

1 Chapter 10 - Objectives, Policy, Scope of Operation and Administration

2

3 Mission Statement

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

11

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

20

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

27

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

33

34 Geographic Area Coordination Centers

35 There are two GACCs within the State of California and they will follow the established mobilization
36 procedures identified in the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. The GACCs act as focal points for
37 internal and external requests not filled at the Unit level. Each GACC's Federal and CAL FIRE Duty Chief,
38 through their dispatching organization, are responsible for providing coordination of all National, Regional,
39 and Unit resources located within their respective geographic area. Each Duty Chief must maintain
40 awareness of resource commitment and availability in order to enable adequate coordination between the
41 neighboring GACCs and other agencies within the state.

42

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

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

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

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

2

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

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

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

8

9 **Unit Level**

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

15

16 **Incident Priorities**

17 When competition for resources occurs among the Units, the GACCs will use the Multi-Agency
18 Coordination System (MACS) process to establish incident priorities. For MACS Organization Chart and
19 MACS Process refer to the charts beginning on page 5.

20

21 **Initial Attack**

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

24

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

28

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

30

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

34

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

37

38 **Immediate Need**

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

45

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
4 Management Plan.

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

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

15 Mobilization/Demobilization

16 The GACCs will coordinate the movements of resources across Unit dispatch boundaries not covered by
17 local 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 Work/Rest Guidelines

22
23 For Federal agencies Work/Rest Guidelines and Days Off policy are outlined in the Interagency Incident
24 Business Management Handbook, the National Interagency Mobilization Guide, Interagency Standards for
25 Fire and Fire Aviation Operations, and the Incident Response Pocket Guide. All resources which have been
26 requested to extend will complete and follow the instructions on the Resource Extension Request form. Refer
27 to California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Appendix for a link to this form.

28
29 For CAL FIRE Work/Rest Guidelines, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 7700, policy 7757.

30 Length of Assignment

31
32 All length of assignment rules apply to aviation resources personnel, including aircraft pilots
33 (notwithstanding the FAA and agency day off regulations). Contracted aircraft are not restricted by length of
34 assignment. In order to limit disruption to operations, reduce strain on the ordering system and reduce
35 unnecessary mobilization and demobilization of these high-cost resources, Exclusive Use personnel are
36 expected to utilize a personnel rotation schedule that meets staffing criteria required of the resource.

37 Incident Operations Driving

38
39 For Federal agencies, reference the National Interagency Mobilization Guide and the Interagency Standards
40 for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations.

41 For CAL FIRE, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 6400, policy 6557 and CAL FIRE Handbook 7000,
42 policy 7060.

43 Resource Mobilization

44
45 The current ordering system is the only ordering system to be used by all California Units. It will be used to:

- 46 • Create new incidents

- 1 • Order and mobilize resources
2 • Track resources and their status

3

4 Resource status shall be continually updated in the current ordering system of record.

5

6 For California incident mobilization, use the Interagency Standards for IROC Operations Guide (ISROG)
7 located at the following website: <http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/logistics/references/ISROG.pdf>
8 and augmented by the California ordering system of record Business Practices and Standards guide: See the
9 GACC websites for the California IROC Business Practices and Standards publication.

10

11 **Notification of Commitment of Resources**

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

15

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

22

23 **Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts**

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

26

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

29

30 **Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT)**

31 The local unit shall notify the PCT Program Manager of any activity (fire, flood, etc.) occurring on or near
32 the PCT. Togan Capozza Trail Program Manager, Vallejo, CA (trail-wide responsibilities)
33 Office 707-562-8881, Cell 707-656-6119, email: togan.capozza@usda.gov

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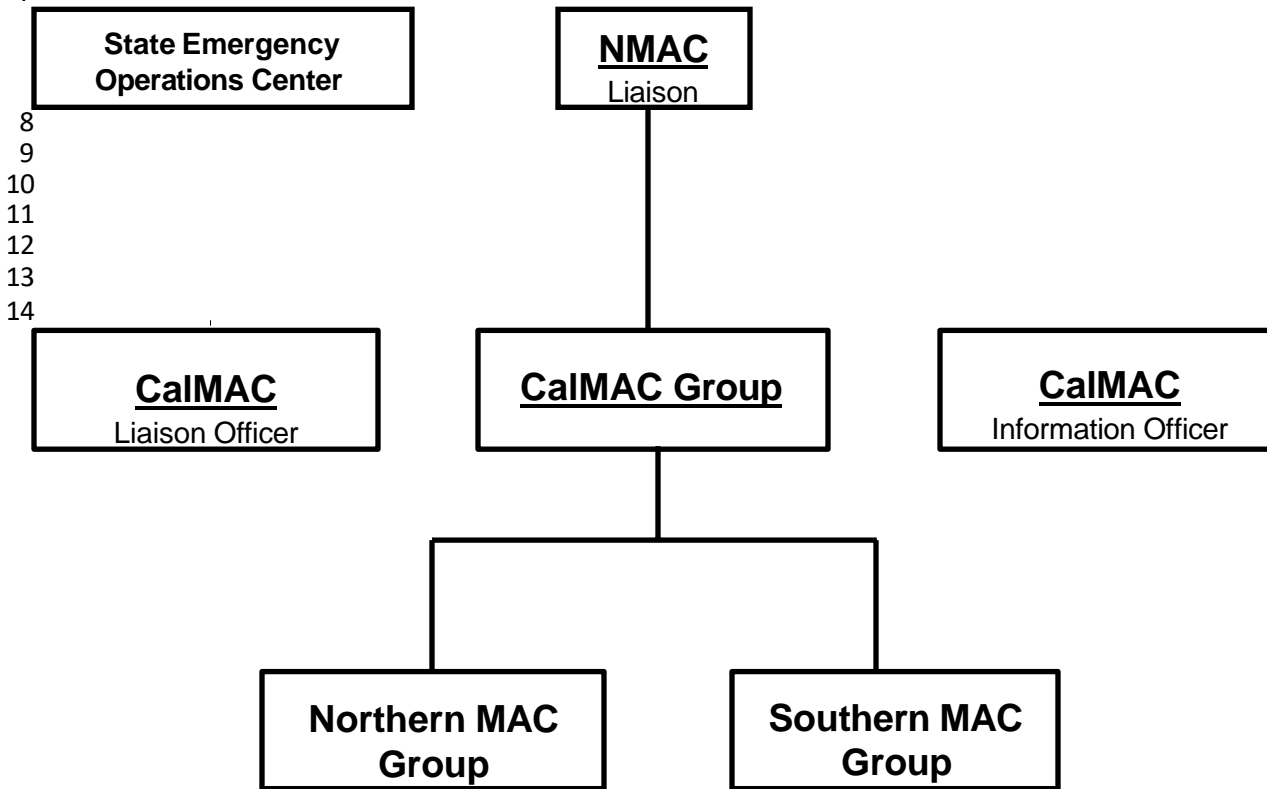
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1 **California Fire Service Multi- Agency Coordination System (MACS) Organizational Structure**

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3 Visit the FIRESCOPE WEBPAGE for more information
4 The following organizational structure displays a FIRESCOPE MODE 3 and 4 or a National Preparedness
5 Level 4 and 5 activation
6
7



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17 **MAC Group Purpose and Function**

18 A MAC Group typically consists of Agency Administrators or their designees who are authorized to commit
19 agency resources and funds. Their function is to support incident management through coordinating their
20 collective resources, sharing incident information and implementing coordinated strategic policies to prevent
21 and/or combat growing emergency(s). In order to accomplish this objective, the MAC Group must establish
22 a common operating plan. The area represented can be a City, County/ Operational Area, Region, (such as
23 one of the six CAL OES Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Regions or a Geographic Area, such as Northern and
24 Southern California Geographic Areas or a Statewide MAC Group such as CalMAC.)
25
26

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

2

3 1) Establish priorities for response.

4 2) Allocate critical resources based on established priorities.

5 3) Establish and/or implement communication systems integration.

6 4) Ensure information coordination both internally and externally.

7 5) Establish intergovernmental decision coordination,

8 6) Develop strategies and contingency plans.

