



DATE: Wednesday, October 8, 2025
Thursday, October 9, 2025
TIME: 1330 - 1700 Wednesday
0830 - 1430 Thursday
LOCATION: Brooks, California

CALL TO ORDER

A FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting was held on Wednesday, October 8, 2025, and Thursday, October 9, 2025, at Cache Creek Resort. The meeting began at 1330 hours on October 8, 2025, and 0830 on October 9, 2025. It was presided by the Board Chair, Chief Brian Fennessy.

ATTENDEES

Voting members in attendance included:

Brian Fennessy, Chair, Orange County Fire Authority
Dustin Gardner, Vice-Chair, Ventura County Fire Department
Alex Silva, Volunteer Fire Departments South
Nate Gogna, U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs
Jaime Gamboa, USDA Forest Service
Daniel Berlant, State Fire Marshal
Jeff Meston, California Fire Chiefs' Association
Eddie Sell, California State Firefighters' Association
Mark Hartwig, Santa Barbara County Fire Department
John Goss, National Park Service
Charlie Norman, Counties South
Joe Tyler, CAL FIRE
Jeb Koons, US Fish & Wildlife Service
Mark Lorenzen, Small/Medium Cities North
Peter Kelly, BLM
Pat Russell, Small/Medium Cities South
Chris Costamagna, Large Cities North
Eric Walder, Fire Districts North
Suwanna Kerdkaew, Counties North
Dan Munsey, Fire Districts South
Jeff Gilbert, Volunteer Fire Departments North
Aaron Duncan, Kern County Fire Department
Brian Rice, California Professional Firefighters

Members not in attendance included:

Brian Marshall, Executive Coordinator, Fire and Rescue, Cal OES
Ronnie Villanueva, Los Angeles Fire Department
Anthony Marrone, Los Angeles Co. Fire Department
Robert Logan, Large Cities South

Partner Agencies in attendance:

Kim Zagaris, Western Fire Chiefs
Mark Loeffelbein, National Weather Service
Erik Litzenberg, International Association of Fire Chiefs

Guests in attendance included:

Chad Cook, Ventura County Fire Department – Ops Team Vice - Chair
Jason Serrano, San Bernardino County Fire - Task Force Chair
Matt Brown, Santa Clara County Fire – Task Force Vice-Chair
Jim Johnstone, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Cathy Johnson, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Yesenia Serafin, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Shelley Dorsey, FIRESCOPE, Cal OES
Lori Lopez, Cal OES
Sara Puricelli, Cal OES, Legal

Call to Order	<u>Day 1</u>	
a. Tribal Fire Chief Introduction & Welcome		Kinney
b. Tribal Leader Prayer and Welcome		
c. Flag Salute		
d. Electronic Voting Tool - Roll Call/Determine Quorum		Serafin
e. Meeting Information		
Public Comment: Items on the October 8, 2025 Agenda		Public Comment
Approval of July 2025 Meeting Minutes*		
Motion: Gardner		
Second: Russell		
Approved		Fennessy

Do you approve the July 2025 BoD Meeting Minutes?

1. Yes	John G.	October 8, 2025, 04:47 PM
2. Yes	Alex S.	October 8, 2025, 04:14 PM
3. Yes	Jaime G.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
4. Yes	Chris C.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
5. Yes	Daniel B.	October 8, 2025, 03:58 PM
6. Yes	Joe T.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
7. Yes	Jebediah K.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
8. Yes	Charlie N.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
9. Yes	Eddie S.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
10. Yes	Dan M.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
11. Yes	Aaron D.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
12. Yes	Brian Fennessy	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
13. Yes	Pat R.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
14. Yes	Eric Walder	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
15. Yes	Dustin G.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
16. Yes	Jeff M.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
17. Yes	Suwanna K.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
18. Yes	Nathan G.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
19. Yes	Jeffery G.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
20. Yes	Peter K.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM
21. Yes	Mark L.	October 8, 2025, 03:52 PM

Recognition of Outstanding Service to FIRESCOPE

Fennessy/Gardner

- Chief Mark Hartwig – Santa Barbara County Fire

Cal OES Director's Update

Lopez

- Director Ward was attending the NEMA conference.
- Waiting to hear the status of the FEMA realignment.
- Grants are affected by the federal government shutdown.

