



FIRESCOPE

QUARTERLY BRIEFING

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors, Operations Teams, Task Force, Specialist Groups, and Subcommittees 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 October 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 VISION STATEMENT

The FIRESCOPE vision is to continue national leadership in the development of all-hazard incident and multi-agency coordination systems, to enhance and encourage full participation by the California fire service in the statewide Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and to provide a common voice for the California fire service relating to these issues.

www.firescope.caloes.ca.gov

January 2022



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Appreciation of Service

Please join in congratulating five giants within the California fire service as they each have announced their well-earned retirements from their organizations and the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors:

Director Thom Porter, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

Chief Ralph Terrazas, Los Angeles Fire Department

Director Robin Wills, National Park Service

Chief Mark Lorenzen, Ventura County Fire Department

Director Robert Baird, United States Forest Service

The positive influence and contributions that each have made to the fire service in California and beyond cannot be overstated. Each have given not only a career of service to their agency but years of service to the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors.



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Appreciation of Service

The Ops Team is also losing incredible fire service members to well-earned retirements. Please join in congratulating the following:

Ray Barber, Fire Chief, Red Bluff Fire Department
Jose Velo, Deputy Fire Chief, San Francisco Fire Department



Also retiring is Deputy Fire Chief Woody Enos of the Santa Barbara County Fire Department. Chief Enos dedicated 17 years as a member of the FIRESCOPE Task Force. Chief Enos's institutional knowledge will be greatly missed.



Each has left a legacy of service and left the California fire service in a better place due to their efforts.
We wish them all well on their next chapter!

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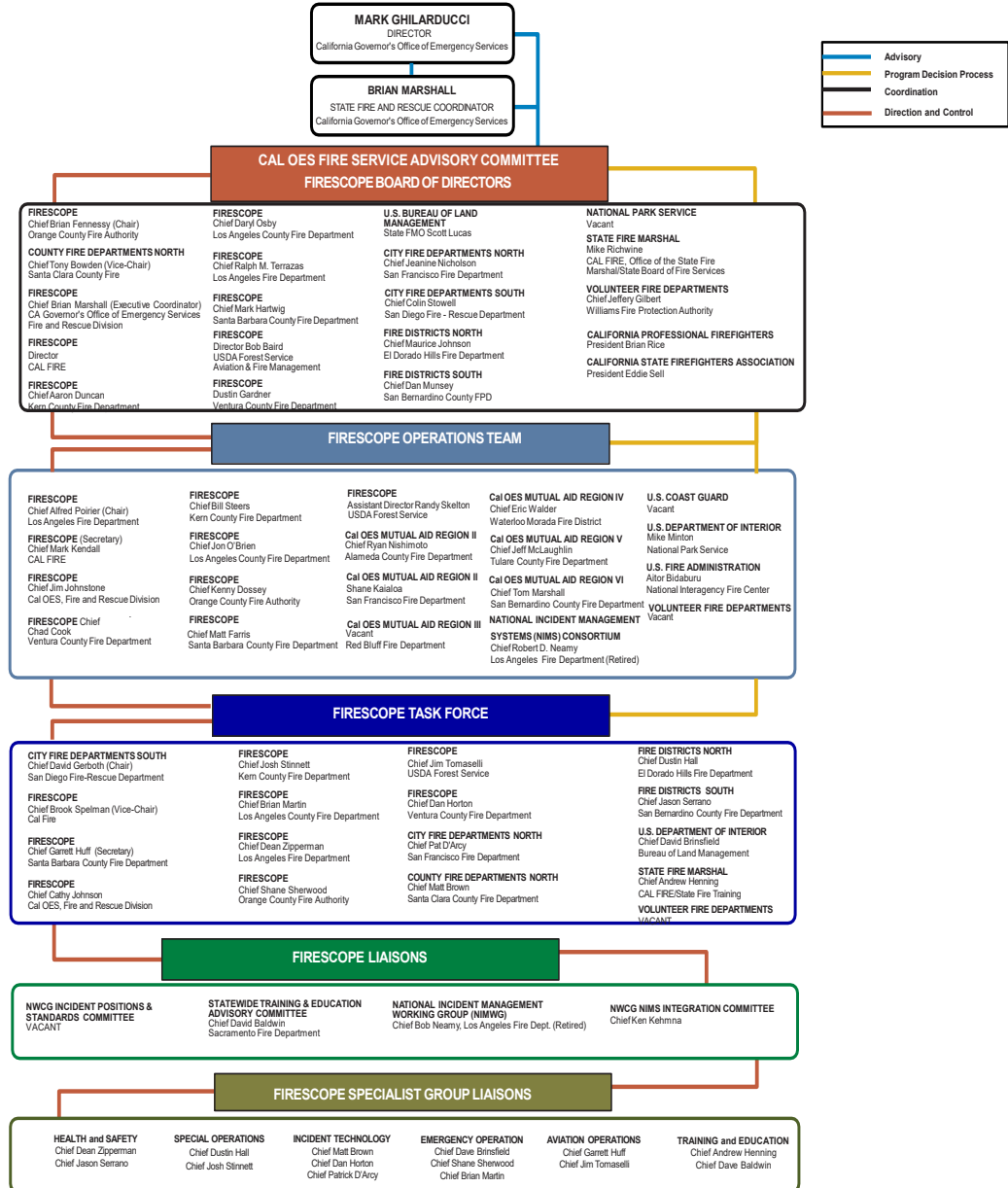