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

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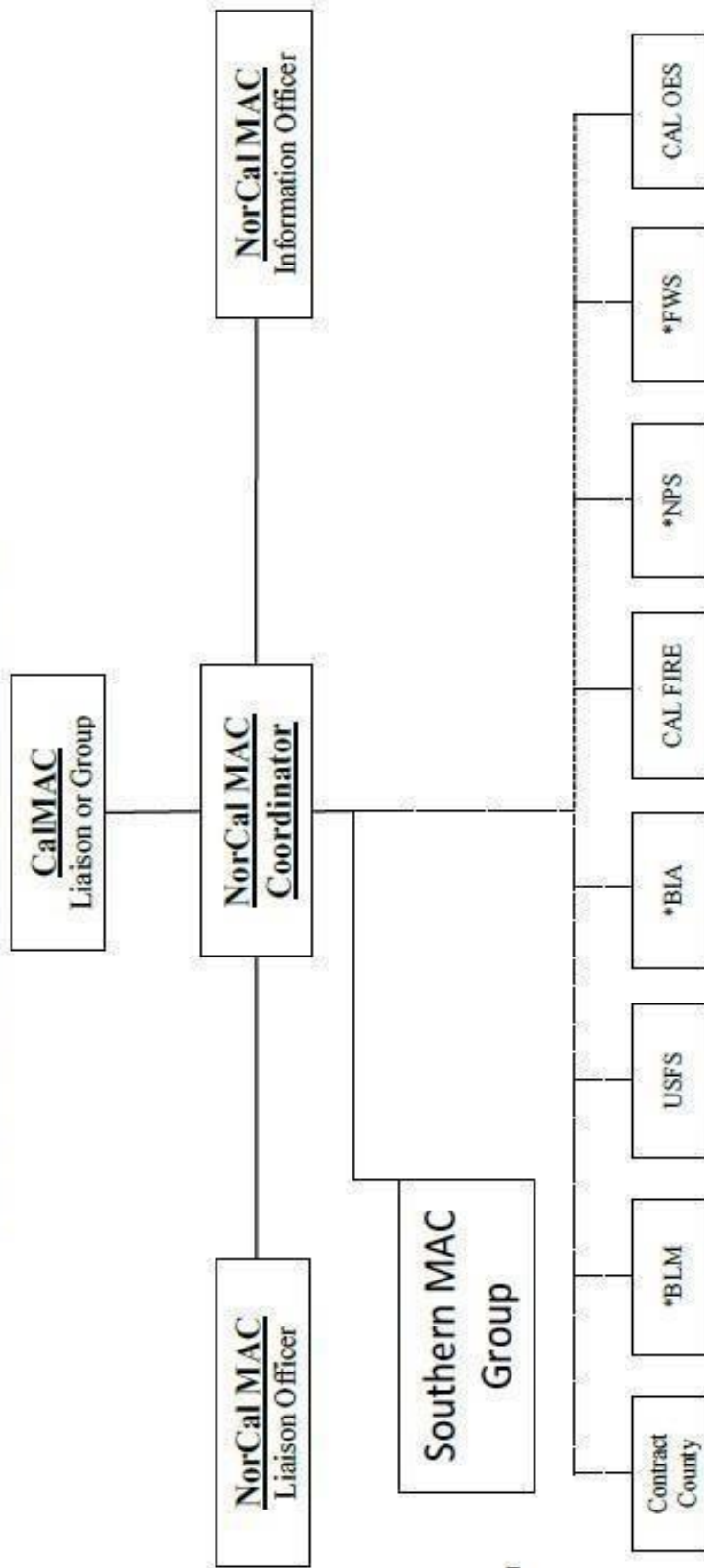
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Northern MAC Group Organizational Chart

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.

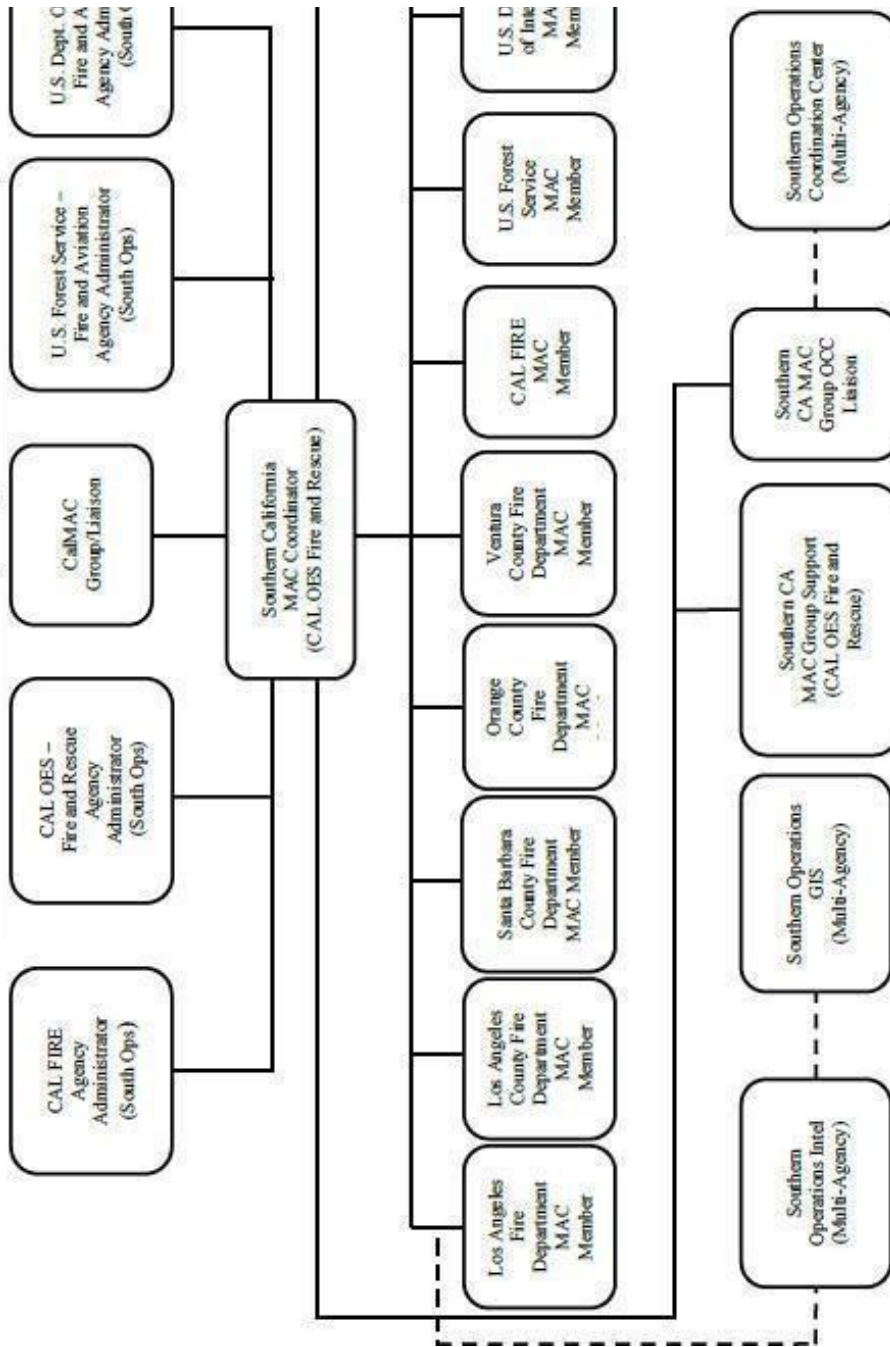
The Northern California Multi-Agency Coordination Group (NorCal MAC) acts as the geographic area authority to:

- 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 CaIMAC for evaluation and inclusion in national incident priorities.

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

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Southern MAC Group Organizational Chart



