

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST FOREST AND RANGE EXPERIMENT STATION  
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5170  
October 7, 1976



Mike Scherr  
California Division of Forestry  
P.O. Box 1067  
Riverside, California 92502

Dear Mike:

The third meeting of the FIRESCOPE Operations Team was held October 5, 1976. Present were:

Stanley E. Barlow	Keith C. Metcalfe
Richard G. Barrows	Herb McElwee
Frank Borden	Richard R. Millar
Richard A. Chase	Charles W. Philpot
Robert C. Halliburton	Charles Ulrey
Robert L. Irwin	Randall J. Van Gelder
Stanley E. Masson	

I. The following were distributed:

- The collected letters from all partners indicating their support and implementation efforts for the Incident Command System and common terminology.
- System Development Corporation's recommended Core Area Communications plan for 1976. Discussion of this will take place at the next meeting.
- The rough draft FIRESCOPE public information brochure was reviewed. Comments were noted for the final printing which will be done before November 1.

II. The "Partner Contributions Tables" from the Preliminary Implementation Plan were reviewed and discussed extensively. These figures represent Irwin's estimates of probable current and future expenditures by non-Federal partners in support of FIRESCOPE.

The Operations Team agreed to review the figures for further examination at our next session. The aim is to make the figures reflect the real-world probabilities of future costs to each partner.

This information will become an important element in efforts to acquire implementation funding. Review and correction at this time does not represent an actual partner commitment, but it will provide information for future negotiations.

III. Chuck Ulrey presented the results of his work since the last meeting:

- A rough outline of a proposed position description for the OES OCC service manager. This needs more work and LA County will assist Ulrey with the services of Jim George.
- A very tentative budget and staffing proposal for annual operation of the OCC has been drafted. Initial indication is a cost of \$170,840 to operate, exclusive of SITSTAT manning, specific-agency dispatchers, or equipment costs.
- Preliminary meeting was held with some partner Financial Specialists. General agreement reached that fiscal-sharing documents can be negotiated. Additional meetings and further work is necessary.
- The economic analysis for printing costs for ICS and training documents was completed.

Barrows will produce three letters based on Ulrey's work for distribution to the partners:

1. Final copy of the annual OCC budget and staffing report for review and critique. This will have to be discussed and conformed at a future Operations meeting.
2. Economic analysis of printing options, costs, etc. along with each agency's preliminary orders. A "sign-off" section of this letter will allow each Operations Officer to confirm his order and commit to funding it.
3. Cost calculations for the current, on-going operations of the OCC to cover computer operations, telephone and telecopier rental costs, and other miscellaneous expenses. This is expected to amount to about \$3-500 per partner, and will be the basis for an initial cost-sharing memorandum of understanding between partners.

Ulrey is to meet with Financial Specialists to complete the necessary preliminary Memorandum of Understanding arrangements. The CDF Finance Officer will be asked to prepare the final document for review at our next meeting.

Ulrey is also to work with agency financial people to start the "Phase 2," or long-range, cooperative agreements necessary for the future.

- IV. The discussion which accompanied the earlier presentations exposed a number of potential problem areas related to future operation and maintenance of the proposed FIRESCOPE system. Chief among these are budget coordination between partners and the problems associated with budget justifications at four governmental levels (city, county, state and national).

The Operations Team directed me to prepare a letter to the Board of Directors documenting these problems and suggesting an appeal to State government for FIRESCOPE maintenance and operations funding.

I will rough draft that letter and send to Operations Team members for review in the near future. As support for this effort, each member present agreed to send me statements of their agency's anticipated benefits from FIRESCOPE.

- V. Chase and Van Gelder led a valuable discussion on the computer-related elements of FIRESCOPE. Their presentation covered the potential for incremental implementation of models and related data bases. Chase will produce a short "refresher" memo for you in the near future which will cover key points of the presentation. It was agreed that Chase should continue exploring computer applications at each future meeting.
- VI. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 9, at the same place. Meeting will start at 0900.

Agenda items now scheduled are:

- Excerpts from OCC video tape (Ulrey).
- Chase-Van Gelder on computer applications and implementation.
- Reports resulting from this session:
  1. SDC Core Area Communications Plan.
  2. Review "Partner Contributions" as corrected.
  3. OES progress with position description, Memo of Understanding, etc.

- Implementation funding status and preview of "final" implementation plan.

We "covered a lot of ground" and asked for considerable work from each partner. I sincerely appreciate your efforts, and I hope all of the assignments for the next meeting can be completed on time.

Sincerely,

*Robert L. Irwin*

ROBERT L. IRWIN  
Program Manager