



# FIRESCOPE OPERATIONS TEAM MINUTES

January 30, 2020

Pismo Beach

## 1. Welcome, Introductions

Poirier and Farris

Members Present: Operations Team: See Roster

Members Present: Task Force & Specialist Groups: See Roster

### FIRESCOPE

Operations Team Roster January 30 & 31, 2020

Name/Agency	Name/Agency	Name/Agency
Walder – SPFD	Farris – SBC	Kendall – CalFire
Opliger – BDC	Fraley – KRN	Neamy – NIMS
Johnstone – OES	Poirier – LFD	Gardner – VNC
Barber – RBFD	Velo – SFFD	Sanchez – ORC
Bidaburu – USFA	Skelton - USFS	

### Task Force Roster

Name/Agency	Name/Agency	Name/Agency
Horton – VNC	Spelman – CalFire	Torrez - OES
Zipperman – LFD	Johnson, C – OES	Hubbell - BDC
Huff – SBC	Kuempel – SCFD	Gerboth - SND
Capobianco – ORC	Tomaselli – USFS	Peshkin - KRN

### Specialist Group Roster

Name/Agency	Name/Agency	Name/Agency
Occhipinti – VNC-EIT	Kennedy – VNC-GIS	Hughes - ORC
Mollow - CalFire	Poganski – USD	Ross - LAC

## 2. Agenda Review

Poirier (No changes made)

### 3. Review and Approval of Minutes December Conference Call

Poirier

- **Motion** to approve the minutes as presented - Walder
- Second - Velo
- Discussion - None
- Approved

### 4. BOD Report January 8&9 –

Poirier & Johnstone

Introduction and welcome by Chief Hartwig

- CFAA Update-  
Johnstone, Skelton, Gardner, Kendall
  - i. Current Agreement extended to April
  - ii. Rewrite is going well, and the group is optimistic they will make the deadline
- Pre-Position Resources Mud and Debris flow  
Gerboth
  - i. Check sheet and approval sheet have been modeled on the wildland forms.
  - ii. It was presented to the BOD in January and approved
  - iii. Next step is workflow and scoresheet for Flooding
- FIRIS Aerial Data Platform
  - i. Collaboration with WiFire mapping program
  - ii. FIRIS Platform was used in the Southern region as a pilot program. It provided real time SA
  - iii. It provides accurate real time intel on the perimeter and direction of spread. Updates from SBC, VNC, LAFD, LAC, ORC.
  - iv. A motion to the BoD was made for an additional year of support.
  - v. Skelton updated that the USFS currently does not have access to the platform, they are looking at options for the future.
  - vi. Tomaselli- from an FBAN prospective remember WiFire is a tool that can be beneficial on IA response but does not replace an FBAN for long term fire modeling.
  - vii. Kendall- The GACCs can use these tools to keep SA real time. A key takeaway is the need for these predictive tools to have the ability to self-

- viii. correct and receive real time boots on the ground input.
  - ix. Gardner- VNC used the FIRIS platform and WiFire several times over this last year. It proved to be beneficial in the IA phase to provide intel to fire ground commanders, law enforcement, electeds and the public through social media.
- Type VI Engines- Group Discussion
    - i. Cal OES purchased 79 Type VI engines
    - ii. The BoD discussed staffing levels and the fact local, state and fed agencies are not in agreement.
    - iii. A decision was made to support a minimum staffing level to three (3) and update the FOG to this standard.
    - iv. This will create a conflict between the FIRESCOPE FOG and NWCG.
    - v. Skelton- The USFS and Federal partners will continue to support the minimum staffing levels recognized by the NWCG.
    - vi. Walder - Local Government agencies in Nor Cal are going to struggle to staff 3:0
    - vii. Bibaburu- From an NWCG perspective contract language with out of region contractors will be very important.
    - viii. Zipperman- will there be a requirement that one member will be engine boss qualified? Follow up will occur on this question

## 5. Task Force Quarterly Briefing

Kuempel

- The ¼ briefing initiated by Chief Kelly and the TF will continue being posted to the FIRESCOPE website each ¼
- Several key documents were approved and are available for review on the current briefing.

