



# **FIRESCOPE**



**FIRE AND RESCUE COMMITTEE  
FIRESCOPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**July 23, 2008**

**Office of Emergency Services Headquarters  
3650 Schriever Avenue  
Mather, CA 95655**

**ATTENDEES**

Michael Freeman, Chair, Los Angeles County Fire Department  
Bob Roper, Vice Chair, Ventura County Fire Department  
Ruben Grivala CAL FIRE  
Ken McLean, CAL FIRE  
Kim Zagaris, CA-OES Fire and Rescue  
Steve Sellers, Deputy Director Regional Operations OES  
Douglas Barry, Los Angeles FD  
Sue Husari, National Park Service  
Richard Webb-Linda Fire Protection Districts- Fire Districts North  
Pat Dennen, San Bernardino FD, Fire Districts- South  
John Scherrei - Santa Barbra County FD  
Sheldon Gilbert, Alameda County FD, County- Fire Departments- North  
Ken Wagner- Roseville Fire Dept-City Fire Department North  
Chip Prather, Orange County Fire Authority  
Jim Marquis, Grass Valley FD, Volunteer Fire Departments  
Craig Barnes, Bureau of Land Management

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Bob Green, CALFIRE-OES Mutual Aid Region VI  
Candace Gregory, CALFIRE, OES Region V  
Mark D'Ambrogi- Auburn City Fire Department- Region IV  
Del Walter, CALFIRE, OES Region III  
Dan Drake, Orange County Fire Authority-FIRESCOPE Task Force  
Dave Pierce, Orange County Fire Authority- FIRESCOPE Ops Team Chair  
Dave Stone, FIRESCOPE Task Force  
Tom Drayer, CA-OES Fire and Rescue, FIRESCOPE  
Kevin Johnston, CA-OES Fire and Rescue  
Deneen Phillips, CA-OES Fire and Rescue, FIRESCOPE  
Nicole Stanich, CA-OES Fire and Rescue  
Lori Lopez, CA-OES Fire and Rescue  
Dave Hillman, CALFIRE  
Ron Recker, Bureau of Indian Affairs  
Romero Rodriguez, CALFIRE- CSFM  
Dan Smiley, CA- Emergency Medical Services Authority



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### **WELCOME AND LOGISTICS**

**Office of Emergency Services Headquarters Staff**

### **INTRODUCTIONS, AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**Chief Freeman**

- *Action Item- Motion placed before the members and unanimously carried to approve minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting minutes.*

### **OES DIRECTORS UPDATE**

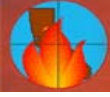
**Chief Deputy Director Frank McCarton – Representing Director Renteria**

Director Renteria would like to apologize for not being here today he is attending a meeting at the Capitol. Director McCarton began by thanking everyone who participated during the June-July fire siege and for allowing him to be here today. This was the first time since 1999 that we've had CAL MAC activated. One of the things on our agenda is the merger bill, AB38. AB-38 OES/OHS Merger moved out of the Senate Appropriations today. This Bill changes the name of OES to the California Emergency Management Agency. It will go to the Senate Floor next, then back to the Assembly Floor for concurrence before going to the Governor.

### **CAL FIRE/STATE FIRE MARSHAL UPDATE**

**Director Grijalva**

CAL FIRE Director expressed his appreciation to all the individuals that have been involved thus far at North Ops, South Ops and Sacramento. It has been a huge coordinated team effort involving local, State, Federal and the military. We have worked very closely with the Department of Defense. During this process we have brought in over 400 National Guard to be trained as Type 2 hand teams. Some went to Mendocino and some went to Shasta-Trinity. During discussions with General Wade and the Governor we have recommended that that we need to increase the numbers of National Guard troops for future firefighting in California so we are working with the Forest Service to train an additional 2000 California National Guard troops as Type 2 Hand crews for possible assignment later in the year. OES has been a significant part of this as well and the partnership has been outstanding. There are still a few issues that we are working through and we have been meeting with Senator Kehoe and Chief Moore from the Forest Service to talk the future of agreements and the issue of structure protection. Washington D.C. has some views on what Federal fire agencies should pay for and what they shouldn't pay for and those views are being discussed at the State level as well.



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### **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR DALLAS JONES**

#### **Chief Freeman**

Chief Freeman requested that the Board express a moment of silence for Dallas Jones; for his memory and his many contributions to the fire service.

### **EMS UPDATE**

Sheldon Gilbert

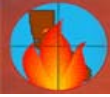
**Dan Smiley, CA-EMSA** gave an overview on the CA-EMS Authority.

