are supervised principally for operational assignments on an incident.

Hazard – Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome.

Heavy Equipment Transport – Any ground vehicle capable of transporting a dozer.

Helibase – The main location for parking, fueling, maintenance, and loading of helicopters operating in support of an incident. It is usually located at or near the incident Base.

Helicopter Tender – A ground service vehicle capable of supplying fuel and support equipment to helicopters.

Helitack Crew – A crew of 3 or more individuals who may be assigned to operations or to support helicopter operations.

Helitanker – A helicopter equipped with a fixed tank, Air Tanker Board certified, capable of delivering a minimum of 1,000 gallons of water, retardant, or foam.

Helispot – Any designated location where a helicopter can safely take off and land. Some Helispots may be used for loading of supplies, equipment, or personnel.

Hierarchy of Command – See Chain of Command.

I

Incident – An occurrence or event, natural or human-caused that requires an emergency response to protect life or property. Incidents can, for example, include major disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks, terrorist threats, wildland and urban fires, floods, hazardous materials spills, nuclear accidents, aircraft accidents, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, tropical storms, war-related disasters, public health and medical emergencies, and other occurrences requiring an emergency response.

Incident Action Plan (IAP) – An oral or written plan containing general objectives reflecting the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods.

Incident Base – Location at the incident where the primary Logistics functions are coordinated and administered. (Incident name or other designator will be added to the term Base.) The Incident Command Post may be collocated with the Base. There is only one Base per incident.

Incident Commander (IC) – The individual responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and the release of resources. The IC has overall authority and responsibility for conducting incident operations and is responsible for the management of all incident operations at the incident site.

Incident Command Post (ICP) – The field location at which the primary tactical-level, on-scene incident command functions are performed. The ICP may be collocated with

the incident base or other incident facilities and is normally identified by a green rotating or flashing light.

Incident Command System (ICS) – The combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure with responsibility for the management of assigned resources to effectively accomplish stated objectives pertaining to an incident.

Incident Management Team – The Incident Commander, appropriate Command and General Staff personnel assigned to an incident.

Incident Objectives – Statements of guidance and direction that are achievable, measurable, and necessary for the selection of appropriate strategy (ies), and the tactical direction of resources.

Incident Support Organizations – Includes any off-incident support provided to an incident. Examples would be Agency Dispatch centers, Airports, Mobilization Centers, etc.

Incident Communications Center – The location of the Communications Unit and the Message Center.

Information Officer – A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies requiring information directly from the incident. There is only one Information Officer per incident. The Information Officer may have assistants.

Infrared (IR) – A heat detection system used for fire detection, mapping and hot spot identification.

Infrared (IR) Ground Link – A capability through the use of a special mobile ground station to receive air-to-ground infrared imagery for interpretation.

Initial Action – The actions taken by resources which are the first to arrive at an incident.

Initial Response – Resources initially committed to an incident.

Intelligence Group Supervisor – Initially report to the Incident Commander, Planning Section Chief or the Operations Section Chief. In a large or complex incident, Intelligence may report to the Law Enforcement Group Supervisor or Branch Director. Based on the needs of the incident, Intelligence may be assigned as a Unit under Planning or a group under Operations Branch.

Investigation Unit Leader/Group Supervisor – Initially reports to the Incident Commander, Planning Section Chief or the Operations Section Chief. In a large or complex incident, Investigations may report to the Law Enforcement Group Supervisor

or Branch Director. Based on the needs of the incident, Investigation may be assigned as a Unit under Planning or a Group under Operations Branch.

J

Joint Information Center (JIC) – A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities. It is the central point of contact for all news media at the scene of the incident. Public information officials from all participating agencies should collocate at the JIC.

Joint Information System (JIS) – Integrates incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations. The mission of the JIS is to provide a structure and system for developing and delivering coordinated interagency messages; developing, recommending, and executing public information plans and strategies on behalf of the Incident Commander; advising the Incident Commander concerning public affairs issues that could affect a response effort; and controlling rumors and inaccurate information that could undermine public confidence in the emergency response effort.

Jurisdiction – A range or sphere of authority. Public agencies have jurisdiction at an incident related to their legal responsibilities and authority. Jurisdictional authority at an incident can be political or geographical (e.g., city, county, tribal, State, or Federal boundary lines) or functional (e.g., law enforcement, public health).

Jurisdictional Agency – The agency having jurisdiction and responsibility for a specific geographical area, or a mandated function.

K

Kinds of Resources – Describe what the resource is (e.g., medic, firefighter, Planning Section Chief, helicopters, ambulances, combustible gas indicators, bulldozers).

L

Landing Zone (LZ) – See Helispot.

LCES Checklist – In the wildland fire environment, Lookouts, Communications, Escape Routes, Safety Zones (LCES) is key to safe procedures for firefighters. The elements of LCES form a safety system used by firefighters to protect themselves. This system is put in place before fighting the fire: select a lookout or lookouts, set up a communication system, choose escape routes, and select a safety zone or zones.

Leader – The ICS title for an individual responsible for a Task Force, Strike Team, or functional unit.

Liaison – A form of communication for establishing and maintaining mutual understanding and cooperation.

Liaison Officer (LNO) – A member of the Command Staff responsible for coordinating with representatives from cooperating and assisting agencies. The Liaison Officer may have Assistants.

Life Safety – Refers to the joint consideration of both the life and physical well-being of individuals.

Life Hazard – The existence of a process or condition that would likely cause serious injury or death to exposed persons.

Life Hazard Zones – A system of barriers surrounding designated areas at the incident scene that is intended to **STOP** fire personnel and other responders from entering a potentially Life Threatening, Hazardous Area. Life Hazard Zones should be communicated to all personnel on the incident who may be affected by the zone (Reference FIRESCOPE ICS-910 - Firefighter Incident Safety and Accountability Guidelines and the current edition of the NWCG Redbook for specific identification procedures).

Life Hazard Lookout – A qualified person in a location where they can safely observe a Life Hazard, monitor resources and personnel in the area, and communicate with resources keeping them a safe distance away. The Lookout will also isolate and deny entry to any responders or resources until the life hazard is mitigated and the Incident Commander approves the release of the Life Hazard Zone.

Logistics – Providing resources and other services to support incident management.

Logistics Section – The Section responsible for providing facilities, services, and materials for the incident.

Local Government – A county, municipality, city, town, township, local public authority, school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (regardless of whether the council of governments is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), regional or interstate government entity, or agency or instrumentality of a local government; an Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization, or in Alaska a Native village or Alaska Regional Native Corporation; a rural community, unincorporated town or village, or other public entity. See Section 2 (10), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

M

Major Disaster – As defined under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122), a major disaster is any natural catastrophe (including any hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, or

drought), or, regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion, in any part of the United States, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance under this Act to supplement the efforts and available resources of States, tribes, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, hardship, or suffering caused thereby.

Management by Objective – A management approach that involves a four-step process for achieving the incident goal. The Management by Objectives approach includes the following: establishing overarching objectives; developing and issuing assignments, plans, procedures, and protocols; establishing specific, measurable objectives for various incident management functional activities and directing efforts to fulfill them, in support of defined strategic objectives; and documenting results to measure performance and facilitate corrective action.

Managers – Individuals within ICS organizational Units that are assigned specific managerial responsibilities, e.g., Staging Area Manager or Camp Manager.

Medical Unit – Functional Unit within the Service Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for the development of the Medical Emergency Plan, and for providing emergency medical treatment of incident personnel.

Message Center – The Message Center is part of the Incident Communications Center and is collocated or placed adjacent to it. It receives, records, and routes information about resources reporting to the incident, resource status, and administrative and tactical traffic.

Mitigation – The activities designed to reduce or eliminate risks to persons or property or to lessen the actual or potential effects or consequences of an incident. Mitigation measures may be implemented prior to, during, or after an incident. Mitigation measures are often formed by lessons learned from prior incidents. Mitigation involves ongoing actions to reduce exposure to, probability of, or potential loss from hazards. Measures may include zoning and building codes, floodplain buyouts, and analysis of hazard-related data to determine where it is safe to build or locate temporary facilities. Mitigation can include efforts to educate governments, businesses, and the public on measures they can take to reduce loss and injury.

