



FIRESCOPE COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST GROUP

APRIL 26-27, 2005 CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MINUTES

(Final – approved for distribution)

Welcome and Introductions

Contra Costa County Fire Chief Keith Richter welcomed the group to Concord. Chair Tim McClelland called the meeting to order. Chief Stone was in attendance representing the FIRESCOPE Task Force (Chief Stone was absent the 2nd day due to a conflict). Chief Praytor was absent both days due to a conflict.

Members In Attendance:

Brent Finster	Telecom. Manager	Contra Costa County Fire Chiefs Association
Kevin Harper	Captain	Kern County Fire Department
Tim Henry	Battalion Chief	Fresno City Fire (1 st day only)
Chris Hinshaw	Manager	San Diego Co. Sheriff/Imperial Valley Fire Chiefs Assoc.
Frank McCarthy	Captain	LA County Fire
Tim McClelland	Assistant Chief	State of CA - CDF South Ops
William Pigeon	FF/Paramedic	SoCal Tribal Fire Departments
Don Root	Deputy Chief	OES Telecommunications
Glen Savage	Telecom. Manager	State of CA – CDF Telecommunications (2 nd day only)
Mike Sidlinger	Battalion Chief	Ventura County Fire
Don Stabler	Sr. Dispatcher/Chair	CA Fire Chiefs Assoc. Communications - North Section
Tom Tornell	Captain	Santa Clara County Fire

Guests in Attendance:

Kody Kerwin	Telecom. Spec,	Contra Costa County Fire Chiefs Assoc. (2 nd day only)
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Members Absent:

David Bail	Telecom. Mtce. Sup.	State of CA – DGS Telecommunications
Don Butz	Deputy Chief	Rancho Santa Fe Fire (Alternate to Neville)
Michael Dickerson	Comm. Supervisor	Ventura County Fire (Alternate to Sidlinger)
Gary Fisher	Fire Chief	Vista Fire (Alternate is absent)
Steve Hobbs	Captain	Santa Barbara County Fire (Alternate is absent)
John Hudson	Asst. Chief	State of CA – OES Telecommunications (Alt. to Root)
Craig Kinoshita	Battalion Chief	Orange County Fire Authority
Lee Kraft	Captain	Clovis Fire (Alternate is absent)
Peter Lawrence	Battalion Chief	Oceanside Fire
Denny Neville	Deputy Chief, ret.	Elfin Forest Fire (Alternate is absent)
Kevin Nida	Battalion Chief	LA City Fire
Matt Nilsen	Captain	San Diego Fire-Rescue
Mark Rau	Comm. Manager	Clovis Fire (Alternate to Kraft)
Rick Smith	Captain	Santa Maria Fire (Alternate to Hobbs)
Randy Terich	Battalion Chief	Vista Fire (Alternate to Fisher)

FIRESCOPE Communications Specialist Group (FCSG) Logistics

Approval of January FCSG minutes - The Chair asked for any comments or corrections on the January meeting minutes. An omission was discussed regarding the creation of a sub-group whose mission would be the research and recommendation regarding frequency usage agreements. Volunteers for this group included David Bail, Glen Savage (said he hadn't volunteered but everyone else said that he had!), Tim Henry, and (volunteered at this meeting) William Pigeon. The motion to approve the minutes, as amended, passed unanimously.

FCSG Roster – The Secretary distributed the current roster ([copy is distributed separately.](#)) Any changes should be emailed to bfinster@cccfpd.org

FCSG Membership Status – Chief Praytor had stated at the last meeting that any members that did not attend this meeting and have not attended any past meetings were to be dropped from membership.

An email was received from Bob Harris indicating that he and Mike Gunderman could no longer represent the U.S. Forest Service on the FCSG due to the organizational changes within their agency. The Chair will ensure that Chief Praytor is aware of the need for USFS presence.

Chief Tom Reaves of Foster City Fire sent an email resigning from the FCSG.

Captain Tom Tornell was in attendance representing Santa Clara County Fire as Jim Swanson has rotated back to Operations.

It was suggested that a member from the National Interagency Incident Communications Division at NIFC be solicited to ensure a direct contact regarding happenings on the nationwide level.

Brent Finster announced that Telecommunications Specialist Kody Kerwin (COML on CIIMT #1) will be his alternate to the Group.

FCSG Email List Server – Don Root advised everything was stable and he will ensure that email addresses are maintained on the List Server, based on the updated FCSG roster.

FIRESCOPE Operations/Task Force/Board of Directors – Chief Stone updated members on activities within FIRESCOPE including the Task Force MACS exercise, Blue Ribbon Commission issues, etc.

