

Chapter 10 - Objectives, Policy and Scope of Operations**Mission Statement**

The principal mission for the California Geographic Area Coordination Centers (GACC) is the cost-effective and timely coordination of wildland protection agency emergency response for wildland fire and all risk incidents. This is accomplished through planning, situation monitoring and expediting resource usage between the Forest Service (USFS), California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), National Weather Service (NWS), Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CAL OES) and other cooperating agencies.

The California Interagency Mobilization Guide identifies standard procedures, which guide the operations of multi-agency logistical support activity throughout the coordination system. This guide is intended to facilitate interagency dispatch coordination, ensuring the timeliest and most cost effective incident support services available are provided. Communication between Units, the California Interagency Mobilization Guide as they apply to that section. The California Interagency Mobilization Guide is designed to accommodate amendments as needed and will be retained as current material until amended. The California Interagency Mobilization Guide is used to supplement the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. This guide is governed by each of the signatory agency's policy and procedures. Additional information not found in this reference can be obtained by contacting the GACC.

The California GACCs, the Emergency Command Centers (ECC)/Dispatch Centers and their respective Duty Chiefs/Officers have many responsibilities, the most important of which are effective and timely communications with and service to the field. All levels of dispatching and coordination involving the various agencies throughout the state must provide for continuous and adequate communication. The GACCs, ECCs and Duty Chiefs/Officers must ensure that responsible officials are kept current on resource availability.

The State is divided into 6 California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Regions to facilitate the coordination of fire and rescue mutual aid. Through this system, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Division is informed of conditions, in each local, operational and regional area of the State, and the occurrence or imminent threat of disaster. This communication involves the various local, operational, regional, state and federal fire agencies and their respective communication centers mentioned in this guide.

Geographic Area Coordination Centers

There are two GACCs within the State of California and they will follow the established mobilization procedures identified in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. The GACCs act as focal points for internal and external requests not filled at the Unit level.

Each GACC's Federal and CAL FIRE Duty Chief, through their dispatching organization, are responsible for providing coordination of all National, Regional, and Unit resources located within their respective geographic area. Each Duty Chief must maintain awareness of resource commitment and availability in order to enable adequate coordination between the neighboring GACCs and other agencies within the state.

Northern California GACC (Northern Operations – North Ops - NOPS)

North Ops provides coordination and dispatch services for the northern California National Forests, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, CAL FIRE and Pacific Islands for the NPS.

CAL FIRE and FEMA assignments for Hawaii and Pacific Trust Territories.

North Ops is located on the Northern California Service Center compound in Redding.

Southern California GACC (Southern Operations – South Ops - SOPS)

South Ops provides coordination and dispatch services for the southern California National Forests, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, CAL FIRE and Pacific Trust Territories.

South Ops is located at the CAL FIRE Southern Region Headquarters in Riverside.

Unit Level

Unit Duty Chiefs and Duty Officers, through their dispatchers, are responsible for the coordination and use of resources within their span of control. Procedures are established for notifying the Coordination Center when Regional or National resources are committed. In this and the following chapters, the term "Unit" refers to Forests, CAL FIRE Units, BLM Districts, National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, National Monuments, and other resource providers that have their own dispatch centers.

Incident Priorities

When competition for resources occurs among the Units, the GACCs will use the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS) process to establish incident priorities.

For MACS Organization Chart and MACS Process, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 10.

Initial Attack

Initial Attack will be defined, as per the 2018-2023 California Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (CFMA).

Initial Attack: A planned response to a wildfire given the wildfire's potential fire behavior. The objective of initial attack is to stop the fire and put it out in a manner consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be protected.

Initial Attack Period: The first 24 hours, or by written local agreement.

Initial Attack Fire: Fire that is generally contained by the resources first dispatched, without a significant augmentation of reinforcements, within two hours after initial attack, and full control is expected within the first burning period.

Initial Attack Zone: An identified area in which predetermined resources would normally be the initial resource to respond to an incident.

Immediate Need

The intent of ordering immediate need resources is to provide the closest available resource using normal dispatching procedures to meet the incidents specific need. Immediate need requests will be filled with the closest available resources. The intent of immediate need resources is that those resources will be utilized immediately upon arrival to the incident. Immediate need requests may create a draw down staffing situation and the sending Unit may need to order and back fill replacement resources. It is essential that the receiving Unit communicate resource status to reduce un-needed resource orders for back fill purposes.

1 Drawdown for Initial Attack (IA)

2 Drawdown is established by the local Unit based on their standard operating procedures. For CAL FIRE,
3 reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8121. For the Federal agencies, reference the Unit Fire Management
4 Plan.

5 When available resources are drawn down to a critical level, the Unit is responsible for advising their respective
6 GACC of the situation, including any anticipated shortages and projected needs. This information enables the
7 GACCs to adjudicate allocation of available resources within California, and, if feasible, to provide resources for
8 national needs.

9
10 When availability of Unit resources within a geographic area is drawn down to critical levels, the affected GACC
11 is responsible for advising the adjacent GACC, NICC and CAL FIRE Headquarters of the current situation,
12 including anticipated shortages and projected needs. This information is needed in order to ensure effective
13 allocation of the remaining available resources.

14

15 Mobilization/Demobilization

16 The GACCs will coordinate the movements of resources across Unit dispatch boundaries not covered by local
17 operating plans or agency specific policy.

18

19 All agencies will follow the *closest resource concept* for initial attack. Established dispatch channels will be
20 followed at all times.

21

22 Work/Rest Guidelines

23 Federal

24 Work/Rest Guidelines and Days Off policy are outlined in the Interagency Incident Business
25 Management Handbook, the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire
26 Aviation Operations, and the Incident Response Pocket Guide. All resources which have been requested to extend
27 will complete and follow the instructions on the Resource Extension Request form. Refer to California
28 Interagency Mobilization Guide, Appendix for a link to this form.

29

30 CAL FIRE

31 For CAL FIRE Work/Rest Guidelines, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 7700, policy 7757.

32

33 Incident Operations Driving

34 For Federal agencies, reference the National Interagency Mobilization Guide and the Interagency Standards for
35 Fire and Fire Aviation Operations.

36 For CAL FIRE, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 6400, policy 6557 and CAL FIRE Handbook 7000, policy
37 7060.

38

39 Resource Mobilization

40 The Resource Ordering and Status System (the current ordering system) is the only ordering system to be used by
41 all California Units. It will be used to:

- 42 • Create new incidents
- 43 • Order and mobilize resources
- 44 • Track resources and their status

45

46 Resource status shall be continually updated in the current ordering system.

47

1 For California incident mobilization, use the Interagency Standards for IROC Operations Guide
2 (ISROG) located at the following website:
3 <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/references/ISROG.pdf> and augmented by the California current
4 ordering system Business Practices and Standards guide:
5 <http://gacc.nifc.gov/oncc/logistics/docs/caROSSbps2015.pdf>

6 7 **Notification of Commitment of Resources**

8 In addition to national mobilization guidelines, the Units will notify GACCs of resource commitment.
9 Per the California IROC Business Practices and Standards Guide, notification to the GACCs will be as
10 follows:

- 11
- 12 • Commitment of aircraft will be entered at the time of dispatch, so aircraft status will be current.
- 13 • Commitment of crews will be entered within ten (10) minutes.
- 14 • If after thirty (30) minutes, it appears the incident will continue to impact a Unit's resource base,
15 the Unit's equipment and overhead resources will be entered into the current ordering system.
- 16 • Any request for resources from outside the Unit, other than IA, *must* be entered and placed in the
17 current ordering system immediately.
- 18

19 **Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts**

20 In California, the National Weather Service will produce daily fire weather forecasts (by agreement)
21 from the representative office.

22 In Hawaii, the Honolulu office of the National Weather Service will produce daily fire weather forecast
23 covered by the Fire Weather Operations Plan.

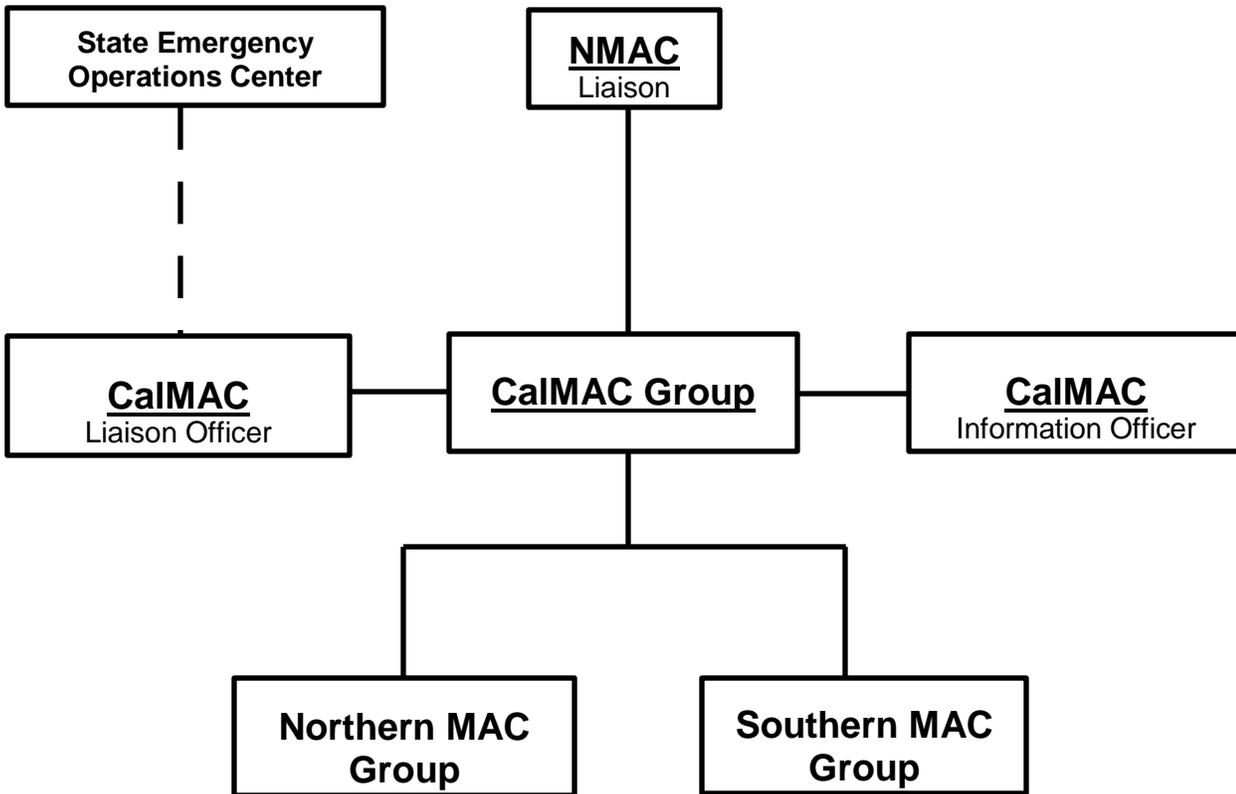
24 25 **Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT)**

26 Notify the PCT Program Manager of any activity (Fire, flood, etc.) occurring on or near the PCT.
27 Beth Boyst, Trail Program Manager, Vallejo, CA (trail-wide responsibilities)
28 Office 707-562-8881, Cell 707-334-4959, email: beth.boyst@usda.gov

California Fire Service Multi- Agency Coordination System (MACS) Organizational Structure

<http://www.firescope.org/macs-docs/MACS-410-1.pdf>

The following organizational structure displays a FIRESCOPE MODE 3 and 4 or a National Preparedness Level 4 and 5 activation.