Mobilization – The process and procedures used by all organizations (Federal, State, and local) for activating, assembling, and transporting all resources that have been requested to respond to or support an incident.

Mobile Field Force (MFF) – A mobile team capable of providing a fast and effective platoon or squad size tactical force for a wide variety of policing functions and missions.

Mobile Field Force Supervisor – The Mobile Field Force Group Supervisor reports to the Operations Section Chief or Law Branch Director (if activated). The Mobile Field Force Group Supervisor is responsible for managing operations that may exceed the capabilities of the Patrol Group. The Mobile Field Force Group is trained and equipped

to deal with large crowds, act of civil disobedience, maintaining order and preserving the peace. They can be used in multiple configurations and or varying tasks. The Mobile Field Force Group Supervisor is responsible for assigning resources within the Mobile Field Force Group.

Mobilization Center – An off-incident location at which emergency service personnel and equipment are temporarily located pending assignment, release, or reassignment.

Multi-agency Coordination (MAC) – The coordination of assisting agency resources and support to emergency operations.

Multi-agency Coordination Systems (MACS) – Multiagency coordination systems provide the architecture to support coordination for incident prioritization, critical resource allocation, communications systems integration, and information coordination. The components of multiagency coordination systems include facilities, equipment, emergency operations centers (EOCs), specific multiagency coordination entities, personnel, procedures, and communications. These systems assist agencies and organizations to fully integrate the subsystems of the NIMS.

Multi-agency Coordination Systems (MACS) “Modes of Operation” – The four (4) FIRESCOPE *Modes of Operation* are reflective of overall regional emergency activities, specific incident activity, resource commitment, and predicted weather patterns that may result in continued or increased resource commitments. The following are examples of conditions resulting in various mode levels:

Mode 1 – A non-critical situation typical of a non-fire season or early fire season situation.

Mode 2 – A normal fire season situation with no significant resource impact.

Mode 3 – A serious situation and may require Northern and Southern MAC Groups to participate in MACS activities to include providing incident resource information and Mode 3 conference calls.

Mode 4 – A total Geographic Area commitment or statewide effort requiring MACS activities at both Geographic Areas and may also require CalMAC activation. CalMAC Statewide coordination may require a face-to-face meeting in Sacramento; however, this is usually determined by group consensus. Conference calls are also effective and are often used, especially for short duration events.

Multi-agency Incident – An incident where one or more agencies assist a jurisdictional agency or agencies. May be single or unified command.

Multi-jurisdiction Incident – An incident requiring action from multiple agencies that have a statutory responsibility for incident mitigation. In ICS these incidents will be managed under Unified Command.

Mutual Aid Agreement – Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions that they will assist one another on request, by furnishing personnel, equipment, and/or expertise in a specified manner.

Mutual Aid Regions – The 58 counties in California are divided into six (6) mutual aid regions. Such regions are common to all emergency services. Each has a designated Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator and dispatch center.

N

National Incident Management System (NIMS) – A system mandated by HSPD-5 that provides a consistent nationwide approach for Federal, State, local, and tribal governments; the private sector; and nongovernmental organizations to work effectively and efficiently together to prepare for, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. To provide for interoperability and compatibility among Federal, State, local, and tribal capabilities, the NIMS includes a core set of concepts, principles, and terminology. HSPD-5 identifies these as the ICS; multiagency coordination systems; training; identification and management of resources (including systems for classifying types of resources); qualification and certification; and the collection, tracking, and reporting of incident information and incident resources.

National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) – A group formed under the direction of the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture to improve the coordination and effectiveness of wildland fire activities, and provide a forum to discuss, recommend appropriate action, or resolve issues and problems of substantive nature. The NWCG has been a primary supporter of ICS development and training.

O

Officer – The ICS title for the personnel responsible for the Command Staff positions of Safety, Liaison, and Public Information.

Operational Period – The period of time scheduled for execution of a given set of operation actions as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational Periods can be of various lengths, although usually not over 24 hours.

Operations Section – The Section responsible for all tactical operations at the incident. Includes Branches, Divisions and/or Groups, Task Forces, Strike Teams, Single Resources, and Staging Areas.

Operations Coordination Center (OCC) – The primary facility of the Multi-Agency Coordination System. It houses the staff and equipment necessary to perform the MACS functions.

Operational Area (Mutual Aid Area) – Each county in California is an “Operational Area” with a designated Fire and Rescue Coordinator. EXCEPTIONS: (1) Los Angeles County has six (6) operational areas identified alphabetically; (2) Tahoe Basin Operational Area includes parts of three counties in California and parts of three counties in Nevada.

Orthophoto Maps – Aerial photographs corrected to scale so that geographic measurements may be taken directly from the prints.

Out-of-Service Resources – Resources assigned to an incident but unable to respond for mechanical, rest, or personnel reasons.

Overhead Personnel – Personnel who are assigned to supervisory positions which include Incident Commander, Command Staff, General Staff, Directors, Supervisors, and Unit Leaders.

P

P.A.C.E. – A military acronym adopted by the fire service that promotes planning during emergency activities. PACE stands for Primary, Alternate, Contingency, and Emergency.

Patrol Group Supervisor – The Patrol Group Supervisor reports to the Operations Section Chief or Law Branch Director (if activated). The Patrol Group Supervisor is responsible for general law enforcement activities such as perimeter control, assisting in evacuation and shelter in place, traffic control, and liaison with the public. They can be used in multiple configurations and for varying tasks. The Patrol Group Supervisor is responsible for assigning resources with the Patrol Group.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) – That equipment and clothing required to shield or to isolate personnel from thermal, chemical, radiological, physical, or biological hazards.

Personal Accountability Reports – Periodic reports verifying the status of responders assigned to an incident.

Personal Accountability – The ability to account for the location and status of personnel.

Planning Meeting – A meeting held as needed throughout the duration of an incident, to select specific strategies and tactics for incident control operations, and for service and support planning. On larger incidents, the Planning Meeting is a major element in the development of the Incident Action Plan.

Planning Section – Responsible for the collection, evaluation, and dissemination of information related to the incident, and for the preparation and documentation of Incident Action Plans. The Section also maintains information on the current and forecasted situation, and on the status of resources assigned to the incident. Includes

the Situation, Resources, Documentation, and Demobilization Units, as well as Technical Specialists.

Preparedness – The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the operational capability to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from domestic incidents. Preparedness is a continuous process. Preparedness involves efforts at all levels of government and between government and private-sector and nongovernmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources. Within the NIMS, preparedness is operationally focused on establishing guidelines, protocols, and standards for planning, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment certification, and publication management.

Preparedness Organizations – The groups that provide interagency coordination for domestic incident management activities in a nonemergency context. Preparedness organizations can include all agencies with a role in incident management, for prevention, preparedness, response, or recovery activities. They represent a wide variety of committees, planning groups, and other organizations that meet and coordinate to ensure the proper level of planning, training, equipping, and other preparedness requirements within a jurisdiction or area.

Prevention – Actions to avoid an incident or to intervene to stop an incident from occurring. Prevention involves actions to protect lives and property. It involves applying intelligence and other information to a range of activities that may include such countermeasures as deterrence operations; heightened inspections; improved surveillance and security operations; investigations to determine the full nature and source of the threat; public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and, as appropriate, specific law enforcement operations aimed at deterring, preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity and apprehending potential perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Procurement Unit – Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for financial matters involving vendor contracts.

Public Information Officer (PIO) – A member of the Command Staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media or with other agencies with incident-related information requirements.

Q

Qualified – A person meeting a recognized level of training, experience and certification for the assigned position.

R

Radio Cache – A cache may consist of a number of portable radios, a base station and, in some cases, a repeater stored in a predetermined location for dispatch to incidents.