FCSG Technical Advisory Group (CTAG) – Chris Hinshaw distributed the CTAG Report ([see ANNEX A.](#)) Chris will schedule a meeting or conference call before the next FCSG meeting.

FCSG Training Group (COMMTRAIN) – Matt Nilsen was absent so there was no report. Any basic radio, specific radio, or Communications Unit (RADO, INCM) training documents, including lesson plans, PowerPoints, etc., should be forwarded to Matt.

OES Fire & Rescue – Chief Praytor was absent so there was no report.

OES Telecommunications – Don Root advised that OES is finishing replacement of 22 OES repeater controllers that will eliminate problems encountered with the old Lowband repeater input. A grant application to replace all the OES fire repeaters with multi-mode Project 25 repeaters is awaiting approval. Don stated that there was \$23M of Department of Homeland Security grant funding available to the State of California. There was over \$200M worth of requests from state agencies for those limited funds.

CALSIEC – Don Root and Brent Finster updated the group on the status of CALSIEC. The Chair advised that he wanted to be included in future CALSIEC meetings and mailings. The next meeting is scheduled for May 17th at OES headquarters. Brent had expressed FCSG's frustration at the last CALSIEC meeting that there had not been any rules developed for the new V-CALL/V-TAC and U-CALL/U-TAC channels that were made available as primary interoperability channels on January 1, 2005. Don stated that the

CALSIEC working group intended to handle that task has not yet been identified. Don solicited ideas on what the FCSG would like to see these channels used for. The priorities discussed and agreed upon were:

- Priority 1 – Disaster Operations or emergency situations involving two or more agencies
- Priority 2 – Urgent Life Safety operations involving two or more agencies
- Priority 3 – Routine operations (Special events, drills, etc.) involving two or more agencies

The Calling channels would be reserved for multi-discipline out-of-area travel channels (similar to WHITE 1) and would be available for wide-area infrastructure-based patching. The Tactical channels would be available for low-level patching using interoperability gateway boxes. All of the new channels are available to any public safety eligible as defined in Part 90 of the FCC rules. There is no need for a specific license for mobile or portable radio usage. Licensing of fixed stations would be coordinated by OES. Don will use the ideas presented at this meeting as Ad Hoc rules and have them serve as a basis for future discussion with CALSIEC regarding the establishment of detailed rules for these channels.

There has been discussion between the states of California, Washington, Oregon, and Idaho about doing a multi-state radio system using the V-CALL, U-CALL, and I-CALL channels that would provide multi-band transparent coverage in the Interstate highway corridors.

The CALSIEC EMS Working Group has requested permission to program certain state and federal fire channels into their new Ambulance Strike Team radios. This will be discussed under New Business.

CDF COMPLAG – The CDF Communications Planning Group met recently via conference call and the Chair reported the following:

- CDF will start phasing in a CTCSS tone of 206.5 on CDF Tactical channels 14 to 23 (mobile encode only) to reduce interference caused by users inadvertently using a tone the same as that used by a Unit's Local channel.
- CDF is looking at alternatives for data transfer from an Incident Command Post into the CDF network when a Mobile Communications Center (MCC) is utilized.
- The new CDF portable radio (Bendix-King GPH-CMD) is being deployed for this fire season. This radio consists of 25 groups of 20 channels (500 channels maximum), has a dynamic command group (similar to the Kenwood TK-790 mobile radio) and has an enhanced method of selecting the appropriate CTCSS tone.
- ICS205's (Incident Comm Plans) should be faxed by COML's to North Ops or South Ops every Operational Period starting this fire season in order to improve frequency coordination. Glen Savage or Hampton Stewart will be available as CDF frequency coordinators.

The next COMPLAG meeting is scheduled for October 12th and 13th in Sacramento.

USFS – No one from the U.S. Forest Service was in attendance (see note above). A couple of phone calls were made during the meeting to determine the status of the 4390 and 7390 Starter Kits.

According to Frank Ealand, one each of the NFES 4390 Starter Kits will be pre-staged in Redding and Ontario. When ordered, a replacement kit, with a different Command channel, will be automatically backfilled from Boise. Rehabilitation for 4390 kits will occur in Boise. There will be approximately 7 Region V 7390 kits pre-staged in North Fork, Grass Valley, Susanville, and Redding. Rehab for 7390 kits will occur in Redding. All requests for Communications Coordinator (COMC) support should go to the Communications Duty Officer (CDO) at NIFC. Starter Kits will have the same number of VHF Highband portable radios as in years past, although there will be many less agencies who arrive on incidents with the proper, narrowband capable radios.

