

COMPUTER PROGRAMS STATUS

### **FIRESCOPE Program's New Computer**

A new Prime 2755 Mini-Computer has been installed in the Riverside OCC. The transition from the Old to the New system was pretty smooth. All of the programs have transferred well and seem to work more efficiently. The new system provides FIRESCOPE with 4 times the storage capacity (from 160 mb to 492 mb), twice the memory (from 2 mb to 4 mb), 30% cost savings on energy, allows 3 times as many users (from 64 users to 256), requires one-third the space and is 3 times faster.

### **FIRESCOPE Programmer Position**

The Programmer position has been filled. Don Weiss was hired in February 1988. He has attended the Prime Programming Class and is progressing very well. He has already created two (2) applications and has been able to trouble shoot some others. In August 1988, Don was promoted to Programmer II.

### **FIRESCOPE ADP Section**

OES has provided our section with PC's and Printers that should greatly improve the Quality of work and items we put out. We now have a Laser Printer to assist in the Production of Forms, Lesson Plans and Manuals. A new image and Optical Character Reader scanner has been acquired at the OCC. This will allow our staff to actually scan images and incorporate them into a document. This new scanner will also provide the capability of scanning entire documents into our system, cutting down the input time. We are still in need of equipment to provide total security and backup to our systems. An additional Hard Disk and Tape Backup have been requested.

### **BLACKSMITH Software**

OES has provided our section with a new Fourth Generation Database Programming Language program that will greatly enhance the capabilities of the FIRESCOPE Computer System. This will provide FIMS with the ability to read tables and generate programs with less programming time. Software Installed, but Training for programmers needed.

## **Outstanding Projects**

### **INC209 Update**

The INC209 programs is currently going through an update, the program is being made User Friendly and providing some bug corrections that have been detected. This project will greatly simplify the use and cut back on access time. **Mid January 1989 is the scheduled completion date.**

### **Fire Activity Pointer System (FAPS)**

The FAPS program is now on-line and is in the process of being evaluated. Changes are currently in the works in order to provide a more efficient report. A special committee from the WAR Group has been established to work with the Computer people. This program is still under testing and will have some minor fixes done to it, this will include an automatic file transfer option, the fixes will take an estimated 2 weeks. The full change of the program is **estimated to begin in 1990.**

### **CAMEO™ (Phase I)**

The Cameo program is now being tested on both the Riverside and Sacramento Computers. No other changes have been made to the program. Plus there is a new version of Cameo out. It is much more compact and efficient than the old version. Cameo II has been released and plans are in the works hopefully convert this new version onto the Prime Computers as Phase two. The new version does provide several new features and will access data faster. With the production of Cameo II™, some new features were introduced. This will cause us to re-evaluate the current Cameo™ program and consider upgrading to the new style. This will take an **estimated 5 months.**

## NOAA Weather Wire

A manual system for retrieving weather from the NOAA Weather Wire has been put in place. The automatic system is still under development and lack of compatibility between the Riverside and Sacramento Primos Revisions poses a problem. Each a program is **estimated to take about 3 months.**

## Miscellaneous Programs

There are still several programs that need to be considered, but they are still set aside. These programs are necessary, but the shortage of staff and the reduction to one (1) programmer will delay these applications. Programs such as the Statistical Program, new electronic mail, map inventory, document ordering, supply inventory and file transfer program, plus various other MAC programs needed. These programs are estimated to take an estimated **8 to 10 months.**

## Conference Call /Agency Assessment Program

This program is intended to be used during modes 3 and 4, allowing agencies to input their Agency Assessment (Macs 404) on the computer prior to a conference call. This will enable the other Conference Call participants to have a hard copy Assessment Report at hand. This will greatly enhance the Conference Call, by relieving the participants from having to take down notes, and allowing greater concentration on the subject at hand. The second benefit from this program will be the ability to provide MACS/GHQ Representatives with up to date information from their agency during Mode 4, while located at the Operations Coordination Center. **Estimated 2 months.**

## Networking

The Prime is currently Networked to the USFS Data General (OCC), CDF State Computer System (Sacramento), Prime System (OES Headquarters) and is tied to the MacIntosh Local Area Network (OCC).

The Prime does have a Personal Computer (PC) Host package which allows connection and file transfer between the two machines. This in turn provides compatibility between the IBM PC machines, the Apple Macs and Prime. One feature of this package, is the PC Terminal Emulation software it provides, which simply means that any MS DOS PC or the Mac with a modem can connect to the Prime system with the software we provide.

The MacIntosh Local Area Network allows all the OES staff to share files and applications without the need for a dedicated computer as a server. This network also allows connection to the Prime System, which in turn allows our staff to store and retrieve files from the Prime.

*At the present time there is no way that the completed and modified programs can be placed in the Sacramento Computer. The two systems are still slightly incompatible. Due to the lack of memory in the Sacramento System. This does prevent us from proceeding with the automatic transfer programs, until Sacramento upgrades to Primos Rev. 21.*

## Projects Completed and on Maintenance

### Vegetation Management Program (Phase I & II)

This program is now up and in effect. Since January of this year, this program has been utilized to handle the prescribed burning for Southern California. It appears to be a useful tool. Plans are in the works to extend the capabilities of this program. The program has been revised to handle it's own database and has been simplified to make it easier for the users ( it is now menu driven). **Completed.**

### User Identification Program (IDENT)

A new version of the IDENT program has been developed and is currently being tested and cleaned. This new program will give the users greater flexibility in determining User Id's for addressing Electronic Mail. **Completed.**

### Broadcast Program

A new version of the broadcast program has been developed and is also being cleaned up. This new broadcast system will provide the user with the ability to see and selectively view all broadcasts in the system. This system will also let the user know how many broadcasts the user has not read. **Completed.**