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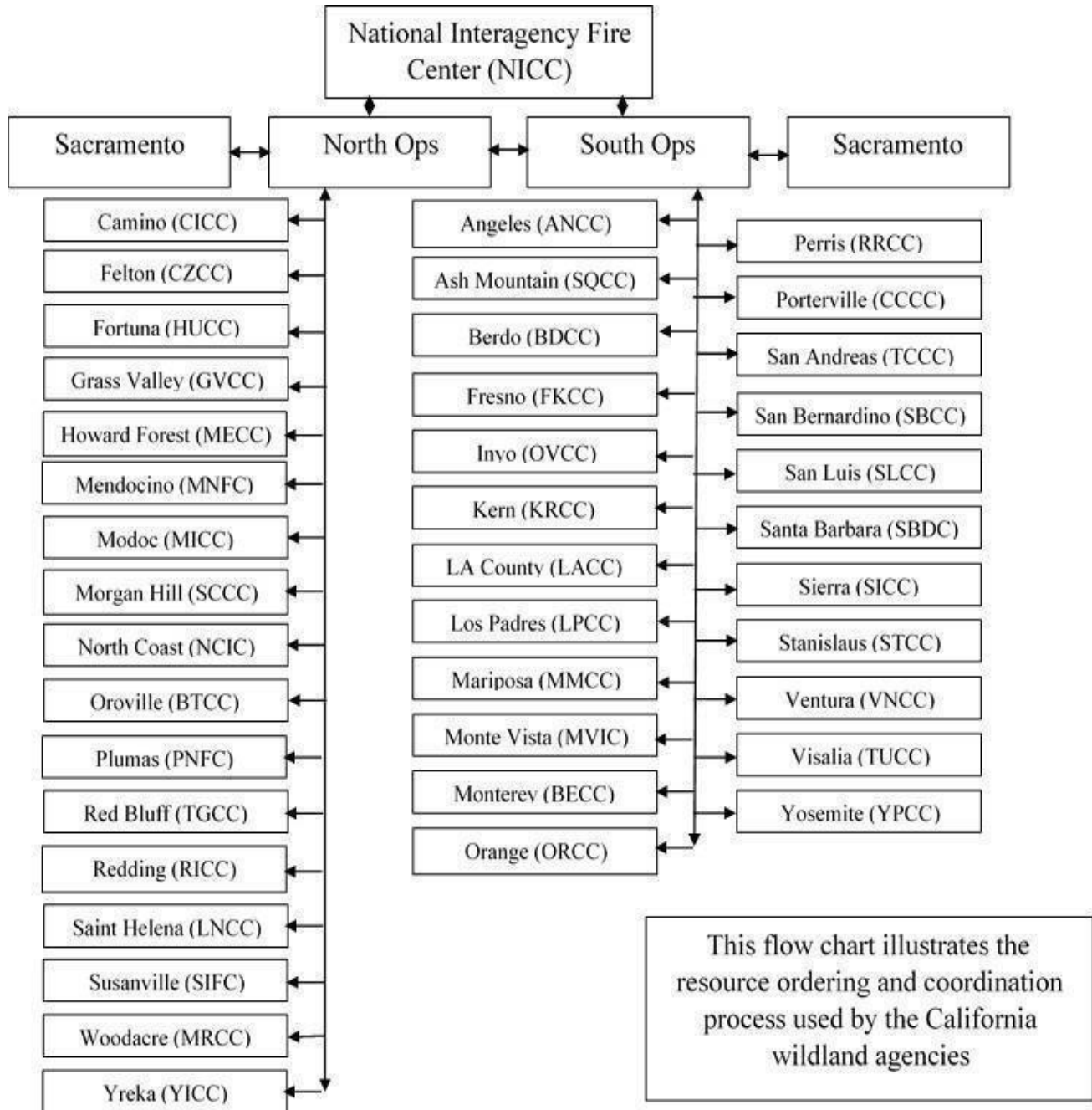
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The Southern California Multi-Agency Coordination group (Southern California MAC) acts as the Geographic Area authority to:

- 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.

1 Wildland Agency Geographic Coordination Flow Chart

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

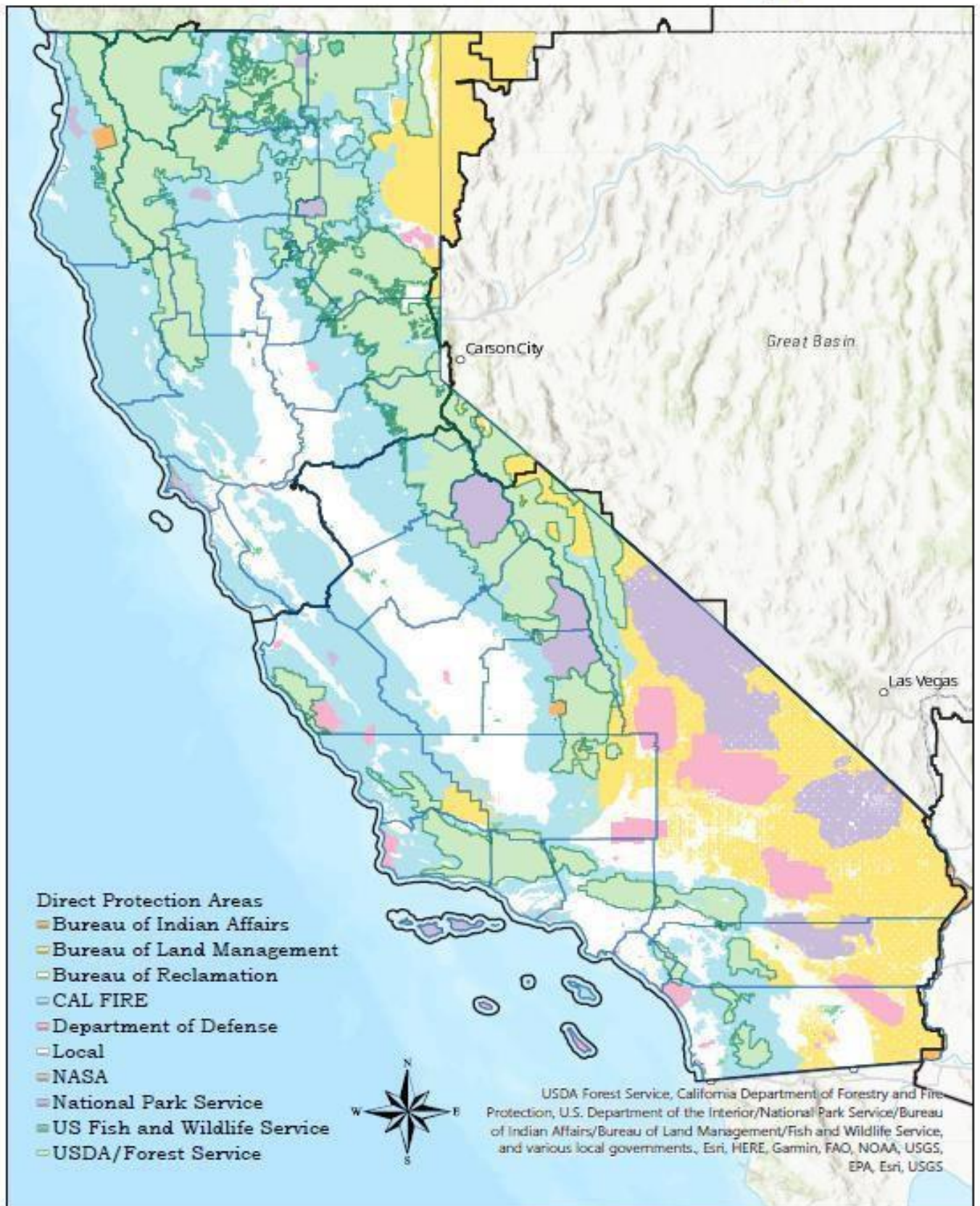
CENTER	UNITS REPRESENTED
Northern California GACC North Ops (ONCC)	*Federal (ONC) *State (CNR) FS Regional Office, CALFIRE Northern Region BLM California State Office, NPS Regional Office, BIA Area Office, FWS Regional Office
Camino (CICC)	*Eldorado National Forest (ENF) Tahoe Basin Management Unit (TMU) *Amador-Eldorado Unit (AEU) BLM Folsom Lake (CCD) BIA Red Hawk (CCA)
Felton (CZCC)	*San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit (CZU)
Fortuna (FICC)	*Humboldt-Del Norte Unit (HUU)
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 MRA (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)
North Coast (NCIC)	*Six Rivers National Forest (SRF) Humboldt Bay Wildlife Refuge (HBR) Hoopa Indian Affairs (HIA) Redwood National Park (RWP)
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)

- 3
- 4 *Agency has staffing in the ECC
- 5 The dispatch center’s current ordering system designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified
- 6 by intercom call sign, not the radio call sign. State and county centers have 24-hour staffing.
- 7

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)
L.A. County (LACC)	*Los Angeles County Fire Department (LAC)
Los Padres (LPCC)	*Los Padres National Forest (LPF) Channel Islands National Park (CNP) Vandenberg AFB (AFV) Fort Hunter Liggett (FHL)
Mariposa (MMCC)	*Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit (MMU)
San Diego (SDIC)	*Cleveland National Forest (CNF) *San Diego Unit (SDU) 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) *Central California District (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) Joshua Tree National Park (JTP) *Southern California Agency (SCA)
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)