There are 31 Local EMS agencies within 34 counties. The Authority has recently appointed a new Director, Dr. Steven Tharrat. He was previously the Sacramento County EMS Medical Director. Over the last several years the Governor has had an interest in how effective is the medical health response in a disaster. We, in conjunction with the California Department of Health are working hard to improve the efficiency of California's EMS response. There is recognition that to do this we need to better coordinate both public and private response including the new Ambulance Strike Team Leader program, and the CALMAT's (California Medical Assistance Teams) teams. These teams are regionally located to support three new mobile field hospitals. They come with 20 ER beds and 2 operating rooms. These mobile field hospitals can be fully operable within 72hrs.

California Medical Volunteers register, ID, notify, deploy and track medical and health volunteers during a disaster or deployment. We have Ambulance Strike Teams, CALMAT, Mobile Field hospitals, Medical Volunteers all working with the 31 local EMS agencies as part as a combined medical health mutual aid system. We came to a realization that we need to try to bring all these resources together and coordinate them better. So for that last year our staff has been working on doing and have developed a program entitled, CD-MOM. This program standardizes the ordering process and ensures EMS resources are complying with SEMS and NIMS. It is our belief that we're heading in the right direction.

**Chief Gilbert suggested to the Board that we offer our EMS specialist group the opportunity to work with the CD-MOM group.**

- *Action Item- Motion placed before the members and unanimously carried to task the FIRESCOPE EMS Specialist Group to assist in the tactical how-to pieces on the Ambulance strike team issues and work with CA- EMSA's CD-MOM group.*



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### **FIRE SERVICE POSITION OF PRIVATE INSURANCE FIREFIGHTING RESOURCES Chief Roper**

Representing both FIRESCOPE and the International Association of Fire Chiefs Wildland Fire Policy Committee Chief Roper stated there is a need to come to consensus as to how we will manage the private fire protection issue.

At the last meeting, the issue of private insurance firefighting resources came up and this issue was brought to the attention of OES Legal to provide feedback. The legal council stated yes, we do have the right to manage their ingress and egress into and out of emergencies and how they will be used. Through I-CHIEFS we found that no matter where we went, within the State or outside the legal opinions vary and there is no one policy and or procedure that suites everyone's needs as they pertain to the use of private fire protection. So, we've done some work with the National Association of State Foresters we've worked with the U.S. Forest Service on this topic and during the beginning of these fires there was some media inquires as to what was the of what is the position on this issue? So, to come to some type of resolution the IAFC developed the following draft statement:

“The IAFC respects the rights of property owners to protect their homes when threatened by wildfires. With that said, the IAFC suggests that property owners first follow FIREWISE provisions (defensible space), retrofit their homes to modern wild land building codes and install fixed fire protection systems (internal & external). Most homes are destroyed during the initial attack phase of a wildfire when fire resources are limited, including public & private. Homes located in the wild land urban interface zones should be designed to defend themselves without any fire resources assigned to them. FIREWISE provisions (defensible space), modern building codes and fixed fire protection systems have proven themselves highly effective in protecting these homes.”

So there are two things that I would like to have happen today, one is to give me some feedback on the Fire protection guidelines and the other is that I would like to task both the Ops team and Task Force to look at developing guidance to provide Incident Commanders in how to deal with non-emergency resources that are on the ground.

General Discussion by the Board regarding this issue- Chief Dennen discussed those privately funded contract fire agencies within his jurisdiction and some of the difficulties that ensued during their formation. Chief Roper suggested that based on comments from the general discussion that he re-write his draft guidelines and send them out to the FIRESCOPE Board for comment. Chief Freeman stated that he will schedule a follow-up conference call for the Board to further discuss this issue and go from there.

***BREAK***



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### **IFC WILDLAND COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **Chief Roper**

Effective in August Chief Roper is Chair of the IFC Wildland Policy Committee. He has been a member of the committee for four years and offered the Board correspondence specific to his position as Chair on national issues involving DOI, USFS, NASF and I-Chiefs. The Chief offered the following as an example of some of those issues:

- The Australian program- “Leave Early” and the “Stay and Defend” Leave early and the stay and defend is now put into the CWPP as they were originally taken out the definition of the shelter and place. Shelter in place is really Haz-Mat.
- Public perception surveys on peoples expectations and what their understanding is of our jargon and when we say good fire, bad fire, and prescribed fire, what is the public realizing?
- The Northern Rockies Coordinating Group’s Structure Protection definition.
- 2008 National Multi Agency Coordinating Group’s long term strategy document
- Federal Accountable Cost Management Program
- ICHIEFS position on ROSS

### **CFFA UPDATE**

#### **Chiefs Wagner, Marquis, Zagaris**

Chief Zagaris stated that with Scott Vail’s departure, Lori Lopez has been doing a great job keeping the document flowing along to get things finalized. The document has been submitted to all applicable attorneys for comment. The rate letter is still being finalized but has been subject to delays due to a change in the language involving BLM’s new electronic fund transfer system. The Base Rate formula is well defined in the agreement and things are progressing.

