



FIRESCOPE QUARTERLY BRIEFING July 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors, Operations Teams, 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 new directives at their July 2021 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), the 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 to the impact associated with new or recently revised FIRESCOPE documents.

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of FIRESCOPE is to provide recommendations and technical guidance to the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) on matters involving mutual aid; to maintain the FIRESCOPE decision process; and to continue the operation, development, and maintenance of the FIRESCOPE Incident Command System (ICS) and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS)"

FIRESCOPE Ops Team Elections

After several years of distinguished service as the Chair of the FIRESCOPE Operations Team, Chief Dave Richardson has stepped down from FIRESCOPE. We honor Chief Richardson's leadership and commitment to the California fire service.

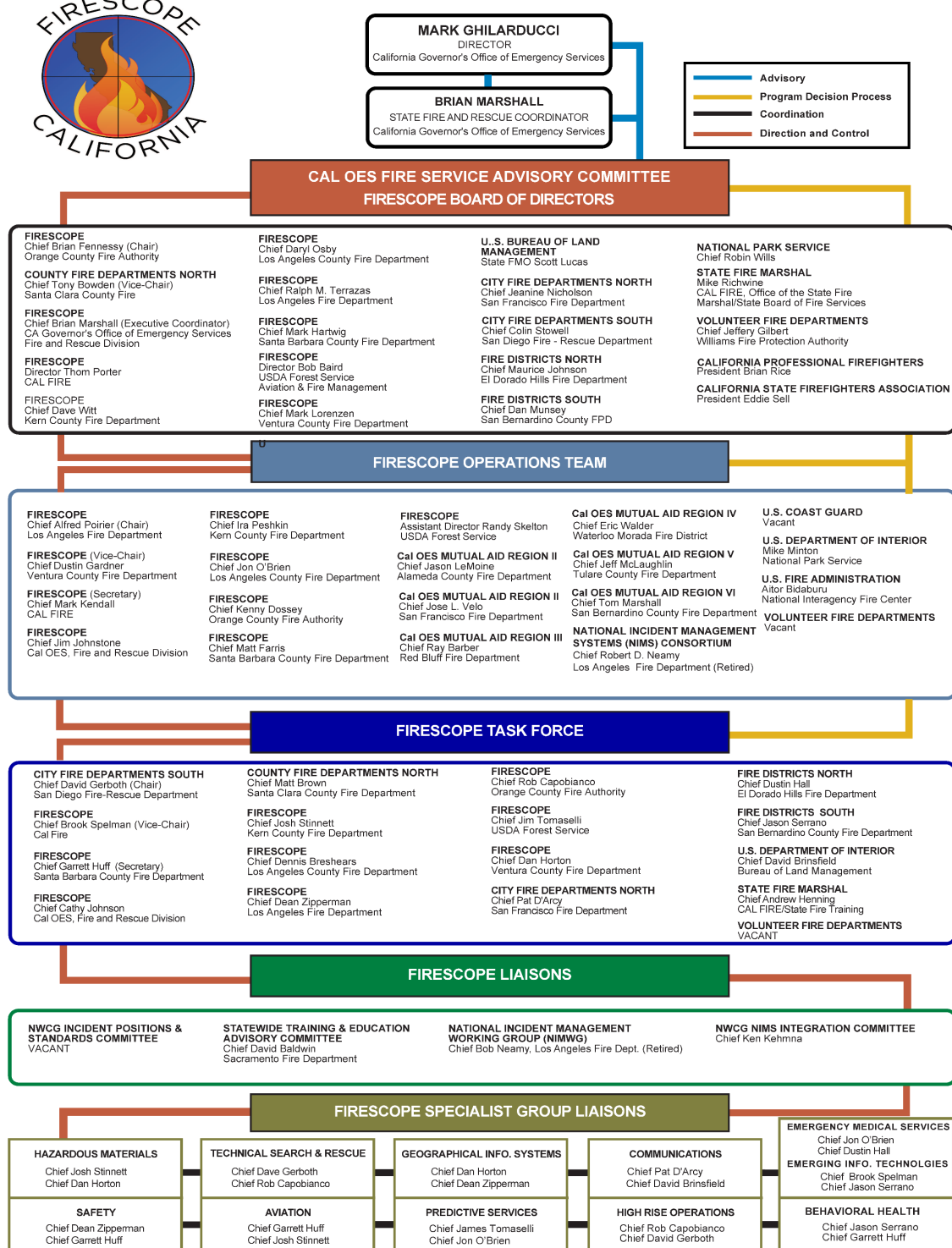
The Operations Team subsequently held elections for new officers and would like to recognize Chief Al Poirier as the new Chair, Chief Dustin Gardner as the Vice Chair and Chief Mark Kendall as Secretary.