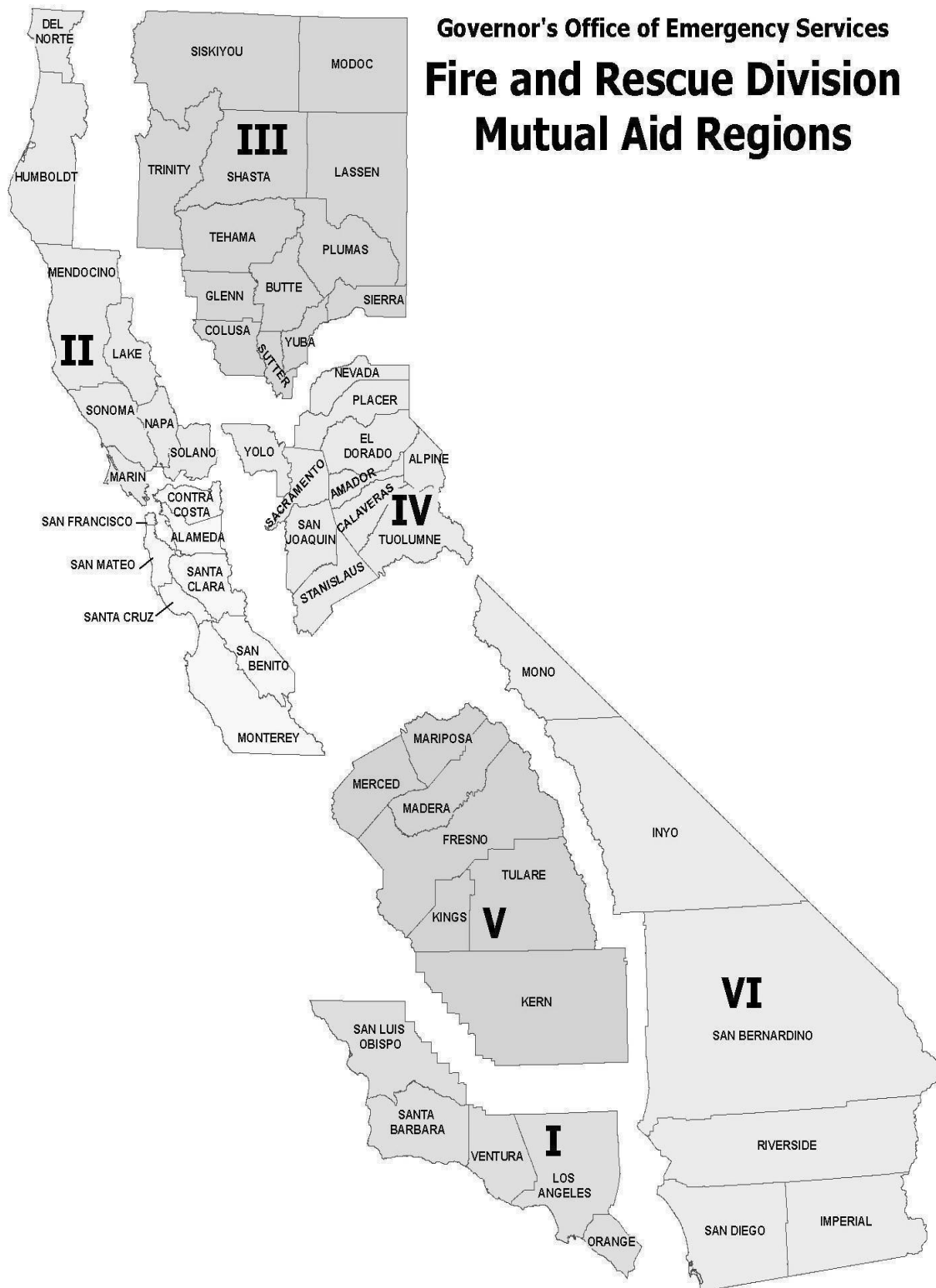
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- 2 *Agency has staffing in the ECC
- 3 The dispatch center's current ordering system designators are identified by the four letters in parenthesis. Center is identified
- 4 by intercom call sign, not the radio call sign. State and county centers have 24-hour staffing.

California DPA Map



1 CAL OES FIRE AND RESCUE REGIONAL MAP

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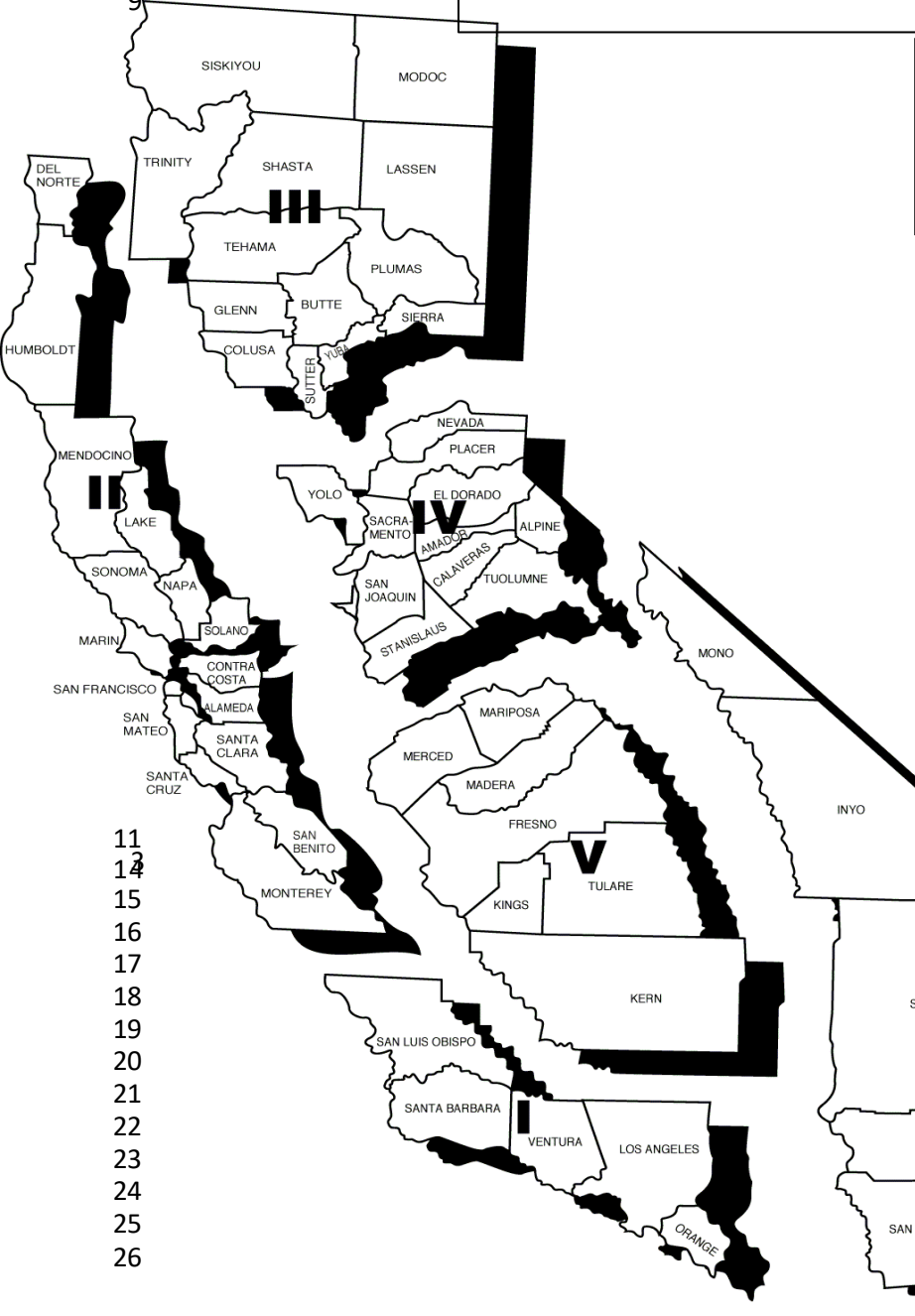


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Cal OES Fire and Rescue Division Regional Mutual Aid Coordinators



Cal OES Fire & Rescue Division
 Sacramento Headquarters
 3650 Schriever Avenue
 Mather, CA 95655
 Fire & Rescue Division: (916) 845-8711
 Nights & Weekends: (916) 845-8670
 FAX: (916) 845-8396



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 II Coordinator
Eric Moore
 Alameda County Fire Department
 6363 Clark Avenue, Dublin CA 94568
 Admin: (510) 693-3402 or (925) 833-3473
 Admin Fax: (925) 875-9387
 24 Hr. Dispatch (925) 245-0420 24 Hr. Fax (925) 422-5730

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
 Waterloo-Morado Fire District
 6925 E. Foppiano Lane, Stockton, CA 95212
 Admin: (209)253-9455 Admin Fax: (530) 886-5391
 24 Hr. Dispatch: (530) 886-5375 24 Hr. Fax (530) 886-5391

Region V Coordinator
Dustin Hail
 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 VI Coordinator
Glenn Barley
 CAL FIRE Southern Region Operations
 23300 Castle Street, Riverside, CA 92518
 Admin: (909) 320-6101 / Admin Fax: (951) 320-6395
 24 Hr. Dispatch (951) 320-6119 / 24 Hr. Fax (951) / 842-4900

