



FIRESCOPE

Quarterly Briefing

Board of Directors

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Mission Statement

“The mission of the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors is to provide recommendations and technical assistance to the Office of Emergency Services (OES); to maintain the FIRESCOPE Decision Process and continue the operation, development, and maintenance of the FIRESCOPE Incident Command System (ICS) and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS).”



Executive Summary

The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors, Operations Team, Task Force and Specialist/Working Groups continue working to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the California Fire Service consistent with the organization’s mission. The California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Fire and Rescue Services Advisory Committee / FIRESCOPE Board of Directors has approved and initiated implementation of new or revised FIRESCOPE documents during their April 10, 2019 meeting. The dissemination and implementation of new or revised policy, procedural and developmental documents is critical to maintaining the integrity and effective execution of Cal OES Fire and Rescue Branch operations, the Incident Command System (ICS), Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS), and the State’s Master Mutual Aid System. To that end, this “FIRESCOPE Quarterly Briefing” is designed to inform the California Fire Service and affected stakeholders of material changes, and to provide clarity as to the impact associated with new or recently revised FIRESCOPE documents



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California Fire Service Initiatives for 2019

Behavioral Health

Firefighters and first-responders are recognized for their courage and commitment to protecting the public from all types of disasters. In their devotion to this duty, they are exposed to any number of tragedies that can take a toll on their mental health and emotional well-being.



In response to this need, FIRESCOPE has been engaged in developing training and qualification standards, organizational guidelines, and an ordering process to integrate a behavioral health component into the Incident Command System (ICS). As part of a larger holistic health strategy, a newly created “Behavioral Health” tab has been added to the FIRESCOPE website. A wide-range of health and wellness resources are listed here -and are made readily available by directly linking visitors to each organization’s webpage. Visit [FIRESCOPE](#) for details.

Newly Approved FIRESCOPE Material

The following is a summary of newly approved material or recently revised FIRESCOPE documents with an accompanying summary statement for each item that details the impact to the State’s Master Mutual Aid System, MACS and/or ICS:

1. Statewide Radio Channel Load Standard

Based on recommendations from the FIRESCOPE Communications Specialist Group, and results from a statewide survey, FIRESCOPE has adopted a new communications standard that effectively increases the minimum number of radio channels allocated for the California Mutual Aid System. The recommended minimum channel capacity requirements for mobile and portable radios will increase from 254-channels to a new standard load of 400-channels. To ensure the California fire service has adequate time to plan and appropriately fund this new standard, the implementation date has been set for January 2024. The specific language of this new standard will be published annually in the [MACS 441-1 Radio Communications Guidelines](#). Click on the following link to view the supporting documents [FIRESCOPE Channel Load Packet and White Paper](#).



2. FIRESCOPE Glossary of Terms ICS 010-1

Originally published in 1999, the [FIRESCOPE Glossary of Terms ICS 010-1](#) has undergone a revision to ensure that current definitions, acronyms, and nomenclature found in FIRESCOPE documents published since 1999 are accurately reflected in the revised Glossary of Terms.



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Advisory Message

The information contained in this Quarterly Briefing is intended to be widely shared among the California fire service, its federal partners, as well as with other affected stakeholders. Agency Administrators, or responsible representatives, should ensure that this material is thoroughly reviewed and communicated within their respective organizations. Questions may be directed to FIRESCOPE Deputy Chief Jim Johnstone at james.johnstone@caloes.ca.gov or (951) 312-8966.

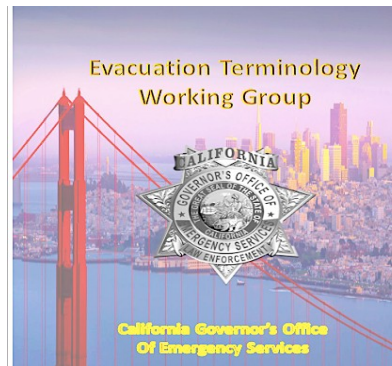


Fire service professionals and the public are encouraged to follow FIRESCOPE on its social media sites and visit the FIRESCOPE website at <http://firescope.caloes.ca.gov> to learn more about the FIRESCOPE organization and to keep apprised of the latest product development, key initiatives, and what's new in the California fire service.

A secondary goal of the revision was to eliminate redundant or outdated glossary of terms contained within other FIRESCOPE documents and incorporate those that are relevant to build one master Glossary of Terms. To view the new document, click the following link [FIRESCOPE ICS-010-1](#).

3. Statewide Evacuation Terminology

In March 2019, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) convened a law enforcement working group with representatives from Cal OES Law Branch, FIRESCOPE, and law enforcement agencies from every region within the state.



The focus of the group centered on evaluating current evacuation terminologies used throughout the state for the purpose of standardizing statewide evacuation terminology. The group unanimously agreed on the following evacuation terminology recommendations for the State of California:

- **Evacuation Order:** Immediate threat to life. This is a lawful order to leave now. The area is lawfully closed to public access.
- **Evacuation Warning:** Potential threat to life and/or property. Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave now.
- **Shelter in Place:** Go indoors. Shut and lock doors and windows. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice and/or contacted by emergency personnel for additional direction.

The Statewide Evacuation Terminology recommendation continues to be vetted by the Cal OES Director and the California Law Enforcement Agencies. To view the complete document, click on the following link [Evacuation Terminology](#).