FIREScope

QUARTERLY BRIEFING



FIREScope ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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2021 Fire Season Comes to a Close

As 2021 came to a close, so did another historic California fire season. Once again, California firefighters from around the state spent their summer on the firelines of events never previously recorded. The Dixie Fire became the largest single wildfire (non-complex) in the state's history and the first known fire to cross the crest of the Sierra Nevada. The Caldor Fire crossed the Sierra Nevada shortly after the Dixie, making two historic fire events in just a number of days. Adding to the devastation was the loss of thousands of giant sequoias between the KNP Complex and Windy Fire.

Although the winter precipitation levels have begun on a positive note, we are not free from drought. The Colorado Fire erupted on January 21, 2022 in Monterey County providing a stark reminder that in California, wildfire is a year-round threat.

Preliminary 2021 Wildfire Statistics



Fires – 8,835



Acres Burned – 2,568,948



Fatalities – 3



Structures Damaged or Destroyed – 3,629





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COVID Surge

Just as it seemed that California would get a break as wildland fire activity slowed, COVID surged back to levels not previously seen. The COVID Omicron variant has provided another challenge to California firefighters. The results of the latest COVID surge have been a statewide staffing crisis for fire departments. Departments large and small have had to adjust staffing models, increased the need for mandatory overtime to an already fatigued workforce, and in some cases closed companies.

For many, these are the most challenging times in our organizations' history. Despite this next obstacle, the members of the California fire service continue to answer the call and serve our communities and the state in the best way. The reliance displayed by the members of the California fire service is inspiring. Already a model of cooperation and collaboration, organizations from around the state are weathering this most recent storm together. We should all be proud of the continued service in the face of ongoing adversity.



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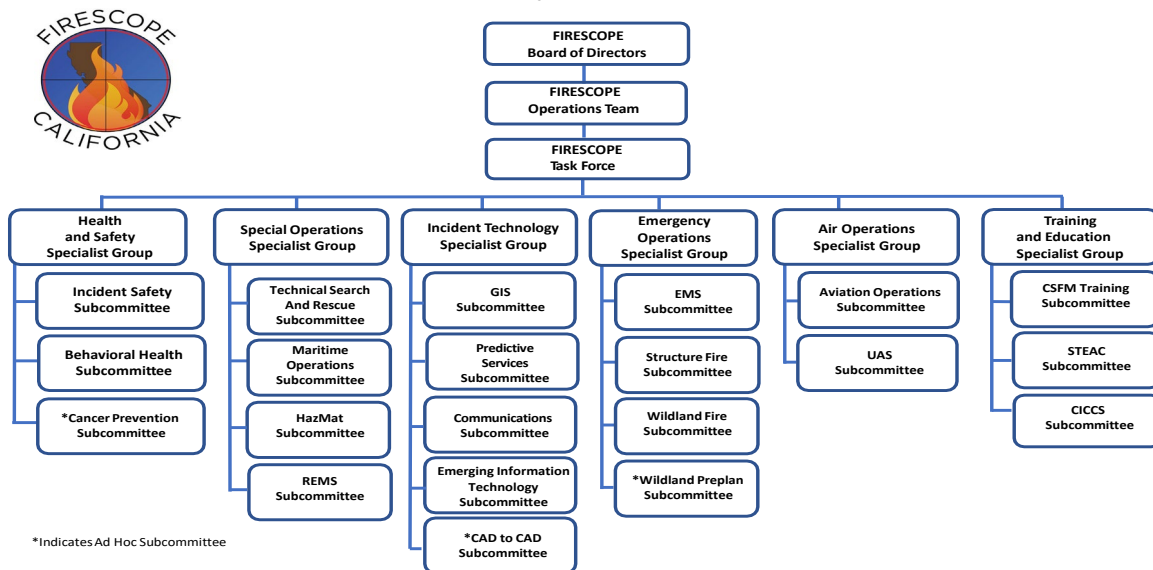
QUARTERLY BRIEFING