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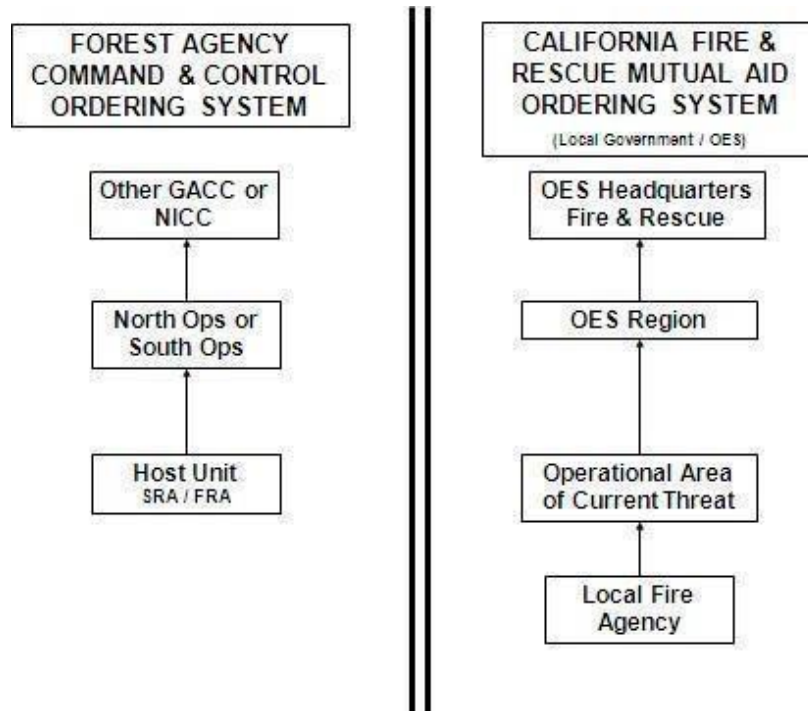
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2 **California Fire and Rescue Ordering Process**
3 Forest agencies (Federal and CAL FIRE) in California may request assistance from Local Government fire
4 department resources (aircraft, overhead, engines, water tenders) via CFAA Agreement; these requests are
5 placed in the current ordering system of record from the forest agency dispatch center to the CAL OES
6 Operational Area which is currently threatened.
7
8 Operational Area dispatch centers will fill the requests with resources from within the Operational Area, and
9 once exhausted, place outstanding requests to the CAL OES Regional dispatch center.
10
11 CAL OES Regional dispatch centers will place outstanding requests to other Operational Areas within their
12 Region and when all Operational Areas within their Region are exhausted will place requests to CAL OES
13 Sacramento (OESH).
14
15 Resource orders will be processed based on need. An “Immediate Need” order will be processed as soon as
16 possible for incidents that meet this criteria.
17
18 Resource orders for “Planned Need” mobilization in respect to Date and Time Needed will be determined
19 and negotiated by the respective GACC and the requesting and sending unit to provide for resource safety.
20
21 OESH will place outstanding requests to other CAL OES Regions in the state for processing based on closest
22 available resource.
23
24 The CAL OES Name Request Justification form is required for all local government overhead name requests
25 with the exception of IMT members. IMT members rostered in the current ordering system of record, on the
26 initial fill of the team, do not require a Name Request Justification form.
27 Team members responding after the initial team roster has been filled in the current ordering system of
28 record require a Name Request Justification form. This form should be used once a resource order has been
29 returned “Unable To Fill” at both California GACC’s. This form may be used for hard to obtain or
30 specialized resources identified as Critical Needs. Visit the CalOES Webpage for a copy of this form
31
32 Cal OES, CAL FIRE, Federal Fire Agencies, and Local Agencies release or reassignment of emergency
33 apparatus used pursuant to the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) will be coordinated through
34 the on-scene Cal OES Fire and Rescue Chief Officer, the local jurisdiction agency representative, or their
35 authorized representative or the Cal OES Fire Duty Chief.
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1 California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System emergency apparatus and personnel requested through the
2 California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA) being released from an incident fall back to the control of the
3 respective GACC. If reassignment of these resources are necessary, there must be positive coordination with
4 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.

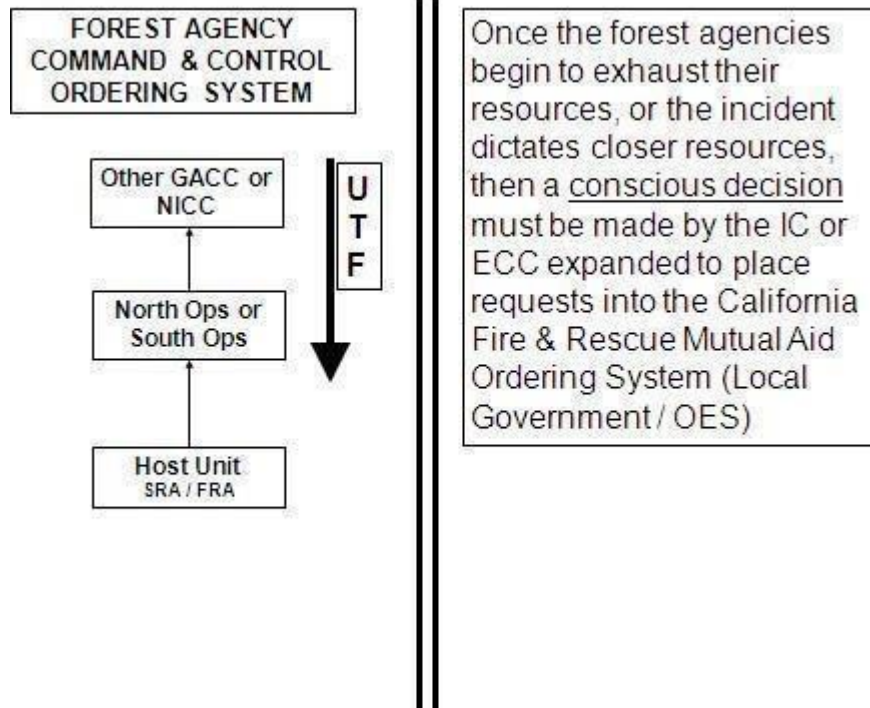
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7 Resources cannot be reassigned without this express permission.

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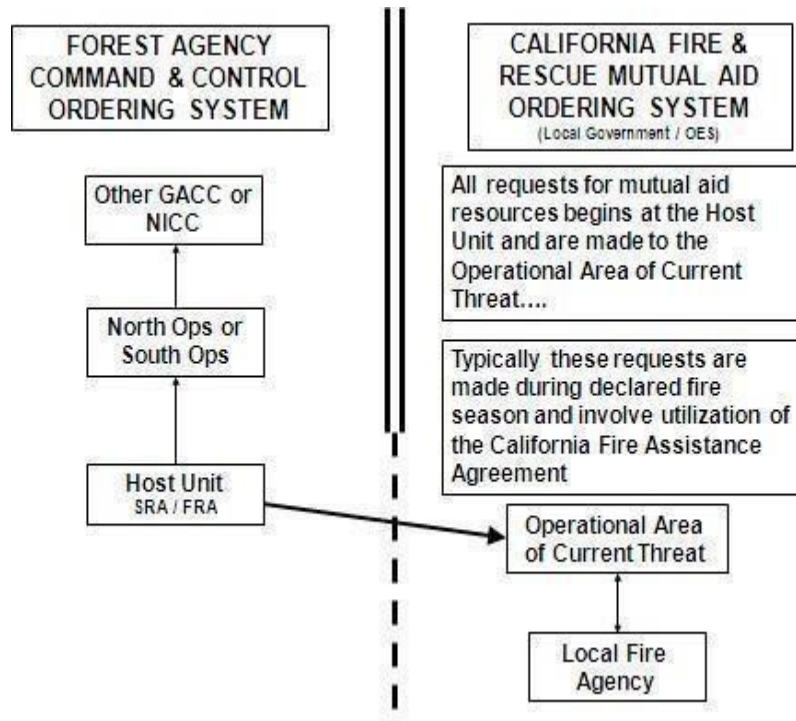


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2 **CAL OES Region/Operational Area IROC Responsibility**

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

3

CAL OES Region/Operational Area	Ordering 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	CAL FIRE NOPS
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

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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
2

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 the
4 procedures of incident information flow and for assuring timely exchange of information with minimal
5 disruption to the dispatch function. These guidelines are offered to assist the Duty Chief in briefing their
6 personnel. The following items give some general indicators of situations that should prompt contact
7 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 Mobilization

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

23

24 Unit Dispatch Procedures

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

27

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

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

10

11 **GACC Dispatch Procedures**

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

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

37

38 **Mutual Aid**

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

42

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

44

1 Request for Assistance

2 After local agreements and mutual aid resources have been exhausted, requests for assistance should be
3 placed directly with the appropriate GACC for state and federal resources or Fire and Rescue Operational
4 Area for CAL OES and local government resources. A file of all mutual aid and other agreements will be
5 maintained in the ECCs. These files will be available to the GACC upon request.
6

7 Emergency Management Assistant Compact – Resource Mobilization and Demobilization

8 When an incident is declared an emergency or disaster by the Governor of California, this can authorize
9 invoking the Emergency Management Assistant Compact (EMAC) ordering. Once State and Local resources
10 are exhausted, The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (OES) in collaboration with partner agencies
11 will seek assistance through the EMAC process. The Governor’s Office of Emergency Services EMAC
12 Coordinator within the Fire and Rescue Division then establishes contact with EMAC Member States to
13 source the request starting with the closest states (time/distance). The requesting and assisting State
14 Emergency Management Agencies complete an EMAC Resource Agreement Form (RSA) for offers of
15 assistance. Once the offer is accepted, resources will be ordered and requested. These resources will be
16 tracked from mobilization through demobilization. If Agency resources are not in the ordering system of
17 record, OES will build resources within the program and fill requests and track them through demobilization.
18

