

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

MISSION STATEMENT

The principal mission of 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 (CALOES), 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. With the exception of initial attack response plans. All resource orders outside of the local forest/units will be processed utilizing the standard ordering process and the current system of record. This includes prescribed fire and project resource requests. This guide is intended to facilitate interagency dispatch coordination, ensuring the timeliest and most cost-effective incident support services available are provided. 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 policies 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. 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 (the occurrence or imminent threat of disaster) in each local, operational, and regional area of the State. 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 and FWS. CAL FIRE and FEMA assignments for Hawaii and Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands. North Ops is located 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, and CAL FIRE. 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, 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 charts beginning on page 5.

Initial Attack

Initial Attack will be defined, as per the 2018-2023 (extended until March 2024) 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 manage the incident in a manner consistent with firefighter, public safety, and values to be protected.

Initial Attack Period: The first 24 hours, or as determined in local agreements.

Initial Attack Fire: Fire that is generally contained by the resources first dispatched, without a significant augmentation of reinforcements.

Initial Attack Response Plan: An identified area in which predetermined resources would 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. 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.

Drawdown for Initial Attack (IA)

Drawdown is established by the Unit based on their standard operating procedures. GACCs need to be notified of any Unit drawdown level changes. For CAL FIRE, reference CAL FIRE Handbook 8100, policy 8121. For the Federal agencies, reference the Unit Fire Management Plan.

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

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

Mobilization/Demobilization

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

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

Work/Rest Guidelines

For Federal agencies Work/Rest Guidelines and Days Off policy are outlined in the Interagency Incident Business Management Handbook, and Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations. Resource extensions will be requested utilizing the Resource Extension Request form located in the appendix.

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

Length of Assignment

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

Incident Operations Driving

For Federal agencies, reference the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations. For CAL FIRE, reference the CAL FIRE Handbook 6400, policy 6557 and CAL FIRE Handbook 7000, policy 7060.

Resource Mobilization

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

- Create new incidents
- Order and mobilize resources (to include Rx and project)
- Track resources and their status

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

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

Notification of Commitment of Resources

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

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

Wildland Fire Weather Forecasts

The National Weather Service will produce daily fire weather forecasts (by agreement) from the representative office.

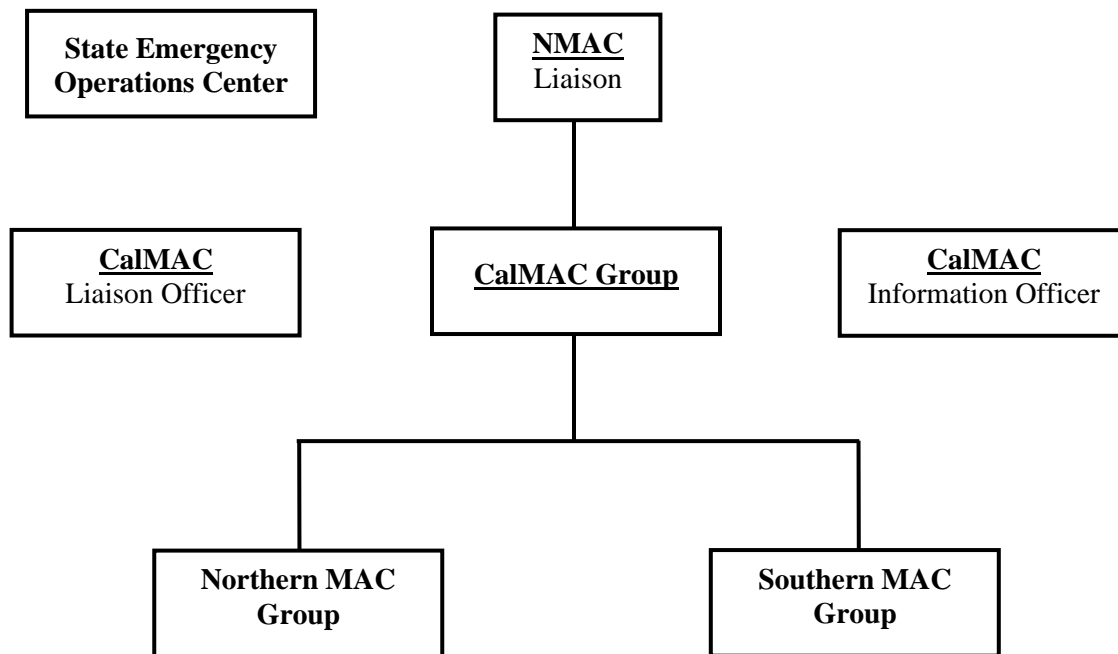
In Hawaii, the Honolulu office of the National Weather Service will produce daily fire weather forecast covered by the Fire Weather Operations Plan.

Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT)

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

Multi- Agency Coordination System (MACS) Organizational Structure

Visit the [FIRESCOPE WEBPAGE](#) for more information. The following organizational structure displays a MACS MODE 3 and 4 or a National Preparedness Level 4 and 5 activation.