Old Business

FIRESCOPE Channel Plan – Brent advised the status of the statewide request for additional “Priority 4” channels to be added to the FIRESCOPE recommended channel list. It appeared that most Op Areas that did not rely on CDF for their communications systems have provided information (see ANNEX B.) There was much discussion as to how to make these channels available to the Fire Service on a statewide basis. This discussion then led into the next one...

Statewide Frequency Sharing Agreements – Tim Henry distributed the documents that were based on work done by FIRESCOPE in 1993-96 on this same subject. This system is currently being used successfully in the Fresno Operational Area. The concept would be that an Operational Area Coordinator would have all fire service agencies within that Op Area sign an individual agency agreement. The OES Regional Coordinator would have all Operational Area Coordinators sign a document that included the Individual agencies by reference. The Regional Coordinators would sign a document that would include all Operational Areas by reference. The Master Document will then be signed by all agency heads (including the USFS and BLM). Don Root stated that he would run this concept through the OES legal counsel to ensure compliance with FCC Rules and that there needs to be a discussion between OES and CDF to ensure that this approach would be satisfactory to these agencies. Time is of the essence as the existing agreements have expired.

During the discussion regarding the FIRESCOPE channel plan as it related to the frequency sharing agreements, the group discussed a concept of having “tiers” of channels. An individual agency should have all channels necessary to work within their Operational Area. Resources that might respond out of the Operational Area should have channels within their Region, adjacent Operational Area channels, and the standard FIRESCOPE minimum recommended channels. Resources that might respond statewide could have the CDF/OES channel load including all CDF and federal channels.

A motion was made and seconded to table the FIRESCOPE Channel Plan and Statewide Frequency Sharing Agreements discussion to the next meeting pending information from OES’ counsel.

Recommendation – 800 MHz. radios for Fire Service – It has been unclear as to whether the FIRESCOPE Decision Process approved this FCSSG recommendation from two meetings ago. Chief Stone will consult with Chief Praytor.

Incident Communications positions/310-1/CICCS – Brent Finster updated the group on activities occurring at the national level regarding the Comm Unit Leader training under NIMS. Apparently there has been little planning done with this; however, a great deal of reliance and responsibility has been mentioned regarding COML’s in the all-risk Homeland Security environment. Brent and Don Root have been involved in several emails and a conference call that was held earlier in the week between representatives of Project SAFECOM/ICTAP (Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program), International Association of Chiefs of Police, APCO, Phoenix Fire, and NIMS Integration Center personnel regarding the status of this issue. A comment was made that the Fire Service clearly had the most experience with these issues and that the obvious model to build upon was FIRESCOPE and NWCG. Brent will keep the group informed as to the status of this issue.

Based upon discussions at the recent CDF COMPLAG and OES Regional ECC meetings, it appears that the issue of Local Government personnel from non-CDF contract counties will be resolved when the Resource Ordering Support System (ROSS) replaces the existing MIRPS system in 2006-2007. Current ROSS deployment planning includes internet-based access by all Operational Areas as the final phase following deployment to CDF and OES Regional Coordinators and Alternate Regional Coordinators.

Air Guard Inclusion in IAP’s – Glen Savage reported that CDF was moving forward with the policy-making and training aspects of using Air Guard (168.625 MHz.) on state fires in the same way it is used on federal fires. The new CDF/OES Group 3 now includes that channel as well as it is programmed in the new CDF-CMD portable radios.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to place Air Guard in the FIREScope list of recommended channels (see ANNEX C) with a footnote using language out of the Interagency Standards for Fire and Aviation 2005:

“National Air Guard – 168.625 MHz – A National Interagency Air Guard frequency for government aircraft assigned to incidents. It is used in emergency communications for aviation. A separate receiver is required to permit continuous monitoring. Transmitters on this frequency should be equipped with an encoder on 110.9 Hz. 168.625 is restricted to the following use:

- 1) Air-to-air emergency contact and coordination.
- 2) Ground-to-air emergency contact.
- 3) Initial call, recall, and re-direction of aircraft when no other contact frequency is available.”

It was agreed that all ICS205 Communications Plans on incidents that use federal or CDF aircraft should have this channel programmed in the last available channel slot of cache portable radios.

Communications Response Teams – Chris Hinshaw distributed a draft of this concept (see ANNEX D.) Chris requested input on this draft via email by June 1st. Kevin Harper agreed to contact the USFS Southwest Region to gather information on their organized “CAT” teams.