19 Support to Border Fires

20 A border fire is defined as a wildfire that has crossed the boundary from one GACC into another, or which is
21 expected to cross the boundary within two burning periods. For specific operating plans and agreements refer
22 to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Chapter 80.
23

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

- 27 • A single ordering point will be designated to ensure proper assignment and demobilization of
28 resources. The incident will remain with the originating Unit for situation reporting and
29 prioritization.
- 30 • The dispatch organization designated as the single ordering point may place orders to either GACC
31 using established ordering channels; however only the GACC of the designated single ordering point
32 is authorized to place requests up to NICC.
- 33 • Prior to initiating border fire support operations, concurrence and agreement must occur between the
34 two GACCs and NICC. Coordinate as needed to maintain effective incident and GACC support.
35

36 Unit Identifiers

- 37 • Each GACC Center Manager shall designate a Unit Identifier Data Custodian (GACC Data
38 Custodian) and an alternate for their Geographic Area. GACC Data Custodians are responsible to
39 ensure the documented agency internal process has been completed and have authority to ensure
40 appropriate NWCG Organizational Unit Codes are created. GACC Data Custodians are responsible
41 for timely entry of proposed additions, modifications, and deactivations of Unit Identifiers and
42 associated information in the system of record (SOR) upon receipt of written requests.
- 43 • SOPS: Manny Salas 951-532-2690/Shayne Canady 951-901-5093
- 44 • NOPS: Laurie Forni 530-227-9102
45

1 Unified Ordering Point (UOP)

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

5 Purpose

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

8 Goal

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

13 Guidelines

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

28 Relocating the UOP

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

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

34
35 The following guidelines are recommended:

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

40
41
42 If/when an incident using a UOP decides to separate requests into request blocks, the following request
43 blocks should be utilized:

44

Incident Host	0	8999
InciNet (pseudo)	9000	9999
Local Mission	10000	19999
State Mission	20000	29999
Federal Mission	30000	39999
Cache	100000	199999

1

2 Incident should still document in Special Needs "State Mission" or "Fed mission

3

4 **Resource Ordering**

5

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

8

9 Reference the California IROC Business Practices and Standards guide for procedures in utilizing
10 the program.

11

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

14

15 All resource requests will be submitted using the current ordering system of record. Only requests for aircraft
16 and/or immediate need ground forces may be made using the intercom, then followed as quickly as possible
17 with the matching current ordering system of record request. This allows immediate need resource requests
18 to be processed in the most expedient manner. All other ordering is to be accomplished utilizing the current
19 ordering system of record and the telephone.

20

21 **Request Information**

22 Request Number:

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

26

27 **Federal FireCode:**

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

29

30 Issuance of a FireCode for Federal resources responding to a non-federal incident will be the responsibility
31 of the Forest agency in the current ordering system of record. Business Practices Attachment D, Issuing Fire
32 Codes for cooperators.

33

34 **Travel Mobilization and Demobilization**35 The current ordering system of record will be used for mobilization and demobilization of resources from all
36 incidents. All times (ETA and ETD) are in local time zones.

37

38 Mobilization travel will normally be arranged by the sending Unit and demobilization travel will be arranged
39 by the incident host.

1
2 Demobilization of personnel and resources from the incident to the home Unit must follow the chain of
3 command and remain within established communication channels. Complete and accurate records of
4 personnel, transportation, and equipment are a must. Commercial airline travel will be documented in the
5 current ordering system of record using the Travel Itinerary function. Any travel involving a known RON
6 (Remain Over Night) location will also be documented in the current ordering system of record using the
7 Travel Itinerary function.

8
9 **CAL FIRE**
10 Some CAL FIRE Units have approved initial attack operating plans with jurisdictions out-of-state; in those
11 cases, dispatch resources in accordance with those plans. Whenever possible have the requesting out-of-state
12 agency make travel arrangements for CAL FIRE personnel through the host agency's travel agent so the bill
13 can be paid directly by the requesting agency.

14
15 For out of state travel on Federal incidents the GACC can assist with making flight and rental car
16 arrangements. Reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 8100 procedure 8165-1.

17
18 **Emergency Demobilization**
19 For emergency release of a resource, the Emergency Release Form will be completed by the host ECC and
20 submitted to the GACC. Refer to the California Interagency Mobilization Guide, Appendix.

21
22 **Demobilization Planning**
23 Demobilization planning should begin with the mobilization build-up. Notify the GACC prior to releasing
24 out of Unit resources. Approval for releases will be obtained from each level involved in processing the
25 original request. This allows the agencies the opportunity to reassign resources efficiently.

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

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

44
45 Each Demobilization Plan has five parts:

46
47 **1. General Information.**

- 1 Includes procedures to get resources from incident base to home.
- 2 **2. Responsibility.**
- 3 Includes specific procedures and responsibility for each function on release, schedule and
- 4 transportation, or other specific areas that need to be covered.
- 5 **3. Release priority.**
- 6 Includes procedures to coordinate and establish a release priority list.
- 7 **4. Release procedures.**
- 8 Includes specific procedures to be followed for surplus resources.
- 9 **5. Incident Directory.**
- 10 Includes all communication methods from base to dispatch, with a list of names and phone numbers
- 11 for all functions.
- 12

1 Contract Resources/Hired Equipment

2

3 Federal

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

6

7 Contract engines and crews are a resource of the host Unit dispatch center. The contract resources will be
8 dispatched through the host Unit using VIPR.

9

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

12

13 Units will check the availability of agency resources (federal/state) within their GACC prior to using
14 contracted resources. When mobilizing contract resources, Units will utilize agency owned resources first,
15 followed by agency cooperators, national contract resources, regional contract resources, and then contract
16 resources, according to agency direction. Requests for contract resources will follow normal dispatch
17 procedures.

18

19 Contract resources ordered in strike team configuration will use agency personnel as the strike team leader.

20

21 For mobilization of national contract resources, reference the National Interagency Mobilization Guide,
22 Chapter 30 for Crews and Chapter 40 for Equipment and Supplies.

23

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

26

27 CAL FIRE

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

30

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

33

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

35

36 Preparedness Plan

37

38 Preparedness Plan For Wildland Fire Agencies Of California

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

41

42 **United States Forest Service**

43 **CAL FIRE**

44 **Bureau of Land Management**

45 **National Park Service**

46 **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

47 **Bureau of Indian Affairs**

1 **CAL OES**
2 **CAL FIRE Contract Counties**

3
4 **Purpose**

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

10 The purpose of the Preparedness Plan is:

- 11 • To coordinate workforce and equipment needs for wildland fire activities and prescribed fire.
- 12 • To ensure that fire protection responsibilities and commitments to prescribed fire do not exceed State
13 wildland fire capabilities and are coordinated with state and national wildland fire activities.

14
15 **Monitoring**

16 MAC Area preparedness levels will be monitored and managed by the CAL FIRE California Northern
17 Region (CNR) and federal agencies' Operations Northern California (ONC) in Redding, hereafter referenced
18 as North Ops, and the CAL FIRE Southern Region (CSR) and federal agencies' Operations Southern
19 California (OSC) in Riverside, hereafter referenced as South Ops, for Preparedness Levels 1, 2 and 3. The
20 determination of these levels will represent a consensus of the Interagency Coordinators from the Forest
21 Service, Department of Interior, CAL OES Fire and Rescue Branch, and CAL FIRE. CWCG will be kept
22 apprised of changes in levels. The GACC will contact the Chair of CWCG to recommend moving above
23 Preparedness Level 3. The Chair of CWCG will contact the members or representatives to develop consensus
24 on the recommendation and report the result to the GACC. CWCG does not need to convene for moving
25 from Preparedness Level 4 to Preparedness Level 3.

26
27 **Preparedness Level Activation and Deactivation**

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

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

34
35 Managers of prescribed fires and fuels projects using national resources (Type 1 hand crews, air tankers, etc.)
36 are to request the use of the national resources from the appropriate GACC each day prior to implementation.
37 GACC agency coordinators will also track the planned use of these national resources in contingency
38 planning to avoid simultaneous commitment of the same resources to multiple fires or projects.

39
40 **Preparedness Levels**

41
42 **Preparedness Level 1**

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

47

1 Action/Responsibility:

- 2 • North and South GACC post preparedness levels out on the daily situation report for agency field
- 3 Units.
- 4 • North and South GACC to notify NICC of starting preparedness planning or daily preparedness
- 5 level.
- 6 • All prescribed fires within Geographical Areas are to be reported to the respective GACC for
- 7 inclusion in the morning report. Coordinators to notify Units if national/shared resources are not
- 8 available as contingency resources.

9

10 **Preparedness Level 2**

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

16

17 Action/Responsibility:

- 18 • Continue Preparedness Level 1 activities.