MAC Group Purpose and Function

A MAC Group typically consists of Agency Administrators or their designees who are authorized to commit agency resources and funds. Their function is to support incident management through coordinating their collective resources, sharing incident information and implementing coordinated strategic policies to prevent and/or combat growing emergency(s). In order to accomplish this objective the MAC Group must establish a common operating plan. The area represented can be a City, County/Operational Area, Region, such as one of the six CAL OES Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Regions or a Geographic Area, such as Northern and Southern California Geographic Areas or a Statewide MAC Group such as CalMAC.

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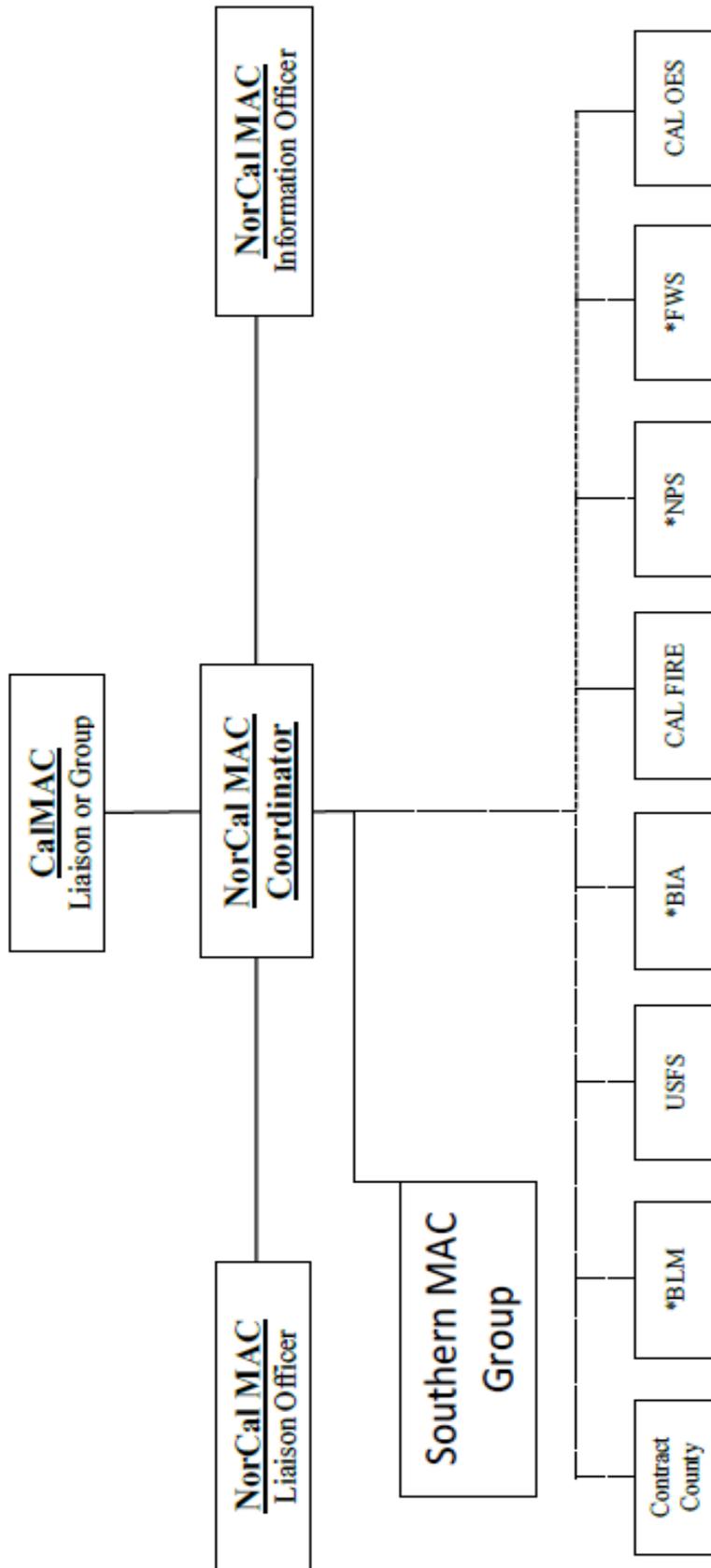
MAC Group objectives in coordinating finances, equipment, personnel and resources are:

- 1) Establish priorities for response.
- 2) Allocate critical resources based on established priorities.
- 3) Establish and/or implement communication systems integration.
- 4) Ensure Information coordination both internally and externally.
- 5) Establish intergovernmental decision coordination, develop strategies and contingency plans.

It is extremely important that MAC Group members have full authority from their respective agencies to commit resources, including equipment and personnel, and fully represent their agency or department in MAC Group decisions.

Northern MAC Group Organizational Chart

Northern MAC Group Organizational Chart



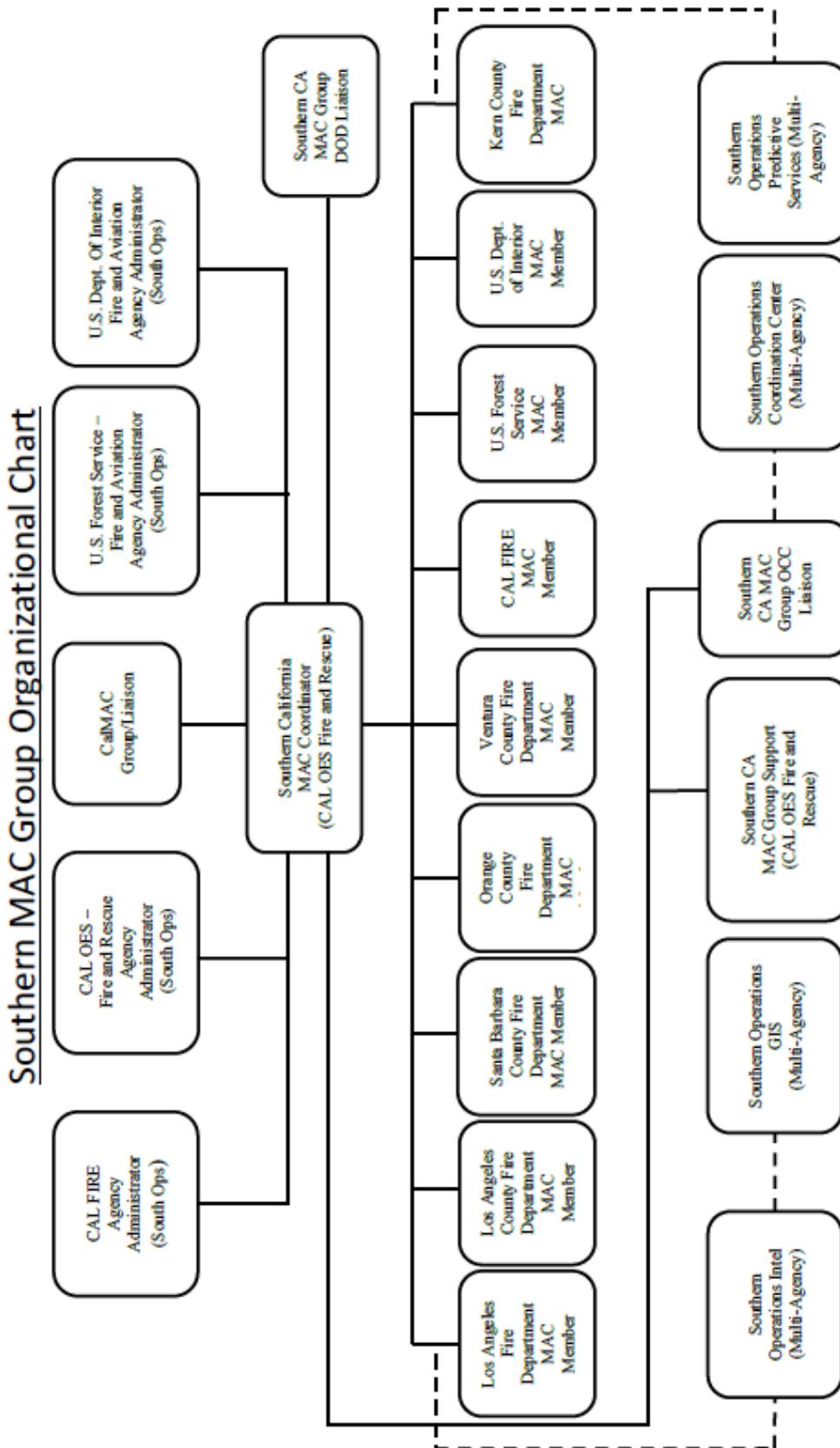
----- Dotted line denotes the agencies that could be represented during Preparedness Levels 4 and 5. This list is not all inclusive.

The Northern California Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NorCal MAC) acts as the geographic area authority to:

- Evaluate incident situation status reports and organizational resource status reports, as provided by the Northern California Geographic Area Units.
- Provide oversight for geographic area allocation of scarce and/or limited resources based on established priorities.
- Develop geographic area incident priorities and submit to CalMAC for evaluation and inclusion in national incident priorities.

* DOI agencies may be represented at MAC by one DOI representative.

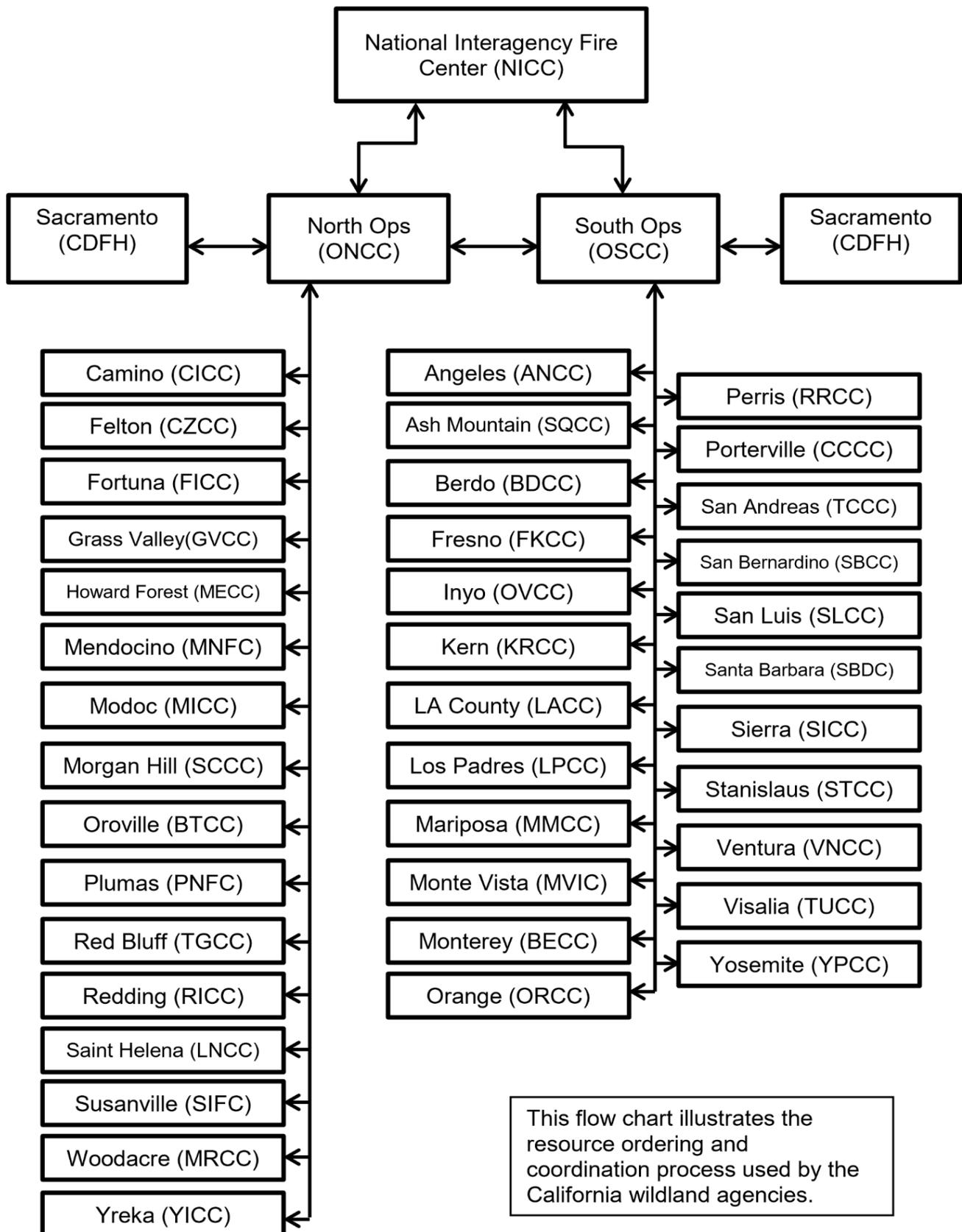
Southern MAC Group Organizational Chart



The Southern California Multi-Agency Coordination group (Southern California MAC) acts as the Geographic Area authority to:

- Evaluate incident situation status reports and organizational resource status reports, as provided by the Southern California geographic area Units.
- Provide oversight for geographic area allocation of scarce and/or limited resources based on established priorities.
- Provide written and verbal communication of MACS priority settings out to the following entities:
 - Applicable Agency Administrators
 - OCC MACS Liaison
 - FIRESCOPE Member Agencies
 - Home Agency
 - NorCal GeoMAC (if activated)
 - CalMAC (if activated) for evaluation and inclusion in national incident priorities.