## 6. Task Force Report Operations Team Report

Kuempel

- TF Report January 29 2020 V2.docx\*
- 2022 FOG will be available in January 2022. Rewrite starting now led by Cathy Johnson
- TF still needs the Volunteer Opening filled

## 7. Discussion/Approval of Task Force Documents

- Behavioral Health Working Group White Paper  
Huff and Team

- i. 1\_30\_20 BHWG White Paper\_Final-Draft.docx\*
- ii. U:\Documents\FIRESCOPE\BHWG Presentation\_V3 Ops Meeting 1-20.pptx
- iii. 1\_30\_20\_BHWG\_OSD\_Final-Draft.docx\*
- iv. **Motion** by Neamy
  1. Motion to accept the draft documents for further discussion and review by the Task Force and the Ops team to be further refined and developed prior to moving it to the BoD. **All input provided to Chief Johnstone on or before 2-15-20.** Chief Huff will return the refined documents to the TF and the Ops Team for discussion on the March 11 Conference Call.
  2. Second Velo
  3. Discussion
    - Walder - this needs to be moved rapidly to meet the needs of the rapid development in this field.
    - Poirier - I agree with Chief Walder, however we need to assure the document is developed and succinct.
    - Johnstone - A sense of urgency is critical, but the document needs to be edited further before approval and movement to the BoD. The interchanged use between “group” and “team” needs to be cleaned up. The creation of an additional specialist group needs further development due to gravity of the subject and the cost related to maintaining a new specialist group.
    - Bidaburu - Is this meant to go into California or National guidelines?
    - Per Work group that has been discussed but not finalized. Consistency with National efforts is desired
    - Kuempel - The TF needs time to further review and provide input. The document is in WORD please use tracked changes and save under your name.
    - Skelton- Assure the NWCG naming board is onboard with the ICS names.
    - Opliger - Who covers the cost, the IMT or the host agency?
    - As a rapidly developing field within public safety, it is essential that a clear and complete guideline is created to help all agencies in California. First responder suicides are out pacing line of duty deaths.
  4. Approved

- Predictive Services- Decision Support System
  - i. FIRESCOPE Decision Support Analysis White Paper (002).pdf\*
  - ii. The Predictive Service working group will test and validate decision support tools to verify if they have benefits for FIRESCOPE members and the California fire service.
  - iii. SCE and PG&E have the technology and academic research available that is superior to what we have available to us. We should consider reaching out to them to see if we can collaborate.
  - iv. **Motion-** Walder - accept the white paper and move the action items to the annual plan of work.
  - v. Second - Velo
  - vi. Discussion -
    - 1. Johnstone/Poirier – To brief the BoD to increase their awareness of what this the Predictive Services Specialist Group has been tasked with developing.
  - vii. Approved

## 8. Old Business

- Serious Accident review  
Kuempel
  - i. A check list is being created and will be proposed on the March call to be added to the FOG to outline the initial actions to be considered during a serious accident or death on an incident.
- Woolsey AAR  
O'Brian
  - i. This was an AAR to look at the County wide response to the Incident. It was an overview for the public and elected officials meant to provide a better understanding of the preparedness, response, and recovery.
  - ii. **Motion-** Johnstone - Create a work group to explore the addition of T.I.E.R. and "Life Safety First Concept" to FIRESCOPE Documents. Work Group to be Johnstone, Gardner, Zipperman, O'Brien
  - iii. Second - Kendall
  - iv. Discussion - none
  - v. Approved.
- Incident within an Incident  
Neamy

- i. Designed to clarify the responsibility of managing an IWI from the NIMS level.
  - ii. 5.3.1 The Incident Commander shall have overall authority for management of the incident.
  - iii. A5.3.1 The practice of an incident within an incident (IWI) is not consistent with NIMS in regard to the IC managing the entire incident. This does not prohibit the IC from delegating the responsibilities when appropriate and in accordance with NIMS. The most important task in any emergency situation is to rescue and treat members in a life-threatening situation triggered by the emergency.
  - iv. 5.3.3.1 The IC shall have the responsibility and duties of all unassigned ICS positions.
  - v. Issue resolved and will be removed from future agendas
- FIRESCOPE Strategic Plan of Work  
Johnstone and Kuempel
  - i. FIRESCOPE Strategic Plan 2020.pdf\*
  - ii. Johnstone has asked that Ops Team members go to their home agencies and work to identify strong members to support the creation of the wildland fire preplans. Send identified names to Johnstone.
- Blue Ribbon Task Force 2008
  - i. Blue Ribbon Commission Task Force Report 2008.pdf\*
  - ii. The BoD has asked for input for the updated 2020 update. Send suggestions to Chief Johnstone.
- Expedited Resource Response
  - i. FINAL PDF ERR PILOT PROGRAM.pdf\*
  - ii. Discussion
    - 1. Kendall - We as FIRESCOPE should look at the resource ordering system and identify efficiencies and inefficiencies. Need to consider predeploying local, state, and federal ROSS/IROC personnel to ECC's
    - 2. Johnson - with the development of new technologies we should be able to see all resources and resource orders rapidly.
- FIRESCOPE/Cal Chief Tech Summit Review  
Kuempel
  - i. Overall success and appreciation to the EIT Specialist Group for their leadership. PowerPoints are available on the Esri website

- FOG Sales Report  
Johnstone
  - i. 2017- 35,000 ordered and 2/3 have been sold
  - ii. The online ordering has improved distribution
- Statewide Use of Google Sheets  
Johnstone
  - i. Region VI is working towards using Google sheets and the MACS 405 to capture real time data on all available resources. Region I and V will start next.