Rapid Intervention Crew/Company (RIC) – A crew or company designated to stand-by in a state of readiness to rescue emergency personnel.

Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS) – A pre-staged, properly equipped rescue team assigned to an incident to provide firefighters a safe, effective and efficient method of egress off the incident in the event of injury or illness during operations. ICS 1220 provides more information.

Recognition Primed Decision-making – A model that describes how experts make decisions under stressful situations that are time critical and rapidly changing.

Recorders: Individuals within ICS organizational units who are responsible for recording information. Recorders may be found in Planning, Logistics, and Finance/Administration Units.

Red Flag Warning – Notice issued by the National Weather Service, usually 24 hours in advance, of a Red Flag Event.

Reinforced Response – Those resources requested in addition to the initial response.

Reporting Locations – Location or facilities where incoming resources can check in at the incident. (See Check-In.)

Resources – Personnel and major items of equipment, supplies, and facilities available or potentially available for assignment to incident operations and for which status is maintained. Resources are described by kind and type and may be used in operational support or supervisory capacities at an incident or at an EOC.

Recovery – The development, coordination, and execution of service- and site-restoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, nongovernmental, and public-assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents.

Refuge Area – An area identified within the incident for the assembly of individuals in order to reduce the risk of further contamination or injury.

Reinforced Attack – Those resources requested in addition to the initial attack.

Reinforced Response – Those resources requested in addition to the initial response.

Reporting Locations – Any one of six facilities/locations where incident assigned resources may check in.

Rescue – The removal of victims from an area determined to be contaminated or otherwise hazardous. Rescue shall be performed by emergency personnel using appropriate personal protective equipment.

Resource Management – Efficient incident management requires a system for identifying available resources at all jurisdictional levels to enable timely and unimpeded access to resources needed to prepare for, respond to, or recover from an incident. Resource management under the NIMS includes mutual-aid agreements; the use of special Federal, State, local, and tribal teams; and resource mobilization protocols.

Resource Numbers – Numbers assigned to resources for ease of tracking and communication. Number will define resource type and configuration.

Resources Unit – Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for recording the status of resources committed to the incident. The Unit also evaluates resources currently committed to the incident, the impact that additional responding resources will have on the incident, and anticipated resource needs.

Response – Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident. Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. As indicated by the situation, response activities include applying intelligence and other information to lessen the effects or consequences of an incident; increased security operations; continuing investigations into nature and source of the threat; ongoing public health and agricultural surveillance and testing processes; immunizations, isolation, or quarantine; and specific law enforcement operations aimed at preempting, interdicting, or disrupting illegal activity, and apprehending actual perpetrators and bringing them to justice.

Respiratory Protection – The provisions of a NIOSH approved breathing system to protect respiratory system of the wearer from hazardous atmospheres.

Responder Rehabilitation – The rest and treatment of incident personnel who are suffering from the effect of strenuous work and/or extreme conditions.

S

Safe Refuge Area (SRA) – A safe area within the Contamination Reduction Zone (CRZ) for the assembly of individuals who were on site at the time of the spill. Separation of any potentially contaminated or exposed persons from non-exposed person should be accomplished in the SRA.

Safety Officer – A member of the Command Staff responsible for monitoring and assessing safety hazards or unsafe situations, and for developing measures for ensuring personnel safety. The Safety Officer may have Assistants.

SEAT – Single Engine Air Tanker.

Section – The organizational level having responsibility for a major functional area of incident management, e.g., Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance/Administration, and Intelligence (if established). The section is organizationally situated between the Branch and the Incident Command.

Segment – A geographical area in which a Task Force/Strike Team Leader or Supervisor of a single resource is assigned authority and responsibility for the coordination of resources and implementation of planned tactics. A segment may be a portion of a Division or an area inside or outside the perimeter of an incident. Segments are identified with Arabic numbers.

SEMS – “Standardized Emergency Management System.” California’s emergency management system that facilitates priority setting, interagency cooperation, and the efficient flow of resources and information. SEMS incorporates: The Incident Command System, Multi/Inter-Agency Coordination, Mutual Aid, and the Operational Area Concept.

Service Branch – A Branch within the Logistics Section responsible for service activities at the incident. Includes the Communication, Medical, and Food Units.

Single Resource – An individual, a piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or a crew or team of individuals with an identified work Supervisor that can be used on an incident.

Shelter in place – A protective action term used to advise people to stay secure at their current location.

Single Resource – An individual piece of equipment and its personnel complement, or an established crew or team of individuals with an identified work supervisor that can be used on an incident.

Situation Unit – Functional Unit within the Planning Section responsible for the collection, organization, and analysis of incident status information, and for analysis of the situation as it progresses. Reports to the Planning Section Chief.

Span of Control – The number of individuals a supervisor is responsible for, usually expressed as the ratio of supervisors to individuals. (Under the NIMS, an appropriate span of control is between 1:3 and 1:7.)

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Group Supervisor – The SWAT Group Supervisor reports to the Operations Section Chief or Law Branch Director (if activated). The SWAT Group Supervisor is responsible for law enforcement incident such as hostage situations, barricaded suspects, armed, suspects, and victim rescues. The SWAT Group Supervisor may coordinate Force protection for responders or dignitaries. The SWAT Group Supervisor is responsible for assigning resources with the SWAT Group.

Staging Area – Location established where resources can be placed while awaiting a tactical assignment. The Operations Section manages Staging Areas.

Standby Members (2-in, 2-out) – Two personnel who remain outside the hazard area during the initial stages of an incident to rescue responders and who are responsible for maintaining a constant awareness of the number and identity of member operation in the hazardous area, their location and function, and time of entry.

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) – Complete reference document or an operations manual that provides the purpose, authorities, duration, and details for the preferred method of performing a single function or a number of interrelated functions in a uniform manner.

State – When capitalized, refers to any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any possession of the United States. See Section 2 (14), Homeland Security Act of 2002, Public Law 107-296, 116 Stat. 2135 (2002).

Strategy – The general direction selected to accomplish incident objectives set by the Incident Commander.

Strategic – Strategic elements of incident management are characterized by continuous long-term, high-level planning by organizations headed by elected or other senior officials. These elements involve the adoption of long-range goals and objectives, the setting of priorities, the establishment of budgets and other fiscal decisions, policy development, and the application of measures of performance or effectiveness.

Strike Team – A specified combination of the same kind and type of resources with common communications and a Leader.

Structure Defense – All strategy and tactics utilized to prevent the damage or destruction of structures.

Structure Triage – The process of inspecting and classifying structures according to their defensibility or non-defensibility, based on fire behavior, location, construction and adjacent fuels. *From S-Facts*

Supervisor – The ICS title for individuals responsible for a Division or Group.

Supply Unit – Functional Unit within the Support Branch of the Logistics Section responsible for ordering equipment and supplies required for incident operations.

Support Branch – A Branch within the Logistics Section responsible for providing personnel, equipment, and supplies to support incident operations. Includes the Supply, Facilities, and Ground Support Units.

Supporting Materials – Refers to the several attachments that may be included with an Incident Action Plan, e.g., Communications Plan, Map, Safety Plan, Traffic Plan, and Medical Plan.

Support Resources – Non-tactical resources under the supervision of the Logistics, Planning, or Finance/Administration Sections, or the Command Staff.

I

Tactical Direction – Direction given by the Operations Section Chief that includes the tactics required to implement the selected strategy, the selection and assignment of resources to carry out the tactics, directions for tactics implementation, and performance monitoring for each operational period.

Tactical Maneuver – Actions that imply movement and purposeful reaction to change. Reacting to changes in fire behavior with agile tactical solutions as opposed to rigid defending and inflexible plans.

Tactics – Deploying and directing resources on an incident to accomplish incident strategy and objectives.

Task Force – A combination of single resources assembled for a particular tactical need with common communications and a Leader.

Team – See Single Resource.

Technical Specialists – Personnel with special skills that can be used anywhere within the ICS organization.

Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) – Temporary airspace restrictions for non-emergency aircraft in the incident area. TFRs are established by the FAA to ensure aircraft safety, and are normally limited to a five-nautical-mile radius and 2000 feet in altitude.

Three-Letter Designators – The three-letter designator is used to identify individual agencies or operational areas dispatching resources. All fire departments, agencies and mutual aid operational areas in California have been assigned a three-letter designator.

Threat – An indication of possible violence, harm, or danger.

Time Unit – Functional Unit within the Finance/Administration Section responsible for recording time for incident personnel and hired equipment.

Type – A classification of resources in the ICS that refers to capability. Type 1 is generally considered to be more capable than Types 2, 3, or 4, respectively, because of size, power, capacity, or, in the case of Incident Management Teams, experience and qualifications.

Tools – Those instruments and capabilities that allow for the professional performance of tasks, such as information systems, agreements, doctrine, capabilities, and legislative authorities.

Tribal – Any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including any Alaskan Native Village as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaskan Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688) (43 U.S.C.A. and 1601 et seq.), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.

U

Uncovered – A Station is *uncovered* when there are no resources available to place into the Station for emergency response.

Unified Area Command – A Unified Area Command is established when incidents under an Area Command are multijurisdictional. (See Area Command and Unified Command.)

Unified Command – An application of ICS used when there is more than one agency with incident jurisdiction or when incidents cross political jurisdictions. Agencies work together through the designated members of the Unified Command, often the senior person from agencies and/or disciplines participating in the Unified Command, to establish a common set of objectives and strategies and a single Incident Action Plan.

Unit – The organizational element having functional responsibility for a specific incident Planning, Logistics, or Finance/Administration activity.

Unity of Command – The concept by which each person within an organization reports to one and only one designated person. The purpose of unity of command is to ensure unity of effort under one responsible commander for every objective.

V

W

Water Tender – Any ground vehicle capable of transporting specified quantities of water.

Watershed Rehabilitation – Restoration of watershed to, as near as possible, its pre-incident condition, or to a condition where it can recover on its own. Also known as “rehab”

X

Y

Z

Zone – A defined geographical area of function utilized to support the management of an Incident (i.e.; Area Command). A zone may be assigned an Incident Management Team(s) or IC to provide management of a defined area or function. Zones may be identified geographically, numerically, or by functional name.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

29 CFR PART 1910.120 – Item 29 of the Code of Federal Regulation, Part 1910.120 in the Hazardous Waste operations and Emergency Response reference document as required by SARA. The document covers employees involved in certain hazardous waste operations and emergency response to incidents involving hazardous situations. Federal OSHA enforces this code.

A

Access Control Point – The Point of entry and exit from control zones that regulates the traffic to and from the work areas and control zones.

Air Monitoring – The use of devices to detect the presence of known or unknown gases or vapors.

B

C

California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 8, Section 5192, Subsection (q) – This section provides hazardous waste handling guidelines that are enforced by Cal/OSHA. Subsection (q) specifically deals with emergency response to a hazardous substance release.

Chemical Protective Clothing – Includes complete NFPA compliant ensembles (garment, gloves, and boots) of individual replaceable elements (boots, gloves) designed and certified to provide protection for the wearer against the physical and chemical effects of hazardous materials.

CHEMTREC – Chemical Transportation Emergency Center. A public service of the Chemical Manufacture's Association.

Contamination Reduction Zone (CRZ) – The area between the Exclusion Zone and the Support Zone that acts as a buffer to separate the contaminated area from the clean area.

Contamination Control Line (CCL) – The established line that separates the Contamination Reduction Zone from the Support Zone.

Contamination Reduction Corridor (CRC) – A corridor within the Contamination Reduction Zone where decontamination procedures are conducted.

Control Zones – The geographical areas within the control lines set up at a hazardous materials incident. Includes the Exclusion Zone, Contamination Reduction Zone, and Support Zone.

D

Decontamination Lane Manager – The Decontamination Lane Manager reports to the Mass Decontamination Leader. The Decontamination Lane Manager is responsible for the operations of the decontamination element providing decontamination as required by the Incident Action Plan.

Decontamination (DECON) – The physical and/or chemical process of removing or reducing contamination from personnel or equipment, or in some other way preventing the spread of contamination by persons and equipment.

E

Exclusion Zone – The innermost area immediately surrounding a hazardous materials incident that corresponds with the highest degree of known or potential hazard, and where entry may require special protection.

F

Field Testing – The identification of chemical substances using a variety of sources and testing kits that assist in identifying associated chemical and physical properties of those tested chemicals.

G

H

Handler – The Handler reports to the Decontamination Lane Manager. The Handler is responsible for the movement of ambulatory/non-ambulatory victims through the Contamination Reduction Corridor. The Handler assists with the movement of victims within the contamination reduction zone from receipt of victim through the decontamination process. Handlers will go through the appropriate decontamination measures as outline in the Site Safety and Control Plan (ICS form 208) prior to exiting the Contamination Reduction Zone (CRZ).

Hazardous Material – Any solid, liquid, gas, or mixture thereof that can potentially cause harm to the human body through respiration, ingestion, skin absorption or contact and may pose a substantial threat to life, the environment, or to property.

Hazardous Materials Categorization – A process to determine hazardous materials classification and chemical and physical properties of unknown substances.

Hazardous Materials Incident Contingency Plan (HMICP) – Hazardous Materials Incident Contingency Plan (HMICP) Section 8574.16 – 8574.18 of the California

Government Code. California State Toxic Disaster Plan that would provide for an intergraded and effective state procedure to respond to the occurrence of toxic disasters within the state.

Hazardous Materials Refuge Area Manager – The Hazardous Materials Refuge Area Manger reports to the Hazardous Materials Site Access Control Leader and coordinates with the Hazardous materials Decontamination Leader and the Hazardous Materials Entry Leader. The Hazardous materials Refuge Area manager is responsible for evaluating and prioritizing victims with a high possibility for contamination for decontamination and treatment. This area should be separate from the Safe Refuge Area to prevent the spread of contamination by these victims. If there is a need for the Hazardous Materials Refuge Area Manager to enter the Contamination Reduction Zone in order to fulfill assigned responsibilities, then the appropriate Person Protective Equipment (PPE) shall be worn.

Hazardous Materials Categorization Test (HAZ CAT) – A field analysis to determine the hazardous characteristics of an unknown material.

Hazardous Materials Company – Any piece(s) of equipment having the capabilities, PPE, equipment, and complement of personnel as specified in the Hazardous Material Company Types and Minimum Standards found in the Field Operations Guide (ICS420-1).

Hazardous Materials Incident – The uncontrolled release or threat of release of a hazardous material that may impact life, the environment, or property.

Hazardous Materials Task Force – A group of resources that includes at least one Hazardous Materials Company, with common communications and a leader. A Hazardous Materials Task Force may be pre-established and sent to an incident, or formed at the incident.

I

J

K

L

M

Mass Decontamination Group Supervisor – The Mass Decontamination Group Supervisor report to the Operations Section Chief, the Hazardous Material Branch Director or the Mass Decontamination Brach Director (if activated). The Mass Decontamination Group Supervisor is responsible for the implementation for the

phases of the Incident Action Plan dealing with the Mass Decontamination Group operations. The Mass Decontamination Group Supervisor is responsible for the assignment of resources within the Mass Decontamination Group, reporting on the progress of control operations and the status of resources within the Mass Decontamination Group. The Mass Decontamination Group Supervisor directs the overall operations of the mass Decontamination Group.

Mass Decontamination Unit Leader – The Mass Decontamination Unit Leader reports to the Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor or Mass Decontamination Group Supervisor (if activated). The Mass Decontamination Unit Leader is responsible for the operation of the mass Decontamination element providing decontamination as required by the Incident Action Plan.

N

O

P

Protective Actions – The actions taken to preserve the health and safety of emergency responders and the public during an incident involving releases of hazardous materials. Examples would include evacuations or in-place protection techniques.