19

20 **Preparedness Level 3**

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

26

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

31

32 Action/Responsibility:

- 33 • Continue previous preparedness activities.
- 34 • CWCG chair is made aware by GACC's when fire danger, fire activity, drawdown, and GACC
- 35 mobilization patterns are likely to lead to Level 4. Chair of CWCG informs members of current
- 36 preparedness level in advance of moving to Preparedness Level 4.
- 37 • When a prescribed burn is scheduled or is in progress the appropriate Coordination Center will be
- 38 informed through agency channels of the date of ignition, acres planned to be burned during the next
- 39 24 hours, and acres burned the previous day.
- 40 • Cooperating agencies can limit the use of their resources as contingency resources or make them
- 41 unavailable for use on prescribed fires.
- 42 • Establish contact with appropriate geographical area military aviation assets and apprise them of
- 43 current preparedness level.

44

45 **Preparedness Level 4**

46 Definition: Continuing initial attack activity and Class D or larger fires are common in one or both
47 geographical areas. Resource ordering and mobilization of personnel is occurring between GACC's. The

1 long-range forecast for the next week indicates continued high fire danger. Local Units may implement new
2 fuels and prescribed fire projects, but operational and contingency resources must be provided by the agency
3 or by local arrangements.
4

5 Long range fire weather forecasts predict high to very high fire danger. Significant potential exists for
6 moving into extreme fire danger in at least one geographical area.
7

8 Personnel and resources at minimum drawdown levels, especially for initial attack. Fuels projects and
9 prescribed fires can only be implemented with agency contingency resources or special arrangements within
10 the local Units.
11

12 Mobilization and resource requests are occurring for suppression assignments within the GACC and between
13 the Northern and Southern GACC.
14

15 Action/Responsibility:

- 16 • Continue with previous preparedness activities.
- 17 • CWCG determines the need for conference calls.
- 18 • Consider activation of the California Interagency Military Helicopter Firefighting Program.
- 19 • Consider activating Military Aviation Operations Coordinator to proactively work with local military
20 aviation assets.
21

22 **Preparedness Level 5**

23 Definition: CalMAC may be fully activated. Agencies are below drawdown levels. Class D and larger fires
24 are common in one or both geographical areas. Either or both GACCs cannot fill many outstanding resources
25 requests and are sending these orders to NICC. Use of local government resources is common. Reassignment
26 of personnel and resources between incidents is common.
27

28 Current and short-range weather forecasts predict very high to extreme fire danger. Long range forecasts for
29 the next week for either GACC indicate continued very high to extreme fire danger. Activation of National
30 Guard or military personnel and resources is being considered or has occurred.
31

32 Requests for CAL FIRE resources are causing the agency to drop below drawdown levels. State and Local
33 government personnel are being used to fill out-of-state requests. Actual and long-range fire danger
34 predictions are for very high or extreme.
35

36 Personnel and resources are at or below agency minimum drawdown levels.
37

38 Action/Responsibility:

- 39 • If CalMAC is fully activated they will determine whether to host conference calls or meet in person.
40 During the CalMAC activation, CalMAC will set priorities statewide.
- 41 • The status of ongoing fuels projects or prescribed fires will be reviewed by CalMAC, as well as any
42 proposed new fuels/wildland fire use/prescribed fire projects. Final decision to implement rests with
43 implementing agency.
- 44 • There will be no new prescribed fires without approval by CalMAC representatives. These activities
45 are expected to have no significant effect on suppression activities. Existing projects should consider
46 different management strategies to make personnel available for suppression activities elsewhere.
47 Final decision to implement these projects rests with the implementing agency.

- 1 • Individual Units will report resource status to CalMAC as specified (as needed).
- 2 • CalMAC assesses statewide/national situation for determination of the need for resources.

3
4 **Guidelines for Determining Preparedness Level**

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

- 8 • Current California and National fire situation.
- 9 • National Preparedness levels.
- 10 • Predicted fire potential.
- 11 • Firefighting resource availability.

12
13 **Move up - Federal**

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

16
17 **CAL FIRE**

18 When resources are needed for move up from outside a Unit, the Unit must enter a request into the
19 current ordering system of record and place the request to the GACC. The GACC will assess the overall
20 situation of the Region and shall place the requests with the appropriate Unit to fill.

21 Reference the CAL FIRE 8100 Handbook, policy 8122 and procedure 8122-1.

22
23 **BLM & NPS**

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

27
28 **Forest Service Minimum Drawdown Standard**

29 The following matrix depicts the minimum resources necessary to ensure Forest Service GACC coverage:
30 These numbers may be represented by having them identified as available to the GACC from the incident.

	North Ops	South Ops
33 Type 1/Type 2IA Crews	4	4
34 Smokejumpers Load	1	0
35 Helicopters/Airtankers	4	4
36 (heavy) on order	1	1
37 Type 2 IMT's Aerial	1	1
38 Supervision	1	1

39
40 DOI Agencies Drawdown Levels

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

43 CAL FIRE Drawdown Levels

44 CAL FIRE incident drawdown levels are defined in the CAL FIRE 8100 Handbook, exhibit E8121-1.

45
46 **California Incident Priorities**

47
48 When California is involved in multiple incidents that are drawing resources, the cooperators (USFS,

1 CAL FIRE, BLM, NPS, and other wildland agencies) will prepare a California Incident Priority List.
2 The GACC will revise the list daily and provide it to NICC, the GACCs, involved cooperators, and Units
3 with incidents. Priorities are negotiated with involved cooperators and incorporated into the
4 Multiagency Coordinating Group (MAC) Incident Status Summary, ICS Form 209, and other
5 documents.

6
7 MACS Group Procedure Guide (MACS 410-1) can be found at this web address:

8 <https://firescope.caloes.ca.gov>
9

10 **Incident Priority Rating Procedures**

11
12 **1. Acquire Information** regarding incident situation and resource needs. Incident priorities should be
13 directly related to resource needs and meeting operational objectives.

- 14
15 • Weather
 - 16 ▪ Major fires – uncontained with potential resource threat. Name, location, acreage,
17 Type 1 or 2 Incident Management Team with Incident Commander’s name, fuel
18 type. Reference MACS 410-1, page 15
- 19 • Resource Status:
 - 20 • Airtankers, Helicopters, Air Attack (by agency, kind, type, and location)
 - 21 • Engines (agency and type)
 - 22 • Hand Crews (agency and type)
 - 23 • Dozers available (agency only)
- 24 • Committed by incident
- 25 • Mobilization Center reserves (if appropriate)
- 26 • Uncommitted and available by affected organizations or state mutual aid regions (major fire
27 jurisdictions)
- 28 • Committed by Incident
- 29 • Mobilization Center reserves
- 30 • Uncommitted and available at home base

31
32 **2. Acquire Special Information.** Anything of interest that would influence decision making (i.e.,
33 “Campbell Fire is burning toward Federal DPA” or “CAL FIRE Humboldt-Del Norte Unit is
34 experiencing a series of small lightning-caused fires.)

35
36 **3. Standard Evaluation Criteria Used to Determine Incident Priorities.** (Ensure all new emerging or
37 initial attack incidents have priority over existing incidents. If an item is not applicable for an incident, it
38 carries a value of zero. Total maximum is 60.)
39

1		
2	A. Life and Safety Threats (Public and Emergency Responders) (max total points is 15)	
3	Events which increase complexity, resulting in high potential for serious injury and/or death.	
4		
5	A.1 Evacuations	Rating
6	In Progress	5
7	Precautionary	3 - 4
8	Potential (48-72 hrs.) or Completed	1 - 2
9		
10	A.2 Road, Highway or Freeway Closures	
11	Major Highway or Freeway	4 - 5
12	State Routes or Improved Roadways	2 - 3
13	Potential for Closures 48-72 hrs.	1
14		
15	A.3 Extreme Fire Behavior, Weather Event, Natural or Human Caused Disasters	
16	Occurring or Predicted/Forecasted to Continue (24 hrs.)	5
17	Predicted/Forecasted 24-72 hrs.	3 - 4
18	Not Occurring but Predicted/Forecasted to Diminish	1 - 2
19		
20	B. Property Threatened and/or High Damage (Next 48 hours)(max total points are 15)	
21	This category relates to potential for damage or actual impact to Communities or other high value	
22	investments that contribute to dwellings, commercial workplaces and critical infrastructure that supports	
23	human life, income or support to the general population. Threats under this category should not be listed	
24	unless there is significant potential to impact these elements and an imminent threat is recognized within	
25	a 48-hour timeframe.	
26		
27	B.1 Structures (residential, commercial, vacation or other)	Rating
28	200+	4 - 5
29	25-200	3 - 4
30	<25	1 - 2
31		
32	B.2 Community Loss (within 48 hours)	
33	Potential for >75% Community Loss	4
34	Potential for 50-75% Community Loss	4
35	Potential for 25-50% Community Loss	3
36	Potential for <25% Community Loss	1 - 2
37		
38	B.3 Infrastructure – National, State, Local (Power Lines, Energy Corridors,	
39	Domestic Water Systems, Communications Grid, Railroads, etc.)	
40	Systems shutdown and/or damaged	5
41	Potential threat 24-48 hrs.	3 - 4
42	Potential threat 72+ hrs.	1 - 2
43		

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9

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. 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.