Cal OES Fire and Rescue Update

Lopez

- Fire apparatus update.
- A mass evacuation survey was sent out at the end of September by Chief Marshall.
- State Operations Center (SOC) remodeling is on track for January 2026 completion. Notify Chief Marshall for a tour.
- New program - the California Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research Program.
- OES is involved in planning for numerous upcoming special events.
- Preposition stats.
- FMAG requests.

CAL FIRE Update

Tyler

- Moderate fire activity this year.
- Discussed incident management teams.
- Thanks to National Association of Firefighters, California Fire Foundation and the

California Professional Firefighters after visiting the Colorado Springs FF Memorial.

- Continue to implement the reduced workweek strategies of hiring additional personnel.
- The Atwater Training Center opened July 1st. Now have four training centers.
- Continue to implement fuel reduction grant opportunities. Some funding placed on hold.
- Proposition 4 update.
- Aircraft update.
- Priority is fuels reduction and prescribed fire.
- Leadership changes coming in January 2026.
- Working on the deadlines for a new master agreement with federal agency partners.
- Working to get final signatures on the CFMA before it goes into rewrites.
- \$10 million was provided to UCLA for Firefighter Cancer Research.
- The Fire Safety Research Institute was commissioned by the governor after the Eaton and Palisades fires.

State Fire Marshal/State Fire Training Update

Berlant

- Busy month with legislation. 100 bills are on the governor's desk to be signed with a due date of October 12th.
- SB 456, AB 841 and SB 283 passed.
- Putting together a public safety fireworks enforcement task force.
- Discussed battery energy storage systems.
- Putting a work group together to help update the California wildland urban interface standards and training.
- Wildland urban interface building code will be brought to the Building Science Commission in two weeks.
- Discussed AB 130.
- Home hardening update.
- Received 400 applications for local fire prevention projects.
- Working with the board of forestry and fire protection to get zone zero on track.

United States Forest Service Update

Gamboa

- Discussed the government shutdown.
- Working on suppression and authority to continue their prescribed fire program.
- Wildland fire program update.
- All resources are staffed and approved through OMB to extend their temporary workforce.
- For 2025 - 16 deployments on National Forest land for IMTs.
- Resource update.

U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs Update

Gogna

- Speaker Steven Falk, CEO of Switchback.

U.S. Bureau of Land Management Update

Kelly

- Staffed additional engines this year.
- Experienced success with recruitment and retention.

- Researching the acquisition of another helicopter.
- Treated 43,000 acres in fiscal year 2025.
- Had to take a tactical pause on prescribed fire due to the government shutdown.
- All BLM fire is funded for the next eight weeks. Should be no change in service.
- Discussed Secretary Order 3443.
- Discussed DOI consolidation.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Update

Koons

- Staffing is typical for this time of year.
- Exempt funding should last until mid-November.
- Received a new fire engine for Sacramento area.
- Filled hundreds of resource orders.
- Exceeded agency target for fuels reduction for California and Nevada for fiscal year 2025.
- Possible change in in the agency's chain of command.

National Park Service

Goss

- Potential fir re-engaging into prescribed fire.
- Relatively quiet fire year in California.
- Staffing funded for the next month.
- Able to fill two vacancies.
- Will be starting to lay off the temporary and seasonal staff.
- Resource update.

CAL FIRE Qualification Management System

Presentation given by Kibby

IROC/IQS Integration for Local Government

Presentation given by Cox/Entenman

CICCS Update and LG Priority Trainee Implementation

Vail

- Discussed edits to the 2025 CICCS Guide. The guide recently went to STEAC.
- The 2026 guide should be out in January 2026.
- CWCG approached them to ask if they would be interested in having local government as part of their priority trainee program.
- A letter was distributed from the CWCG training working team asking personnel to apply for the program. Copies were passed out at the meeting.
- Around 100 people applied for the program. Would like the participants to give feedback on the program.

