



GIS Sub-Committee

Conference Call
02/05/2026 11:00

Minutes

Members Present:

Carvel Bass (USFS)	Roberta Lim (Cal Fire)	Angie Saldivar (LAC)
Rene Gonzalez (LFD)	Matthew Marsh (SBC)	Steven Walterscheid (BLM)
Steve Kennedy (VNC)	Tiffany Meyer (Cal Fire)	
Suzann Leininger (Cal Fire)	Erin Opliger (BDC)	

Members Not Present:

Pedro Arreguin (VNC)	Damian Guilliani (ENC)
Mark Campbell (OCS)	Chris St. Pierre (USFS)
William Ferguson (Cal OES)	

Guest:

Zachary Little (Cal OES)

Call to order and Roll Call by Chair Opliger

Welcome and Agenda Review (Opliger)

Task Force Summary Report (Opliger)

- Task Force Liaison was unable to attend the meeting, so distribution of the minutes and an update will be deferred to the Spring Face-to-Face Meeting.

Call for Agenda Review and Additions

- No additions were needed.

Old Business:

- **Remote Sensing Initiative Update (Gonzalez/ Opliger)**
 - Discussed a follow-up needed with Task Force regarding a name change to the plan of work item to better represent the task proposed.
 - A differentiation is needed between whether the item entails work in remote sensing technology and processing or whether it is to define standards for infrared data collection.
 - Rene provided an update of LFD's use of remote sensing to flag parcels within the new fire hazard zones provided by Cal Fire, anticipated for public release in March. The goal of the program is to prioritize inspections where old/new growth risk

factors in the urban interface while also capturing areas prior to fires to inform pilots during IA flights on new ignitions.

- On the concept of data standards for initial attack, Erin provided a request from Cal OES staff asking if the group could explore schema and data standards for intel flights to include coordinate system/projections, baseline deliverables, repository/storage centralization, standards for fire effects vs. intensity, and file types.

New Business:

- No new business.

Group Business:

- **2026 Letters of Support** (Opliger)
 - Many have been received, but a few are still needed. Forward to Pedro.
 - Cal Fire is submitting a master letter for all employees that should be available in the near future. Ask Pedro to look for that. (Meyer)
- **2026 Spring Face-to-Face Meeting** (Opliger)
 - Spring meeting flyer has been emailed. Confirmation of the government rate for lodging will be provided in a follow-up email.
 - Presentations needed for the meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:

- March 31 – April 2, 2026: Santa Rosa, CA
- June 4, 2026: Virtual Conference Call
- August 6, 2026: Virtual Conference Call

Roundtable Discussion:

- Cal OES will be testing their common operating system during the JHACS exercise in May, with a focus on data interoperability. (Little)
- A presentation on lessons learned during a early-season FEMA deployment in Tennessee may be warranted at the next meeting. (Gonzalez)
- The changes in Department of Interior agencies under the new Wildland Fire Service may affect participation in FIRESCOPE; updated to come. (Walterscheid)
- The Wildland Pre-Plans Sub-Committee approved two white papers, which identified a host agency and funding requirements, but further direction is pending from the Task Force. (Kennedy)
- ESRI has released their Beta testing period for Geo-PDFs hosting in field maps, similar to Avenza. (Opliger)
- The Public Safety Data Exchange is moving forward with a set of 5 initial agencies testing the Microsoft Fabric environment, but a link for additional interested agencies was provided. (Opliger)

Meeting adjourned February 5, 2026 @ 1130