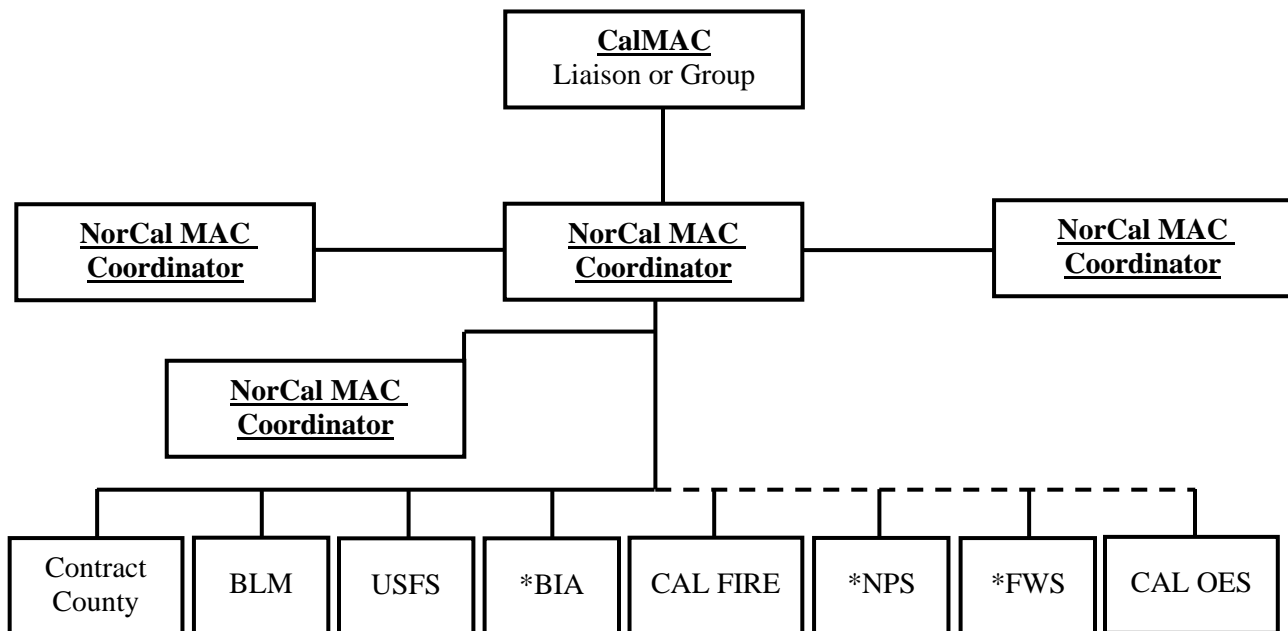


MAC Group Purpose and Function

A MAC Group typically consists of delegated agency representatives 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.)

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



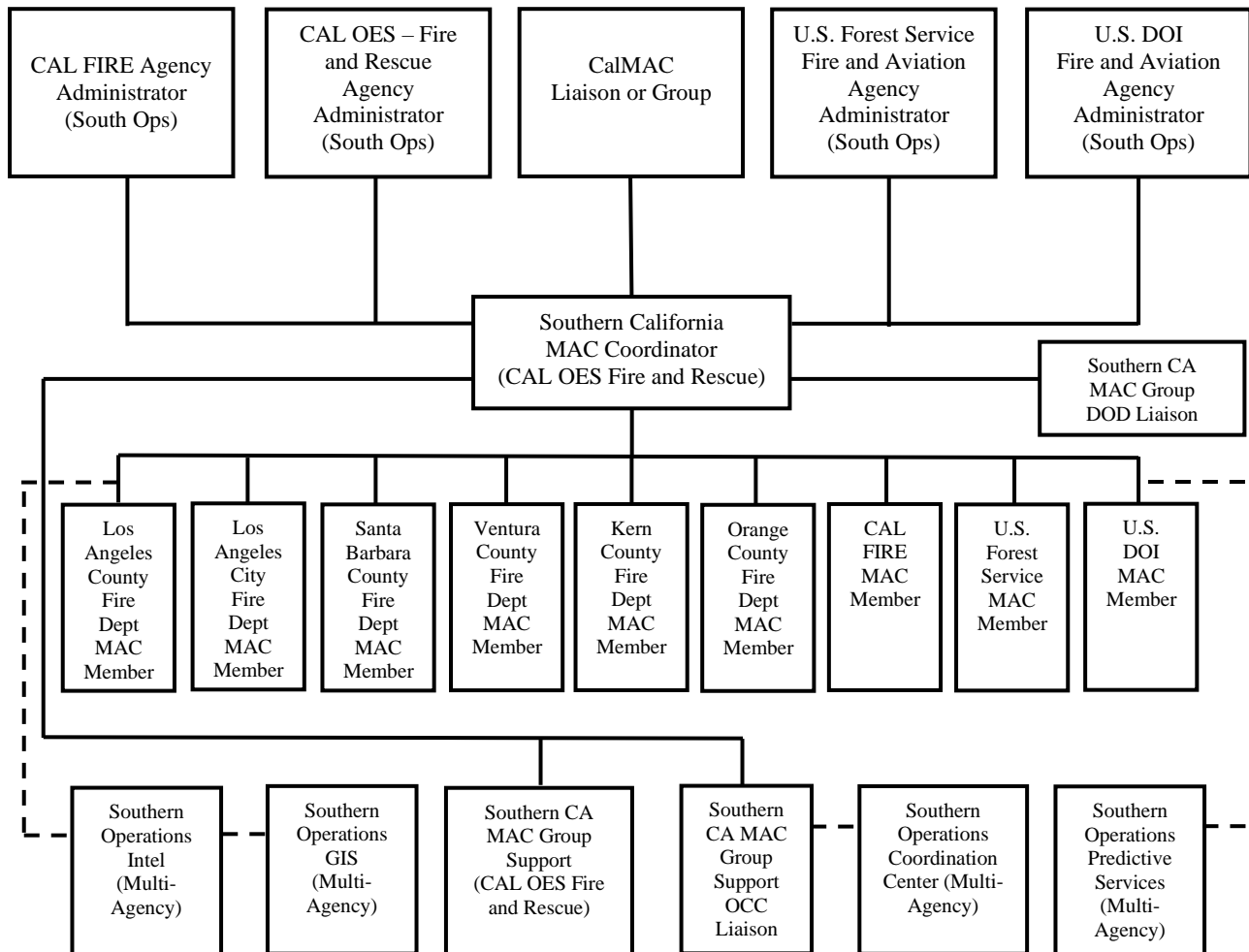
--- Dotted line denotes the agencies that could be represented during Preparedness Levels 4 and 5. This list is not all inclusive.

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 the 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.