Q

R

Radiation Monitoring and Detection – The use of specialized devices to determine the presence, type and intensity of ionizing radiation, and to determine dosage over time.

Rapid Force Technical Specialist Unit – Railroad Accident Prevention and Immediate Deployment Force Technical Specialist Unit provides on-site technical assistance at large-scale hazardous material releases resulting from surface transportation accidents. The unit is comprised of technical specialists in the fields of Human Health Effects, Environmental Fate, Laboratory Services and Clean-up Technology.

S

Site – That area within the Contamination Reduction Control Line at a hazardous materials incident.

Site Safety Plan and Control Plan (ICS Form 208) – An Emergency Response Plan describing the general safety procedures to be followed at an incident involving hazardous materials”, and prepared in accordance with CCR Title8, Section 5192, and 29 CFR 1910.120.

Support Zone – The area outside of the Contamination Control Line where equipment and personnel are assembled in support of incident operations, wherein such personnel and equipment are not expect to become contaminated.

T

Technical Reference – Access to, use of, and interpretation of various technical databases, chemical substance data depositories, response guidelines, regulatory documents, and other sources both in print and electronic format.

Technical Specialist (Hazardous Materials Reference) – Reports to the Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor or Hazardous Material Branch Director (if activated). This position provides continuous technical information and assistance to the Hazardous Materials Group using various reference sources such as computer databases, technical journals, CHEMTREC, and phone contact with facility representatives. The Technical Specialist Hazardous Materials Reference may provide product identification using hazardous categorization tests and/or any other means of identifying unknown materials.

U

V

W

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) – Reference to those substances that ca be weaponized and are developed for the purpose of creating widespread injury, illness and death. Agents are produced in quantity and/or filled into munitions in a specialized formulation with enhanced shelf life or dissemination properties.

X

Y

Z

HIGH RISE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

[A](#)

[B](#)

Base-The Base at a high rise incident resembles a ground level Staging Area. Base should be located away from the incident building to provide for the safety of personnel and equipment.

[C](#)

[D](#)

[E](#)

Evacuation Group Supervisor - The High-Rise Evacuation Group Supervisor is responsible for managing the movement of building occupants through designated evacuation route(s) to a safe location, as well as the movement of evacuees from the areas of the building not immediately threatened by the emergency incident.

[F](#)

[G](#)

Ground Support Unit Leader - The Ground Support Unit Leader is responsible for: facilitating the movement of personnel, equipment, and supplies from Base to Staging; refilling of SCBA air cylinders, providing fueling, service and maintenance of vehicles and portable power equipment, and implementing the ground level Traffic/Movement Plan at the incident, including marking safe access routes and zones.

[H](#)

[I](#)

[J](#)

K

L

Lobby Control Unit Leader-Primary responsibilities include: maintain an accountability system, control all building access points and direct personnel to correct routes, control and operate elevator cars, and direct building occupants and existing personnel to proper ground-level safe areas.

M

N

O

P

Q

R

Rapid Ascent Team-The Rapid Ascent Team is responsible for directing and/or relocating the building occupants and casualties through the evacuation stairwell(s) to refuge area(s). The Rapid Ascent Team is not responsible for the rescue or recovery of occupants and casualties from the emergency.

Rapid Intervention Group Supervisor - The High Rise Rapid Intervention Group Supervisor is responsible for managing and coordinating the location and deployment of the Rapid Intervention Crew(s).

S

Staging Area- High rise incidents requires modification to the standard ICS concept of Staging Area. The limited access and vertical travel distance of large high rise buildings within the building. The Staging Area is generally located a minimum of two floors below the emergency, as long as the atmosphere is tenable.

Systems Control Unit Leader-Responsible for evaluating and monitoring the functions of all built-in fire protection, life safety, environmental control, communications, and elevator systems.

I

U

V

W

X

Y

Z

MULTI-CASUALTY
GLOSSARY OF TERMS
([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

A

Advanced EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) – A California certified EMT with additional training in limited Advanced Life Support, previously referred to as an EMT-II.

Advanced Life Support (ALS) – Allowable procedures and techniques utilized by the EMT-P and Advanced EMT personnel to stabilize critically sick and injured patients which exceed Basic Life Support procedures.

ALS Responder – Licensed EMT-P or Certified Advanced EMT

Ambulance Strike Team (AST) – A California resource and component of the EOM consisting of 5 ambulances, 1 DMSU and a AST Leader. ASTs can be requested through the MHOAC.

B

Basic Life Support (BLS) – Basic non-invasive first-aid procedures and techniques utilized by EMT-P, Advanced EMT, EMT, and First Responder personnel to stabilize critically sick and injured patient(s).

BLS Responder – Certified EMT or First Responder.

C

California Medical Assistance Team (CAL-MAT) – A California deployable team administered by the EMS Authority that supports specialized health response needs, including medical shelters.

D

Delayed Treatment – Second priority category in the START triage system. Delayed patients require aid, but injuries are less severe. Delayed patients must be monitored to ensure their status does not change to the Immediate category.

Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) – A federal component of the National Disaster Medical System that provides austere medical care in a disaster area or medical services at transfer points or reception sites associated with patient evacuation and is requested through the SEMS process.

Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT) – A federal component of the National Disaster Medical System and provides a mobile morgue for handling, identifying and processing of human remains at the site of a mass fatality disaster and is requested through the SEMS process.

Disaster medical Support Unit (DMSU) – A California asset contracted by the EMS Authority that provides enhanced communication capabilities and supplies to support field deployment including medical supplies and provisions for the AST personnel, requested through the LEMSA.

E

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – An individual trained in Basic Life Support procedures and techniques and who has a valid California EMT certificate.

Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) – An EMT or Advanced EMT trained in ALS procedures and techniques and who has a valid California EMT-P License.

Emergency Operations Manual-California Public Health and Medical (EOM) – The EOM describes the basic roles and activities within the California Public Health and Medical system and the coordination with the emergency management structure at all levels and California's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS).

Expanded Medical Emergency – An OES MCI Plan term that describes any medical emergency that exceeds normal first response capabilities.

F

First Responder – Personnel who have responsibility to initially respond to emergencies such as firefighters, law enforcement, lifeguards, forestry, EMS, ambulance, and other public service personnel.

G

Ground Ambulance Coordinator-The Ground Ambulance Coordinator reports to the Patient Transportation Unit Leader, manages the Ambulance Staging Area(s), and dispatches ambulances as requested.

H

Hospital Alert System – A communications system between medical facilities and on-incident medical personnel, which provides available hospital patient receiving capability and/or medical control.

Hospital Emergency Response Teams – Prearranged hospital teams that respond to the incident upon request.

I

Immediate Treatment – First priority category in the START triage system. Immediate treatment patients require rapid assessment and medical intervention for survival.

J

Jump START – A pediatric version of the START Triage system that focusses on the physiological difference unique to pediatric trauma triage.

K

L

M

Major Medical Emergency – Any emergency that would require the access of local mutual aid resources.

Medical Communications Coordinator (MCCC)-The MCCC reports to the Patient Transport Unit Leader, and establishes communications with the appropriate hospital or other coordinating facility/agency to maintain status of available hospital beds to ensure proper patient destination.

Medical Group/Division Organizational Structure – This is designed to provide the Incident Commander with a basic expandable system for handling patients in a multi-casualty incident. The Group can include the Triage Unit, Treatment Unit, Transport Unit and Medical Supply Coordinator.

Medical Supply Cache – A cache consists of standardized medical supplies and equipment stored in a predetermined location for dispatch to incidents.

Medical Team – Combinations of medical trained personnel who are responsible for on- scene patient treatment.

Mobile Field Hospital (MFH) – A California asset maintained by the EMS Authority comprised of a 200-bed field hospital that provides basic emergency, surgical, intensive care unit, radiography and laboratory services and can be mobilized within 72 hours.

Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) – Authorized by the California Health and Safety Code Section 1797.153, the county health officer and/or the LEMSA administrator responsible to assist the OES Operational Coordinator with coordinating the medical and health disaster resources within an Operational Area in the event of a local, State, or federal declaration of emergency.

Minor Treatment – Third priority category in the START triage system. These patient's injuries require simple rudimentary first-aid.

Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) – Refers to a vehicle equipped to support paramedic functions. It would include drugs, medications, cardiac monitors and telemetry, and other specialized emergency medical equipment.

Morgue (Temporary on-incident) – Area designated for temporary placement of the dead.

Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) – A national network of volunteers organized locally to strengthen public health and enhance local emergency response capabilities to natural disasters as well as other public health emergencies. MRC resources are requested through the SEMS process.

Multi-Causality – The combination of numbers of injured personnel and type of injuries going beyond capability of an agency's normal first response.

N

O

P

Patient Transport Recorder – Responsible for recording pertinent information regarding off-incident transportation of patients.

Q

R

S

Standing Orders – Policies and Procedures approved by the local EMS Agency for use by an Advanced EMT or EMT-P in situations where direct voice contact with a Base Hospital cannot be established or maintained.

S.T.A.R.T. (START) – Acronym for Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment

T

Treatment Unit Leader-The Treatment Unit Leader reports to the Medical Group Supervisor and supervises Treatment Area Managers and the Patient Loading Coordinator. The Treatment Unit Leader assumes responsibility for treatment, preparation for transport, and the movement of patients to loading location(s).

Triage – Screening and classification to determine priority need in order to ensure the efficient use of personnel, equipment and facilities.

Triage Personnel – Responsible for triaging patients on-scene and assigning them to appropriate Treatment Areas.

Triage Tag (Medical) – A tag used by triage personnel to identify and document the patient’s medical condition.

U

V

W

X

Y

Z

TERRORISM/WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMD)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

[A](#)

[B](#)

[C](#)

Civil Support Team-The National Guard Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams (CTS) are designed to support local Incident Commanders and local emergency with any Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) terrorist event. In, most cases, the CST participates as an assisting agency.

[D](#)

[E](#)

[F](#)

[G](#)

[H](#)

Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor-The Hazardous Materials Group Supervisor is responsible for the implementation of the phases of the Incident Action Plan dealing with the Hazardous Materials Group operations.

[I](#)

Intelligence Unit Leader/Group Supervisor -Intelligence focuses on identification and gathering information from potential suspects and victims.

Investigation Unit Leader/Group Supervisor- Investigation coordinates the collection and preservation of evidence.

[J](#)

[K](#)

L

M

Mobile Field Force Group Supervisor-The Mobile Field Force Group is trained and equipped to deal with large crowds, acts of civil disobedience, maintaining order, preserving peace and can be used in multiple configurations and for varying tasks.

N

O

P

Patrol Group Supervisor-Responsible for general law enforcement activities such as perimeter control, assisting in evacuation and shelter in place, traffic control, and liaison with the public.

Q

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Z

TECHNICAL SEARCH AND RESCUE

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

[A](#)

Air Resources – Helicopters staffed by crews trained in search and rescue operations. Order by type and class as listed.

[B](#)

Basic Rope Rescue – Rescue operations of a non-complex nature employing the use of ropes and accessory equipment.

Boat drive (air) – A boat with a propulsion system using an aviation propeller or a ducted fan to generate thrust from the engine having an o-plane draft of 0” to 12”. The typical boats of this category are the “Florida Swamp” boats and surface effect boats.

Boat drive (jet) – A boat with a propulsion system using a water pump to generate thrust having an on-plane draft of 6” to 12”. They can be susceptible to damage from floating debris.

Boat drive (propeller) – A boat with a propulsion system using a propeller to generate thrust having an on-plane draft of 18” to 24”.

Boat (non-powered) – A non-motorized vessel capable of safely transporting rescuers or victims (e.g. raft, skiff, johnboat etc.).

Boat (powered) – A motorized vessel capable of safely transporting rescuers or victims, (e.g. IRB: “Inflatable Rescue Boat”, RHIB: “Rigid Hull Inflatable Rescue Boat”, Rigid Hull Boat, PWC: “Personal Water Craft”, “Airboat”, etc.).

[C](#)

Chemical Light and Flagging Tape Plan – A Standardized marking system using chemical lights and colored flagging tape in conjunction with search, building and victim marking for low light and night operations.

Confined Space Rescue – Rescue operations in an enclosed area, with limited access/egress, not designed for human occupancy and has the potential for physical, chemical or atmospheric injury.

[D](#)

Decontamination – Action required to chemically change or physically remove the contaminants from personnel and equipment.

E

Emergency Signaling System – Loud, identifiable and prearranged signals sounded to alert personnel at the incident site of hazardous conditions or information that requires immediate attention.

F

Flood Evacuation Boat (FEB) – Resource with personnel trained to operate in floodwaters with the specific task of evacuation person or small domestic animals from isolated areas.

G

H

Heavy Floor Construction – Structures in this general construction category are typically built utilizing Cast-in-Place (CIP) concrete construction consisting of heavy, concrete floors. Steel reinforcing bars (rebar) are most commonly used to provide the tension resistance within each concrete member, but post-tensioned steel cable may also be employed. These structures may be built utilizing concrete beam/column frame to provide “Moment Frame” resistance or concrete shear walls to provide “Box Type” resistance to earthquake forces and strong winds. Heavy Floor Construction may include an occupancy type. Occupancies most often found are: offices, schools, apartments, hospitals, hotels, parking structures and multi-purpose facilities. Highway bridges and overpasses are special form and very heavy floor construction.

Heavy Wall Construction – Materials used for construction are generally heavy and utilize an interdependent structural or monolithic system. These types of materials and their assemblies tend to make the structural system inherently rigid. This construction type is usually built without a skeletal structural frame. It utilizes a heavy wall support and assembly system to provide support for the floors and roof assemblies. Occupancies utilizing tilt-up concrete construction are typically one to three stories in height and consist of multiple monolithic concrete wall panel assemblies. They also use an interdependent girder, column and beam system for providing lateral wall support of floor and roof assemblies. Occupancies typically include commercial, mercantile, industrial, and business. Other examples of this type of construction include reinforced and unreinforced masonry (URM) buildings typically of low-rise construction, one to six stories in height, of any type of occupancy.

Helicopter Rescue Operational – Swiftwater/Flood Search and Rescue personnel trained and equipped to work with helicopters and crew for: hoist, short haul-line victim extraction, rappel, or low-level insertions.

High Angle Rope Rescue – An environment in which the load is predominately supported by the rope rescue system.

Highline System – A system using rope suspended between two points for movement of persons or equipment over an area that is a barrier to the rescue operation, including systems capable of movement between points of equal or unequal height.

I

IRB – Inflatable rescue boat

J

K

L

Light Frame Construction – Materials used for construction are generally lightweight and provide a high degree of structural flexibility to applied forces such as earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, etc. These structures are typically constructed with a skeletal structural frame system of wood or light gage steel components, which provide support to the floor or roof assemblies. Examples of this construction type are wood frame structures used for residential, multiple low rise occupancies and light commercial occupancies up to four stories in height. Light gage steel frame buildings include commercial business and light manufacturing occupancies and facilities.

Low Angel Rope Rescue – An environment in which the load is predominately supported by itself and not the rope rescue system (e.g., flat land or mild sloping surface).

M

N

O

P

PFD – Personal flotation device with a minimum U.S. Coast Guard rating of Type III or V

PPE – Personal protective equipment. For Swiftwater/ Search and Rescue personnel that includes: a water helmet, PFD, a whistle, a light, foot and hand protection, and thermal protection.

PWC – Personal Watercraft (water bike, jet ski)

Pre-cast Concrete Construction – Structures of this type are built utilizing modular pre-cast concrete components that include floors, walls, columns and other sub-components that are field connected upon placement on site. Individual concrete components utilize imbedded steel reinforcing rods and welded wire mesh for structural integrity and may have either steel beam, or column or concrete framing systems utilized for the overall structural assembly and building enclosure. These structures rely on single or multi-point connections for floor and wall enclosure assembly and are a safety and operational concern during collapse operations. Examples of this type of construction include commercial, mercantile, office and multi-use or multi-function structures including parking structures and large occupancy facilities.

