



ADHOC SUBCOMMITTEE Heavy Equipment All-Hazards Task Force (HEAT) 2026 CHARTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The FIRESCOPE Heavy Equipment All-Hazards Task Force (HEAT) is tasked with the responsibility to develop, review, and maintain operational standards and mission-ready package (MRP) definitions for heavy equipment resources used within the California Mutual-Aid System and the Incident Command System (ICS).

The HEAT Subcommittee's mission is to ensure that heavy equipment resources; including bulldozers, excavators, loaders, graders, and support vehicles are typed, trained, and operated under standardized guidelines that promote safety, efficiency, and interoperability for all-hazard response operations throughout the State of California.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The HEAT Subcommittee is responsible to the Special Operations Committee via the Chairperson of the FIRESCOPE Task Force, or their designee will present a single document for each project developed.

The HEAT Subcommittee will:

1. Review, develop, and maintain FIRESCOPE standards and documents related to heavy equipment use in all-hazard operations.
2. Establish Mission Ready Package (MRP) standards for heavy equipment task forces, identifying minimum equipment, staffing, and support requirements.
3. Define resource typing and operational standards for heavy equipment assets to ensure statewide consistency and mutual-aid interoperability.
4. Identify and recommend minimum training and qualification requirements for operators, supervisors, and support personnel consistent with FIRESCOPE and ICS principles.
5. Provide recommendations for safe and effective operations, logistical support, and demobilization procedures for heavy equipment task forces.
6. Incorporate CFAA and the three primary paying agencies (Feds, CalFire, CalOES) into the discussion to ensure there are no unintended consequences creating reimbursement issues.



MEMBERSHIP

Members are selected as Subject Matter Experts representative of the California Fire Service and allied agencies from local, county, regional, state, and federal levels. Members have the responsibility to represent their respective organizations in all matters relating to heavy equipment all-hazard operations.

Membership may include representatives from:

- CAL FIRE
- California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)
- Local government fire agencies
- County public works or engineering divisions
- U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior agencies
- Contract or private heavy equipment programs (non-voting)

Two members of the HEAT Subcommittee may be selected to serve on the Special Operations Committee on behalf of the Subcommittee.

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/Working Groups may be established by the Sub Committee when appropriate. Each Ad Hoc/Working Group shall have an identified and approved roster.



MEETINGS

Meetings are held periodically, at least once annually, to accomplish the identified goals, objectives, and Plan of Work, and shall not conflict with Task Force meetings.

Any ad hoc working group(s) may hold meetings to accomplish assigned tasks. The Vice-Chair is the point of contact for these working group(s) and reports back to the Subcommittee.