### **CICCS**

#### **Chief Zagaris**

The Chief stated that at the last CICCS Task Force meeting they adopted the 2006 version of the NWCG 310-1 for use in California. Due to Scott Vail’s retirement, Los Angeles County Battalion Chief Nick Duvalley has been appointed the Chair by the group. We were hoping to get him here today but he had another commitment. We are continuing to progress on CICCS issues and I believe that good things will still happen out of it. One of the biggest things that the Task Force is working on currently is the 08 version of the 310-1 version which is rolling out right as they were approving the 2006 version.



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### **FIRESCOPE OPERATIONS TEAM REPORT**

**Chief Pierce**

#### **Meetings held since last BOD meeting**

Buck's Lake—June 2008

#### **BRC Update**

The existing and past Blue Ribbon Commission Task Force documents have been reviewed, including the critical recommendations as identified in the January update. To keep the process brief the major items that we addressed were those items that have either been modified or revised since the January report was published. Additionally, we addressed other issues that were a part of the original report. The Ops Team has submitted three documents to the BOD for review. They are:

1. FIRESCOPE Operations Team comments to the combined 2004/2008 Blue Ribbon Commission Task Force Report.
2. The excerpt from the 2008 Blue Ribbon Commission Task Force Report entitled, "Critical Recommendations."
3. FIRESCOPE Operations Team Comments to the BOD from the 2003 Blue Ribbon Commission Action Items.

#### **MAYDAY Issue**

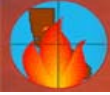
Wording modifications were completed in the ICS 910 document to reflect the verbiage consistent with NIMS documents and NFPA 1500 and 1561. This is being submitted for Board approval.

#### **Aviation**

The Aviation Specialist Group completed the development of a resource guide addressing the issues as identified by the Board and the BRC Task Force. This resource guide will be available to all interested parties. The guide will be a dynamic document based on the ever changing amount and availability of military aircraft; however the basic concepts will remain consistent.

#### **MACS After-Action Report**

The Ops Team had significant discussion on the MACS process and the draft report to be submitted to the Board. The FIRESCOPE Ops Team and Task Force support this report and are prepared to move forward with whatever the Board's direction is; including modifications to the 410-1 after the report has been reviewed.



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### **Private Insurance Firefighters**

This topic received significant attention and discussion. It would appear clear that there is a profound possibility that the use and/or existence of private firefighters will increase rather than decrease. There may be an opportunity to incorporate these personnel in the planning process to provide their services within the control of the incident commander; rather than to have them on-scene unannounced and potentially create a safety hazard for themselves, other personnel assigned or both. The Board previously requested input from FIRESCOPE Member Agencies as to any experiences or policies that may already be in place at the local level. The Ops Team is awaiting the results of this request to determine if the Board will identify a need for the Task Force and Ops Team to address the issue as a statewide concern.

### **Participation on Ops Team**

The Ops Team is moving forward with the filling of the Region II representative position. With the retirement of Brian Kelly, this position has remained unfilled. When a representative is selected, their name will be forwarded to the Board for approval.

### **Participation with CWCG Ops Team**

The CWCG has established, and is in the process of chartering an Operations Team and has requested participation from FIRESCOPE. With Board approval, the Ops Team would like to appoint Deputy Chief John Tripp of Los Angeles County to be FIRESCOPE's representative to that group.

- *Action Item- Motion placed before the members and unanimously carried to approve Chief John Tripp of Los Angeles County to be FIRESCOPE's representative to the CWCG Ops Team.*

### **NWCG**

#### **Resource Typing:**

Continuing to coordinate and monitor resource typing with NWCG and NIC.

### **Membership Make-up of the FIRESCOPE Operations Team**

The Ops team discussed the proposed guidelines for the membership of the Ops team. Generally, the Ops Team will await Board direction prior to moving forward with any changes in make-up, or prior to any recruiting taking place.