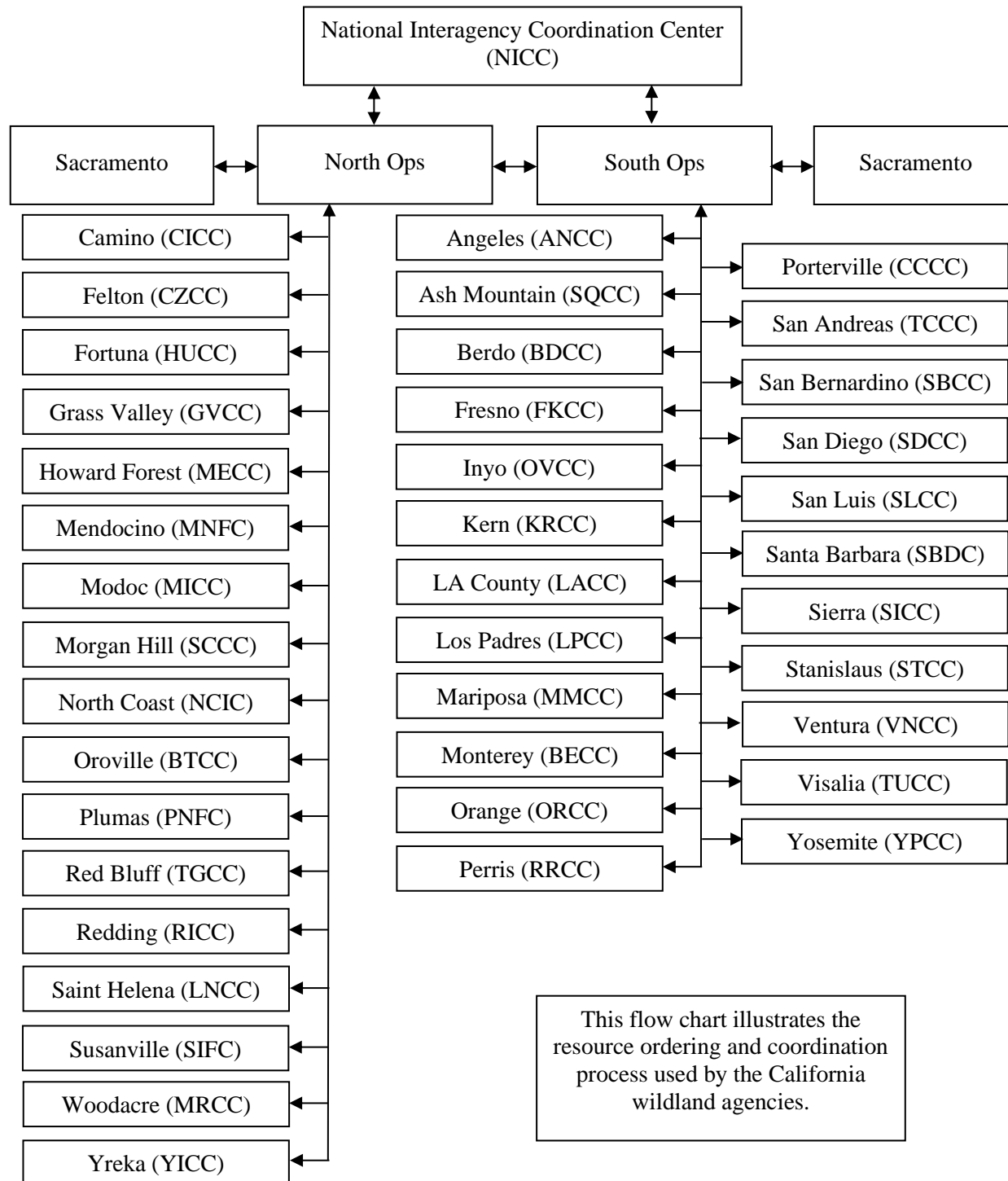
Southern MAC Group Organizational Chart



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 the geographic area allocation of scarce and/or limited resources based on established priorities.
- Develop written and verbal communication of MACS priority settings out to the following entities:
 - Applicable Agency Administration
 - OCC MACS Liaison
 - FIRESCOPE Member Agencies
 - Home Agency
 - NorCal GeoMAC (if activated)
 - CalMAC (if activated) for evaluation and inclusion in national priorities

Wildland Agency Geographic Coordination Flow Chart



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

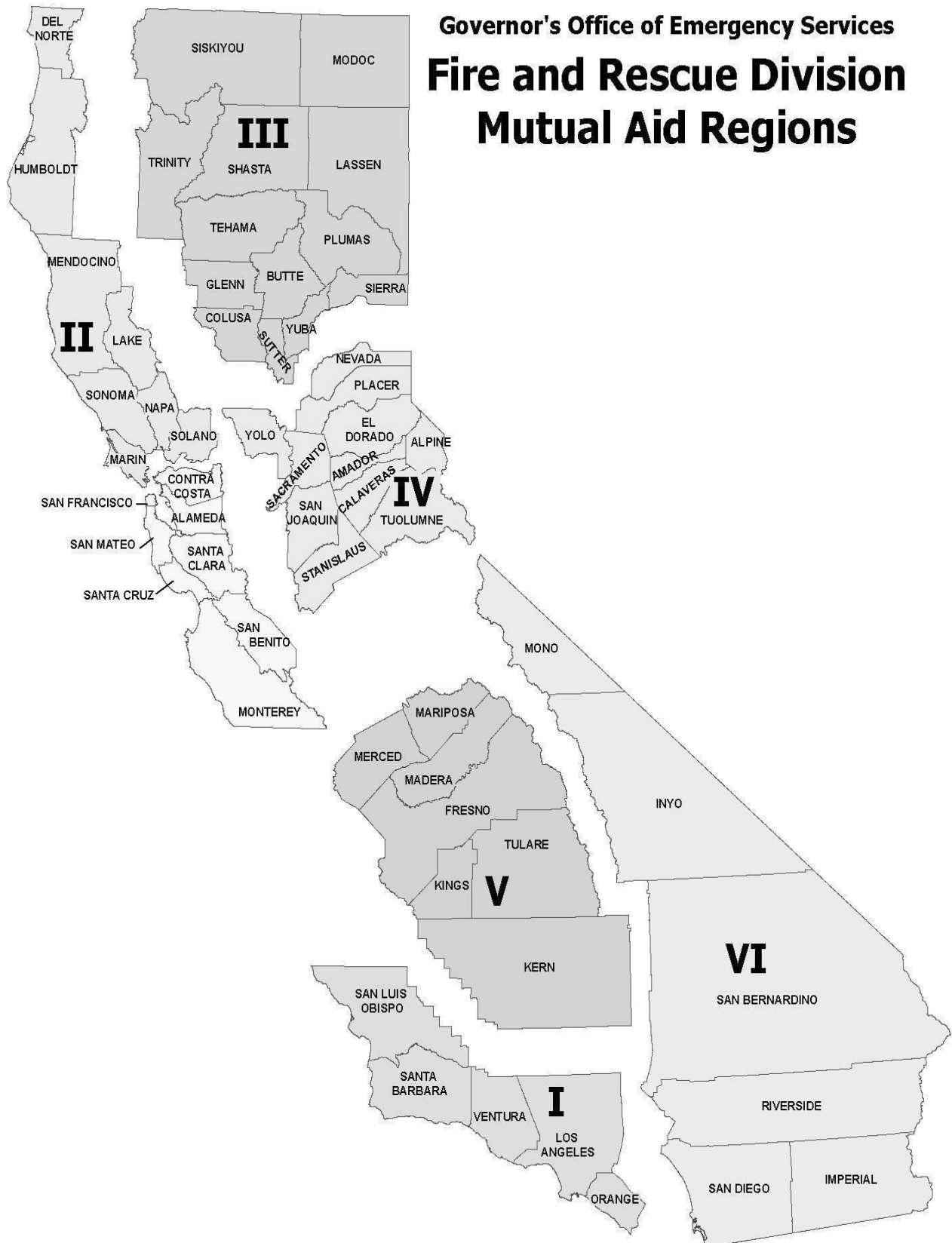
State and county centers have 24-hour staffing.