CDF ICT COML & CIIMT COML/COMC Summit – OES is discussing how they might be able to sponsor this summit in the Spring of 2006 with the intent of sharing information between CDF and Federal Interagency Communications Unit Leaders as it relates to interoperability, new technology, Comm Unit staffing, etc.

Communications Resource Database – Brent Finster described a need for a statewide resource communications database that could be used in conjunction with the deployment of ROSS. This database would hold communications resources (emphasis on non-personnel but certifications and qualifications might be included also) including Mobile Communications Centers (MCC’s), interoperability gateway devices (such as the ACU-1000), radio caches, specialized equipment, etc. Chris Hinshaw described the UASI (Urban Area Security Initiative) requirement that urban areas have a Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan that must include an inventory of this type of equipment. In addition, the Plan must be exercised within one year.

Chris further suggested that the UASI surveys could be sent to a central location for creation of a statewide inventory. Don indicated that a password-protected web interface on the OES server would likely be available for this use and that this should be coordinated by CALSIEC. Chris stated that he would distribute the UASI templates or formats for possible use by non-UASI areas.

Marine Channels programmed in Part 90 radios – Kevin Nida had agreed at the last meeting to draft a letter to the FCC regarding this, however, since he was absent it was unclear as to whether anything had been done with this project.

New Business

California-based Radio Cache Equipment – Chief Praytor was absent so this item was tabled until the next meeting.

Review of FIREScope Communications work products – Due to time constraints; this item was tabled until the next meeting.

OES Bulletin #28 – WHITE channel usage – Under the auspices of the CALSIEC umbrella, the FCSG now has the responsibility for determining the rules for the three WHITE channels. Previously, the California Fire Chiefs Association was granted this authority by OES. The FCSG agreed that these channels, although they should be reserved for the Fire Service, should be treated with similar guidelines and using common definitions as will be determined for the other statewide interoperability channels.

Suggestions for consideration were narrowbanding the three channels at some point in the future allowing for an additional two or three narrowband channels to become available, using the standard interoperability tone of 156.7 Hz. to minimize some types of interference, possibly expanding usage to include EMS as the 800 MHz. FIREMARS channels do, and lifting the non-patching requirement if the channel is part of an ICS205 Comm Plan approved by a qualified COML. These ideas will be discussed at the next meeting under Old Business.

There was discussion that some agencies had established a WHITE 4 channel when no such channel really exists statewide. Use of 153.830 MHz. (the repeater input frequency to the old FIREMARS repeater) has been termed WHITE 4 in some localities. This has caused confusion, as 153.830 MHz. is no longer a statewide frequency. A motion was made, seconded and passed that the term "WHITE" as it relates to public safety radio channels in California, be reserved for statewide interoperability channels used by the Fire Service.

CALSIEC-EMS Request to Use Fire Channels – The Chair welcomed and introduced Paramedic Bob Cordray, who is an Analyst with the State Emergency Medical Services Authority. The request from the CALSIEC EMS Working Group was framed as follows: An Ambulance Strike Team (AST) project envisions the organization and available deployment of 90 ambulances into a disaster-impacted area. The AST's would be made up of 5 ambulances and a qualified AST Strike Team Leader. These resources might be public-based (including Fire Service-owned) or private-based. Participating agencies and their vehicles would be identified prior to a disaster response. However, radios and other AST cache equipment would be centrally located with 3 caches assigned to each OES region. Cache equipment includes satellite telephones, cellular phones, spare batteries, as well as mobile radios with clip-on or magnetic external antennas. The first step upon receiving an order for these resources would be for them to travel to a central location within each region to pick up the appropriate communications resources needed for deployment. Grant funds must be expended soon on radio equipment. The EMS Working Group acknowledges that the Fire Service has a 30-year head start on strike team deployment. EMS desires help in identifying what radio equipment to purchase and what channels are available for their use.

Don Root indicated that there is no statewide EMS communications plan, which has hindered this decision-making process. The FCSG agreed that VHF Highband seems the logical frequency band for EMS to buy radios. Kenwood TK-790 mobile radios, which are the CDF and OES standard, have been recommended. The Chair emphasized that the FCSG's authority was limited to recommendations and that it was up to the FIREScope Decision Process or CALSIEC to approve those recommendations.

Don suggested that the Director of EMSA write a formal letter of request to the Director of OES to start the approval process for channels that are under the authority of OES. Bob stated that a letter was already in draft form to accomplish this. Bob stated that the need for radio channels was going to be driven by the incident itself. There was no expectation that the Fire Service would allow EMS agencies to utilize fire channels for day-to-day use. In addition, there is no need to designate wide-area EMS channels for use by AST's as communication from responding AST's to their home base will be via cellular or satellite phone.