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### **Continued Issues for 2008**

- MACS process modifications and improvements.
- After-action issues as related to the June fire siege.
- Operations Team membership configuration/participation.
- Private Firefighting resources.
- Additional needs as requested by the Board.

### **Fireline Paramedic**

There are still a number of outstanding issues as they relate to the fireline paramedic position. These generally relate to the scope of practice of the medic when out of their normal service area as well as the issues related to re-stocking of expended fluids and/or meds. EMSA, EMSAC, MDAC and the EMS Specialist Group are working diligently towards the resolution of these issues as quickly as possible. It is expected that they will be able to provide an informational presentation through the decision process to the Board in the near future.

### **Future FIRESCOPE Operations Team Meetings**

- September- Orange County – tentative with Task Force
- November- Conference Call
- January- Shell Beach – with Task Force

### **FIRESCOPE TASK FORCE REPORT**

#### **Chief Drake**

- The Pocket size FOG is now available.
- The IOS Working Team went forward with recommendations for Wildland Engine and Water Tender Typing that conflict with FIRESCOPE typing.

### **Updates of Specialist and Working Groups Communications**

The Communications Specialist Group is reviewing issues that came up during the 2007 Fire Siege and between private aero medical providers and fire incidents.

### **Safety**

The Safety Specialist Group has completed a review of the ICS 910 documents with the MAYDAY verbiage included. They have also reviewed the national Safety Officer all-risk curriculum. Their next meeting is in October, 2008.





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### **Aviation**

The Aviation Specialist Group has addressed issues brought by the Board, including Military Helicopter Manager, use of UAV Resources, and a State-wide inventory of rotary wing craft and their capabilities.

### **High Rise**

The High Rise Working Group has completed their revision of their Operational System Description. They are nearly complete with their update of the various position descriptions. They met July 21-22 in Los Angeles.

### **Hazmat**

The Haz Mat Group is finalizing the Specialized Equipment List, preparing for participation at Continuing Challenge, and working on rapid extraction concepts. They met July 21 in Sacramento.

### **Urban Search and Rescue Specialist Group**

The Task Force has identified the need to re-engage the US&R Specialist Group. Chief LaPlant is developing an initial Plan of Work. The group will include Subject Matter Experts from all levels of US&R response, i.e., US&R Company, Regional Task Force, and FEMA 70 person Task Force. This recommendation has been forwarded to the Ops Team.

### **M.A.C.S. Orientation**

The Task Force presented a MACS Orientation on May 22, 2008. The curriculum was based on existing 410-1. The Orientation was transmitted by video teleconference to Redding and McClellan.

### **ICS 910 Document**

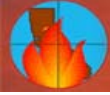
The Task Force reviewed the revisions to this document, with review from the Safety Specialist Group, and submitted the document to the Ops Team in June, 2008.

### **NWCG Training Working Team Nominee**

Ventura County Battalion Chief Rod Megli was submitted to the Ops Team as a nominee for the FIRESCOPE representative to the NWCG Training Working Team.

- **Action Item-** *The FIRESCOPE Board of Directors stated that action was taken on this item at the January meeting. Chief Olson, CAL FIRE Training Chief is to be FIRESCOPE's representative to the NWCG Training Working Team.*

**Next FIRESCOPE Task Force meeting: August 13-14 in Los Gatos.**



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### **BLUE RIBBION TASK FORCE REPORT**

**Chief Prather**

The MACS review process that we went thru is in your board packets. And there were four recommendations. The document is organized into three (3) categories to assist in the decision processes and includes a series of recommendation for consideration by the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors as described below.

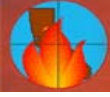
#### **Major Categories:**

- Policy Issues- matters that require the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors direction.  
Facility Issues- for the most part, these are issues which will be addressed with the MACS move to March Air Force Base.
- Operational Issues- issues that are most appropriately addressed by the FIRESCOPE Operations Team and the Task Force.

#### **Recommendations for the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors**

1. The Board of Directors to discuss applicable policy issues and provide direction to the Operations Team.
2. Direct the Ops Team to address each of the policy items listed below and provide a status report at each regularly scheduled meeting of the FIRESCOPE Board of Directors until each item has been completed.
3. Direct the Ops Team and the Task Force to review the facility issues and identify any that has been completed in the current facility or those that could be rectified with minimal funding.
4. Direct the Ops Team, working with the appropriate agencies, to assure that all other facility issues are incorporated in the MACS move to March Air Force Base.
  - The first issue is, should the MACS have the ability reassign uncommitted resources from one incident to another higher priority incident?
  - What do we consider “uncommitted” resources? It is presently stated in the 410-1 that it is a current responsibility of the MAC Group to perform that function; the question is, does the Board support that concept and if not, do we need to remove it out of the 410-1?