Wildland Agency Geographic Coordination Flow Chart



*The Dispatch Center’s current ordering system designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified by Intercom call sign, not the Radio call sign.

<i>CENTER</i>	UNITS REPRESENTED
Northern California GACC North Ops (ONCC)	*Federal (ONC) *State (CNR) FS Regional Office, CAL FIRE Northern Region, BLM California State Office, NPS Regional Office, BIA Area Office, FWS Regional Office
Camino (CICC)	*Eldorado National Forest (ENF) Tahoe Basin Management Unit (TMU) *Amador-Eldorado Unit (AEU)
Felton (CZCC)	*San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit (CZU)
Fortuna (FICC)	*Humboldt-Del Norte Unit (HUU) Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge (HBR)
Grass Valley (GVCC)	*Tahoe National Forest (TNF) *Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit (NEU)
Howard Forest (MECC)	*Mendocino Unit (MEU)
Mendocino (MNFC)	*Mendocino National Forest (MNF) Central Valley Refuges North (SWR) Point Reyes National Seashore (RNP) Golden Gate NRA (GNP) Round Valley Indian Reservation (RVA) Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HI-HVP)
Modoc (MICC)	*Modoc National Forest (MDF) Lower Klamath Refuge (LKR) Lava Beds National Monument (BNP)
Morgan Hill (SCCC)	*Santa Clara Unit (SCU)
Oroville (BTCC)	*Butte Unit (BTU)
Plumas (PNFC)	*Plumas National Forest (PNF)
Red Bluff (TGCC)	*Tehama-Glenn Unit (TGU)
Redding (RICC)	*Shasta-Trinity National Forest (SHF) Whiskeytown National Recreation Area (WNP) *Shasta-Trinity Unit (SHU)
Saint Helena (LNCC)	*Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit (LNU)
Susanville (SIFC)	*NorCal BLM (NOD) *Lassen National Forest (LNF) *Lassen-Modoc Unit (LMU) Lassen Volcanic National Park (LNP)
Woodacre (MRCC)	*Marin County Fire Department (MRN)
Yreka (YICC)	*Klamath National Forest (KNF) * Siskiyou Unit (SKU)

*Agency has staffing in the ECC

The dispatch center’s current ordering system designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified by intercom call sign, not the radio call sign. State and county centers have 24 hour staffing.

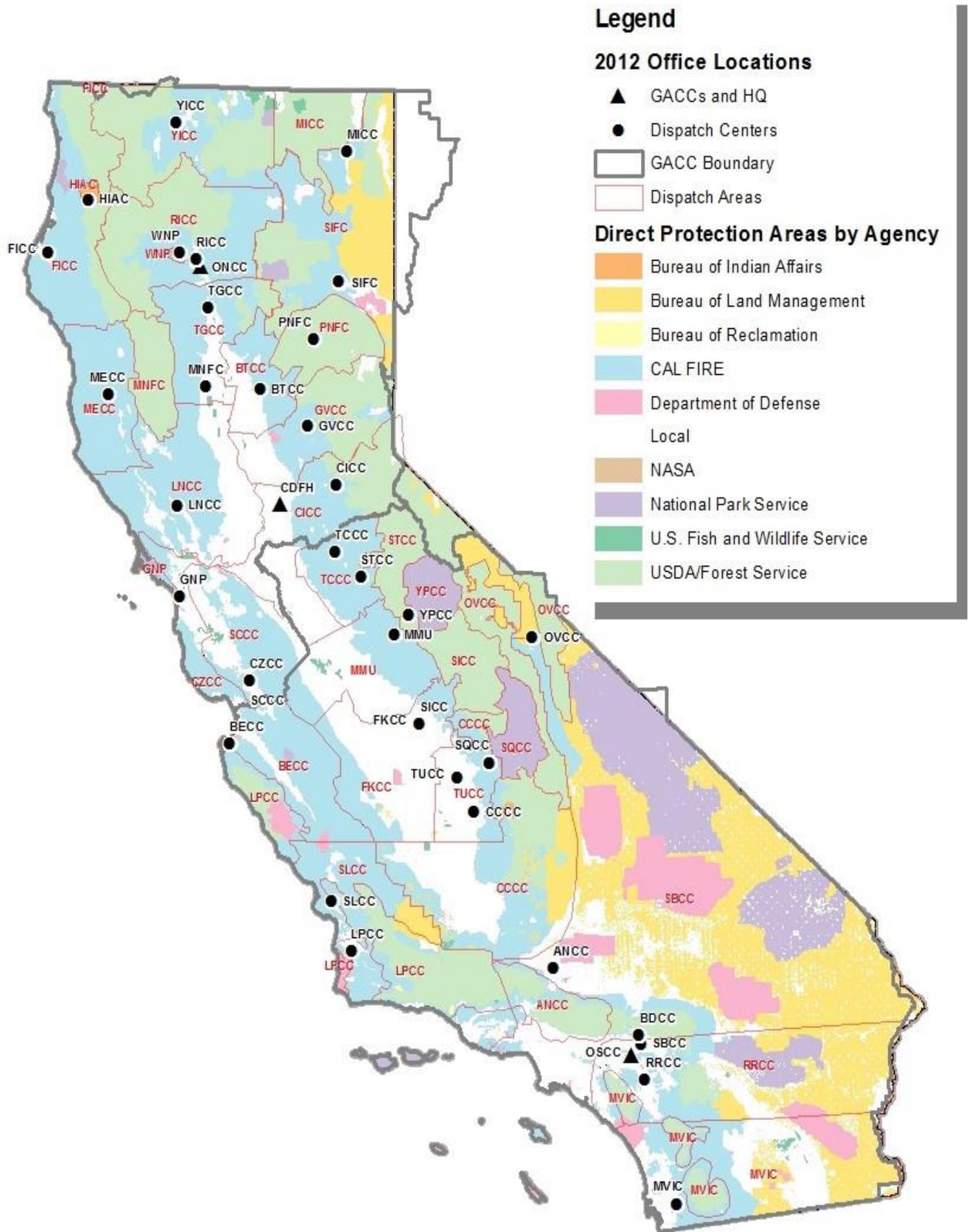
Federal centers have personnel available on call after normal business hours

CENTER	UNITS REPRESENTED
Southern California GACC South Ops (OSCC)	*Federal (OSC) *State (CSR) CAL FIRE Southern Region
Angeles (ANCC)	*Angeles National Forest (ANF) *Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (SMP)
Ash Mountain (SQCC)	*Sequoia-Kings National Park (KNP)
Berdo (BDCC)	*San Bernardino Unit (BDU)
Fresno (FKCC)	*Fresno-Kings Unit (FKU)
Inyo (OVCC)	*Inyo National Forest (INF) *Bishop Field Office-BLM (OVD) Devil’s Postpile National Monument (DPP) Manzanar National Historic Site (MZP)
Kern (KRCC)	*Kern County Fire Department (KRN)
LA. County (LACC)	*Los Angeles County Fire Department (LAC)
Los Padres (LPCC)	*Los Padres National Forest (LPF) Channel Islands National Park (CNP)
Mariposa (MMCC)	*Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit (MMU)
Monte Vista (MVIC)	*Cleveland National Forest (CNF) *Monte Vista Unit (MVU) Southern California Refuge (TNR) Camp Pendleton Marine Base (MCP)
Monterey (BECC)	*San Benito-Monterey Unit (BEU)
Orange (ORCC)	*Orange County Fire Department (ORC)
Perris (RRCC)	*Riverside Unit (RRU)
Porterville (CCCC)	*Sequoia National Forest (SQF) *Bakersfield BLM (CND) Tule Indian Reservation (TIA) Kern National Wildlife Refuge (KRR)
San Andreas (TCCC)	*Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit (TCU)
San Bernardino (SBCC)	*San Bernardino National Forest (BDF) *California Desert District (CDD) Death Valley National Park (DVP) Mojave National Preserve (MNP) Southern California Agencies (SCA) Joshua Tree National Park (JTP)
San Luis (SLCC)	*San Luis Obispo Unit (SLU)
Santa Barbara (SBDC)	*Santa Barbara County Fire (SBC)
Sierra (SICC)	*Sierra National Forest (SNF) San Luis National Wildlife Refuge (LUR)
Stanislaus (STCC)	*Stanislaus National Forest (STF)
Ventura (VNCC)	*Ventura County Fire Department (VNC)
Visalia (TUCC)	*Tulare Unit (TUU)
Yosemite (YPCC)	*Yosemite National Park (YNP)