The following motion was made, seconded and passed: "FCSG recommends that VHF Highband equipment be purchased to support the communications needs of Ambulance Strike Teams."

The FCSG also discussed the possibility of EMSA purchasing the equipment prior to the expiration date of the grant funds, and finalizing a recommendation for a long-term frequency plan at a later date.

A list of shared use channels previously developed (not developed by the FCSG) and approved for use by EMS agencies on a statewide basis was discussed ([see ANNEX E](#)).

The following motion was made, seconded and passed: "FCSG will work with the EMS Working Group to identify additional frequencies that can be added to those radios purchased in addition to frequencies already identified as available for statewide EMS use."



ANNEX A

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP REPORT Communications Specialist Group April 26, 2005

CTAG did not meet during this period.

San Diego and Imperial County

At the request of the Unified Disaster Council (UDC) and the Urban Area Working Group (UAWG) the San Diego-Imperial County Regional Communications System (RCS) Board of Directors has formed an Interoperability Communications Committee (ICC). This committee will serve the UDC/UAWG as subject matter experts in interoperable communications in the region.

The ICC has formed Technical and Operations sub-committees. The Operations sub-committee will develop the Tactical Interoperability Communications (TIC) Plan for the region. The TIC Plan is required by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) for participation in the FY2005 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant program. The TIC plan must be submitted by September 30, 2005. The TIC Plan must be validated within one year as part of the cycle of multi-jurisdictional exercise activities required for an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) scenario.

The Technical sub-committee has met and is preparing an inventory of interoperability communications assets in the region. This inventory is required by DHS and ODP as part of the TIC Plan.

ANNEX B

FIRESCOPE STATEWIDE CHANNEL LIST TRACKING SHEET

4/26/2005

REGION I			
XLA	Los Angeles, Area "A"	Received	
XLB	Los Angeles, Area "B"	Received	
XLC	Los Angeles, Area "C"	Received	
XLE	Los Angeles, Area "E"	Received	
XLF	Los Angeles, Area "F"	Received	
XLG	Los Angeles, Area "G"	Received	
XOR	Orange	Received	
XSL	San Luis Obispo		
XSB	Santa Barbara	Received	x2
XVE	Ventura	Received	
REGION II			
XAL	Alameda		
XCC	Contra Costa	Received	
XDN	Del Norte		
XHU	Humboldt		
XLK	Lake		
XMR	Marin		
XME	Mendocino	Received	
XMY	Monterey	Received	
XNA	Napa	Received	
XBE	San Benito	Received	
XSF	San Francisco		
XSM	San Mateo	Received	
XSC	Santa Clara	Received	x2
XCZ	Santa Cruz		
XSO	Solano		
XSN	Sonoma		
REGION III			
XBU	Butte		
XCO	Colusa		
XGL	Glenn		
XLS	Lassen		
XMO	Modoc		
XPU	Plumas		
XSH	Shasta	Received	
XSI	Sierra		
XSK	Siskiyou	Received	
XSU	Sutter		
XTE	Tehama	Received	x2
XTR	Trinity	Received	

XYU	Yuba		
REGION IV			
XAP	Alpine		
XAM	Amador		
XCA	Calaveras		
XED	El Dorado		
XNE	Nevada		
XPL	Placer		
XSA	Sacramento		
XSJ	San Joaquin		
XST	Stanislaus		
XTB	Tahoe Basin Area		
XTO	Tuolumne		
XYO	Yolo		
REGION V			
XFR	Fresno	Received	
XKE	Kern	Received	
XKI	Kings	Received	
XMA	Madera	Received	
XMP	Mariposa	Received	
XMD	Merced		
XTU	Tulare	Received	
REGION			
XIM	Imperial	Received	
XIN	Inyo		
XMN	Mono	Received	
XRI	Riverside	Received	
XBO	San Bernardino	Received	
XSD	San Diego	Received	x2