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

14

Incident Complexity/Duration (max total points are 10)

Multiple incidents or a 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.

	Rating
21 D.1 Complex vs. Single Incident	
22 5+ incidents or >25,000 acres	4 - 5
23 3-4 incidents or 5-25,000 acres	2 - 3
24 1-2 incidents or <5,000 acre	1

25

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. 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.

	Rating
31 D.2 Potential for Timely Containment and/or Mitigation	
32 <72 hrs	5
33 3-7 days	4
34 8-14 days	3
35 15-21 days	2
36 Unknown or long term management	1

37

38 NOTE: Initial attack, new starts, and life threatening situations have overall priority, overriding the
39 priorities listed above.
40

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

4
5 AF= Aircraft, Fixed-Wing (air tankers, lead planes, air attack, IR, etc.)

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

7 HC = Handcrews by Type

8 BD = Bulldozers

9 WE = Wildland Engines (Type)

10 SE = Structural Engines (Type)

11 OH = Overhead

12 OT = Other Resources (specify type and kind)

13
14 4. Establish New Geographical Priorities – Using Attached MACS Form 429 Found in the California
15 Statewide Multi-Agency Coordination System Guide, pg. 31.

16 [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)

17
18
19
20 **6. Decision Process:** Priorities will be set by a consensus of MAC Group Members

21
22 **7. Notify NIFC or NMAC Group Coordinator of Geographic Area Priorities when CALMAC is
23 Not Activated.**

24 25 **Handling Hazardous Materials**

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

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

34 35 **Dozer and Helicopter Use in Wilderness and Special Areas**

36
37 **Forest Service**
38 Agency Administrators will prepare requests for use of dozers and helicopters within wilderness areas.
39 Requests will be specific in terms of work to be considered (length and width of fire line, and other
40 factors), and consequences of not using the equipment. The request will go through the Agency
41 Administrator, who will obtain permission or denial from the Regional Forester. The request will be in
42 writing, via electronic mail, or by telephone if after hours (followed up in writing the next day).

43
44 **Department of Interior Lands**
45 BLM State Director approval is required for use of dozers on Bureau of Land Management Wilderness
46 Areas and Wilderness Study Areas (WSA). In Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) the
47 local agency administrator can approve dozer use. On all other DOI Units the approval is given by the
48 local Unit Agency Administrator.

49

1 Disaster Procedures**2 Federal Resource Response**

3 With a federal declaration the federal agencies will provide assistance based on the Emergency Support
4 Function (ESF) identified under the declaration (for additional information

5
6 Without a Presidential declaration of a major disaster, the ability of the federal agencies to react is
7 lessened. Local Units must respond within their normal authorities and under local agreements.
8 Authority to take action in disasters and emergencies when there is an imminent threat to life or property
9 is the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 (PL 93-288). Where there is no agreement in effect, the Act of May
10 27, 1955 authorizes the Forest Service to take action for incident emergencies and the BLM Manual
11 authorizes the BLM to take action where a life threat exists.

12

13 CAL FIRE Resource Response

14 CAL FIRE Units can respond to non-fire incidents based on Unit Chief discretion or may be mission
15 tasked by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services. Reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy
16 8163 and policy 8164.

17

18 Accident and Incident Reporting

19 Follow Agency Specific Policies.

20

21 Critical Incident Peer Support (CIPS) Team Procedures

22 A critical incident is any unexpected, traumatic event that affects an individual's feeling of personal
23 safety, their ability to perform daily activities, and their ability to concentrate on their normal job duties.
24 Simply put, a critical incident is a traumatic event (or perceived life-threatening event) that has enough
25 power to overwhelm an individual's or organization's ability to cope. A critical incident is not defined by
26 the event itself; it is defined by the individuals and/or the organizations reaction to what occurred.

27

28 Examples, but not limited to:

- 29 o Line of Duty Death
- 30 o Off Duty Death (in some instances)
- 31 o Aviation Accident
- 32 o Entrapment
- 33 o Burn-over
- 34 o Shooting
- 35 o Serious accident or injury
- 36 o Shelter Deployment
- 37 o Exposure to fatalities and injuries
- 38 o Disaster recovery work
- 39 o A significant event involving children
- 40 o Acts of Terrorism
- 41 o Threats of violence and to personal safety
- 42 o Events charged with profound emotions

43

44 All local, state and federal firefighting agencies endorse the use of (CIPS) Teams. A CIPS Team Consists of a
Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL), Critical Incidents Stress Managers (CISM) and possibly Critical Incident
Clinicians (CICL), Critical Incident Stress Chaplains (CISC) and Critical Incident Stress Canines (CISK). All five
positions are currently in IROC with the resource ordering system assigned designator. All local, state, and
Federal firefighting agencies endorse the use of CIPS in California. Agencies offer
45 CIPS services to all personnel exposed to critical incident situations on the job. Regardless of which unit

- 46 has management and control, CIPS should be offered to personnel following a critical incident situation.
- 47 Critical Incident Peer Support Team interventions are most effective when applied 24-72 hours (sometimes
- 48 longer) following a critical incident. It is important for personnel to operationally disengage and
- 49 reconnect with family or other support before participating in CIPS services, If possible.

1
2 Requests for CIPS Team support should be made by the Agency Administer or designee (from the local unit
3 where the incident occurred) to the Regional CIPS Coordinator or the assigned CIPS Coordinator or
4 CIPS Team Leader (CISL or CISM designee).

5
6 Group personnel are ordered as CISL, CISM, CICL, CISC, CISK (or the resource ordering system assigned
designator).

7 The following information should be provided by the CIPS Group Leader to assist the responding CIPS
8 group

- 9 o Description (type) of incident
- 10 o Number of employees in need of CIPS services
- 11 o Whether any family members or children are involved. (Note: Authority to provide service to
12 FS, DOI and CAL FIRE family members is covered under EAP, which extends services to
13 family members for the benefit of employees and the agency)
- 14 o Date and time of incident
- 15 o Desired day, time and location for support services. However, the CIPS coordinator will
16 determine the most appropriate time and location based on the incident, resource availability and
17 number of personnel involved
- 18 o Name and phone number of Unit contact
- 19 o Name, phone number and location on site of main contact for on-site coordination, once CIPS
20 Team Lead arrives.
- 21 o Financial Code

22
23 **Federal Incidents (Requests, Notification and Ordering) Requests**
24 The Agency Administrator or designee will contact the CIPS Coordinator to coordinate the response
25 needs.

26 **Forest Service** CIPS Coordinator 24 hr call line is 916-640-1044

27 **Department of Interior** CIPS Coordinator 24 hr call line is 208-258-4585

28
29 **Notification:**

30
31 The CIPS Coordinator and designated CIPS Team lead will coordinate with the Agency Administrator
32 Point of Contact.

33 Critical incident Peer Support (CIPS) Team requests, notification and ordering procedures provide an
organized

34 approach to the management of stress responses for personnel having been exposed to a traumatic event
35 in the line of duty. The establishment of these procedures does not prevent an employee from seeking
36 individual consultation through the Employee Assistance Program, or care provider of their choice.

37
38 **Ordering:**

39
40 The CIPS Team order will be processed through the requesting Units ECC. The CIPS Coordinator or group
41 lead will provide the requesting ECC with a CIPS order request with all the group members pertinent
42 information.

43
44 The CIPS Coordinator and designated CIPS group lead will coordinate with the Agency Administrator
45 Point of Contact.

46 Critical Incident Peer Support (CIPS) Team request, notification and ordering procedures provide an
organized

- 47 approach to the management of stress responses for personnel having been exposed to a traumatic event
- 48 in the line of duty. The establishment of these procedures does not prevent an employee from seeking
- 49 individual consultation through the Employee Assistance Program or a care provider of their choice.

- 1
2 Under no circumstances should a CIPS Team or any of its components be considered psychotherapy or a substitute
3 for psychotherapy. Peer and group supporters are not licensed health care professionals and should not be
4 utilized in lieu of a licensed clinician. A clinician is ordered at the time of the support group being
5 organized and has skills specific to the incident being managed.
- 6 Critical Incident Clinicians (CICL) may be part of the team, or a culturally competent clinician may be ordered
outside of the ordering system if none are available in IROC, or the resource ordering system assigned designator.
- 6
7 The cost for CIPS team services in the fire operations are to be charged to the fires incident management code.
8 Non-fire incidents should be charged to the host unit. Critical Incident Peer Support team interventions are
9 most effective when applied 24-72 hours (sometimes longer) following a critical incident. It is important
10 for personnel to operationally disengage and often reconnect with family, if possible or other support
before participating in CIPS services.
- 12
13 **CAL FIRE Incidents:**
14 CAL FIRE Units should be familiar with local procedures for CIPS Team activation, reference CAL
15 FIRE Handbook 1800, Policy 1861