*Agency has staffing in the ECC.

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)

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) 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) Cabrillo National Monument (CAP)
Monterey (BECC)	*San Benito-Monterey Unit (BEU) Pinnacles National Park (PIP)
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) Castle Mountain National Monument
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)

CAL OES FIRE AND RESCUE REGIONAL MAP

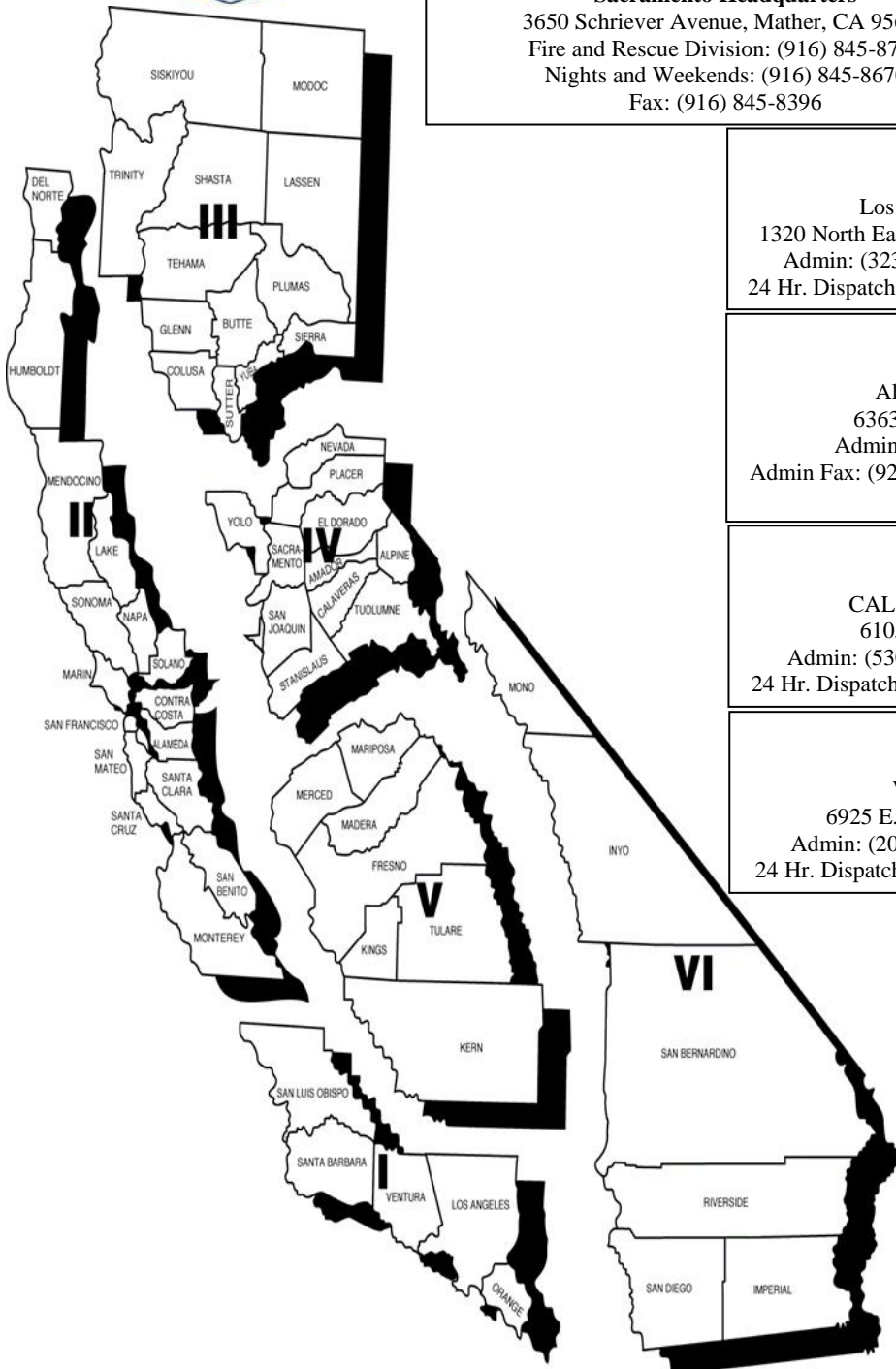




CAL OES Fire and Rescue Division Regional Mutual Aid Coordinators



**CAL OES Fire and Rescue Division
Sacramento Headquarters**
3650 Schriever Avenue, Mather, CA 95655
Fire and Rescue Division: (916) 845-8711
Nights and Weekends: (916) 845-8670
Fax: (916) 845-8396



**Region I Coordinator
Anthony Marrone**
Los Angeles County Fire Department
1320 North 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 Hebrard**
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
Tim McHargue**
Colton Fire Department
303 East E Street, Colton CA 92324
Admin: (909) 370-5102
24 Hr. Dispatch: (909) 356-3805 24 Hr. Fax: (909) 356-3809

California Fire and Rescue Ordering Process

Federal agencies and CAL FIRE may request assistance from Local Government fire department resources via CFAA Agreement; these requests are placed in the current ordering system of record from the agency dispatch center to the CAL OES Operational Area which is currently threatened.