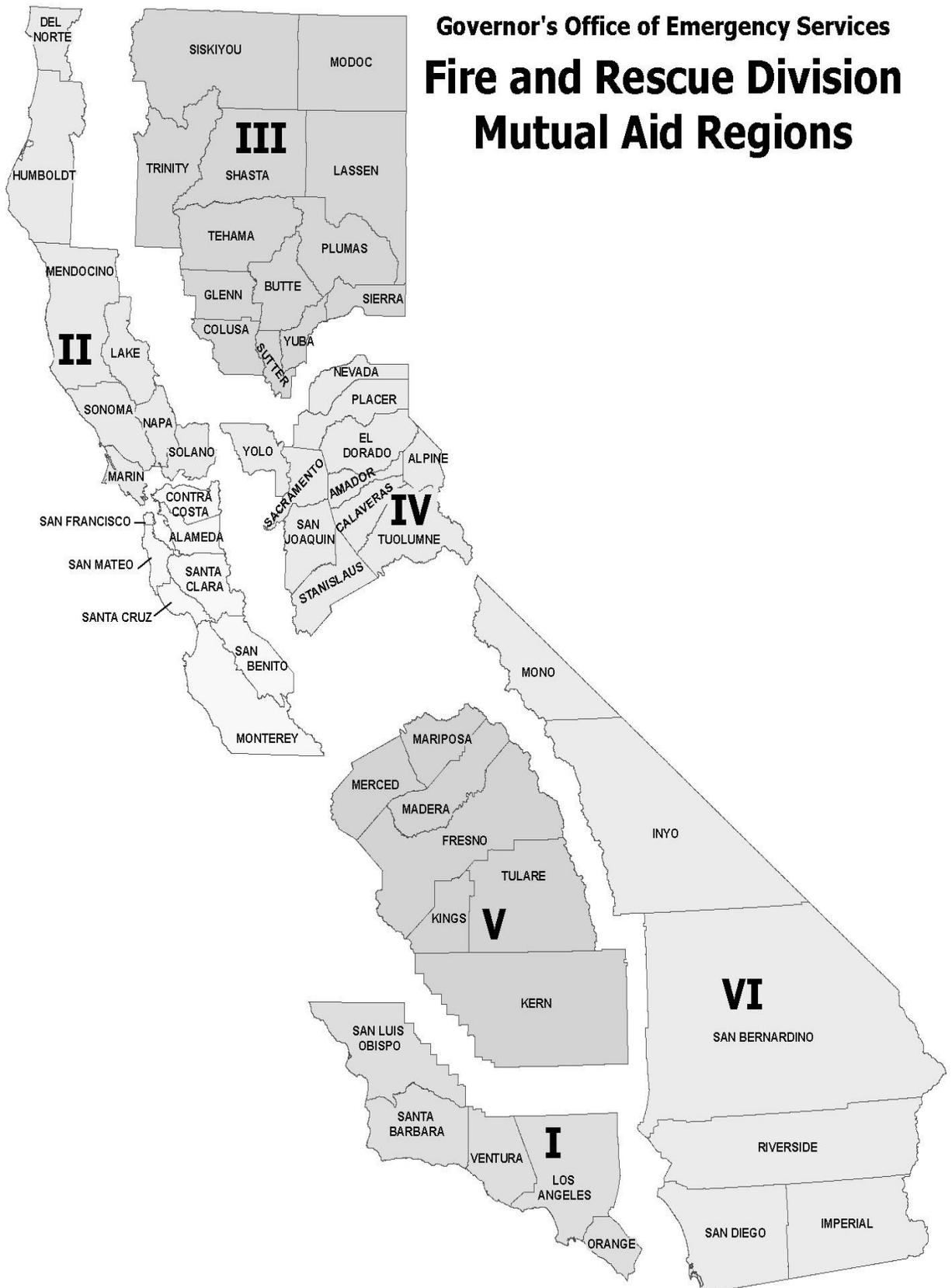
* Agency has staffing in the ECC

The Dispatch Center’s current ordering system designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified by intercom call sign, not the radio call sign. State, county, Angeles, San Bernardino and Monte Vista centers have 24 hour staffing. **All other federal centers have personnel available on call after normal business hours.**

*Geographic Boundary Map



CAL OES FIRE AND RESCUE REGIONAL MAP





Cal OES Fire and Rescue Division Regional Mutual Aid Coordinators



Region III Coordinator
Mike Bradley
 CAL FIRE Northern Region Operations
 6105 Airport Rd, Redding, CA 96002
 Admin: (530) 224-2460 Admin Fax: (530) 224-2496
 24 Hr. Dispatch: (530) 224-2434 24 Hr. Fax: (530) 224-4308

Region IV Coordinator
Eric Walder
 South Placer Fire District
 6900 Eureka Road, Granite Bay CA 95746
 Admin: (916)791-8464 Admin Fax: (916)791-4350
 24 Hr Dispatch: (530) 886-5375 24 Hr. Fax (530) 886-5391

Cal OES Fire & Rescue Division
Sacramento Headquarters
 3650 Schriever Avenue
 Mather, CA 95655
 Fire & Rescue Division: (916) 845-8711
 Nights & Weekends: (916) 845-8911
 FAX: (916) 845-8396
State Fire and Rescue Chief

Brian S Marshall
 brian.marshall@caloes.ca.gov
FIRE OPERATIONS
 Deputy Chief North – Vacant
 Deputy Chief South – Art Torrez
 art.torrez@caloes.ca.gov
FIRE ADMINISTRATION
 Deputy Chief – Lori Lopez
 lori.lopez@caloes.ca.gov
FLEET OPERATIONS
 Deputy Chief - Vacant
SPECIAL OPERATIONS/ HAZ-MAT
 Deputy Chief – Larry Collins
 larry.collins@caloes.ca.gov
 Assistant Chief – Chuck Toblas
 chuck.toblas@caloes.ca.gov
 Assistant Chief – Joe Gear
 joe.gear@caloes.ca.gov
FIRESCOPE
 Deputy Chief- James Johnstone
 23300 Castle Street
 Riverside, CA 92518
 Office: (951) 320-6108
 Fax: (951) 782-4239
 Email: james.johnstone@caloes.ca.gov
 Assistant Chief – Cathy Johnson
 6105 Airport Road
 Redding, CA 96002
 Office: (530) 224-2441
 Fax: (530) 226-2742
 Cell: (916) 642-3825
 E-mail: cathy.johnson@caloes.ca.gov



Region II Coordinator
David Rocha
 Alameda County Fire Department
 6363 Clark Avenue, Dublin CA 94568
 Admin: (510) 632-3473 or (925) 833-3473 Admin Fax: (925) 875-9387
 24 Hr. Dispatch (925) 245-0420 24 Hr. Fax (925) 422-5730

Region V Coordinator
Mark A. Johnson
 Fresno County Fire Protection District
 210 S Academy Avenue, Sanger, CA 93657
 Admin: (559)493-4300 Fax: (559)875-8473
 24 Hr. Dispatch (559) 292-5271 24 Hr. Fax (559) 292-0368

Region I Coordinator
Daryl Osby
 Los Angeles County Fire Department
 1320 N. Eastern Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90063-3294
 Admin: (323) 881-2401 Admin Fax: (323) 265-9948
 24 Hr. Dispatch (323) 881-2455 24 Hr. Fax (323) 266-6925

Region VI Coordinator
Dan Johnson
 CALFIRE Southern Region Operations
 23300 Castle Street, Riverside, CA 92518
 Admin: (951) 320-6200/ Admin Fax: (951) 320-6395
 24 Hr. Dispatch (951) 320-6197 24 Hr. Fax (951) 782-4900

1 California Fire and Rescue Ordering Process

2 Forest agencies (Federal and CAL FIRE) in California may request assistance from Local
3 Government fire department resources (overhead, engines, water tenders) via CFAA Agreement;
4 these requests are placed in the current ordering system from the forest agency dispatch center to
5 the CAL OES Operational Area which is currently threatened.

6
7 Operational Area dispatch centers will fill the requests with resources form within the Operational
8 Area or once exhausted place outstanding requests to the CAL OES Regional dispatch center.

9
10 CAL OES Regional dispatch centers will place outstanding requests to other Operational Areas
11 within their Region or when all Operational Areas within their Region are exhausted will place
12 requests to CAL OES Sacramento (OESH).

13
14 Resource orders will be processed based on need. An “Immediate Need” order will be processed as
15 soon as possible for incidents that meet these criteria.

16
17 Resource orders for “Planned Need” mobilization in respect to Date and Time Needed will be
18 determined and negotiated by the respective GACC and the requesting and sending unit to provide
19 for resource safety.

20
21 OESH will place outstanding requests to other CAL OES Regions in the state for processing based
22 on closest available resource.

23
24 The CAL OES Name Request Justification form is required for all local government overhead
25 name requests with the exception of IMT members. IMT members rostered in the current ordering
26 system, on the initial fill of the team, do not require a Name Request Justification form. Team
27 members responding after the initial team roster has been filled in the current ordering system
28 require a Name Request Justification form.

29 This form should be used once a resource order has been returned “Unable To Fill” at both
30 California GACC’s.

31 This form may be used for hard to obtain or specialized resources identified as Critical Needs.

32 The form can be located at <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES%20-%20Name%20Request%20Form%20-%2020140901uax.pdf>

33
34
35 Reference CAL OES Operations Bulletin 1 – Closest Resource Concept.

36 [http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Operations%20Bulletin%2001.pdf)
37 [Operations%20Bulletin%2001.pdf](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/FireRescueSite/Documents/CalOES-Operations%20Bulletin%2001.pdf)

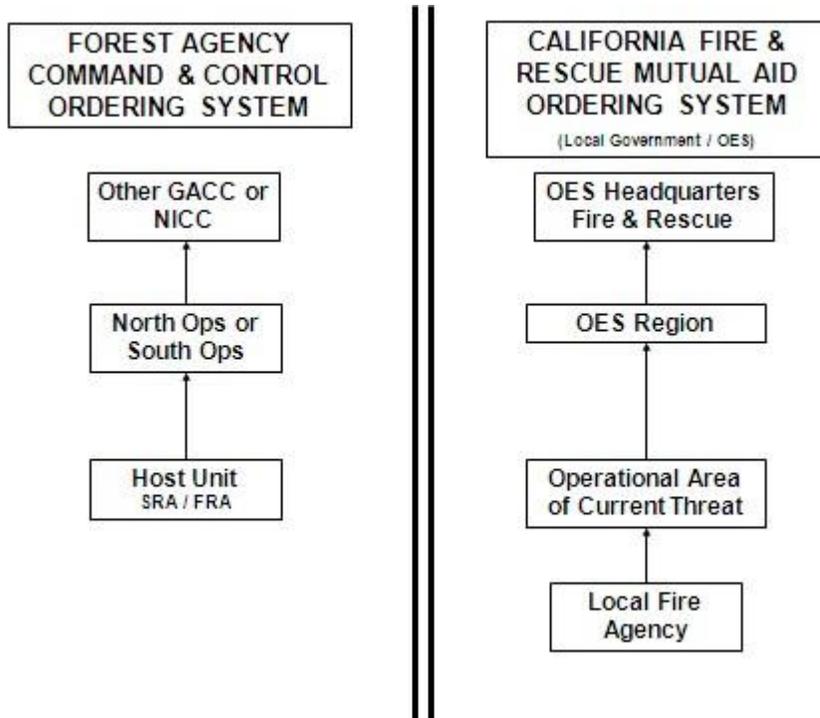
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39 Cal OES, CAL FIRE, and the Federal Fire Agencies, and local agencies release or reassignment of
40 emergency apparatus used pursuant to the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) will be
41 coordinated through the on-scene Cal OES Fire and Rescue Chief Officer, the local jurisdiction
42 agency representative, or their authorized representative or the Cal OES Fire Duty Officer.