Public Comment on Items not on the October 8, 2025 Agenda

Public Comment

Recess until 8:30 a.m. on October 9, 2025

Meeting adjourned on day 1 at 1700

Call to Order	<u>Day 2</u>	Fennessy/Marshall/Gogna
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flag Salute b. Welcome c. Roll Call/Determine Quorum d. Meeting Information 		
Public Comment: Items on the October 9, 2025 Agenda		Public Comment

Ops Team / Task Force Report

Report presented by Cook/Serrano

- o *Ops Team/Task Force Report
 - The Ops Team & Task Force continue to support the subcommittees and specialist groups on the work they are completing in 2025.
 - *FIRESCOPE Quarterly Brief

Motion: Gilbert
Second: Munsey
Approved with the addition of a NERIS slide

Do you approve the FIRESCOPE Quarterly Brief?

1. Yes	Joe T.	October 9, 2025, 11:04 AM
2. Yes	Aaron D.	October 9, 2025, 11:04 AM
3. Yes	Mark H.	October 9, 2025, 11:04 AM
4. Yes	Dan M.	October 9, 2025, 11:04 AM
5. Yes	Pat R.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
6. Yes	Jaime G.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
7. Yes	Suwanna K.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
8. Yes	Jebediah K.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
9. Yes	John G.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
10. Yes	Daniel B.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
11. Yes	Brian Fennessy	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
12. Yes	Mark L.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
13. Yes	Jeffery G.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
14. Yes	Peter K.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
15. Yes	Charlie N.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
16. Yes	Eric Walder	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
17. Yes	Chris C.	October 9, 2025, 11:03 AM
18. Yes	Alex S.	October 9, 2025, 11:01 AM

- *ICS 1302 Motorola APX Cloning Job Aid & White Paper
 - Motion:** Duncan
 - Second:** Sell

Approved

Do you approve the ICS 1302 APX Cloning Job Aid & Whitepaper?

1. Yes	Eric Walder	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
2. Yes	Brian Fennessy	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
3. Yes	Alex S.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
4. Yes	Joe T.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
5. Yes	Jaime G.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
6. Yes	Jeffery G.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
7. Yes	Pat R.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
8. Yes	Nathan G.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
9. Yes	Dustin G.	October 9, 2025, 11:12 AM
10. Yes	Daniel B.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
11. Yes	Dan M.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
12. Yes	Mark H.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
13. Yes	Peter K.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
14. Yes	Charlie N.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
15. Yes	Chris C.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
16. Yes	Aaron D.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
17. Yes	Suwanna K.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
18. Yes	Mark L.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
19. Yes	Jebediah K.	October 9, 2025, 11:11 AM
20. Yes	John G.	October 9, 2025, 11:10 AM

- *ICS 1150 Lithium-Ion Battery Emergencies Operational Guide

Motion: Gardner

Second: Berlant

Approved - Unanimous

Individual results were not available due to technical difficulties during the meeting

- MACS 410-4 Update (Task Tracking)

Motion to approve as written: Sell

Second: Rice (Withdrawn)

Discussion only. Moved to the January BoD pending revisions.

- FIRESCOPE FOG App Restructuring White Paper

Motion: Norman

Second: Costamagna

Approved - Unanimous

Individual results were not available due to technical difficulties during the meeting

- *ICS 851 – UAS Incursions During Emergency Events

Motion: Munsey

Second: Duncan

Approved - Unanimous

Individual results were not available due to technical difficulties during the meeting

Notable Updates

- Community Risk Reduction Subcommittee Update
- Wildland Preplan White Paper Update
- HEAT/ERAT Update (Tasking Request)
- Statewide Collaborative Fuels Reduction White Paper (Tasking Request)
- UAS for All-Hazard White Paper (Tasking Request)

EMS Update

Thompson

- Monitoring the federal cuts to Medicaid.
 - Impact on transport providers.
- AB 40 update.
- Audits questioning the documentation of arrival times to the hospital.
- Working to reduce unnecessary calls to skilled nursing and assisted living facilities.
- Alameda's RFP has been pulled back and will be awarded to multiple providers.
- Federal court ruling in favor of CONFIRE. Waiting on the state court ruling.
- Stockton, Modesto, and Tracy Fire have been awarded a transport contract with AMR.
- Difficult in California to become an ALS provider.
- EMS section closely watching medical control as it relates to dispatch.
- Discussed the wording in AB 645. Signed by the governor last week.
- Chapter one has been the biggest EMS battle in the past 45 years. Out for public comment January 1st.

