



PREDICTIVE SERVICES SPECIALIST GROUP CHARTER

MISSION STATEMENT

The FIRESCOPE Predictive Services Specialist Group has been established to coordinate products and services related to weather, fuels, fire behavior, and intelligence. The Group will strive to operate free of political or geographic bias, drawing upon the experience and knowledge gained in the delivery of public service by all members in accordance with all FIRESCOPE policies and procedures.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Develop, maintain and gain approval from the Task Force for a “Plan of Work” consistent with the Group’s mission.
2. Report to the FIRESCOPE Task Force Liaison assigned to the group and keep the California Wildland Coordinating Group (CWCG) informed of all FIRESCOPE project endeavors.
3. Serve as the clearinghouse and coordination point for fire weather, fuels, fire behavior, and intelligence related projects, with statewide or multi-agency applications.
4. Coordinate operational fire weather forecasting products and services through the Predictive Services Units located at the two (2) Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACCs) in Redding and Riverside.
5. Coordinate the RAWs Program to assure maximum utilization of the data and prevent duplication of service. Assure stations meet National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS) standards.
6. Develop new products necessary to meet the California Fire Services weather, fuels, fire behavior, and intelligence needs.
7. Develop and improve weather products to model/forecast smoke dispersion. Work with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to improve smoke management forecasts.
8. Coordinate weather related research and development programs to include exploring possible funding sources on regional/national levels.
9. Monitor NFDRS updates for application within California.
10. Facilitate training to improve and expand the proper use of NFDRS and WIMS.
11. Maintain accurate confidential and non-confidential membership rosters for the Group.
12. Report to the FIRESCOPE Task Force Liaison assigned to the Group.



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13. Complete other projects as assigned by the Task Force.

AD HOC GROUPS

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

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, CAL EMA-Fire and Rescue Division
- Federal agencies
- Local agencies representative of the CAL EMA Mutual Aid Regions, cities, counties, and rural areas

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

OFFICERS

The only required Officer of the FIRESCOPE Predictive Services Group is the position of Chair. The Group may select a Vice-Chair and Secretary as necessary. All Officers must be active members of the Group. Officers will be selected on an annual basis and serve January 1 to December 31.

The Chair will be responsible for managing the Group to accomplish the annual “Plan of Work” in accordance with the FIRESCOPE Decision Process and providing status reports on the Group’s efforts to the designated FIRESCOPE Task Force liaison.

MEETINGS

Meetings will be held twice a year in the spring and fall. Additional meetings can be held during emergency situations, as requested by any Primary Member. Regular meeting locations will be moved between the northern and southern portions of the State as recommended by the Chair and approved by the Primary Members. Meetings will be held so they do not conflict with Task Force meetings.