Operational Area dispatch centers will fill the requests with resources from within the Operational Area, and once exhausted, place outstanding requests to the CAL OES Regional dispatch center.

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

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

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

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

The CAL OES Name Request Justification form is required for all local government overhead name requests with the exception of IMT members. IMT members rostered in the current ordering system of record, on the initial fill of the team, do not require a Name Request Justification form.

Team members responding after the initial team roster has been filled in the current ordering system of record require a Name Request Justification form. This form should be used once a resource order has been returned “Unable To Fill” at both GACC’s. This form may be used for hard to obtain or specialized resources identified as Critical Needs. Visit the [CalOES Webpage](#) for a copy of this form.

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

Communication

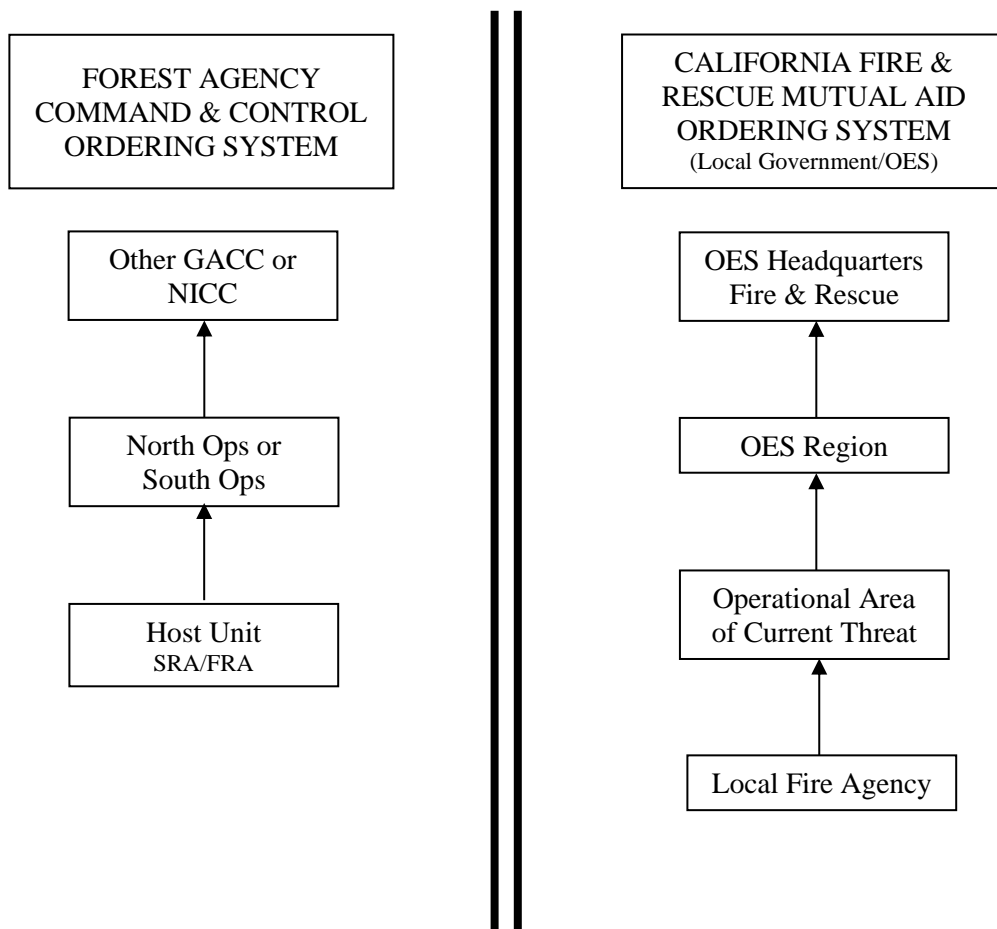
The formal route of communications for Local government level is through the Operational Area Duty Chief and through the established local Operational Area resource status system. The Duty Chief is responsible for briefing their organization in the procedures of incident information flow and for assuring timely exchange of information with minimal disruption to the dispatch function. These guidelines are offered to assist the Duty Chief in briefing their personnel. The following items give some general indicators of situations that should prompt contact with local government Operational Area Duty Chief.