We also wanted to remind everyone of the importance of trying to send the same person and try to overlap or transition if you need to replace that person.



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- **Action Item-** Motion placed before the members and unanimously carried to approve the four recommendations presented
  
- **Action Item** – Amend item #4 to state “Direct the Ops Team to work with the appropriate agencies and to ensure to the extent possible that all other facility issues are incorporated into the MAC Center’s move to March Air Force Base.”

### **CWCG REPORT**

#### **Chief Husari**

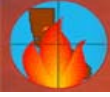
CWCG along with FEMA and the California National Guard basically made up the CALMAC group and due to great help from the National Guard who brought in some planners we are currently working on the after action review. We met on Monday and spoke of quite a few of the issues, sent out a very rough draft about some of the action items and lessons we learned from the June/July activation; and we plan to meet at 3pm today to try to further go over some of those items and get them to a point where we can finalize them and hopefully implement them at a later date.

### **OES FIRE AND RESCUE REPORT**

#### **Chief Zagaris**

The current OES Engine remains in place and we have not cut any engines thus far. We are still working thru the State’s budget issues and their impacts. We have done a really good job over the last couple of years working with the Director and staff to continue to look at and adjust monies appropriately; however, Special Ops did take a reduction in their budget in order for us not to cut any engines. The goal still is to acquire seven engines a year to maintain the current cycle and the contract remains in effect for the next 3 years. There is currently no Water Tender contract in place.

OES has recently lost two valuable employees, one to retirement and one to local government. Scott Vail has retired and Chief Hurley has gone off to the City of Lincoln. Our Department is currently working thru some contract issues on getting the last couple of engines out the door. We at OES are in a cash flow problem at the moment and we are working with San Bernardino to take five of the old engines. We are also working through a number of issues pertaining to the April fire in Sierra Madre as it provided some interesting issues and I think that we really stressed the 7-Points-of-Light with Cal FIRE to new limits. In May we had the Summit fire in Santa Cruz and Santa Clara Counties. On June 10<sup>th</sup> we began to experience a number of fires in the North and in a matter of four days we had four engine companies burned over. During that siege we went through a series of fires and just on the Humboldt Fire alone Cal FIRE had 86 strike teams on it and totaled about 15 million dollars in reimbursements. We are moving along very quickly so we can try to get agencies reimbursed as quickly as possible.



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During 2007-08 we processed about 100 million dollars in reimbursements back to local government. The current Emergency Declaration we are under is good for 60 days starting from June 20, 2008 only for the counties of Butte; Kern; Mariposa; Monterey, Plumas, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta and Trinity County.

### OLD BUSINESS

ROSS- Chief Roper discussed with the Board the issue of ROSS during the last siege of fires in 2007. I feel that we are again of the opinion that ROSS is not dynamic enough to be able to meet our needs in California so I would like to throw out to the group a question as to whether or not we need to send a letter to the Federal agencies stating that it isn't working; or write a letter to Congress to say how inefficient it is? It seems like we have to do something, because it isn't getting better on its own. I do feel it is in our best interest to have one system and one system that works. We need to address what is not working and attempt to incorporate an "All-Hazard element" as part of this overall working system.

- *Action Item- Motion placed before the members and unanimously carried to have Chief Roper draft a letter for Chief Freeman's signature and submission to NMAC identifying our specific needs as it pertains to ROSS and request a timeline for improvements. Motion seconded and approved.*

### ICS 910 Document

The Task Force has revised the wording pertaining to the use of "MAYDAY" as directed by the Board at the April meeting and is resubmitting it to the Board for approval.

- *Action Item- Motion placed before the members and unanimously carried to finalize the ICS 910 as submitted.*

### NEW BUSINESS

None

### ROUNDTABLE

Today is Chief Jim Marquis last FIRESCOPE Board of Director's meeting and tomorrow is his last day at his department. As he transitions to Washoe County (Nevada) Fire we want to thank him for his contributions and his many years serving the California fire service.

### AJOURNMENT

- *Action Item: Adjournment Motioned and Seconded at 1500 hrs.*

*Next FIRESCOPE Board of Director's Conference Call – September 25, 2008@1600 hrs*

*Next FIRESCOPE Board of Directors Meeting - October 8, 2008 – Sacramento International Airport*