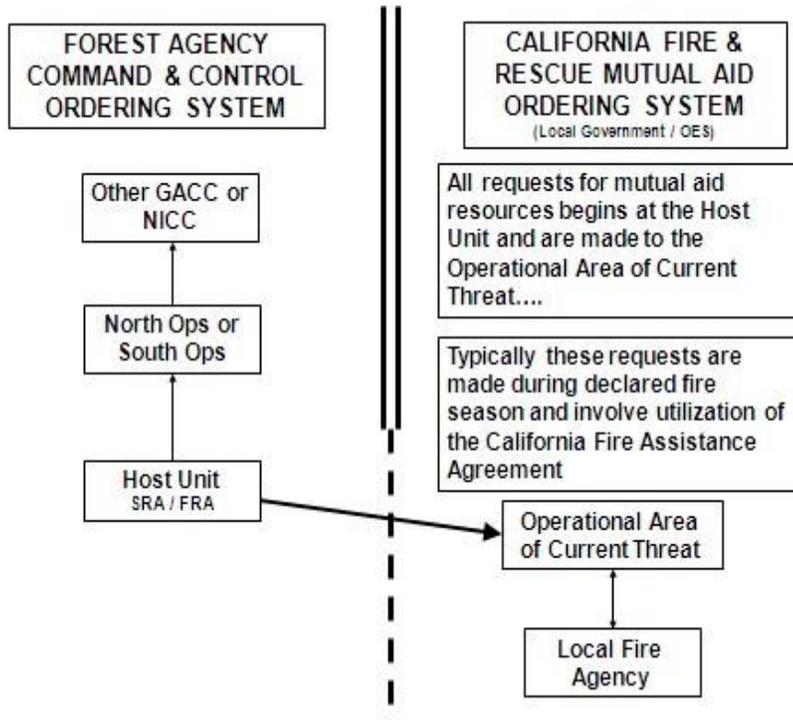
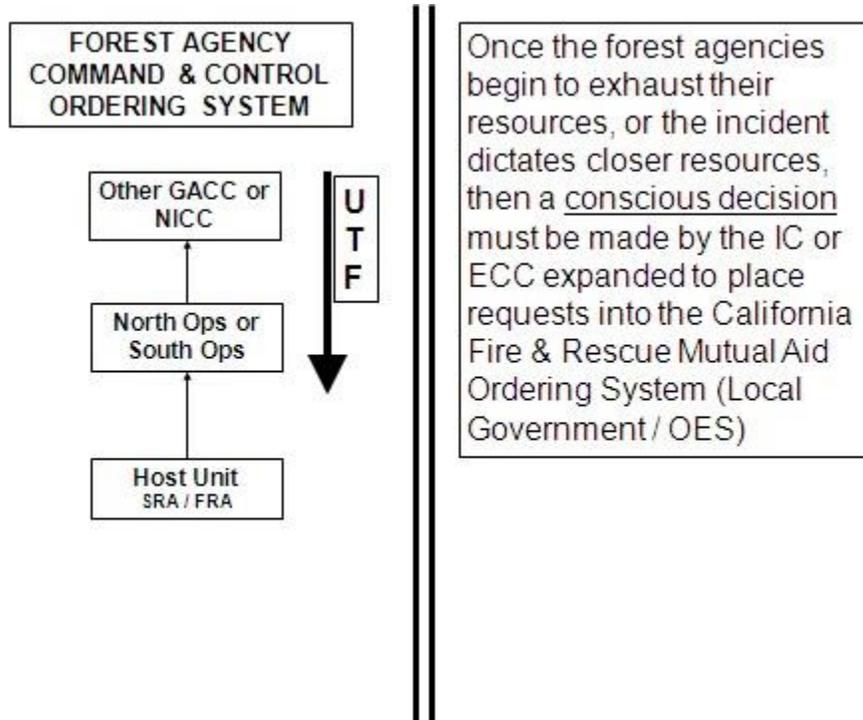
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1 California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System emergency apparatus and personnel requested through
2 the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) being released from an incident fall back to the
3 control of the respective GACC. If reassignment of these resources are necessary, there must be positive
4 coordination with the OES AREP on scene of the incident or the Cal OES Duty Chief (916) 845-8670 to
5 secure express permission to reassign an OES or Local Government resource to another incident.

6
7 Resources cannot be reassigned without this express permission.

8
The diagrams below illustrate the Forest Agency and California Fire and Rescue ordering process





CAL OES Region/Operational Area IROC Responsibility

CAL OES Region/Operational Area	Ordering Responsibility
CAL OES Region 1	Los Angeles County Fire
XLA-Los Angeles County Area A	Los Angeles City Fire
XLB-Los Angeles County Area B	Los Angeles County Fire
XLC-Los Angeles County Area C	Verdugo Fire Communication Center
XLE-Los Angeles County Area E	Los Angeles County Fire
XLF-Los Angeles County Area F	Los Angeles County Fire
XLG-Los Angeles County Area G	Los Angeles County Fire
XOR-Orange County	Orange County Fire Authority
XSL-San Luis Obispo County	CAL FIRE, SLU
XSB-Santa Barbara County	Santa Barbara County Fire
XVE-Ventura County	Ventura County Fire
CAL OES Region 2	Alameda County Fire
XAL-Alameda County	Alameda County Fire
XCC-Contra Costa County	Contra Costa County FPD
XDN-Del Norte County	CAL FIRE, HUU
XHU-Humboldt County	CAL FIRE, HUU
XLK-Lake County	Alameda County Fire
XMR-Marin County	Marin County Fire
XME-Mendocino County	CAL FIRE, MEU
XMY-Monterey County	CAL FIRE, BEU
XNA-Napa County	CAL FIRE, LNU
XBE-San Benito County	CAL FIRE, BEU

CAL OES Region/Operational Area	ROSS Responsibility
XSF-San Francisco County	Alameda County Fire
XSM-San Mateo County	Alameda County Fire
XSC-Santa Clara County	Santa Clara County Fire
XCZ-Santa Cruz County	CAL FIRE, CZU
XSO-Solano County	Alameda County Fire
XSN-Sonoma County	Red Com JPA
CAL OES Region 3	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XBU-Butte County	CAL FIRE, BTU
XCO-Colusa County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XGL-Glenn County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XLS-Lassen County	CAL FIRE, LMU
XMO-Modoc County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XPU-Plumas County	XPU Plumas County
XSH-Shasta County	CAL FIRE, SHU
XSI-Sierra County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XSK-Siskiyou County	CAL FIRE, SKU
XSU-Sutter County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XTE-Tehama County	CAL FIRE, TGU
XTR-Trinity County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
XYU-Yuba County	CAL FIRE, NOPS
CAL OES Region 4	CAL FIRE, NEU
XAP-Alpine County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XAM-Amador County	CAL FIRE, AEU
XCA-Calaveras County	CAL FIRE, TCU

CAL OES Region/Operational Area	Ordering Responsibility
XED-El Dorado County	CAL FIRE, AEU
XNE-Nevada County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XPL-Placer County	Placer County Sheriff
XSA-Sacramento County	Sac Regional JPA
XSJ-San Joaquin County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XST-Stanislaus County	CAL FIRE, NEU
XTB-Tahoe Basin Area	CAL FIRE, NEU
XTO-Tuolumne County	CAL FIRE, TCU
XYO-Yolo County	CAL FIRE, NEU
CAL OES Region 5	CAL FIRE, FKU
XFR-Fresno County	CAL FIRE, FKU
XKE-Kern County	Kern County Fire
XKI-Kings County	CAL FIRE, FKU
XMA-Madera County	CAL FIRE, MMU
XMP-Mariposa County	CAL FIRE, MMU
XMD-Merced County	CAL FIRE, MMU
XTU-Tulare County	Tulare County Fire
CAL OES Region 6	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XIM-Imperial County	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XIN-Inyo County	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XMN-Mono County	CAL FIRE, SOPS
XRI-Riverside County	CAL FIRE, RRU
XBO-San Bernardino County	San Bernardino County Fire
XSD- San Diego County	North County Dispatch JPA

1 Communication

2 The formal route of communications for the Unit/Forest/Local government level is through the GACC
3 Federal and CAL FIRE Duty Chief. The Duty Chiefs are responsible for briefing their organizations in
4 the procedures of incident information flow and for assuring timely exchange of information with
5 minimal disruption to the dispatch function. These guidelines are offered to assist the Duty Chief in
6 briefing their personnel. The following items give some general indicators of situations that should
7 prompt contact between agencies and with the Federal, CAL FIRE Regions and Headquarter levels.

- 8
- 9 • When large incidents, incidents in a sensitive area, or multiple incidents occur.
- 10 • When geographic area federal or state resources are becoming depleted.
- 11 • When resources are being moved outside of their assigned GACC.
- 12 • When an Incident Management Team is mobilized for an incident.
- 13 • When structures or property are destroyed, or serious injuries or aircraft accidents occur.
- 14 • Fire Directors and California Wildland Coordinating Group (CWCG) will be notified when
15 preparedness levels are adjusted due to suppression activity in their Geographical Area or the
16 adjacent Geographical Areas.
- 17

18 Emergency Management Assistant Compact – Resource Mobilization and Demobilization**19 Mobilization**

20 All resource requests will be submitted using the current ordering system. Requests for all tactical
21 aircraft will be made using the state intercom and the FC 106 Script to expedite the requests.
22 Refer to California Interagency Mobilization Guide Chapter 50 and California Interagency Mobilization
23 Guide Appendix.
24

25 Unit Dispatch Procedures

26 California will provide all-risk dispatching services through existing dispatch centers that are consistent
27 with the needs and schedules of field going employees.
28

- 29
- 30 • Each Unit will provide for its own dispatching needs. Standardized dispatching procedures will
31 be used at each dispatching level within California.
- 32 • Dispatching procedures are developed so that each Unit will dispatch to the extent of its
33 available resources before requesting additional aid from the GACC.
- 34 • Units will pre-plan and identify all mutual aid assistance/move-up of resources between
35 adjoining Units, including those in other geographic areas/States and other agencies. Resource
36 commitments should be limited to those resources that could be expected to provide effective
37 initial attack, or fast follow-up to initial attack, within the established areas for mutual assistance.
38 It is the responsibility of the sending Unit to notify the appropriate GACC whenever action is
39 taken under one of these plans.
- 40 • Units will work directly with other dispatch centers, county and city fire departments, and local
41 and state law enforcement agencies in their Unit or GACC's area of influence. They will keep
42 the GACC advised of all mobilization/demobilization of personnel/crews and aircraft received
43 through this procedure.
- 44 • Units will handle all dispatching procedures for agency personnel during scheduled field
45 operation hours. CAL FIRE Emergency Command Centers are staffed 24 hrs.
- 46 •
- 47 • Federal Dispatch Centers may enter into cooperative agreements with other agencies, or
48 amend existing agreements, to provide dispatching services outside of normal field
49 operation hours.

- 1 • Each Dispatch Center will have a work schedule that allows them to meet the needs and
2 scheduled work hours/shifts of field going personnel.
- 3 • CAL FIRE Command Centers will use CAL FIRE issuance publications, in particular
4 the 8100 Command and Control Handbook, as their operational guides.
- 5 • Each Federal Unit will utilize operational guides which define procedures and required
6 actions for all hazardous activities. These guides will be available in each Dispatch
7 Center and field office.
- 8 • All field going personnel will remain in radio contact with the Dispatch Center unless otherwise
9 arranged through the Center.
- 10 • Dispatch Centers are to communicate weather forecasts to all field going personnel, especially
11 firefighters according to agency direction. Dispatch Centers are to update field
12 personnel of changes in predicted weather patterns.

14 **GACC Dispatch Procedures**

15 The GACC will fill orders from the most appropriate source available. The most appropriate
16 source will be determined on the basis of urgency, resource availability, delivery time,
17 reasonable cost effectiveness, impact on other Units, and consideration of the overall fire 21 program.
18 Within 30 minutes, the ability or inability to fill the order will be relayed to GACC by
19 the Unit attempting to fill the order. Objectives of the GACC include:

- 20
- 21 • Provide dispatch and coordination services. Dispatch personnel, equipment, aircraft, and
22 supplies
23 between GACC's, Units, other States, or agencies. Expand the GACC dispatching organization
24 to meet current demands.
- 25 • Maintain status on amounts and location of specified overhead, crews, equipment, aircraft,
26 and supplies.
- 27 • Assist in determining GACC priorities for overhead, crews, equipment, aircraft, and supplies
28 in multiple incident situations, and fill requests accordingly.
- 29 • Inform State and Federal Duty Chief, Units, National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC),
30 and other cooperating agencies of current and critical incident situations.
31 Collect and distribute information concerning the overall incident situation.
32 **Encourage** and practice close cooperation in using shared resources with other cooperating
33 agencies, as well as private wildland fire services, including contract and agreement resources.
- 34 • Anticipate requirements, evaluate requests in light of the actual and imminent incident situation,
35 and question (through proper channels) orders appearing to be out of balance with requirements,
36 needs, or policy/procedure.
- 37 • The GACCs may fill each other's requests within California prior to requesting assistance from
38 NICC.
- 39 • The GACC Duty Chiefs will work closely to support each other's existing needs.
- 40
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47 **NICC Dispatch Procedures**

48 NICC will follow defined national mobilization guidelines.

49

1 Mutual Aid

2 Mutual aid is utilized when an incident is likely to exceed, or has exceeded, the ability of the responsible
3 agency to control. Agencies receiving mutual aid are responsible for logistical support to all mutual aid
4 personnel and equipment.

