

**FIRESCOPE OPS TEAM MEETING
AUGUST 14 & 15, 2007
ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY**

MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Brian Kelly, Chair	Tom Drayer	Dave Pierce	Jim Middleton
Les Matarazzi	Dave Franklin	Jim Little	Bob Neamy

ALSO ATTENDING:

Greg West, Task Force Chair Dan Drake, Task Force Jose Valbuena, ORC

The meeting began at 0945 hours.

Welcome and introductions by Brian Kelly. Bob Neamy is representing the IMS Consortium as an alternate to George Maier.

Minutes of the recent Conference Calls were reviewed and approved.

OPS TEAM MEMBERSHIP

Tom Drayer reviewed the history of the Ops Team, the inclusion of CALFIRMS as the "North Ops Team", and the decision to combine the North and South Ops Team into a single Ops Team. However, the 410-4 document does not specifically address membership of the Ops Team in the same detail that the Board and Task Force are documented. Membership includes the same representatives that are part of the BOD and Task Force, plus two additional representatives from each OES Region in Northern California.

Discussion included the process for replacing members of the Ops Team. In the past, some off-going members of the Ops Team has selected his or her own replacement, while others have reported the vacancy to the FIRESCOPE Executive Coordinator, who discussed the vacancy with the appropriate BOD Member and selected a replacement. Only Original Partner Agencies select replacements for members of their agencies who are leaving the Ops Team.

ACTION ITEM:

- The Ops Team needs to draft a new section for the 410-4 document that addresses a process for replacement of Ops Team members.
- The Ops Team needs to clarify the 410-4 document to address Task Force and Ops Team member status when the BOD Member is replaced.
- Bob Neamy added a request to create language designating specific Original Partner Agencies as representatives for Cities South, Counties South, and Southern California OES Regions.

CYCLE OF MEETINGS

The current cycle of meetings where the Ops Team meets after the BOD can lead to delays in forwarding approved items to the BOD. The recent Night Flying Guidelines document is an example of a product from a Specialist Group, approved through the Task Force, that required the Ops Team to convene a Conference Call to approve the document in time to get it to the BOD in July. Following a lengthy discussion, the Ops Team decided to meet ahead of the BOD in 2008 according to the following schedule:

- January, 2008 Shell Beach 2-day meeting (with Task Force)
- March, 2008 Sacramento, Ca.
- June, 2008 Buck's Lake (with the Task Force) 2-day meeting
- Sept., 2008 Orange County

On September 17, 2007 at 1500 hours the Ops Team will meet by Conference Call.

DECISION PROCESS – CONTROL

Tom Drayer reviewed the Decision Process – an issue is passed from the BOD to the Ops Team, where the issue is reviewed and if appropriate, passed to the Task Force. The Task Force resolves the issue or assigns it to a Working or Specialist Group through a Liaison. The Liaison brings the product back to the Task Force, where through consensus the recommendation is approved and sent to the Ops Team. When the Ops Team approves the issue it is sent to the FIREScope Executive Coordinator, who will send it to the BOD. When the issue is approved at the BOD Level it is returned to the FIREScope Executive Coordinator, who forwards it to the FIREScope Deputy Chief, where the issue will be implemented, sent to Document Control; or other appropriate disposition.

ACTION ITEM:

The Task Force and Ops Team Chairs are to document the transmission of documents and products through the Decision Process with a letter, to provide a “paper trail” of FIREScope actions and decisions.

410-4

The Ops Team reviewed the 410-4 document. The Ops Team discussed the representation of Northern California Cities; 410-4 delineates a difference between small and large cities based on a population of 10,000. Following the review, the recommended Ops Team make up should be:

- Original Partner Agencies
- Counties North
- Counties South
- Districts North

- Districts South
- Cities > 200,000 North
- Cities > 200,000 South
- Cities < 200,000 North
- Cities < 200,000 South
- OES Region Representatives (CALFIRMS Model)
- USFS North
- USFS South
- IMS Consortium
- USFA
- Coast Guard
- CALFIRE North
- CALFIRE South

Tom Drayer and Brian Kelly reported on the BOD Meeting.

Tom Drayer and Brian Kelly reported on the CFAA negotiations. Mike Dougherty is mediating the discussions.

ACTION ITEM:

When a new CFAA agreement is reached, statewide training will take place. The ICS 900 Document will need revision by the Task Force based on the terms of the CFAA.

CALIFORNIA FIRE SERVICE EXPERIENCE, TRAINING & EDUCATION

Brian Kelly discussed the diminishing level of command experience in the California Fire Service. This led to a discussion that, on several fronts, FIRESCOPE, the State Fire Marshal, and the California Fire Service have not allocated sufficient time and money to update and maintain training materials.