ANNEX C FIRESCOPE STATEWIDE VHF CHANNEL PLAN

APRIL 2005

1st Priority

Channel ID	Receive and Xmit Direct	Repeater Transmit	Band-Width	Transmit Power	Usage Notes
WHITE 1	154.2800		WIDE	HIGH	1
WHITE 2	154.2650		WIDE	HIGH	1
WHITE 3	154.2950		WIDE	HIGH	1
CALCORD	156.0750		WIDE	HIGH	2
CDF COMMAND 1	151.3550	159.3000	WIDE	HIGH	3
CDF COMMAND 2	151.2650	159.3300	WIDE	HIGH	3
CDF COMMAND 3	151.3400	159.3450	WIDE	HIGH	3
CA TRAVEL NET	169.1250	168.3250	NARROW	HIGH	3, 4
OES 1	154.1600		WIDE	HIGH	
OES 2	154.2200		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 2	151.1600		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 10	151.4000		WIDE	HIGH	
NIFC COMMAND 1	168.7000	170.9750	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC COMMAND 2	168.1000	170.4500	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC COMMAND 3	168.0750	170.4250	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC COMMAND 4	166.6125	168.4000	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC COMMAND 5	167.1000	169.7500	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC COMMAND 6	168.4750	173.8125	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC COMMAND 7	162.9625	171.7875	NARROW	LOW	3, 4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 1	168.0500		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 2	168.2000		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 3	168.6000		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 4	164.1375		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 5	166.7250		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 6	166.7750		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
NIFC TAC 7	168.2500		NARROW	LOW	4, 5, 6
USFS R5 TAC 4	173.9125		NARROW	LOW	5, 6
USFS R5 TAC 5	173.9625		NARROW	LOW	5, 6
USFS R5 TAC 6	173.9875		NARROW	LOW	5, 6
USFS AIR-GROUND	170.0000		NARROW	LOW	5, 6
CDF AIR-GROUND	151.2200		WIDE	LOW	5
BLM AIR-GROUND	167.9500		NARROW	LOW	5, 6
AIR GUARD	168.6250		NARROW	LOW	9

2nd Priority Channels – Narrowband VHF Interoperability Channels Available for primary usage on January 1, 2005

VCALL	155.7525		NARROW	HIGH	8
VTAC 1	151.1375		NARROW	LOW	5, 8
VTAC 2	154.4525		NARROW	LOW	5, 8
VTAC 3	158.7375		NARROW	LOW	5, 8
VTAC 4	159.4725		NARROW	LOW	5, 8

3rd Priority Channels – CDF Tactical Channels and CDF Command Channels (excluding CDF Tacticals 2 and 10 and Commands 1, 2, and 3 already contained in 1st Priority)

CDF TAC 1	151.1450		NARROW	HIGH	
CDF TAC 3	151.1750		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 4	151.1900		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 5	151.2500		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 6	151.3250		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 7	151.3400		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 8	151.3700		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 9	151.3850		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 11	151.4450		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 12	151.4600		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 13	151.4750		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 14	159.2250		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 15	159.2700		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 16	159.2850		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 17	159.3150		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 18	159.3450		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 19	159.3600		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 20	159.3750		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 21	159.3900		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 22	159.4050		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 23	159.4500		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF COMMAND 4	151.4000	159.3750	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 5	151.3700	159.2850	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 6	151.2500	159.3600	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 7	151.4600	159.3900	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 8	151.4450	159.3450	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 9	151.1750	159.4500	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 10	151.1900	159.2250	WIDE	HIGH	7

4th Priority Channels – United States Forest Service Administration and Support Nets, BLM, National Parks, and Statewide Operational Area Mutual Aid Channels

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To be determined as a result of a statewide audit of appropriate mutual aid channels by Operational Area.					
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USAGE NOTES:

- 1) The White channels require individual agency licensing from the FCC. White Channel operational policies are outlined in OES Fire Operations Bulletin 28.
- 2) Use of CALCORD is subject to the CALCORD Plan, under an executed CALCORD agreement with OES. Contact OES Telecommunications (916-845-8630) for information.
- 3) Federal and State of California agencies use the following sixteen standard tones for repeater access. These must be included for repeater use. These tones must be programmed on the transmit side **only** of mobile and portable radios.

1. 110.9	2. 123.0	3. 131.8	4. 136.5
5. 146.2	6. 156.7	7. 167.9	8. 103.5
9. 100.0	10. 107.2	11. 114.8	12. 127.3
13. 141.3	14. 151.4	15. 162.2	16. 192.8

- 4) In order to program California Travel Net, all "Note 4" channels (NIFC Command and Tactical channels) must be programmed in the radio.
- 5) Transmitters are to be set to lowest available power setting on this frequency.
- 6) For use when assigned by an Incident. Incident COML's must obtain authorization for the use of these channels through the NIFC Communications Duty Officer (208-387-5644).
- 7) For use when assigned by an Incident. Incident COML's must obtain authorization for the use of these channels through the CDF Southern Region or Northern Region Command Center.
- 8) Specific channel usage guidelines will be determined by the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSIIEC). Tone 6 (156.7 Hz.) is used as the common tone (transmit and receive).
- 9) National Air Guard – 168.625 MHz – A National Interagency Air Guard frequency for government aircraft assigned to incidents. It is used in emergency communications for aviation. A separate receiver is required to permit continuous monitoring. Transmitters on this frequency should be equipped with an encoder on 110.9 Hz. 168.625 is restricted to the following use:
 - 1) Air-to-air emergency contact and coordination.
 - 2) Ground-to-air emergency contact.
 - 3) Initial call, recall, and re-direction of aircraft when no other contact frequency is available.