Protective System – A method of protecting employees from cave-ins, from material that could fall or roll from an excavation face or into an excavation, or from the collapse of adjacent structures. Protective systems include support systems, sloping and benching, shield systems and other systems that provide the necessary protection as per California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 1540. Excavation

Q

R

RHIB – Rigid hull inflatable boat

Rigid Hull – A boat constructed of wood, fiberglass, or aluminum with no inflated components.

Regional US&R Task Force – A 29-person team specially trained and equipped for large or complex US&R operations. The multi-disciplinary organization provides five functional elements that include: Supervision, Search, Rescue, Medical, and Logistics. The make-up of the Regional US&R Task Force consists of technically trained personnel based around a single Type I US&R Company. The Regional US&R Task Force is totally self-sufficient for the first 24 hours. Transportation and logistical support is provided by the sponsoring agency and may be supported by the requesting agency.

S

SF/SAR Team – A Search and Rescue resource with specific equipment, training, and experience, in swift water/flood search and rescue.

Swiftwater – Water that is moving fast enough to produce sufficient force to present a significant life and safety hazard to a person entering the water. The swift water classification scheme rates the complexity and danger of swift water from easiest (Class 1) to most difficult (Class 6) (American Whitewater Affiliation).

Swiftwater (awareness) – Knowledge based course of instruction emphasizing hazards and personal safety. Generally lecture only.

Swiftwater (operational) – Participation based course of instruction emphasizing: personal safety, team safety, and limited low risk victim rescue. The course generally includes objective evaluation and testing.

Swiftwater (technician) – Performance based course of instruction emphasizing: personal safety, team safety, and mid to high-risk victim rescue. The course generally includes objective evaluation and testing.

Search Marking System – A standardized marking system employed during and after the search of a structure for potential victims.

State/National US&R Task Force – A 70-person team specially trained and equipped for large or complex US&R operations. The multi-disciplinary organization provides seven functional elements that include: Supervision, Search, Rescue, HazMat, Medical, Logistics, and Planning. The State/National US&R Task Force is designed to be used as a “Single Resource”. However, each element of the Task Force is modularized into functional components and can be independently requested and utilized. A State/National US&R Task Force is accompanied by an Incident Support Team (IST) when deployed out of state. The IST provides overhead management and logistical support to the US&R Task Force while on deployment. State/National US&R Task Forces responding from other states will work with the local incident command structure through the IST.

Steel Frame Construction – Structures in this general construction category are typically built using some type of steel beam and column system that is configured in a grid pattern. Lateral resistance against earthquake and severe wind forces is provided either by specially designed frames or diagonal bracing. Steel Frame Construction occupancies may include: Prefabricated Metal buildings mostly one story, light industrial buildings, Low Rise, non-fireproofed buildings and other structures that include one and two story commercial, office, large industrial facilities, institutional structure, and convention and sports arena with high, exposed roof systems; and High Rise, multi-story fireproofed buildings configured with fire sprinklers, standpipes, smoke proof stairs, and other fire protection systems. Fire proofing may consist of sprayed on fiber, layers of gypsum board, or in older buildings, concrete and masonry encasements.

Structure/Hazards Marking System – A standardized marking system to identify structures in a specific area and any hazards found within or near the structure.

I

Technical Search and Rescue- An umbrella term to include all Technical Search and Rescue disciplines including, but not limited to: Structural Collapse, Rope Rescue, Confined Space Search and Rescue, Vehicle and Machinery Search and Rescue, Water Search and Rescue, Wilderness Search and Rescue and Trench Evacuation Search and Rescue

U

Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Company – Any ground vehicle(s) providing a specified level of US&R operational capability, rescue equipment and personnel.

US&R Type 4 Company – (Basic: 3 personnel minimum) Operational Level represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at incidents involving non-structural entrapment in non-collapsed structure.

US&R Type 3 Company – (Light: 3 personnel minimum) Operational Level represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of Light Frame Construction and low angle or one-person load rope rescue.

US&R Type 2 Company – (Medium: 6 personnel minimum) Operational Level represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of Heavy Wall Construction, high angle rope rescue (not including highline systems), and trench and excavation rescue.

US&R Type 1 Company – (Heavy: 6 personnel minimum) Operation Level represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of Heavy Floor, Pre-Cast Concrete and Steel Frame Construction, high angle rope rescue (including highline systems), confined space rescue (permit required), and mass transportation rescue.

Urban Search & Rescue (US&R) Crew – A pre-determined number of individuals who that are supervised, organized, and trained principally for a specified level of US&R operational capability. They respond without equipment and are used to relieve or increase the number of US&R personnel at the incident.

V

Victim Marking System – A standardized marking system employed to identify the confirmed or potential locating of a victim not readily visible and/or not immediately removed.

W

X

Y

Z

TACTICAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

A

Active Shooter – An armed person who has used deadly force on other persons and continues to do so while having unrestricted access to additional victims.

B

Body Armor – Personal protective body covering intended to protect the body against gunfire. Can also include hard ballistic plates intended to increase the level of protection.

C

Casualty Collection Point – In a tactical environment, a secured area typically located in the Hot or Warm Zone where victims can be brought to initiate LSI while waiting to be extracted by RTFs to treatment areas in the Cold Zone. Multiple CCPs may be established based on incident needs. The physical location of a CCP must provide adequate cover and protection from the potential threat for safety personnel and victims. Consider locating CCPs in the vicinity of adjacent zones to better facilitate moving victims from one zone to another.

Cold Zone – The operational area where no significant danger or threat can be reasonably anticipated as determined by law enforcement and where most incident support functions are located.

Concealment – A law enforcement term that refers to a location that hides an individual from view but does not provide protection from gunfire.

Contact Team – A team comprised of up to four law enforcement officers who deploy at an active shooter incident to immediately engage the shooter to suppress or eliminate the threat and prevent further injury or loss of life.

Cover – A law enforcement term that refers to a location or hard barrier that provides protection from gunfire, blast or shrapnel hazard. Cover can be natural or manmade but must be dense enough to provide adequate protection. The higher the caliber of weapon the more substantial the barrier must be.

D

E

F

Family Assistance Center – A facility located near an incident, designed to provide timely information and services to families of victims. This includes assistance with emotional support, spiritual care, and health and social services. Reunification of family members can also be facilitated at this location.

Force Protection – In a tactical environment, the protective actions taken by law enforcement to protect incident personnel or secure a location from hostile threats intended to harm incident personnel or victims.

G

H

Hot Zone – An operational area where a direct and immediate threat exists. An unsearched area or an area in range of direct gunfire is considered a Hot Zone. A Hot Zone is considered an IDLH zone

I

Inner Perimeter – A law enforcement term for an area where the suspect(s) or threat are contained, with entry and egress controlled by law enforcement. The Inner Perimeter is considered an IDLH zone.

J

K

L

Life Saving Intervention (LSI) – A modified prioritization process for a tactical environment that focuses on major hemorrhage control, opening the airway, chest decompression due to pneumothorax, and providing chemical exposure antidotes.

M

N

O

Outer Perimeter – A larger area of the incident controlled by law enforcement that encompasses the inner perimeter and the incident support functions but which the public is excluded.

P

Q

R

Rescue Task Force (RTF) – A resource comprised of fire department personnel and law enforcement personnel assigned as a single unit that is deployed in a Warm Zone to provide LSI and rapid extraction of victims.

Rescue Team – A resource comprised of law enforcement officers whose mission is to enter a Hot Zone under direct fire to rescue a victim such as in a hostage situation.

S

Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team – A law enforcement resource comprised of law enforcement personnel with 80-hours of approved tactical training whose mission is to operate in the Hot Zone to suppress or eliminate the threat and prevent further injury or loss of life.