5
6 For agreements governing mutual aid, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter
7 80.

9 Request for Assistance

10 After local agreements and mutual aid resources have been exhausted, requests for assistance should be
11 placed directly with the appropriate GACC for state and federal resources or Fire and Rescue
12 Operational Area for CAL OES and local government resources. A file of all mutual aid and other
13 agreements will be maintained in the ECCs. These files will be available to the GACC upon request.
14

15 Emergency Management Assistant Compact – Resource Mobilization and Demobilization

16 When an incident is declared an emergency or disaster by the Governor of California, this can authorize
17 invoking the Emergency Management Assistant Compact (EMAC) ordering. Once State and Local
18 resources are exhausted, The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) in collaboration with
19 partner agencies will seek assistance through the EMAC process. The Governor's Office of Emergency
20 Services EMAC Coordinator within the Fire and Rescue Division then establishes contact with EMAC
21 Member States to source the request starting with the closest states (time/distance). The requesting and
22 assisting State Emergency

23 Management Agencies complete an EMAC Resource Agreement Form (RSA) for offers of assistance.
24 Once the offer is accepted, resources will be ordered and requested. These resources will be tracked
25 from mobilization through demobilization.

26 If Agency resources are not in the resource order system, OES will build resources within the program
27 and fill in requests and track them through demobilization.
28

29 Support to Border Fires

30 A border fire is defined as a wildfire that has crossed the boundary from one GACC into another, or
31 which is expected to cross the boundary within two burning periods. For specific operating plans and
32 agreements, refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 80.
33

34 Since both GACCs have a responsibility and authority to provide resource support to the incident, they
35 may place requests for resources directly between each other in order to support the incident. The
36 following protocols apply:

- 37 • A single ordering point will be designated to ensure proper assignment and demobilization of
38 resources. The incident will remain with the originating Unit for situation reporting and
39 prioritization.
- 40 • The dispatch organization designated as the single ordering point may place orders to either
41 GACC using established ordering channels; however only the GACC of the designated single
42 ordering point is authorized to place requests up to NICC.
- 43 • Prior to initiating border fire support operations, concurrence and agreement must occur between
44 the two GACCs and NICC. Coordinate as needed to maintain effective incident and GACC
45 support.
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Unified Ordering Point (UOP)

When an incident involves more than one jurisdiction, and unified command is activated, a unified ordering point (UOP) shall be established.

Purpose

To establish a single ordering point for all resources required by the incident.

Goal

The goal of the UOP is to allow the agencies involved in the incident the opportunity to fill requests at the lowest level including the use of local mutual aid and assistance, to avoid duplication of orders and to provide a single system for tracking resources for cost share agreements.

Guidelines

- The unified commanders will determine which agency ECC will be identified as the UOP. Notification will be made immediately by each agency involved.
- The UOP should be staffed with personnel from all agencies involved in unified command. Once the UOP has been designated, it should remain at that location for the duration of unified command.
- The UOP will use the Order Number that has been assigned by the agency in whose Direct Protection Area (DPA) the incident started. This number should not change for the duration of the incident.
- All requests from the incident will be processed through the UOP.
- The UOP will utilize local agency resources and those available through agreements with local cooperators of the agency assuming financial responsibility before passing requests to the next level.
- When the UOP is unable to fill a request, it will be placed to the next level ECC based on the UOP host's agency dispatch channels.
- The incident will order cache items direct from the nearest national cache.
- Refer to California Mobilization Guide Chapter 40 for Hired Equipment.

Relocating the UOP

It may be necessary to relocate the UOP due to one of the following conditions:

- The incident returns to a single jurisdiction (the UOP will be terminated and the responsible agency ECC will assume the role).
- Unified commanders are advised and concur that limited or unsatisfactory service will result if the UOP remains at the current location.

The following guidelines are recommended:

- Determine the new location.
- All documents (or clean copies) will be moved to the new UOP location prior to commencing operations.
- Allow adequate time for transition including movement of UOP personnel and documents.

Resource Ordering

The current ordering system shall be used for documenting mobilization and demobilization actions of all resources.

1 Reference the California IROC Business Practices and Standards guide for procedures in utilizing
2 the program.

3
4 The Resource Order form will be used as the backup for all agencies. Refer to the California
5 Mobilization Guide, Appendix.

6
7 All resource requests will be submitted using the current ordering system. Only requests for aircraft
8 and/or immediate need ground forces may be made using the intercom, then followed as quickly as
9 possible with the matching current ordering system request.

10 This allows immediate need resource requests to be processed in the most expedient manner. All other
11 ordering is to be accomplished utilizing the current ordering system and the telephone.

12 13 **Request Information**

14 Request Number:

15 Reference the California IROC Business Practices and Standards document for detailed information
16 regarding requests. All known information, as detailed as possible, including the financial code and
17 reporting instructions, will be entered into the current ordering system.

18
19 Federal FireCode:

20 A FireCode will be generated for all incidents using federal resources or resources from federal caches.

21
22 Issuance of a FireCode for Federal resources responding to a non-federal incident will be the
23 responsibility of the Forest agency list in the current ordering system. Business Practices Attachment D.
24 Issuing Fire Codes for cooperators

25
26 <https://firescope.caloes.ca.gov/>

27
28 For out of GACC requests the host GACC will create the FireCode.

29 30 **Travel Mobilization and Demobilization**

31 The current ordering system will be used for mobilization and demobilization of resources from all
32 incidents. All times (ETA and ETD) are in local time zones.

33
34 Mobilization travel will normally be arranged by the sending Unit and demobilization travel will be
35 arranged by the incident host. In the event the incident host or sending Unit does not have the ability to
36 make necessary travel arrangements, contact the GACC for direction.

37
38 Demobilization of personnel and resources from the incident to the home Unit must follow the chain of
39 command and remain within established communication channels. Complete and accurate records of
40 personnel, transportation, and equipment are a must.

41 Commercial airline travel will be documented in the current ordering system using the Travel Itinerary
42 function. Any travel involving a known RON (Remain Over Night) location will also be documented
43 in the current ordering system using the Travel Itinerary function.

44 45 **CAL FIRE**

46 Some CAL FIRE Units have approved initial attack operating plans with jurisdictions out-of-state. In
47 those cases, dispatch resources in accordance with those plans. Whenever possible have the requesting
48 out-of-state agency make travel arrangements for CAL FIRE personnel through the host agency's travel
49 agent so the bill can be paid directly by the requesting agency.

1 For out of state travel on Federal incidents the GACC can assist with making flight and rental car
2 arrangements. Reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 8100 procedure 600.

4 **Cal OES Reassignment of OES and Local Government Resources**

5 California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System emergency apparatus and personnel requested through
6 the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) being released from an incident fall back to the
7 control of the respective GACC. If reassignment of these resources are necessary, there must be positive
8 coordination with the OES AREP on scene of the incident or the Cal OES Duty Chief (916) 845-8670 to
9 secure express permission to reassign an OES or Local Government resource to another incident.
10 Resources cannot be reassigned without this express permission.

12 **Emergency Demobilization**

13 For emergency release of a resource, the Emergency Release Form will be completed by the host ECC
14 and submitted to the GACC. Refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Appendix.

16 **Demobilization Planning**

17 Demobilization planning should begin with the mobilization build-up.

18 Notify the GACC prior to releasing out of Unit resources. Approval for releases will be obtained from
19 each level involved in processing the original request. This allows the agencies the opportunity to
20 reassign resources efficiently.

22 **Demobilization Considerations**

- 23 • Release Timing: The planning section will alert the incident host Unit with adequate lead time to
24 allow planning to be accomplished.
- 25 • Payments: Each agency will follow their incident business plan for incident payment processes.
- 26 • Transportation: Costs should be considered in determining release priority. Sufficient lead time
27 is imperative in arranging for transportation to be at the departure point when crews or personnel
28 are ready to depart. Late night releases or travel are to be avoided. Every effort will be made
29 for released resources to be home or RON by 2200, local time.
- 30 • Communications: Adequate communication between key personnel (i.e. Plans Section Chief,
31 Demob Unit Leader, Logistics Chief, Ground Support Unit Leader, Finance Team, Agency
32 Representative if applicable, GACC and home Unit.) must be established and maintained. It is
33 important that the ECC receive notice of ETA of returning personnel in sufficient time to arrange
34 for their travel.

36 **Demobilization Plan**

37 All extended attack incidents involving out of Unit or national resources will have a demobilization plan.
38 A copy will be provided to the incident expanded dispatch and the GACC in a timely manner prior to
39 resources being released from the incident.

41 Each Demobilization Plan has five parts:

42 1. **General Information.**

43 Includes procedures to get resources from incident base to home.

44 2. **Responsibility.**

45 Includes specific procedures and responsibility for each function on release, schedule and
46 transportation, or other specific areas that need to be covered.

47 3. **Release priority.**

48 Includes procedures to coordinate and establish a release priority list.

1 4. **Release procedures.**

2 Includes specific procedures to be followed for surplus resources.

3 5. **Incident Directory.**

4 Includes all communication methods from base to dispatch, with a list of names and phone
5 numbers for all functions.

6
7 **Contract Resources/Hired Equipment**

8
9 **Federal**

10 Administratively Determined (AD)/Casual Hire refers to individual personnel hired for emergency
11 purposes. Reference the federal Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook.

12
13 Contract engines and crews are a resource of the host Unit dispatch center. The contract resources will
14 be dispatched through the host Unit.

15
16 Regional contract resources may be utilized when agency resources are insufficient to meet present and
17 anticipated needs according to the Unit's Specific Action Guide and/or the Geographic Area Staffing
18 Guide.

19
20 Units will check the availability of agency resources (federal/state) within their GACC prior to using
21 contracted resources. When mobilizing contract resources, Units will utilize agency owned resources
22 first, followed by agency cooperators, national contract resources, regional contract resources, and then
23 contract resources, according to agency direction. Requests for contract resources will follow normal
24 dispatch procedures.

25
26 Contract resources ordered in strike team configuration will use agency personnel as the strike team
27 leader.

28
29 For mobilization of national contract resources, reference the National Interagency Mobilization Guide,
30 Chapter 30 for crews and Chapter 40 for Equipment and Supplies.

31
32 For mobilization of Regional Forest Service contract resources, refer to the California Interagency
33 Mobilization Guide, Chapter 30 for Crews and Chapter 40 for Equipment.

34
35 **CAL FIRE**

36 Hired equipment resources may be utilized when agency resources are insufficient to meet present and
37 anticipated needs. The contract resources will be dispatched through the host Unit.

38
39 Specifics for hired equipment can be found in CAL FIRE Handbooks 10,000,
40 ECC's can reference the 8100 for Hired Equipment dispatching procedures.

41
42 Refer to California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 40 for Hired Equipment.

43
44 **Preparedness Plan**

45
46 **Preparedness Plan For Wildland Fire Agencies Of California**

47 The Preparedness Plan is endorsed by the California Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (CWCG) which
48 represents the following agencies:

1 United States Forest Service
2 California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
3 Bureau of Land Management
4 National Park Service
5 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6 Bureau of Indian Affairs
7 Governor's Office of Emergency Services
8 CAL FIRE Contract Counties

9

10 **Purpose**

11 California will have two preparedness levels, corresponding to the North and South Geographic
12 Areas. These levels will reflect fire activity and fire weather conditions in each Geographical Area and
13 therefore may be different. California's commitment to meet National activities will only extend to
14 federal personnel and resources which are available. State, County, and Local Fire Department
15 Resources can only be made available on a case by case basis determined at the time requested.