All ICS205 Communications Plans on incidents that use federal or CDF aircraft should have this channel programmed in the last available channel slot of cache portable radios.



FIRESCOPE STATEWIDE 800 MHz. CHANNEL PLAN

APRIL 2005

The following Interoperability Channels in the 800 MHz band are available for use by the California Fire Service:

Channel ID	Receive and Xmit Direct	Repeater Transmit	Usage Notes
Int'l Calling Channel (ICALL)	866.0125	821.0125	10
Int'l Tactical Channel 1 (ITAC 1)	866.5125	821.5125	10
Int'l Tactical Channel 2 (ITAC 2)	867.0125	822.0125	10
Int'l Tactical Channel 3 (ITAC 3)	867.5125	822.5125	10
Int'l Tactical Channel 4 (ITAC 4)	868.0125	823.0125	10
Statewide Fire / EMS Tactical (FIREMARS)	868.9875	823.9875	11
Northern CA Fire / EMS Tactical (FIREMARS 2)	866.9125	821.9125	11, 12

USAGE NOTES:

- 10) These channels are for inter-agency / inter-discipline use. No single-agency, routine communications permitted. Tone 6 (156.7 Hz.) is used as the International common tone (transmit and receive).
- 11) Use as a Fire and EMS single-agency or strike-team common channel is permitted. Tone 6 (156.7 Hz.) is used as the common tone (transmit and receive). Use is subject to an executed use agreement with OES. Contact OES Telecommunications (916-845-8630) for information.
- 12) Not available for use in Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties.



ANNEX D

COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSE TEAM CONCEPT Communications Specialist Group April 26, 2005

CONCEPT:

The Communications Response Team (CRT) would be activated at some pre-identified level of mutual aid response to any all-risk scenario. The intent is to treat incident communications as a system with a systemic response. The system requires Technologists, Dispatchers, Messengers, Supervisors and Managers to operate fully and functionally. This provides levels of benefit.

1. Using local personnel assures that the local communications infrastructure is utilized to the greatest benefit of the target incident and the maintenance of basic service levels.
2. Treating the communications issues as a system provides a spectrum of support.
 - a. this reduces the length of time required to provide full communications support
 - b. Pre-designates personnel to respond
 - c. Allows for certification of personnel which can be managed by local agencies.
3. Pre-designation of the Communications Response Team provides for training with and identification of the communications resources already available and that likely to be required in a specific region based on what assets already exist.
 - a. The pre-designated CRT members will have intimate knowledge of the assets in the region.
 - b. The CRT members will have specific knowledge from scenario training of the assets that need to be stationed locally and those that will be required to be cached for extended operations.
 - c. The CRT members will be able to assist in identifying, equipping, testing and verifying assets, scenarios and certifications of the communications assets in the region. They will be the subject matter experts.

BASIC RESPONSE TEAM:

- 1 COML-Communications Unit Leader
- 1 INCM-Incident Communications Center Manager
- 2 COMT-Incident Communications Technician
- 3 RADO-Incident Radio Operator

DUTIES:**COML**

- Manages Incident Communications Systems
- Interfaces cooperatively with local infrastructure
- Prepares ICS 205
- Reports to Logistics Chief

INCM

- Supervises Incident Dispatch operations
- Interfaces cooperatively with local agency dispatch operations
- Report to COML

COMT

- Establishes and maintains Incident specific communications systems
- Interfaces cooperatively with local communications system infrastructure
- Reports to COML

RADO


- Performs Incident dispatch operations
- Interfaces cooperatively with local dispatch centers
- Reports to the INCM

STANDARD EQUIPMENT:

The CRT will identify a standard equipment package to be deployed with the Team upon activation. This standard package is likely to include the following.