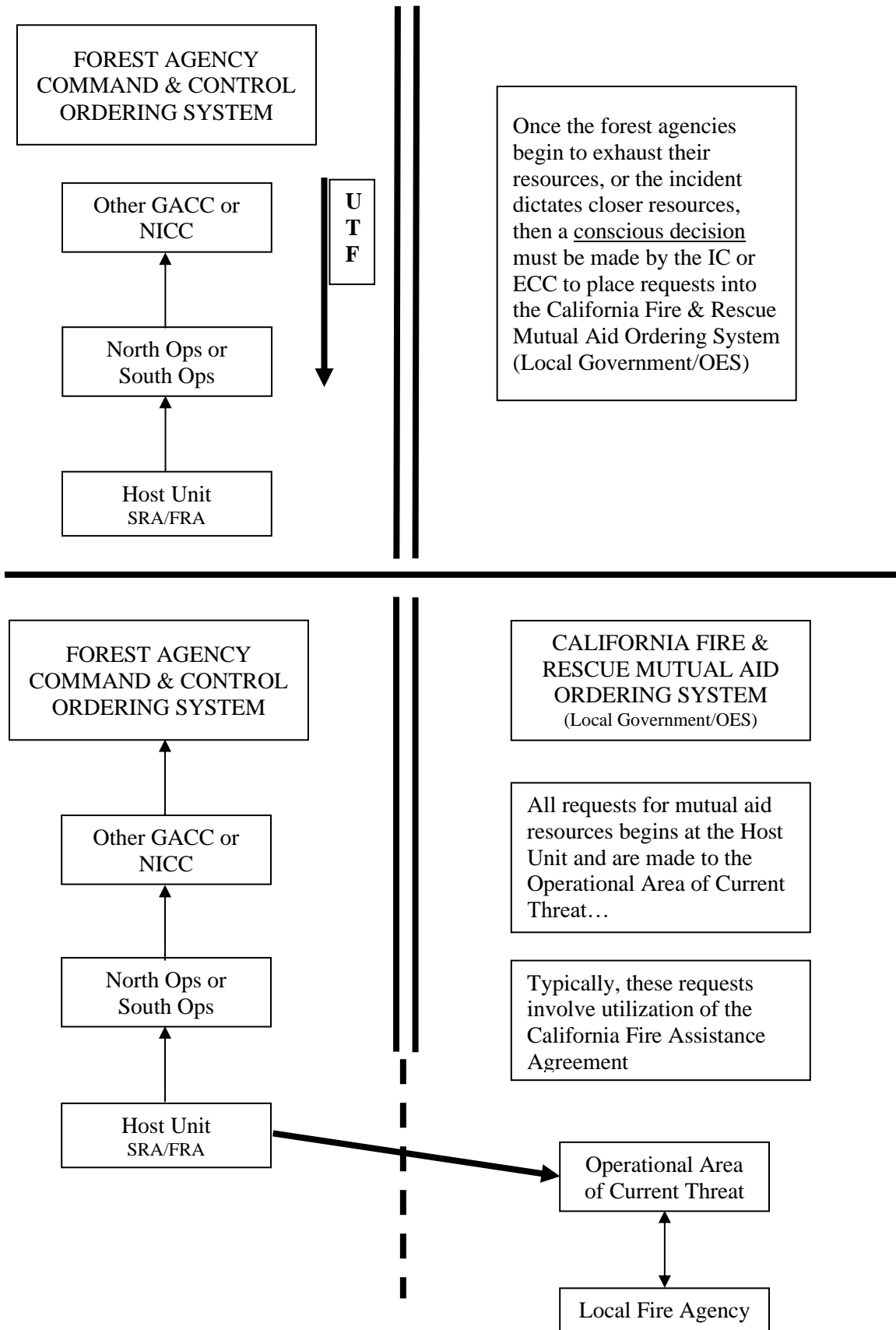
- When large incidents, incidents in a sensitive area, or multiple incidents occur
- Major aircraft accidents occur
- Major Hazardous Materials events
- Staffing shortages that affect agreements

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

Resources cannot be reassigned without this express permission.

The diagrams below illustrate the Federal agencies/CALFIRE 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	LNU
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	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

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

Communication

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

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

Mobilization

All resource requests will be submitted using the current ordering system of record. Requests for all tactical aircraft will be made using the state intercom and the FC 106/e FC 106 Script to expedite the requests. Refer to Chapter 50 and Appendix page 187.

Unit Dispatch Procedures

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

- Each Unit will provide for its own dispatching needs. Standardized dispatching procedures will be used at each dispatching level within California.
- Dispatching procedures are developed so that each Unit will dispatch to the extent of its available resources before requesting additional aid from the GACC.
- As part of Initial Attack Response Plans, Units will pre-plan and identify all mutual aid assistance/move-up of resources between adjoining Units, including State border agreements. Resource commitments should be limited to those resources that could be expected to provide effective initial attack, or fast follow-up to initial attack, within the established areas for mutual assistance. It is the responsibility of the sending Unit to notify the appropriate GACC whenever action is taken under one of these plans.
- Units will work directly with other dispatch centers, county and city fire departments, and local and state law enforcement agencies in their Unit or GACC's area of influence. They will keep the GACC advised of all mobilization/demobilization of overhead, crews, equipment, and aircraft received through this procedure.
- Units will handle all dispatching procedures for agency personnel during scheduled field operation hours.
- CAL FIRE Command Centers will use CAL FIRE issuance publications, in particular, the 8100 Command and Control Handbook, as their operational guides.
- Each Federal Unit will utilize operational guides which define procedures and required actions for all hazardous activities. These guides will be available in each Dispatch Center and field office.
- All field going personnel will remain in radio contact with the Dispatch Center unless otherwise arranged through the Center.
- Dispatch Centers are to communicate weather forecasts to all field going personnel, especially firefighters according to agency direction. Dispatch Centers are to update field personnel of changes in predicted weather patterns.

GACC Dispatch Procedures

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

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

Mutual Aid

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

For agreements governing mutual aid, refer to Chapter 80.

Request for Assistance

After local agreements and mutual aid resources have been exhausted, requests for assistance should be placed directly with the appropriate GACC for state and federal resources or Fire and Rescue Operational Area for CAL OES and local government resources. Mutual aid and other agreements will be maintained in the ECCs and available to the GACC upon request.

Emergency Management Assistant Compact – Resource Mobilization and Demobilization

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

Support to Border Fires

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

GACCs have a responsibility and authority to provide resource support to the incident. They may place requests for resources directly between each other in support of the incident. The following protocols apply:

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

Unit Identifiers

Each GACC Center Manager shall designate a Unit Identifier Data Custodian (GACC Data Custodian) and an alternate for their Geographic Area. GACC Data Custodians are responsible to ensure the documented agency internal process has been completed and have authority to ensure appropriate NWCG Organizational Unit Codes are created. GACC Data Custodians are responsible for timely entry of proposed additions, modifications, and deactivations of Unit Identifiers and associated information in the system of record (SOR) upon receipt of written requests.

