



GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS SUBCOMMITTEE 2026 CHARTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The FIRESCOPE Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Subcommittee was established to coordinate geospatial data, products, tools and services, and related research and development for California's all-hazard emergency management community. Based on ongoing needs analyses, the Subcommittee will facilitate development, maintenance, and access to standardized, consistent spatial data designed to address various aspects of emergency management planning, preparedness, response, and recovery. To increase the effectiveness of emergency response and environmental management, the Subcommittee will recommend standards addressing format, symbology, and functionality in printed, web-based and mobile application maps and geospatial products. The Subcommittee will also recommend best practices in geospatial data analysis and interoperability. The Subcommittee will provide recommendations on the training of ICS responders and educate management about GIS capabilities. The Subcommittee will provide, investigate and recommend methods and products for increasing organizational effectiveness and timely decision support. Finally, the Subcommittee will actively assess and meet the needs of both GIS technical staff and the end users of GIS products.

The Subcommittee's efforts will create coordinated GIS solutions to meet emergency management needs, thus enhancing the ability of member agencies as well as FIRESCOPE to provide critical services.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Develop, maintain, and gain approval from the Task Force for a "Plan of Work" consistent with the Subcommittee's mission.
2. Collaborate with other members, appropriate stakeholders, and subject matter experts on issues related to the "Plan of Work" to ensure integration of a broad range of ideas in the final product.
3. Develop and maintain FIRESCOPE documents and products specific to the "Plan of Work."
4. Present a single document for each "Plan of Work" project representative of Subcommittee consensus.



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5. Working with other FIRESCOPE Incident Technologies Specialist Group, evaluate existing and future communications related technologies for application to California's Fire and Emergency Services.
6. Facilitate communications interoperability and inter-agency cooperation with local, state, tribal, and federal partners.
7. Review current training, certification, and qualification requirements representative of the Subcommittee's mission and make recommendations for consistency and enhancement.
8. Develop as necessary or required, position manuals, task books, training materials and courses, and other documents for use in filling ICS positions related to the Subcommittee's mission.
9. Review and revise documents and ICS structure related to the Subcommittee's mission.
10. Maintain accurate confidential and non-confidential membership rosters for the Subcommittee.
11. Report to the FIRESCOPE Task Force Liaison assigned to the Subcommittee.
12. Complete other assignments as deemed appropriate by the Task Force.
13. Provide review and recommendations to proposed CICCS changes to communications-related positions

MEMBERSHIP

Members will be representative of the California Fire Service and based on the issues identified in the "Plan of Work" and the subsequent level of technical expertise required to ensure statewide representation. Members shall be approved by the FIRESCOPE Task Force and may include, but are not limited to:

- State agencies such as CAL FIRE and CAL OES
- Federal agencies
- Local fire agencies representative of the CAL OES Mutual Aid Regions, cities, counties, and rural areas



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Associate Advisors may be assigned from interested non-fire service groups to provide technical expertise with the approval of the Task Force.

OFFICERS

The elected officers of the FIRESCOPE Subcommittee will consist of a Chair and may include a Vice-Chair and Secretary. Additionally, two members of the Subcommittee will serve as officers on the respective Specialist Subcommittee. The Chair is responsible for managing the Subcommittee to accomplish the identified annual “Plan of Work” in accordance with the FIRESCOPE Decision Process. The Vice-Chair acts in the absence of the Chair, and the Secretary is responsible for ensuring that the minutes and related documents are recorded and submitted to the Task Force.

Officers are elected annually by the membership, with voting completed prior to October 31. The Chair will serve a two-year term, while all other elected officers will serve a one-year term. All terms will run from January 1 to December 31.

AD HOC Subcommittees

Ad Hoc groups may be established by the subcommittee when appropriate. Ad Hoc group members shall be from the approved subcommittee roster.

MEETINGS

At least one meeting will be held annually. Additional meetings will be held as necessary to accomplish the goals and objectives of the FIRESCOPE Subcommittee “Plan of Work.” Meetings will be held so they do not conflict with Task Force meetings.