1. Mobile Communications/Command Center
 - a. Regional communications/command vehicle with regional and State mutual aid communications capabilities.
 - b. Vehicle must contain a minimum of two operator positions.
 - c. Vehicle should be self-sustaining for a period of 72 hours (not including fuel replenishment).
2. Portable Radio Cache
 - a. Cache of portable radios with regional and State mutual aid communications capabilities.
 - b. May be contained on the Mobile Communications/Command Center
3. System Recovery/Enhancement Equipment
 - a. This may be portable repeater(s), a mobile Intellirepeater, a Satellite downlink or any combination of system infrastructure equipment.
 - b. May be contained on the Mobile Communications/Command Center

ANNEX E

	CALSIEC - EMS								
	STATEWIDE CHANNEL PLAN								
	DRAFT								APRIL 2005

CH #	DISPLAY	Rx FREQ	Rx CTCSS	Tx FREQ	Tx CTCSS	Emission	Power	Authorization or	CHANNEL USAGE
VHF:									
								License Required?	
1	HEAR	155.3400	none	155.3400	none	W	High	Yes	Statewide EMS
2	CALCORD	156.0750	none	156.0750	none	W	High	No	Inter-discipline coordination
3	VCALL	155.7525	156.7	155.7525	156.7	N	High	No	National interoperability calling
4	VTAC 1	151.1375	156.7	151.1375	156.7	N	Low	No	National interoperability tactical
5	VTAC 2	154.4525	156.7	154.4525	156.7	N	Low	No	National interoperability tactical
6	VTAC 3	158.7375	156.7	158.7375	156.7	N	Low	No	National interoperability tactical
7	VTAC 4	159.4725	156.7	159.4725	156.7	N	Low	No	National interoperability tactical
8	?	155.2800	none	155.2800	none	W	High	Yes	<future>
9	?	155.4000	none	155.4000	none	W	High	Yes	<future>
10									
UHF:									
1	MED 1	463.0000	multi	468.0000	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
2	MED 2	463.0250	multi	468.0250	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
3	MED 3	463.0500	multi	468.0500	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
4	MED 4	463.0750	multi	468.0750	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
5	MED 5	463.1000	multi	468.1000	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
6	MED 6	463.1250	multi	468.1250	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
7	MED 7	463.1500	multi	468.1500	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
8	MED 8	463.1750	multi	468.1750	multi	W	High	Yes	Ambulance<>Hospital
9	MED 9	462.9500	multi	467.9500	multi	W	High	Yes	Dispatch & Coordination
10	MED 10	462.9750	multi	467.9750	multi	W	High	Yes	Dispatch & Coordination
11	MED 12	462.9625		467.9625		N		Yes	<future use>
12	MED 22	462.9875		467.9875		N		Yes	<future use>
13	MED 32	463.0125		468.1025		N		Yes	<future use>
14	MED 42	463.0375		468.0375		N		Yes	<future use>
15	MED 52	463.0625		468.0625		N		Yes	<future use>
16	MED 62	463.0875		468.0875		N		Yes	<future use>
17	MED 72	463.1125		468.1125		N		Yes	<future use>
18	MED 82	463.1375		468.1385		N		Yes	<future use>
19	MED 92	463.1625		468.1625		N		Yes	<future use>
20	MED 102	463.1875		468.1875		N		Yes	<future use>
21	UCALL	453.2125	156.7	458.2125	156.7	N	High	No	UHF Interoperability Calling
22	UTAC 1	453.5625	156.7	458.5625	156.7	N	Low	No	UHF Interoperability tactical
23	UTAC 2	453.7125	156.7	458.7125	156.7	N	Low	No	UHF Interoperability tactical
24	UTAC 3	453.8625	156.7	458.8625	156.7	N	Low	No	UHF Interoperability tactical

700 MHz.								
Pending Regional Planning Efforts								
800 MHz.								
1	BLUE	866.5375		821.5375		W	Yes	
2	GREEN	867.5375		822.5375		W	Yes	
3	ORANGE	868.3875		823.3875		W	Yes	
4	BROWN	860.1250		815.1250		W	Yes	
5	PURPLE	856.2625		811.2625		W	Yes	
6	ICALL	866.0125	156.7	821.0125	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability Calling
7	ITAC 1	866.5125	156.7	821.5125	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability tactical
8	ITAC 2	867.0125	156.7	822.0125	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability tactical
9	ITAC 3	867.5125	156.7	822.0125	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability tactical
10	ITAC 4	868.0125	156.7	823.0125	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability tactical
11	FIREMARS	868.9875	156.7	823.9875	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability tactical
12	FIREMARS 2	866.9125	156.7	821.9125	156.7	W	No	International Interoperability tactical