- SOPS: Manny Salas 951-532-2690/Shayne Canady 951-901-5093
- NOPS: Laurie (Forni) Hackett 530-227-9102

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 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 will remain at that location for the duration of the incident.
- 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 dispatch level based on the UOP host's agency dispatch channels.
- The incident will order cache items direct from the nearest national cache.
- Refer to Chapter 40 for Hired Equipment.

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

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

Incident should still document in Special Needs "State Mission" or "Federal Mission" (agency specific)

Resource Ordering

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

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

The Resource Order form will be used as the backup for all agencies. Refer to Appendix page 181.

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

Request Number:

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

Federal FireCode:

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

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

Travel Mobilization and Demobilization

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

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

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

CAL FIRE

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

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

Emergency Demobilization

For emergency release of a resource, the Emergency Release Form will be completed by the host ECC and submitted to the GACC. Refer to Appendix page 181.

Demobilization Planning

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

Demobilization Considerations

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

Demobilization Plan

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

Each Demobilization Plan has five parts:

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

Contract Resources/Hired Equipment/Cooperators**Federal**

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

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

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

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

Units accepting/hosting local cooperator resources initially mobilized on GACC Preposition are responsible for accounting for the cooperator's personnel and equipment time (including their travel/time spent on the initial GACC Preposition order) on the unit's preposition order upon receipt. Cooperator Personnel Time will be documented on Crew Time Reports (SF-261) and transferred onto Incident Time Reports (OF-288). Cooperator Equipment Time will be documented on Emergency Equipment Shift Tickets (OF-297) and transferred onto Emergency Equipment Use Invoices (OF-286). Cooperators will furnish copies of their agreements with rates upon arrival and will take all completed/signed paperwork back to their home unit for processing. All Personnel and Equipment time documentation will be completed/signed prior to their departure or reassignment off unit by both the cooperator and a representative from the hosting unit.

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

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

For mobilization of Regional Forest Service contract resources, refer to Chapter 30 for Crews and Chapter 40 for Equipment.

CAL FIRE

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

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

Refer to Chapter 40 for Hired Equipment.

Preparedness Plan

Preparedness Plan For Wildland Fire Agencies

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

United States Forest Service
CAL FIRE
Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Indian Affairs
CAL OES
CAL FIRE Contract Counties

Purpose

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

The purpose of the Preparedness Plan is:

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

Monitoring

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

Preparedness Level Activation and Deactivation

Based on fire weather, fire activity, and resource commitment to wildland fires, prescribed fires, and fuels projects, each GACC will maintain preparedness planning year round. Each agency representative will initiate the restrictions imposed by the preparedness levels upon those lands within their jurisdiction. Federal agencies will impose these restrictions that are required by the National Preparedness Plan as well.

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

Preparedness Levels

Preparedness Level 1

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

Action/Responsibility:

- GACCs post preparedness levels out on the daily situation report for agency field Units.
- GACCs to notify NICC of starting preparedness planning or daily preparedness level.
- All prescribed fires within Geographical Areas are to be reported to the respective GACC.

Preparedness Level 2

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

Action/Responsibility:

- Continue Preparedness Level 1 activities.

Preparedness Level 3

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

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

Action/Responsibility:

- Continue previous preparedness activities.
- CWCG chair is made aware by GACC's when fire danger, fire activity, drawdown, and GACC mobilization patterns are likely to lead to Level 4. Chair of CWCG informs members of current preparedness level in advance of moving to Preparedness Level 4.
- When a prescribed burn is scheduled or is in progress the appropriate Coordination Center will be informed through agency channels of the date of ignition, acres planned to be burned during the next 24 hours, and resource commitment including contingency resources.
- Agencies can limit the use of their resources as contingency or make them unavailable for use on prescribed fires.

Preparedness Level 4

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

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

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

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

Action/Responsibility:

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

Preparedness Level 5

Definition: CalMAC may be fully activated if; one or both GACCs are in Preparedness level 5, agencies are below drawdown levels, or Class D and larger fires are common in one or both geographical areas. Either or both GACCs cannot fill many outstanding resources requests and are sending these orders to NICC. Use of local government resources is common. Reassignment of personnel and resources between incidents is common.

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

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

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

Action/Responsibility:

- If CalMAC is fully activated they will determine whether to host conference calls or meet in person. During the CalMAC activation, CalMAC will set priorities statewide.
- 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.
- 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**Federal**

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

CAL FIRE

When resources are needed for move up from outside a Unit, the Unit must enter a request into the current ordering system of record 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 8122 and procedure 8122-1.

DOI

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

Forest Service Minimum Drawdown Standard

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

	North Ops	South Ops
Type 1/Type 2IA Crews	4	4
Smokeyjumpers Load	1	0
Helicopters/Airtankers	4	4
(heavy) on order	1	1
Type 2 IMT's	1	1
Aerial Supervision	1	1

Department of Interior Drawdown Levels

DOI will follow the identified draw down levels per the Unit Fire Management Plans.

CAL FIRE Drawdown Levels

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

California Incident Priorities

When California is involved in multiple incidents that are drawing resources, the cooperators (USFS, CAL FIRE, DOI, and other wildland agencies) will prepare a California Incident Priority List. The GACC will revise the list daily and provide it to NICC, the GACCs, involved cooperators, and Units with incidents. Priorities are negotiated with involved cooperators and incorporated into the Multiagency Coordinating Group (MAC) Incident Status Summary ICS Form 209 and other documents.

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

<https://firescope.caoes.ca.gov/ICS%20Documents/MACS-410-1.pdf>

Incident Priority Rating Procedures

1. Acquire information regarding incident situation and resource needs. Incident priorities should be directly related to resource needs and meeting operational objectives.

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

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

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

A. Life and Safety Threats (Public and Emergency Responders) (max total 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 (ICS 209 Box 34)

Major Highway or Freeway	4 – 5
State Route or Improved Roadway	2 – 3
Potential for Closures 48-72 hrs	1

A.3 Extreme Fire Behavior, Weather Event, Natural or Human Caused Disaster

Occurring or Predicted/Forecasted to Continue (24 hrs)	5
Predicted/Forecasted 24-72 hrs	3 – 4
Not 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 imminent threat is recognized within a 48-hour timeframe.

