

FIRESCOPE TASK FORCE MEETING 98-8

August 11, 1998

Riverside OCC

Present:

G. Ewan, USFS
A. Rosenberger, SBC
J. Olney, KRN
M. Colgan, ORC
R. Parks, OES Support Staff

M. LaPlant, VNC
C. Wurzell, CDF
J. Graham, LAC
G. West, LFD

Not Present:

K. Larkin, SFM
M. Wilkinson, SSL
P. Cooney, OES

R. McKinney, Sacramento FD
L. Caldwell, CNT

Joint Operations Teams North and South Meeting 7/9-10/98 Review

- Passed out notes from LEICS meeting of 6/24-25, 1998, which Pat Cooney attended.
- Passed out copy of letter regarding LEICS from BOD Chair Costamagna which was send out statewide.
- Chris Wurzell spoke briefly on GIS Specialist Group. He attended meeting with the group in which they worked on rewriting the Charter. Next GIS Specialist Group meeting will be at OCC on 8/20/98.

Discussion based on whether GIS and IT should be combined or remain independent specialist groups which interact and exchange information/communication on certain issues/problems. At a past Task Force meeting the three groups were combined (Mapping, IT, Weather). At that time the Task Force did not know the GIS group was functioning as a standing FIRESCOPE group. At this point in time the Task Force feels the GIS and IT should be left alone and see how it goes. The Task Force will have liaison from IT, GIS, and Damage Assessment talking to insure all groups are going in the same direction if they have same projects.

Action: Chris Wurzell to produce a report to the Task Force on the status of the GIS group, whether they will be a replacement of the old Mapping Specialist Group, or a new specialist or working group.

Action: Before the Task Force makes a move on the GIS issue, need to find out if OES is willing to put their agency's mapping/GIS under the FIREScope umbrella. George Ewan will research this issue/problem, go to the appropriate person within OES for clarification and resolution, and bring his findings back to the Task Force for inclusion into the Decision Process.

- Ralph Alworth spoke on NWCG issues.
 - Interagency Response Pocket Guide: NWCG would like an evaluation of this document. Task Force will evaluate and give a review back to NWCG by this fall.
 - Typing Engines, Water Tenders: No change, NWCG will go back to their original standards, how it is addressed in Fireline Handbook.

- US&R, Swiftwater, Technical Rescue

Jon Olney made a presentation to the Joint Operations Teams to rename US&R OSD to Technical Rescue OSD. This was accepted by Operations Teams North and South. Task Force now has the job of changing the US&R OSD to Technical Rescue OSD.

Jon Olney has spoke with the Swiftwater Group and instructed them to make their Swiftwater OSD a document than can be used in the new Technical Rescue OSD. The chair of the group felt this can be done with ease.

The new Technical Rescue OSD will show how to manage technical rescues from the smallest incident to the largest. It will have modular expansion, organizational charts for technical rescue, swiftwater descriptions, US&R descriptions. Possibility of adding trench, confined space, etc. later.

Need to have guidelines for day to day operations in California not the national levels which are confusing.

Current US&R OSD can be reworked and added to include the risks (swiftwater, trench, confined space, etc). Each agency needs a clear understanding of what the task force is doing with the Technical Rescue OSD. The courtesy is to let the people that are paying bills know what is going on.

Action: Task Force Chair to send a letter to all Ops North and South members to let them know what the Task Force is working on in regards to the Technical Rescue Specialist Group.

1. Disband old US&R Specialist Group.
2. Create a Technical Rescue Specialist Group, ask for members from their agency, partner agencies and whomever the Task Force feels will enhance this group.
3. As background, there is currently a group with fire and law background working on Swiftwater (outside of FIREScope). Should possibly use these folks as target group if their prospective agency allows participation. Currently, several ways to address this issue: Swiftwater, US&R Task Force, or FIREScope. Federal guidelines will be considered, but primary goal is what is used in mutual aid requests and sends. FEMA US&R OSD and FIREScope US&R OSD are totally different. LE should be involved because of the search nature. Some law enforcement agencies are responsible for search and rescue and water rescue, the lines blur, between law and fire.
4. Do we need to define a wildland US&R and a urban US&R?

- Firefighter Accountability

Discussed at Joint Ops and BOD, each agency use their own methods at this time, Task Force not to address on a statewide basis at this time.

- Calabasas Report

1 is approved. 2 is approved. 3 is approved. 3-7 in informational bulletin to California Fire Services. 7 needs careful warning (wearing bandannas for breathing protection). 11 no resolution, not sure if STL training is consistent from region to region. 12 is done.

- 3 Letter Ids

G. Ewan made presentation to Joint Ops to update 3 letter id. Ops gave the project to the Task Force. Task Force needs to address this issue. Possibly make it a 5 letter id. (CA123)

- Alert for Firefighters in Trouble

Most law agencies use codes (1199). Some use mayday, alert, firefighter down. Is this really a FIREScope decision? Feel whatever term is used will go nationwide.

- High Rise

Mike Colgan will send position descriptions and modular development to Jack Hickey to solve his concerns over systems and operations. Colgan to send to Hickey and Cavellini, and Rachel. If still have questions, Chair of High Rise Specialist Group and Mike Colgan and set up meeting and walk them through the documents.

1. Position Descriptions - Done
2. Position Training - Not Done
3. Modular Development - Done
4. Answer concerns on how control/communication is handled - Being Done

Operations Team North's main concern is number 4. By using modular development, how the incident grows, with no walls opens up communication. Cross communication is allowed.

- Work Plan

SEMS page 5 strengthen this area. Add pocket guide. Update 3 letter id.

Action: George Ewan to make changes to work plan and mail to Task Force members.

- User's Guide To: Disaster Declarations and Cooperative Agreements

Just received feedback from CDF. Maybe put 1st revision on document, and any comments will go into next revisions. Will rework the document and add a scenario. Will mail to Task Force reps.

Action: George Ewan will review and mail to Task Force members.

- Request for membership to Communication Specialist Group

Rick Smith requested membership to Communications Specialists Group.

Action: Andy Rosenberger to take to Keith Simmons, and let Task Force know follow-up. Write letter to Rick Smith saying we have forwarded to Operational Area Coordinator.

- FIREScope BOOK Group List and Charter Book

Action: Rachel Parks to make copies for members of lists and charters.

- FIREScope Websites

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Talk with Executive Coordinator regarding concerns on websites, 1- open access, 2- MACS GHQ sorts of function with limited access.

Action: Chris Wurzell to work with IT Spec Group Chair to blend websites and report back to the Task Force.

Action: George Ewan to write letter to Executive Coordinator. Give copy to Mike Dougherty. Then return to IT Spec to implement.

- Hazmat Specialist Group

CSTI letter regarding endorsement of All Risk Safety Class.

Action: Andy Rosenberger to respond back to CSTI, that we are in the process of developing these documents. He will have Specialist Group report back to the Task Force.

- High Rise Liaison Report

Joe Graham delivered the High Rise packet to George Ewan for distribution to the Task Force. Short discussion on the need for the Specialist Group to proceed on to finish the Lesson Plans.

Action: Check with Greg West regarding 5/20/98 Action Item on High Rise. George Ewan to call.

Action: George Ewan to mail out to Task Force, Operations Teams to review, for approval of BOD

- Next Meeting

Task Force
9/23-24 Palm Desert?
10/20-21 Palm Desert?

Ops Team South
Conference Call 8/26/98 1000 hours

BOD
10/14 Sacto

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