T

Tactical Command Post – A law enforcement term (non-ICS compliant) used by some law enforcement agencies for a SWAT command post, similar to a Tactical Operations Center, established separately from the incident's unified command post for the purpose of managing the SWAT team operations when tactical operational needs dictate.

Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) – Treatment guidelines that were developed for military personnel in a combat setting based on studies of battlefield injuries. The TCCC guidelines focus on the variables of penetrating trauma under tactical conditions, providing LSI treatment with rapid hemorrhage and airway control as the priority in the Hot and Warm Zones.

Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) – The civilian version of the TCCC guidelines.

Tactical Emergency Medical Support (TEMS) – The preventive urgent and emergent medical care in support of tactical law enforcement SWAT teams during high-risk tactical law enforcement incidents.

Tactical Law Enforcement Incident – Asymmetrical law enforcement incidents that present a significantly higher threat of injury or loss of life to first responders, victims, and the public. These types of incidents include active shooter/violent intruder, barricaded suspect, hostage situation, high-risk warrant service, suspected terrorist event utilizing firearms, explosives, or multi-coordinated actions that pose unique complexities and threats that challenge first responders.

Tactical Operations Center – A law enforcement operational center (non-ICS compliant), similar to a Tactical Command Post, established separately from the incident’s unified command post for the purpose of managing the SWAT team operations when tactical operational needs dictate. The Tactical Operations Center is intended for large and complex tactical law enforcement incidents

TEMS FRO – First responders (BLS or ALS level) who have completed a minimum four-hour agency-specific tactical awareness training that enables first responders to operate in a Warm Zone with Force Protection as part of a Rescue Task Force.

TEMS Specialist – First responders who have completed both an approved 40- hour tactical medicine course and an 80-hour POST approved SWAT course. TEMS Specialists are SWAT team members or “tactical medics” that operate in a Hot Zone in support of SWAT teams.

TEMS Technician – First responders who have completed the same approved 40- hour tactical medicine course as SWAT tactical medics or TEMS Specialists, but have not completed an approved 80-hour SWAT course.

T.H.RE.A.T – The Hartford Consensus mnemonic that identifies principles for a FRO-based response to an active shooter incident (Threat suppression, Hemorrhage control, Rapid Extraction, Assessment, Transport).

U

Unified Command – Unified Command is a team effort that allows all agencies with jurisdictional responsibility for an incident, either geographical or functional, to participate in the management of the incident. Developing and implementing a common set of incident objectives and strategies demonstrate this participation that all can subscribe to, without losing or abdicating agency authority, responsibility or accountability. Those organizations that participate in Unified Command should have statutory responsibility for some portion of the incident or event. Assisting and cooperating agencies with no statutory responsibility that nonetheless contribute resources to the incident should not function at the Unified Command level. These agencies should instead, assign Agency Representatives to effectively represent their agencies and resources through the Liaison Officer. In these ways, the principles that define Unified Command provide all of the necessary mechanisms for organizational representation and interagency management within a multi-agency incident response.

V

W

Warm Zone – An operational area where a potential threat exists, but the threat is not direct or immediate. The threat still exists elsewhere in the building or venue, but law enforcement has cleared and secured an area for which fire and EMS personnel

with appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) can operate in. The Warm Zone is still considered to be an IDLH zone.

X/Y

Z

Zone – A defined geographic area or function utilized to support the management of an Incident (i.e., Hot, Warm, Cold).

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI)

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

([A-G](#), [H-L](#), [M-R](#), [S-V](#), [W-Z](#))

[A](#)

Anchor and Hold – A tactic utilizing control lines and large water streams from fixed water supplies to stop fire spread in neighborhoods where the fire is spreading from house to house. The goal is to extinguish structures fires, protect exposures and reduce ember production in neighborhoods where the fire is spreading from house to house.

[B](#)

Brush Patrol – Any light, mobile unit, having limited pumping and water capacity.

Bump and Run – Resources maneuver at or near the fire front in an effort to defend as many structures as possible. Suppression efforts should be limited to extinguishing spot fires, hot spots and fire perimeter and around structures before moving on to the next structure.

[C](#)

Campbell Prediction System (CPS) – Trade name for a simplified fire ground method used to forecast fire behavior.

Check and Go – A tactical action used during WUI fire operations when firefighters quickly check for occupants at the threatened structure and then withdraw. Used when high intensity, lack of time or inadequate defensible space prohibit firefighting resources from safely taking action to protect the home.

[D](#)

DRAW-D – The Levels of Engagement for Structure Defense.

Defend-Holding Actions, defending priority areas

Reinforce-Bring more resources to bear

Advance-Anchor and Flank

Withdraw-Cease current activities until conditions modify

Delay-Wait until the situation has modified sufficiently to allow a different Level of Engagement

[E](#)

F

Fire Front Following – A tactic used during WUI structure defense activities where resources take a position in a safe area and advance after the passage of the fire front to engage in perimeter control, structure fire control, and conduct a primary search for victims. This action is taken when there is insufficient time to safely set up ahead of the fire or the intensity of the fire would likely cause injury to personnel located in the front of the fire.

Fire Weather Watch – Notice issued by the National Weather Service usually 24 to 72 hours in advance of a Red Flag Event (i.e., critical weather conditions that may result in extreme fire danger/behavior). Fire Weather Watches, however, can be issued for the first 12 hours of a forecast period for dry lightning.

G

H

High Risk Day – Notice issued by the Predictive Services Units located in Redding and Riverside when there is a 20% chance or higher of either a new large fire occurring, or significant growth on existing fires. High Risk Days are displayed in the 7-Day Significant Fire Potential Product which incorporates fuel dryness and weather triggers to display Significant Fire Potential during the next seven days across the Geographic Area by Predictive Service Areas.

I

Interface – A condition where structures abut the wildland.

Intermix – A condition where structures are scattered throughout a wildland area.

J

K

L

L.C.E.S.- An acronym to help firefighters remember that **L**ookouts, **C**ommunications, **E**scape Routes and **S**afety Zones are in place at all times.

M

N

Not Threatened – A Structure Triage Category used to describe a structure that, based on forecasted fire behavior, has construction features and/or defensible space making it unlikely that the structure will ignite during the initial wildland fire front contact.

O

P

P.A.C.E. – A multi-step plan established to compensate for the uncertainties of predicting fire behavior. A Contingency Plan.

P – Primary Plan

A – Alternate Plan

C – Contingency Plan

E – Emergency Plan

Prep and Defend – A tactic used to identify WUI structure defense activities where resources will remain and defend a structure when the fire front arrives. This tactic would be used when the conditions are such that it is safe for firefighter to remain. A Safety Zone or TRA must exist on site.

Prep and Go – A tactic used to identify WUI structure defense activities where there is some time to prepare a structure for defense ahead of the fire front arriving but resources withdraw prior to the fire contact. There may be some time to prepare a structure for defense ahead of the fire front, foams, gels, combustible materials removed, but potential fire intensity make it too dangerous for fire resources to stay.

Q

R

S

Safety Zone – A preplanned area of sufficient size and suitable location that is expected to protect fire personnel from known hazards without using fire shelters.

T

Tactical Patrol – A WUI tactic focused on resource mobility and the continuous monitoring of an assigned area. Situational awareness, active suppression actions and vigilance are key elements of tactical patrol.

Temporary Refuge Area (TRA) – A fire ground location intended to provide firefighters with limited short term relief or refuge from an unexpected increase in fire intensity without the immediate need of a fire shelter. A TRA should provide time enough for responders to assess their situation and execute a plan to safely survive the increase in fire behavior.

Threatened-Defensible – A Structure Triage Category used to describe a structure that based on forecasted fire behavior has a Safety Zone or TRA available on site based on firefighters can safely remain at the structure when the fire front arrives.

Threatened-Non-Defensible – A Structure Triage Category used to describe a structure that based on forecasted fire behavior does not have a Safety Zone or TRA available on site.

U

V

W

X

Y

Z