16 The purpose of the Preparedness Plan is:

- 17 • To coordinate workforce and equipment needs for wildland fire activities and prescribed fire.
- 18 • To ensure that fire protection responsibilities and commitments to prescribed fire do not exceed
19 State wildland fire capabilities, and are coordinated with state and national wildland fire
20 activities.

21

22 **Monitoring**

23 MAC Area preparedness levels will be monitored and managed by the Cal Fire California
24 Northern Region (CNR) and federal agencies' Operations Northern California (ONC) in Redding,
25 hereafter referenced as North Ops, and the CAL FIRE Southern Region (CSR) and federal agencies'
26 Operations Southern California (OSC) in Riverside, hereafter referenced as South Ops, for Preparedness
27 Levels 1, 2, and 3. The determination of these levels will represent a consensus of the Interagency
28 Coordinators from the Forest Service, Department of Interior, Governor's Office of Emergency
29 Services, Fire and Rescue Branch, and California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. CWCG
30 will be kept apprised of changes in levels. The GACC will contact the Chair of CWCG to recommend
31 moving above Preparedness Level 3. The Chair of CWCG will contact the members or representatives
32 to develop consensus on the recommendation, and report the result to the GACC. CWCG does not need
33 to convene for moving from Preparedness Level 4 to Preparedness Level 3.

34

35 **Preparedness Level Activation and Deactivation**

36 Based on fire weather, fire activity, and resource commitment to wildland fires, prescribed fires, and
37 fuels projects, each GACC will start preparedness planning no later than May 1 and continue to at least
38 October 15 of every year.

39 Each agency representative will initiate the restrictions imposed by the preparedness levels upon those
40 lands within their jurisdiction. Federal agencies will impose these restrictions that are required by the
41 National Preparedness Plan as well.

42

43 Managers of prescribed fires and fuels projects using national resources (Type 1 hand crews, air tankers,
44 etc.) are to request the use of the national resources from the appropriate GACC each day prior to
45 implementation. GACC agency coordinators will also track the planned use of these

46

47

48

1 national resources in contingency planning to avoid simultaneous commitment of the same resources to
2 multiple fires or projects.

4 **Preparedness Levels**

6 **Preparedness Level 1**

7 Definition: Few or no class A, B, and C wildland fires. Minimal or no commitment of interagency
8 resources to suppression activities. Current and short-range predictions for low to moderate fire danger.
9 Local Units implementing prescribed fire operations with sufficient contingency resources available.
10 Agencies above drawdown levels and requests for personnel and resources outside of the local area are
11 not occurring.

13 Action/Responsibility:

- 14 • North and South GACC post preparedness levels out on the daily situation report for agency
15 field Units.
- 16 • North and South GACC to notify NICC of starting preparedness planning or daily preparedness
17 level.
- 18 • All prescribed fires within Geographical Areas are to be reported to the respective GACC for
19 inclusion in the morning report. Coordinators to notify Units if national/shared resources are not
20 available as contingency resources.

22 **Preparedness Level 2**

23 Definition: Numerous class A, B, and C wildland fires. Local commitment of interagency resources for
24 initial attack, fuels projects and wildfires managed for ecological objectives. Current and short-term
25 weather predictions for moderate fire danger. Local Units implementing prescribed fire operations with
26 sufficient contingency resources available. Agencies above drawdown levels and requests for personnel
27 and resources outside of the local area are of minimal to low impact.

29 Action/Responsibility:

- 30 • Continue Preparedness Level 1 activities.

32 **Preparedness Level 3**

33 Definition: High potential for Class D and larger fires to occur, with several active Class A, B, and C
34 fires. Mobilization of agency and interagency resources within the geographic area, but minimal
35 mobilization between or outside of geographic area. Current and short-term forecasted fire danger is
36 moving from medium to high or very high. Local Units implementing prescribed fire operations starting
37 to compete for interagency contingency resources.

38
39 Agencies still above drawdown levels for suppression resources, but starting to have difficulty
40 maintaining sufficient resources to meet initial attack responsibilities, project fire support, and fuel
41 projects/prescribed fire requirements without prioritizing or using non-local support. Some critical
42 resource needs are starting to be identified.

44 Action/Responsibility:

- 45 • Continue previous preparedness activities.
- 46 • CWCG chair is made aware by GACC's when fire danger, fire activity, drawdown, and GACC
47 mobilization patterns likely to lead to Level 4. Chair of CWCG informs members of current
48 preparedness level in advance of moving to Preparedness Level 4.

- 1 • When a prescribed burn is scheduled or is in progress the appropriate Coordination Center will
- 2 be informed through agency channels of the date of ignition, acres planned to be burned during
- 3 the next 24 hours, and acres burned the previous day.
- 4 • Cooperating agencies can limit the use of their resources as contingency resources, or make them
- 5 unavailable for use on prescribed fires.
- 6 • Establish contact with appropriate geographic area military aviation assets and apprise them of
- 7 current preparedness level.

9 **Preparedness Level 4**

10 Definition: Continuing initial attack activity and Class D or larger fires are common in one or both
11 geographic areas. Resource ordering and mobilization of personnel is occurring between GACC. The
12 long range forecast for the next week indicates continued high fire danger. Local Units may implement
13 new fuels and prescribed fire projects, but operational and contingency resources must be provided by
14 the agency or by local arrangements.

15
16 Long range fire weather forecasts predict high to very high fire danger. Significant potential exists for
17 moving into extreme fire danger in at least one geographic area.

18
19 Personnel and resources at minimum drawdown levels, especially for initial attack. Fuels projects and
20 prescribed fires can only be implemented with agency contingency resources or special arrangements
21 within the local Units.

22
23 Mobilization and resource requests are occurring for suppression assignments within the GACC and
24 between the Northern and Southern GACC.

25 Action/Responsibility:

- 26 • Continue with previous preparedness activities.
- 27 • CWCG determines the need for conference calls.
- 28 • Consider activation of the California Interagency Military Helicopter Firefighting Program.
- 29 • Consider activating Military Aviation Operations Coordinator to proactively work with local
- 30 military aviation assets.

31 **Preparedness Level 5**

32
33 Definition: CalMAC may be fully activated. Agencies are below drawdown levels. Class D and larger
34 fires are common in one or both geographic area. Either or both GACCs cannot fill many outstanding
35 resources requests and are sending these orders to NICC. Use of local government resources is
36 common. Reassignment of personnel and resources between incidents is common.

37
38
39 Current and short range weather forecasts predict very high to extreme fire danger. Long range forecasts
40 for the next week for either GACC indicate continued very high to extreme fire danger. Activation of
41 National Guard or military personnel and resources is being considered or has occurred.

42
43 Requests for CAL FIRE resources are causing the agency to drop below drawdown levels. State and
44 Local government personnel are being used to fill out-of-state requests. Actual and long range fire
45 danger predictions are for very high or extreme.

46
47 Personnel and resources are at or below agency minimum drawdown levels.

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Action/Responsibility:

- If CalMAC is fully activated they will determine whether to host conference calls or meet in person. Statewide priorities being set by CalMAC.
- The status of ongoing fuels projects or prescribed fires will be reviewed by CalMAC, as well as any proposed new fuels/wildland fire use/prescribed fire projects. Final decision to implement rests with implementing agency.
- No new prescribed fire without approval by CalMAC representative that these activities are expected to have no significant effect on suppression activities. Existing projects should consider different management strategies to make personnel available for suppression activities elsewhere. Final decision to implement these projects rests with the implementing agency.
- Individual Units will report resource status to CalMAC as specified (as needed).
- CalMAC assesses statewide/national situation for determination of the need for resources.

Guidelines for Determining Preparedness Level

The following information will be used to determine preparedness levels for the Northern Operations and Southern Operations, and/or the entire state.

- Current California and National fire situation.
- National Preparedness levels.
- Predicted fire potential.
- Firefighting resource availability.

Move up

When resource availability becomes critical and extreme incident danger is expected to continue, move up resources may become necessary (aircraft, crews, engines, etc.).

Forest Service

Resource move up must be approved prior to such action taking place. Each GACC Coordinator must assess the situation, and if such actions are determined necessary, approve expenditure of funds for move-up.

CAL FIRE

When resources are needed for move up from outside a Unit, the Unit must enter a request into the current ordering system and place the request to the GACC. The GACC will assess the overall situation of the Region, and shall place the requests with the appropriate Unit to fill. Reference the CAL FIRE 8100 Handbook, policy 8121.

BLM & NPS

Requests for resource move-up will be initiated by the requesting District or Park and coordinated through the DOI Coordinator. Move up requests will then be processed through normal procedures through the respective GACC.

Drawdown Levels

Drawdown definitions for engines, crews and aircraft:

- 1 **0** There is **no resource drawdown** (fully staffed with minimal commitment to initial attack).
2 Initial attack success is highly probable.
- 3
- 4 **1** Resource **drawdown is Moderate** (approximately two-thirds of resources available). Initial
5 attack success is likely.
- 6
- 7 **2** Resource **drawdown is Significant** (approximately one half of resources available). Initial
8 attack success is marginal.
- 9
- 10 **3** Resource **drawdown is Critical** (approximately one-third of resources available). Initial attack
11 success is questionable. There are insufficient resources to support any new large fires.

12
13 Forest Service Minimum Drawdown Standard

14 The following matrix depicts the minimum resources necessary to ensure Forest Service GACC
15 coverage:

	North Ops	South Ops
18 Type 1 Crews	4	4
19 Smokejumpers Load	1	0
20 Helicopters	4	4
21 Airtankers (heavy) on order	1	1
22 Type 2 IMT's	1	1
23 Aerial supervision	1	1

24
25 DOI Agencies Drawdown Levels

26 Department of Interior Agencies will follow the identified draw down levels per the Agencies Fire
27 Management Plans.

28 CAL FIRE Drawdown Levels

29 CAL FIRE incident drawdown levels are defined in the CAL FIRE 8100 Handbook, policy 8121.

30
31 **California Incident Priorities**

32
33 When California is involved in multiple incidents that are drawing resources, the cooperators (USFS,
34 CAL FIRE, BLM, NPS, and other wildland agencies) will prepare a California Incident Priority List.

35
36 The GACC will revise the list daily and provide it to NICC, the GACCs, involved cooperators, and
37 Units with incidents. Priorities are negotiated with involved cooperators and incorporated into the
38 Multiagency Coordinating Group (MAC) Incident Status Summary, ICS Form 209, and other
39 documents.

40
41 MACS Group Procedure Guide (MACS 410-1) can be found at this web address:

42 <https://firescope.caloes.ca.gov/>

43
44
45 **Incident Priority Rating Procedures**

- 46 **1. Acquire Informaion** regarding incident situation and resource needs. Incident priorities
47 should be directly related to resource needs and meeting operational objectives.

- 48 • Weather

- 1 • Major fires – uncontained with potential resource threat. Name, location, acreage, Type 1 or 2
- 2 Incident Management Team with Incident Commander’s name, fuel type.
- 3 Reference MACS 410-1, page 15
- 4 • Resource Status:
 - 5 ○ Airtankers, Helicopters, Air Attack (by agency, kind, type, and location) ○ Engines
 - 6 (agency and type)
- 7 • Committed by incident
- 8 • Mobilization Center reserves (if appropriate)
- 9 • Uncommitted and available by affected organizations or state mutual aid regions (major fire
- 10 jurisdictions)
 - 11 ○ Hand Crews (agency and type)
- 12 • Committed by Incident
- 13 • Mobilization Center reserves
- 14 • Uncommitted and available at home base ○ Dozers available (agency only)
- 15
- 16 2. **Acquire Special Information.** Anything of interest that would influence decision making
- 17 (i.e., “Campbell Fire is burning toward Federal DPA” or “CAL FIRE
- 18 Humboldt-Del Norte Unit is experiencing a series of small lightning-caused fires.)
- 19
- 20 3. **Standard Evaluation Criteria Used to Determine Incident Priorities.** (Ensure all new
- 21 emerging or initial attack incidents have priority over existing incidents. If an item is not
- 22 applicable for an incident, it carries a value of zero. Total maximum is 60.)
- 23

A. Life and Safety Threats (Public and Emergency Responders) (max total points is 15)
 Events which increase complexity, resulting in high potential for serious injury and/or death.