FIRESCOPE needs a game plan to update, revise, and publish training documents, with funds to support travel and per diem for subject matter experts. This discussion should include the CICCS Task Force and State Fire Marshall.

ACTION ITEMS:

The Task Force will identify the scope of the California State Fire Service training problem and the relationship to State Fire Training and CICCS.

The Task Force will identify FIRESCOPE training documents that are out of date, the capability/capacity of the Task Force to update the documents, and add this to the Plan of Work.

MACS EXERCISE

Both the North and South MACS Exercises were successful. The Ops Team discussed the all-risk exercise conducted in the South and the need for a similar exercise in the North. Discussion only.

MAYDAY

The International Association of Fire Chiefs Safety Committee is recommending that the Association adopt MAYDAY to declare a firefighter emergency. The Ops Team discussed the ICS tenet of clear text and the NIMS requirement for all agencies to be consistent (law enforcement will declare "officer down, shot, etc). Tom Drayer and Bob Neamy developed a white paper, letter from the FIRESCOPE Board of Director's Chair, and speaking points to address this issue.

US&R CREDENTIALING AND JOB TITLES

Bob Neamy participated in the above work group and discovered inconsistencies between the FIRESCOPE typing model and others used throughout the country.

ACTION ITEM:

Reactivate the Urban Search and Rescue Specialist Group to update US&R materials and evaluate the differences between FIRESCOPE and other resource typing models.

CAL CHIEF'S OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Brian Kelly reported that the group is growing, and met last week in Sacramento. The group wrote to State Fire Training, Mike Richwine, offering to help re-write the Level 2 Command Training.

CICCS TASK FORCE

At the last meeting the Red Card and IQS System were adopted. 310-1 being used is the 2000 version, which is posted on the website. The CICCS physical fitness standard for CICCS and 310-1 differ.

The meeting ended at 1630.

AUGUST 15, 2007

The meeting began at 0900 hours.

The Ops Team and Task Force met together.

OPERATIONAL STRATEGY 2007

Brian Kelly reviewed the CALFIRE and USFS strategy for structure protection for the 2007 season. The group discussed the question of what FIREScope can do to assist with preparation for the brush season and structure protection. The discussion included pre-planning, public education, structure surveys, and the need to update or maintain products already in place but possibly out-dated.

ACTION ITEM

The Task Force is to evaluate tools available or needed to assist the California Fire Service with wildland fire and structure protection problems. This is to include an analysis of the problems and the many issues included (land use, prevention efforts, different approaches). Assess tools and training documents for evaluating structures ahead of fire season. Identify any tools or documents available to the Fire Service to improve wildland/structure protection efforts.

PLAN OF WORK

Greg West reviewed the Task Force Plan of Work, including current work being done by Specialist Groups. Specialist Group reports shall be included in the Task Force Report to the Ops Team and the BOD.

CICCS

CICCS issues are at the BOD level, yet CICCS is impacted by the lack of updated products from State Fire Training. The Task Force has discussed the need for a Training Specialist Group to update FIREScope documents for NIMS Compliance. The challenge is that FIREScope maintains the Incident Command System and associated training documents for the California Fire Service, and also assures that ICS related documents are current and correct. There is a critical need to update all training documents to maintain NIMS compliance and support training materials for CICCS.

ACTION ITEMS:

The Task Force is to draft a letter from the BOD to State Fire Training regarding the need to update training documents for NIMS Compliance, to revise outdated material, and provide an all-hazard/all-discipline application.

The Task Force will address alternatives, including:

Assigning a liaison to the Northern and/or Southern California Training Officer's Association

Assembling a Training Specialist Group

Building a coalition of FIREScope, State Fire Training, CICCS, and Training Officers Groups to cooperatively address training documents

The Task Force is to review FIRESCOPE documents for currency and relevancy.

PHYSICAL FITNESS STANDARDS CROSSWALK

The Ops Team discussed the language on the CICCS Red Card that allows the Agency Chief to certify that the member meets the required physical fitness requirements for the position. It is the responsibility of the local agency to determine the fitness levels of the individual based on local criteria.

OPS TEAM LEADERSHIP

Brian Kelly announced that he would be retiring in November 2007. Dave Pierce will assume the Chair for the January 2008 meeting.

NWCG REPORT

Jim Hollingsworth reported that the IOS Working Team met recently. They are looking at FIRESCOPE ICS forms. The engine and water tender typing continues to differ from FIRESCOPE.

ACTION ITEM:

The Task Force is to determine how to reconcile the differences in Engine and Water Tender typing with NWCG standards.

ROUND TABLE

All members updated the group regarding current events and issues at their agencies.

The meeting adjourned at 1145 hours.