CURRENT FIREScope PROJECTS

FIREScope Reorganization

FIREScope has completed the process to reorganize the Specialist Groups and add a new level, Subcommittees. The reorganization was done to maintain span of control, provide mentorship, collaboration, and succession planning. The intent is to provide the most efficient and effective tools necessary to address California's emerging and expanding challenges. The new organization is built to address and expand with the complex challenges in California.

FIREScope SPECIALIST GROUP/SUBCOMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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FIREScope Reorganization

The new organization will staff six Specialist Groups with, initially, twenty-one Subcommittees. The Specialist Groups will review the work of the subordinate Subcommittees. Representation on the Specialist Group is comprised of members of the subordinate Subcommittees. Two members of each Subcommittee will sit on the respective Specialist Group. The members of the Subcommittee selected to serve on the respective Specialist Group will be elected by members of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittees will be subordinate to the Specialist Groups and organized by discipline. Subcommittees will be designated as either “Standing” or “Ad Hoc.” Standing Subcommittees are established to address long-term needs while “Ad Hoc” Subcommittees are established to address a specific need or short-term issue. Once the need or issue has been addressed, the Ad Hoc Subcommittee will be disbanded.



Health and Safety Specialist Group

- Behavioral Health Subcommittee
- Incident Safety Subcommittee
- Cancer Prevention Subcommittee**

Special Operations Specialist Group

- Technical Search and Rescue Subcommittee
- Maritime Operations Subcommittee
- HAZMAT Subcommittee
- REMS Subcommittee**



Incident Technology Specialist Group

- GIS Subcommittee
- Predictive Services Subcommittee
- Emerging Information Technology Subcommittee
- Communications Subcommittee
- CAD to CAD Subcommittee**



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FIREScope Reorganization

Emergency Operations Specialist Group

- EMS Subcommittee
- Wildland Fire Subcommittee
- Structure Fire Subcommittee
- Wildland Prefire Plan Subcommittee**

Air Operations Specialist Group

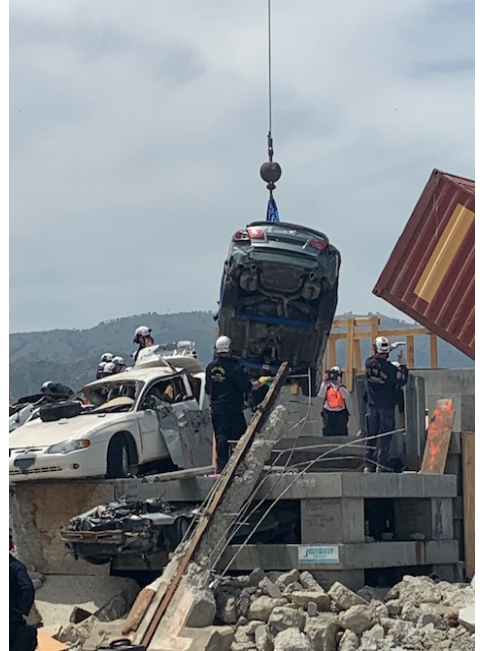
- Aviation Operations Subcommittee
- UAS Subcommittee

Training and Education Specialist Group

- CSFM Training Subcommittee
- CICCS Subcommittee
- STEAC Subcommittee

Please see the FIREScope website for rosters of the Subcommittee members.

**Indicates an "Ad Hoc" Subcommittee



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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.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



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