## 9. Presentations

- USFA Type III AHIMT Program  
Soule & Bidaburu
  - i. 3-Tier Concept Introduction Paper 20190523 Final Draft.pdf\*

## 10. New Business

- FIRESCOPE Collaboration between Ops, TF & Specialist groups  
Kuempel
  - i. Discussion
    1. Johnstone/Bidaburu - Is it time to review and validate the relevance of all the specialty groups? Add it to the June Ops team agenda and preceding TF agendas.
  - ii. **Motion-** Poirier. Review the structure of the ten (10) specialist groups to determine if adjustments or additional groups are needed. Include discussion as an agenda item at the June Ops team meeting.
  - iii. Second - Kendall
  - iv. Discussion-
    1. Walder -The SME at the specialist level should be consulted
    2. Kendall - They should be based on the long-term vision of the strategic plan
    3. Johnstone- What are the constructive comments of the working group leads.
      - a. HazMat-Deployment to incidents throughout the state are limited by topography and weather. We are behind on technology and advancements in contemporary products.
      - b. Safety- The groups need better direction and input from the TF

- c. and Ops Team. Future planning and scheduled meetings for the entire year would be beneficial. Written direction is better than verbal directions.
- d. EIT- The specialist groups have intermixed SME with several other groups. Can we have a clear problem statement when we are tasked with new projects? If a project or problem touches several different groups have an initial conference call with all the specialist groups together.
- e. EMS - We need a clear intent or end state, written would be a huge plus.
- f. GIS- GIS, EIT, and Predictive Service overlap in most areas.

4. Approved

- NIMS Consortium/ NIMS Coordination Group Overview  
Neamy
- NIMS Coordination Group  
Johnstone
  - i. We need strong FIRESCOPE members to represent six sub groups on the NIMS CG. Contact Johnstone with recommendations.
- Collection of Funds for FIRESCOPE Mugs  
Johnstone
  - i. All Ops Team members please give Jim \$20.

## 11. Updates and Reports

- Cal OES  
Johnstone
  - i. Deputy Chief of Operations Open - Sac
  - ii. Assistant Chief FIRESCOPE South planned – to focus on Messaging and Marketing/Assisting Task Force
  - iii. Interest in obtaining OES Apparatus is now tracked on Google Sheets and will be available for all agencies to review
- Cal Fire  
Kendall
  - i. IROC transition in the first week of March. We are building contingency plans.
  - ii. Firehawks are filtering in.



- iii. C130 tank bid has been awarded. 18-month build. Fire Season 2021
  - iv. Fuels crews expanding from six to ten
  - v. Down 52 inmate crews across the state
  - vi. Next year's budget looks promising for an additional 500-1000 employees (suppression & support)
- USFS/DOI  
Skelton
  - i. Multiple vacancies within SOPs
  - ii. IROC starting (tentatively) March 5<sup>th</sup>. Live training sessions have started
  - iii. NIROP down to one platform - NICS will prioritize orders
  - iv. DOI- CWCG decided to cut a Type II IMT last year. There is a proposal to cut an additional Type II IMT depending on how CFAA gets rewritten and LGs ability to participate on Fed IMTs.
- USFA  
Bidaburu (Johnstone)
  - i. Chief Hoover is now the Deputy Director of the USFA
  - ii. Expect several USFA position opportunities becoming available due to retirements
- State Fire Training
  - i. 2020-01-ff-2019-accredited-academy-update-information-bulletin.pdf\*
  - ii. SFT January 2020 Newsletter.pdf\*
- NFPA  
Neamy
  - i. 1500 has been updated
  - ii. Labor continues to stress adding 4:0 staffing to 1500
- Specialist Working Group
  - i. Aviation night flying and hover filling
  - ii. Communications- personal use radios

## 12. Next BoD Meeting

- April 8 & 9 in San Francisco
- July meeting will be hosted by OCFA

### **13. Roundtable**

- Kern – David Witt new Fire Chief. Fraley is the new Deputy Chief Operations
- Region IV preparing for fire season 2020
- SF - issues secondary to PSPS. Alameda Co. Chief Rocha has retired.
- OCFA - continual hiring more than 40% has less than 3 years in the seat
- Red Bluff adding a Division Chief and adding staffing.
- Santa Clara County now hiring straight FF and not FF Engine/Operators
- Cal Fire - SOPs is open for visits.
- SBC - Added a third Battalion in North Co, Chief Enos promoted to Deputy Chief of Operations, starting a fuel reduction crew on a grant.
- BDC - Opliger will remain on the Ops Team. Chief Dan Munsey new Fire Chief.

### **14. Next Meeting**

- Conference Call - March 11, 2020, 10:30 AM
- TBD San Francisco- June TBD

### **15. Adjourned**

- 11:05 meeting adjourned