<https://firescope.caloes.ca.gov/>



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FIRESCOPE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



7/19/2021



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Fire Season

As the pandemic continues its impact on California's fire agencies, fire season is in full swing. After a record breaking 2020 fire season, we were optimistic and hopeful that the winter would bring wet weather leading to a moderation of fire activity in the coming year. Unfortunately, the precipitation did not come as hoped and now, all of California is under drought conditions and over 30% in exceptional drought.

Current fires since January are up over 200% of the 5-year average and acres burned over 250%. The mutual aid system is being utilized daily as California firefighters are again being called to demonstrate their dedication and resilience.

Interval	Fires	Acres
January 1, 2021 through July 4, 2021	3,856	18,499
January 1, 2020 through July 4, 2020	3,297	25,901
5-Year Average (same interval)	2,630	52,623
2021 Combined YTD (CALFIRE & US Forest Service)	4,599	73,511





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U.S. Drought Monitor California

June 29, 2021

(Released Thursday, Jul. 1, 2021)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.73	85.44	33.32
Last Week 06-22-2021	0.00	100.00	100.00	94.73	85.44	33.32
3 Months Ago 03-30-2021	0.77	99.23	90.66	64.02	31.76	5.36
Start of Calendar Year 12-29-2020	0.00	100.00	95.17	74.34	33.75	1.19
Start of Water Year 09-29-2020	15.35	84.65	67.65	35.62	12.74	0.00
One Year Ago 06-30-2020	41.79	58.21	46.74	20.84	2.45	0.00

Intensity:

None	D2 Severe Drought
D0 Abnormally Dry	D3 Extreme Drought
D1 Moderate Drought	D4 Exceptional Drought

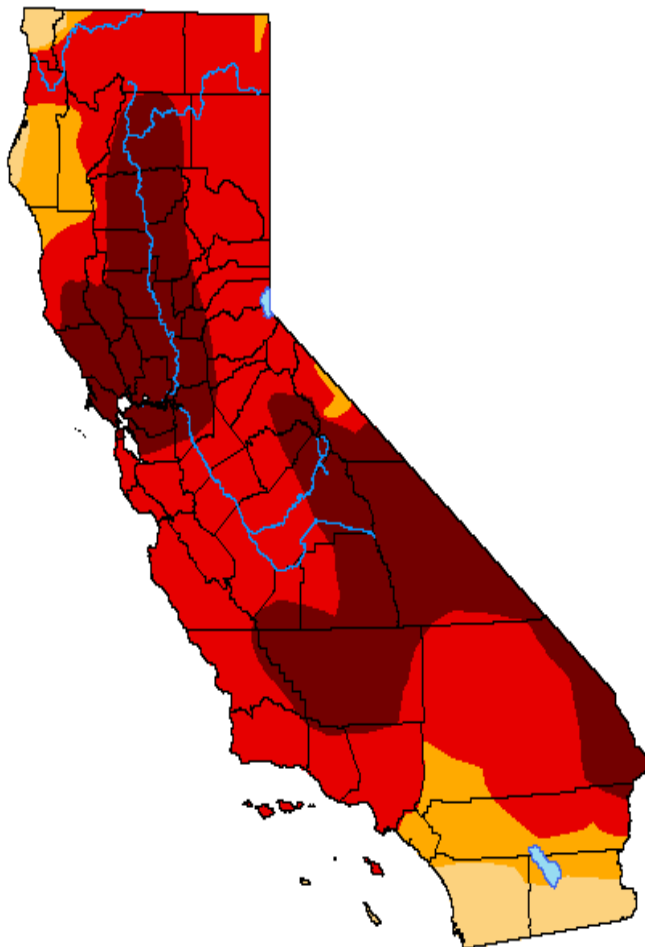
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

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National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu





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Northern and Southern California Seasonal Outlooks