B.1 Structures (residential, commercial, vacation, or other)

200 +	4 – 5
25 – 200	3 – 4
< 25	1 – 2

B.2 Community Loss (within 48 hours)

Potential for >75% Community Loss	4
Potential for 50 – 75% Community Loss	4
Potential for 25 – 50% Community Loss	3
Potential for <25% Community Loss	1 – 2

B.3 Infrastructure – National, State, Local (Power Lines, Energy Corridors, Domestic Water Systems, Communications Grid, Railroads, etc.) (ICS 209 Box 38)

System shutdown and/or damaged	5
Potential threat 24 – 48 hrs	3 – 4
Potential threat 72 + hrs	1 – 2

C. Resource Issues and Potential for Loss (max total points is 20): (ICS 209 Box 38)

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.

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

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.

D.1 Complex vs. Single Incident: (ICS 209 Box 7/10)

5+ incidents or >25,000 acres	4 – 5
3 - 4 incidents or 5-25,000 acres	2 – 3
1 -2 incidents or <5000 acres	1

Timely containment implies that if all critical resource needs from the ICS-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.

D.2 Potential for Timely Containment and/or Mitigation (ICS 209 Box 43)

< 72 hrs	5
3 – 7 days	4
8 – 14 days	3
15 – 21 days	2
Unknown or long term management	1

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

4. Identify Critical Resource Needs for Each Incident

(MAC Form 429 – 1st block is for ICS 209 Critical needs, 2nd block is for projected needs or resource allocation.)

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

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

HC = Handcrews by Type

BD = Bulldozers

WE = Wildland Engines (Type)

SE = Structural Engines (Type)

OH = Overhead

OT = Other Resources (specify type and kind)

5. Establish New Geographical Priorities –

Using the Attached MACS Form 429 found in the California Statewide Multi-Agency Coordination System Guide, pg. 31.

[CAStatewide Multi-Agency Coordination System\(CSMACS\)Guide 2013](#)

6. Decision Process:

Priorities will be set by a consensus of MAC Group Members

7. Notify NIFC or NMAC Group Coordinator of Geographic Area Priorities when CALMAC is Not Activated.**Handling Hazardous Materials**

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

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

Dozer and Helicopter Use in Wilderness and Special Areas**Forest Service**

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

Department of Interior Lands

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

Disaster Procedures

Federal Resource Response

With a federal declaration the federal agencies will provide assistance based on the Emergency Support Function (ESF) identified under the declaration

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

CAL FIRE Resource Response

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

Accident and Incident Reporting

Follow Agency Specific Policies.

Critical Incident Peer Support (CIPS) Team Procedures

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

Examples, but not limited to:

- Line of Duty Death
- Off Duty Death (in some instances)
- Suicide
- Aviation Accident
- Entrapment
- Burn-over
- Shooting
- Serious accident or injury
- Shelter Deployment
- Exposure to fatalities and injuries
- Disaster recovery work
- A significant event involving children
- Acts of Terrorism
- Threats of violence and to personal safety
- Events charged with profound emotions

All local, state and federal firefighting agencies endorse the use of (CIPS) Teams. A CIPS Team may consist of a Critical Incident Stress Lead (CISL), Critical Incident Stress Peer (CISM), 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 CIPS services to all personnel exposed to critical incident situations on the job. Regardless of which unit has management and control, CIPS should be offered to personnel following a critical incident situation. Critical Incident Peer Support Team interventions are most

effective when applied 24-72 hours (sometimes longer) following a critical incident. It is important for personnel to operationally disengage and reconnect with family or other support before participating in CIPS services, if possible.

Requests for CIPS Team support should be made by the Agency Administer or designee (from the local unit where the incident occurred) to the Regional CIPS Coordinator or designee.

Group personnel are ordered as CISL, CISM, CICL, CISC, CISK, THSP (or the resource ordering system assigned designator). The following information should be provided by the CIPS Coordinator to assist the responding CIPS group:

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

Federal Incidents (Requests, Notification and Ordering) Requests

The Agency Administrator or designee will contact the CIPS Coordinator to coordinate the response needs. The CIPS Coordinator and designated CIPS Team lead will coordinate with the Agency Administrator Point of Contact.

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

BLM CIPS Coordinator: Dr Patricia O'Brien 208-559-2959

FWS CIPS Coordinator: Holland Foshay 208-805-2452

BIA CIPS Coordinator: Nelda St. Clair 775-230-4351

NPS CIPS Coordinator: Dana Lee 208-901-1204

Federal Ordering:

The CIPS Team order will be processed through Northern Operations (NOPS) regardless of incident location.

CIPS Coordinator will work direct with NOPS to process the order.

- Annually, there will be one regional resource order generated in which all CIPS order numbers will be added. CIPS Coordinator will contact NOPS yearly to create the order.
- CIPS Coordinator will send email to Duty Chief with all resource request information
- CIPS members will be placed under a CISM order and have individual O numbers, unless NOPS determines that rostering would be more efficient
- NOPS will document Financial Code/override and Unit under each specific O numbers under special needs
- The clinician will be placed under an S number (service, medical). Coordinator will supply fill information.
- NOPS will be notified when members are released

The CIPS Coordinator or group lead will provide the ³⁴group members pertinent information.

Critical Incident Peer Support (CIPS) Team request, notification and ordering procedures provide an organized approach to the management of stress responses for personnel having been exposed to a traumatic event in the line of duty. The establishment of these procedures does not prevent an employee from seeking individual consultation through the Employee Assistance Program or a care provider of their choice.

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

Critical Incident Clinicians (CICL) will be part of the team. For federal agencies, a culturally competent clinician should be ordered outside of the ordering system. The cost for CIPS team services in the fire operations are to be charged to the fires incident management code. Non-fire incidents should be charged to the host unit or will be determined by the CIPS Coordinator.

CAL FIRE Incidents:

CAL FIRE Units should be familiar with local procedures for CIPS Team activation, reference CAL FIRE Handbook 1800, Policy 1861

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