A.1 Evacuations	Rating
In Progress	5
Precautionary	3-4
Potential (48-72 hrs.) or Completed	1-2
A.2 Road, Highway or Freeway Closures	
Major Highway or Freeway	4-5
State Routes or Improved Roadways	2-3
Potential for Closures 48-72 hrs.	1
A.3 Extreme Fire Behavior, Weather Event, Natural or Human Caused Disasters	
Occurring or Predicted/Forecasted to Continue (24 hrs.)	5
Predicted/Forecasted 24-72 hrs.	3-4
Occurring but Predicted/Forecasted to Diminish	1-2

B. Property Threatened and/or High Damage (Next 48 hours) (max total points is 15) This category relates to potential for damage or actual impact to Communities or other high value investments that contribute to dwellings, commercial workplaces and critical infrastructure that supports human life, income or support to the general population. Threats under this category should not be listed unless there is significant potential to impact these elements and an eminent threat is recognized within a 48-hour timeframe.

1	B.1 Structures (residential, commercial, vacation or other)		Rating
2	200+	4-5	
3	25-200	3-4	
4	<25	1-2	

6	B.2 Community Loss (within 48 hours)		
7	Potential for >75% Community Loss		5
8	Potential for 50-75% Community Loss	4	
9	Potential for 25-50% Community Loss	3	
10	Potential for <25% Community Loss		1-2

12	B.3 Infrastructure – National, State, Local (Power Lines, Energy Corridors, Water Systems, Communications Grid, Railroads, etc.)		Domestic
14	Systems shutdown and/or damaged	5	
15	Potential threat 24-48 hrs.	3-4	
16	Potential threat 72+ hrs.	1-2	

18 **C. Resource Issues and Potential for Loss** (max total points is 20) Resource concerns can vary widely depending on place and type of resource considered. Each of the below items must be carefully considered in its relation to both local/regional or national significance and may have economic impact at local or regional levels.

22 Resources that are not commercial should be considered in the Natural Resources category rather than in both Natural and Commercial Resources. Consider timeframes and proximity when rating.

27		Rating	
28	C.1 Historical and Significant Cultural Resources		1-5
29	C.2 Natural Resources (T&E Species Hab., Watershed, Forest Health, Soils, Airshed, etc.)		1-5
30	C.3 Commercial Resources (Grazing, Timber, Agricultural Crops, etc.)		1-5
31	C.4 Potential for Economic Impact (Tourism i.e. fishing, hunting; loss of jobs, etc.)		1-5

33 **Incident Complexity/Duration** (max total points is 10)

34 Multiple incidents or complex of incidents versus a single incident have a way of making prioritization setting difficult. However, it is common enough that it needs to be included in the process. Attention needs to be given to travel distances, support to incident personnel and logistical challenges not always associated with a single incident.

39 Timely containment implies that if all critical resource needs from the 209 were met, then containment objectives would be met within the specified timeframes indicated.

41 Containment at an early date is beneficial during high activity periods and would result in earlier resource reassignment opportunities to supplement Initial Attack or to assist other incidents.

45	D.1 Complex vs. Single Incident		Rating
46	5+ incidents or >25,000 acres		4-5
47	3-4 incidents or 5-25,000 acres		2-3
48	1-2 incidents or <5,000 acres		1

	D.2 Potential for Timely Containment and/or Mitigation	Rating
1	<72 hrs.	5
2	3-7 days	4
3	8-14 days	3
4	15-21 days	2
5	Unknown or long term management	1

6 **NOTE:** Initial attack, new starts, and life threatening situations have overall priority, overriding the
7 priorities listed above.

8 **4. Identify Critical Resource Needs for Each Incident** (MAC Form 429 – 1st block is for ICS 209
9 Critical needs, 2nd block is for projected needs or resource allocation.)

10 AF= Aircraft, Fixed-Wing (air tankers, lead planes, air attack, IR, etc.)

11 AR = Aircraft Rotor-Wing (Type 1, 2, or 3)

12 HC = Handcrews by Type

13 BD = Bulldozers

14 WE = Wildland Engines (Type)

15 SE = Structural Engines (Type)

16 OH = Overhead

17 OT = Other Resources (specify type and kind)

18 **5. Establish New Geographical Priorities** – Using Attached MACS Form 429 Found in the California
19 Statewide Multi-Agency Coordination System Guide, pg. 31.

20 [http://www.caloes.ca.gov/PlanningPreparednessSite/Documents/10%20California%20Statewide%20Multi-Agency%20Coordination%20System\(CSMACS\)%20Guide%20-1313.pdf#search=MACS%20429](http://www.caloes.ca.gov/PlanningPreparednessSite/Documents/10%20California%20Statewide%20Multi-Agency%20Coordination%20System(CSMACS)%20Guide%20-1313.pdf#search=MACS%20429)

21 **6. Decision Process:** Priorities will be set by a Consensus of MAC Group Members

22 **7. Notify NIFC or NMAC Group Coordinator Of Geographic Area Priorities when CALMAC is
23 Not Activated.** Geographic MAC Coordinator.

24 **Handling Hazardous Materials**

25 Procedures for handling hazardous materials can be found in each Unit's Plan for Handling Hazardous
26 Materials. Reference materials listed below are to assist in the appropriate handling of these materials.

- 27 • Transportation of Hazardous Materials - 49 CFR, Sections 106-180
- 28 • Department of Transportation Emergency Response Guidebook.
- 29 • Medical Waste Management Act, California Health and Safety Code Division 20, Chapter 6.1.
- 30 • International Air Transportation Association (IATA) 35th Edition.
- 31 • Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)

32 **Dozer and Helicopter Use in Wilderness and Special Areas**

33 **Forest Service**

34 Agency Administrators will prepare requests for use of dozers and helicopter within wilderness areas.
35 Requests will be specific in terms of work to be considered (length and width of fire line,

1 and other factors), and consequences of not using the equipment. The request will go through the
2 Agency Administrator, who will obtain permission or denial from the Regional Forester. The request
3 will be in writing, via electronic mail, or by telephone if after hours (followed up in writing the next
4 day).

5 **Department of Interior Lands**

6 BLM State Director approval is required for use of dozers on Bureau of Land Management
7 Wilderness Areas and Wilderness Study Areas (WSA). In Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
8 (ACEC) the local agency administrator can approve dozer use. On all other DOI Units the approval is
9 given by the local Unit Agency Administrator.

11 **Disaster Procedures**

13 **Federal Resource Response**

14 With a federal declaration the federal agencies will provide assistance based on the Emergency Support
15 Function (ESF) identified under the declaration (for additional information
16 <http://www.fema.gov/pdf/emergency/nrf/nrf-esf-intro.pdf>).

17 Without a Presidential declaration of a major disaster, the ability of the federal agencies to react is
18 lessened. Local Units must respond within their normal authorities and under local agreements.
19 Authority to take action in disasters and emergencies when there is an imminent threat to life or property
20 is the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (PL 93-288). Where there is no agreement in effect, the Act of May
21 27, 1955 authorizes the Forest Service to take action for incident emergencies and the BLM Manual
22 authorizes the BLM to take action where a life threat exists.

24 **CAL FIRE Resource Response**

25 CAL FIRE Units can respond to non-fire incidents based on Unit Chief discretion or may be mission
26 tasked by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy
27 8162.

29 **Accident and Incident Reporting**

30 Follow Agency Specific Policies.

33 **Critical Incident Stress Management Procedures (CISM)**

34
35 A Critical Incident is an incident so unusually stressful and powerful that it breaks through an
36 individual's emotional defenses to cause an immediate or delayed emotional reaction that may be
37 beyond a person's ability to cope. Examples of critical incident and when to call for support are:

- 38
- 39 • Line of Duty Death of a team or crew member.
- 40 • Suicide of a co-worker.
- 41 • Fire shelter deployment, loss of life following (or despite) unusual physical or emotional effort
- 42 (rescue personnel, co-workers providing assistance, etc.).
- 43 • An accident with casualties/injuries or an incident with serious potential to have caused an
- 44 accident.
- 45 • Incidents requiring the suppression of normal reactions.
- 46 • Events charged with profound emotion.
- 47

48 All local, state, and federal firefighting agencies endorse the use of CISM in California. The agencies
49 offer CISM services to all personnel exposed to critical incident situations on the job.

1 To this end, regardless of which Unit has management and control, CISM should be offered to personnel
2 following a critical incident situation. Critical Incident Stress Management interventions are most
3 effective when applied 24-72 hours (sometimes longer) following a critical incident. It is important for
4 personnel to operationally disengage and often reconnect with family or other support before
5 participating in CISM services.

6
7 Requests for CISM support should be made by the Agency Administrator or designee (from the forest
8 where the incident occurred) to the appropriate GACC (see specific agency for direction below). A
9 general overview of the situation is required and the GACC will work with the CISM Coordinator to
10 facilitate placing resource orders as needed via a roster in the current ordering system. CISM support
11 group personnel are ordered as THSP.

12
13 The following information should be provided to assist the responding CISM group:

- 14 • Description (type) of incident.
- 15 • Number of employees in need of CISM services.
- 16 • Whether any family members or children are involved. (Note: Authority to provide service to FS
17 and CAL FIRE family members is covered under the EAP -- which extends services to family
18 members for the benefit of employees and the agency.)
- 19 • Date and time of incident.
- 20 • Desired day, time, and location for support services. However the CISM Coordinator will
21 determine the most appropriate time and location based on the incident, resource availability and
22 number of personnel involved.
- 23 • Name and phone number of Unit contact.
- 24 • Name, phone number, and location on site of main contact for onsite coordination, once CISM
25 specialist arrives.

26 27 **Federal Incidents**

28 The GACCs have established an Interagency Critical Incident Stress Peer Support Program with the
29 federal agencies to provide assistance to personnel who have been involved in traumatic events. To
30 order CISM Peer Support Groups contact the Duty Chief or AD through either GACC at: Northern
31 Operations 530-226-2800 Southern Operations 951-276-6725.

32
33 The CISM Coordinator will work with the Agency Administrator or designee to coordinate the response.
34 The CISM Coordinator and designated CISM group lead will coordinate with the Incident Commander
35 or team designee if there is an Incident Command team assigned.

36
37 Region 5 does not host or mobilize "CISM Teams" but provides peer support.

38
39 Critical Incident Stress Management Callout procedures provide an organized approach to the
40 management of stress responses for personnel having been exposed to a traumatic event in the line of
41 duty. The establishment of these procedures does not prevent an employee from seeking individual
42 consultation through the Employee Assistance Program.

43
44 Under no circumstances should CISM or any of its components be considered psychotherapy or a
45 substitute for psychotherapy. Peer and Group Supporters are not licensed health care professionals and
46 should not be utilized in lieu of a licensed clinician. A clinician is ordered at the time of the support
47 group being organized and has skills specific to the incident being managed.

- 1 The costs for CISM services in fire operations are to be charged to the fire incident's management code.
- 2 Non-fire incidents should be charged to the Unit.
- 3 Critical Incident Stress Management interventions are most effective when applied 24-72 hours
- 4 (sometimes longer) following a critical incident. It is important for personnel to operationally disengage
- 5 and often reconnect with family or other support before participating in CISM services.

6

7 **CAL FIRE Incidents**

- 8 CAL FIRE Units should be familiar with local procedures for CISM Team activation, reference CAL
- 9 FIRE Handbook 1800, Policy 1861.

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