CFAA Update

Lopez/CFAA Committee

- Negotiations are ongoing.
- On second extension - due to expire at the end of October.
- Negotiating with the special ops community. Taking longer than anticipated.
- This year processed \$194 million in reimbursements. Primarily from the Palisades and Eaton fires.
- MARS is very successful and is doing its job.
- Discussed supplementals. Challenging issue. Subcommittee working on it.
- Discussed FEMA rates. They were reduced drastically per hour in July.

- Sent a letter to FEMA September 10th. Waiting for a response.

CWCG Update

CWCG Members

- Discussed IC, Deputy IC, and IC trainees application period. It will open in the next few weeks. Will be open until early November.
- Discussed joint IC after action review. No set dates or location set yet.
- Chief Steers presented CWCG with the challenges and successes from this past year with their CIMs.
- There is a CIM after action review in Boise towards the end of the month. Representatives are Chief Jay Kurth and Chief Matt Ahearn.
- Trying to replan their federal IMT meetings.

Partner Agency Updates

- U.S. Fire Administration
 - No report
- National Fire Academy
 - Written report provided
- National Wildfire Coordinating Group
 - Discussed pre 2006 fire shelter advisory.
 - Incident Performance and Training Modernization (IPTM) is the modernization of the 130 positions across the NWCG system. Has been in the process for almost two years.
 - The positions that are coming up are ICT IV, helicopter manager, heavy equipment boss, single engineer, tanker manager and ramp manager. The courses will be updated.
 - Story map on the NWCG website that is now live. This explains the IPTM process. Availability of a sign-up button for updates.
 - Currently doing an entire restructure of NWCG including all the committees that started about a year ago.
 - Chair and Vice-Chair transition going on.
 - The new Chair is Erik Litzenberg, and the Vice-Chair is Anne Jewell from Department of Defense.
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Agency
 - The National Weather Service continues to hire after receiving an exemption from the federal hiring freeze in July.
 - They were able to provide incident meteorologists and expedited procedure to travel approved.
 - 20 IMET missions have been completed in the state of California to date in 2025 to support wildfires.
 - Certified 11 IMET trainees, bringing the total certified number of incident meteorologists to 92.

- National Fire Protection Agency
No report Rueda
- International Association of Fire Chiefs
 - Discussed conference updates.
 - WUI conference will be in Reno March 24-26, 2026. The open submission call for presentations has been extended. Send request directly to Chief Litzenberg.
 - FRI is August 12-14 Kansas City Fire Department.
 - Two regional FDXs coming up, one in Hawaii and one in Denver.
 - Planning now for 2026. If you are interested in hosting on an FDX, reach out to Chief Fennessy or Chief Litzenberg.
 - Looking for people to join the Instant Operations Subcommittee, Aviation Management Committee, Qualifications System Subcommittee, and Safety Management Subcommittee. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Chief Litzenberg.
 - Started a review of the master template.
- Western Fire Chiefs Association Zararis
 - Last week they were at the Forest Conference in Sisters, Oregon.
 - In 2026, the Forest Conference will be in the same location September 27-30.
 - Ignite Symposium will be March 12-13 at the Red Rock Casino in Las Vegas.
 - Continue to work on FirstNet reauthorization.
 - Working on the executive order working group.