Northern Operations

MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS

ISSUED JULY 1, 2021 VALID JULY - OCTOBER 2021



*Monthly Images will only be shown when there are changes

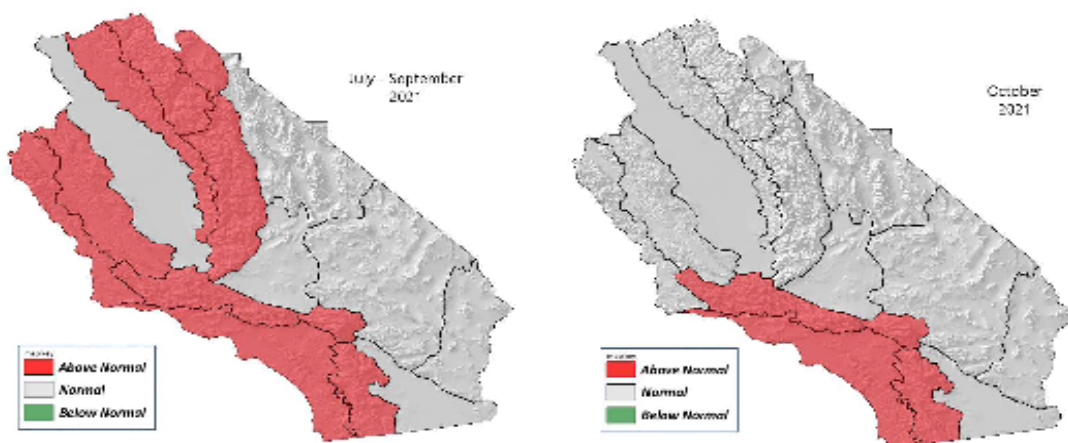
July - October 2021 North Ops Highlights

- Very dry rainy season, weak snow melt runoff, and very low soil moisture.
- Dead fuels indices at or more extreme than peak season typical values with new records set. Live fuel moisture values below average.
- Low elevation fine fuel crop cured. Weak greenup underway above 4000'.
- Overall outlook is for drier and warmer than average through October. Near normal monsoon activity east, trending to less lightning than usual Coast Range.
- Significant Fire Potential Above Normal above 3000 ft elevations July-August, except along the coast and in eastern areas. Normal elsewhere.
- In Sept-Oct lower elevations W of the Cascade-Sierra crest join the Above Normal area due to critical dryness as offshore wind season begins.



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Southern Operations
MONTHLY/SEASONAL OUTLOOKS
ISSUED JULY 1, 2021 VALID JULY - OCTOBER 2021



***Monthly Images will only be shown when there are changes**

July - October 2021 South Ops Highlights

- Temperatures will be above normal through October.
- Monsoonal showers and thunderstorms will be near normal July through September.
- Rainfall will be below normal in October.
- There will be a near normal amount of Santa Ana wind events in October.



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APPROVED DOCUMENTS

FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide: Since its first publication in 1983, the FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide (FOG), has provided crucial information to first responders in an easily accessible format. All levels of FIRESCOPE have been working on an updated FOG with a planned release in January 2022. The 2022 FOG will be available in the booklet and as an updated mobile device application.



Behavioral Health Mnemonics White Paper: With FIRESCOPE creating the Behavioral Health Working Group and now the inception of the Specialist Group, they have been working to create industry standards for the recognition and proper utilization of behavioral health personnel and positions in the fire service. The Critical Incident Clinician (CICL), Critical Incident Stress Chaplain (CISC), and Critical Incident Stress K9 (CISK) have been approved by the Board of Directors to submit a request to the NWCG Position Naming Board for recognition and approval into IROC. **Link:** [Behavior Health SG White Paper Additional Positions into IROC \(ca.gov\)](#)

FIRESCOPE Specialist / Working Group Reorganization: As the California fire service evolves, so must FIRESCOPE. The reorganization is based on the ethos established by FIRESCOPE. Maintaining span of control, mentorship and collaboration are all foundational concepts ingrained in FIRESCOPE doctrine. A reorganization of the FIRESCOPE Specialist and Working Groups will continue to provide the tools necessary to address California's emerging and expanding challenges. **Links:** [FIRESCOPE Specialist/Working Group Reorganization](#) [FIRESCOPE Specialist Working Group Org Chart](#)

Rapid Extraction Module Support (REMS): After considerable experience deploying REMS teams and lessons learned, the REMS Working Group has been reconvened to make recommendations regarding REMS qualifications, typing standards, the standard equipment list, and operational considerations. **Link:** [Rapid Extraction Module Support \(REMS\)](#)

ICS Form 215 C (Contingency Planning Analysis): The Board of Directors has approved the implementation of ICS Form 215C for use, as needed, by California's Federal, State and Local Incident Management Teams. **Links:** [ICS 215 White Paper](#) [ICS 215 C \(Form\)](#)





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FIRESCOPE

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 call (951) 312-8966

Fire Service professionals and the public are encouraged to follow FIRESCOPE on its social media sites and visit the FIRESCOPE Web Site at <http://firescope.caloes.ca.gov> to learn more about the FIRESCOPE organization and to keep apprised of the latest product development and key initiatives

