

Operations Team Meeting Notes
August 15-16, 1978
at Riverside - CDF RO VI

3000

CDF:

M. Schori
Joe Springer
M. Harris

OES:

R. Land
M. Scherr

LA Co:

S. Barlow
E. Vickery

LA City:

F. Borden
G. Dinger

Ventura Co:

S. Masson

USFS:

B. Irwin
E. Anderson
A. Masoner
C. Mills
R. Millar
T. Zrelak
G. Knott

Contractors:

Aerospace:
H. Carmichael
C. Ellis
K. Wedemeyer

SDC:

T. Haney

Progress Reports: First Day, August 15, 1978

FY 79 Budget proposals were shown and general discussion on the uncertainty of funds for 79. Funds for 79 will apparently be within a range of \$1.2 million to \$3.7 million.

Intercom - Contract with State of California is in final stages - should be signed within a week.

Telephone System for Com-6 - Plans to purchase from 78 funds cannot be met. Due to the requirements of Forest Service, this type system must be approved by GSA at WO level, and there is not sufficient time to do this before September 30.

Weather Stations - Research Design criteria for signal conditioner are not met. Unable to purchase Stations as planned in FY 78.

Computer Terminals - Input from Task Force recommended computer terminals be purchased out of 78 funds (Program Office) to allow agencies to test effectiveness. A "Letter of Intent" was requested from each agency. Letters have been received from two agencies. Other agencies have problems paying for computer use due to funding problems and/or policy on payment for ADP costs. A decision needs to be made quickly on this purchase due to FY yearend deadlines.

Films:

Short film presented by CDF on Fire Prevention.

Short film presented on Automation of Field Operations and Services (AFOS), a computerized weather service program. AFOS can provide the weather data to meet FIREScope system requirements. A decision was made to purchase the System out of 78 funds; total cost is approximately \$140,000. The System uses a small mini computer that could possibly be used for other Program work. There may be a warantee or guarantee problem if we do this in the first year. This information along with maintenance costs will be researched.

Progress Report on Initial Attack Assessment (IAA) Testing

There are problems with the IAA test on the San Bernardino NF and Ranger Unit. It appears to be in the Program and may be in production outputs. Jerry Keith (PSW) is working on these problems and until they are solved no further testing will be done on San Bernardino NF. The San Bernardino Ranger Unit is having better success with its testing of IAA; however, there are still "bugs" in the Program.

Task Force Report - M. Harris, Chairman

Training - Approximately 300 personnel have received training on FIRE-SCOPE this year. Seven Command Teams received training; LA County and the Forest Service will host a training exercise on August 24-25, 1978. There is a definite need to better coordinate training to obtain the same level of expertise for all agency personnel. The Task Force spent a lot of time and effort in training this year.

I.C.S. Acceptance - Formal recommendation from Task Force to Operations Team that the I.C.S. be accepted for all agencies. Need to get formal approval from B.O.D. There is a definite need to continue to monitor and train in use of I.C.S. This will require Task Force involvement.

Mapping - Mapping Committee is progressing with this assignment. Request from Committee that a trip be authorized to U.S.G.S. Menlo Park to get a better understanding of products available. Request for approval to produce a "prototype" urban map was approved.

Task Force "White Paper" - The Task Force has completed a "White Paper" that identifies problems, the requirements to solve these problems, and recommendations for action. A request was made to review this paper. Approval of Operations Team requested on the items shown.

Reports from Contractors

Aerospace - Hugh Carmichael and C. Ellis discussed preliminary information they are developing to meet contract tasks. The preliminary information from the economic study looks very favorable. A recommendation was made to hold any new I.R. equipment purchase in abeyance until the Forest Service obtains a license to use proper frequency. A copy of Aerospace's information was given to all present.

SDC - Terry Haney reviewed the progress made on the six tasks in their contract. Basically, all items except ask #6 are complete. (See attachment #1.) Terry discussed ask #6 and handed out several survey sheets (refer to attachment #2 - 2 pages). If we are to plan on occupancy of a building by 1981, we need to make decisions by January or February, 1979.

Second day - August 16, 1978

OCC Support Services Manager Role

Roger Land discussed some of the frustrations he is experiencing with this position. Decision made that Roger would develop a list of functions that he will be responsible for. General agreement that the transition period "interim OCC Operations" will result in some problems.

Computers

Earl Anderson presented information showing the current plan to obtain the computer services we need. The type of information needed to make valid decisions was discussed. If it is mandatory that highly accurate precise data is needed, computation cells of one acre or less, it will be costly to provide this precision data. If we can obtain valid data with computation cells of 50 acres or larger, the costs and time to obtain the information will be significantly reduced. Agencies need to look at the type of data, and "degree of accuracy" needed to make valid management decisions. Attachment #3 is a copy of Earl's notes.

FY 79 Budget

Contract priorities for FY 79 were established. (This is for a limited budget.)

1. Maintain operational items with agency support	\$ 90,000
2. Computer costs	500,000
3. Training	30,000
4. Communications	75,000
5. Mapping	100,000
6. Program planning	30,000
	<u>\$825,000</u>

Priorities for other items were established, specific dollar amounts were not agreed to. The information shows priorities by elements:

High Priority

Agency support
Computer
Training
Communications
Mapping

Mid Priority

Program planning
Hardware purchase
Maintenance contracts
Weather stations
Information dissemination

Lower Priority

Infrared purchase
Operational Coordination Center building
Evaluations

Task Force "White Paper"

Briefly discussed part of this document. Decisions were made on the following items:

Decision Process Item #1 - Need to develop memorandum of understanding through B.O.D. that establishes minimum criteria for each agency. Need to emphasize to B.O.D. the need for agency commitment to Task Force and work groups.

Decision Process Item #2 - Task Force will prepare a recommendation for Operations Team review.

Decision Process Item #3 - Operations Team and B.O.D. need to study and understand the information they have. The B.O.D. must take leadership in describing the functions desired.

Program Management Item #1 - The Program Office will assume responsibility to do this. There is a need to work with Task Force and Operations Team to define the system to use.

Incident Command System Item #1 - Recommendation from Operations Team to B.O.D. to commit to using I.C.S. and implement by April 15, 1979.

Incident Command System Item #2 - Approved by Operations Team, need to develop minimum training standards. Task Force and Evaluation Team to monitor and report findings.


MACS/OCC Item #1 - Approved by Operations Team.

At the next Operations Team meeting, we need to continue discussion on this "White Paper" and make recommendations. It is suggested that each member review this document and possibly discuss with Task Force representative prior to the next session.

Mapping Committee

Approval granted to develop a "prototype" urban map. All partners, except Los Angeles City, plan to send representatives to the Menlo Park U.S.G.S. Center.

Next meeting was set for September 27-28, 1978. Location and agenda to be announced by Program Office.

for 
ARNOLD F. MASONER
Assistant Program Manager

Attachment #1 - SDC Contract Status Report
Attachment #2 - SDC OCC Site Inventory sheet
Attachment #3 - FIRESCOPE Information Management System Information