Board of Directors Advisory Team Reports

- Mutual Aid Coordination Team (MACT) Report Walder
 - Met on October 6th.
 - Discussed the FAST app and the plan for a broader implementation and possibly some upgrades.
 - Can help with the implementation of IQS.
- Fire Resource Ordering Process Workgroup Update Williams/Lopez
 - Phase 01 is complete.
 - Currently in Phase 02.
 - Did a survey at the end of Phase I. 343 respondents provided input.
 - Discussed dedicated staffing and modernization for the mobilizations system to increase efficiency.
 - IROC pre-orders.
 - Not using IROC to its full function.
 - Single GACC concept discussed.
 - Phase 03 target date – July 2026.
 - Presentation at Metro Chiefs on October 27th.
 - Workgroup meetings November 5th in Ventura and December 15th in Orange Co.
 - The workgroup contacted the IROC National Office regarding extension on the

IROC certification and qualifications. Pushed out to March 2026. More to follow.

New Business

- CDC National Firefighter Cancer Registry - Presentation Sillman
 - Rescheduled for January meeting
- California Wildland Urban Interface Standards/Training Workgroup Charter Presentation given by Berlant/Spears
- National Standardized Term and Definition of “Conflagration” Fennessy
 - Discussion and tabled until further information is developed by the California Wildland Urban Interface Standards/Training Workgroup
- Integration of Emergency Management Mutual Aid into the California Fire Assistance Agreement and the Interagency Resource Ordering Capability (IROC) Presentation given by Matsushita
- Integrating EMSA ordered private ambulances into the Incident Command System on wildfires and other major emergencies Presentation given by Meston
- Helicopter Typing Fennessy
 - After having conversations with members on AOSC there is conversation taking place within that group about the potential of typing differently.
 - What is the expectation of the ordering incident? Are they looking for something more than 1,000 gallon drop capability?
 - AOSC looking for a tasking to explore this.
 - Tasking would be formalized and then it would be passed to Chief McFarland and his group.
 - Much bigger than just a California issue. Has to be changed at the national level.
 - The process would be long. Would be working with CWCG and NWCG.
 - BoD tasking provided to have the AOSC develop a white paper and bring back to FIRESCOPE through the decision process. All BoD members approved of this.

Old Business

- Preposition Guidelines Mercado
 - Guideline changes update. Document created in 2018-2019.
 - Added that Cal OES is responsible for the overall management and coordination of the resources on behalf of the State of California.
 - Added a description under the incident creation.
 - Updated the request status under the preposition guideline resource request process. Added a glossary of terms.
 - Added an interactive OES communication link that shows all of the regional ACs and who to contact.
 - The guidelines are more user friendly.
 - Close to completing the update.
 - Lori Lopez added that a new preposition assist tool went live yesterday. It is only available on a desktop currently. It can be found on the Cal OES Fire and Rescue website. Next step is to have it populate into the form itself.

- Fire Service Legislative Update Meston/Rice
 - Discussed AB 700.
 - Cancer studies grants were awarded \$7 million to 8 different fire departments around the state.
 - In the process of finalizing a biomarker study with Kaiser Permanente. This will involve CPF members and Kaiser Permanente.
 - Encouraged personnel to participate in every single cancer study that they're eligible for.
 - \$10 million to fund six apprenticeship academies, for both EMT and paramedic.
 - Also, working with all the other apprenticeship programs across the state.
 - In 2018, the reimbursement hourly rate for training through the Cal-JAC was \$5.90. in 2025, the rate increased to \$10.32.
 - Discussed AB 1181, SB 283, AB 1075, SB 345, and AB 841.
 - PPE update.
- Emergency Response Access Teams (ERAT) Presentation given by Juback/Gibson

2025/2026 Board of Director Meetings

Fennessy

January 14 & 15, 2026	Cal OES Headquarters	Mather
April 15 & 16, 2026	CAL FIRE	McClellan AFB/Sacramento
July 8 & 9, 2026	San Bernardino Co. Fire	Lake Arrowhead
October 14 & 15, 2026	Anaheim Fire	Anaheim

Board Member Updates

Solicitation of Items to be Placed onto the Next Board Agenda

Public Comment: Items not on the October 9, 2025 Agenda

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned on day 2 at 1424