San Francisco Bay Area

Regional Emergency Coordination Plan

RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Prepared by

Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose
Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Mateo
Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma

With Support from

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Foreword

The San Francisco Bay Area is highly vulnerable to both natural hazards and human-caused disasters, such as earthquakes, fires, industrial accidents, and terrorist incidents. Because the Bay Area is home to nearly seven million residents, major components of the U.S. economy, and vital air, sea, and ground transportation links, the effects of a significant disaster in the Bay Area would extend throughout the State of California and across the nation. Given this vulnerability, the State of California and local governments throughout the Bay Area have made significant investments in the planning and resources necessary to respond to natural and human-caused emergencies and disasters. Such events, however, will likely exceed the emergency response capabilities of individual jurisdictions in the Bay Area, and a multijurisdictional regional response will be necessary. Moreover, the nationwide effort to improve preparedness at all levels of government, as embodied in the National Preparedness Goal, emphasizes the importance of regional response. Consequently, the State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and its local government partners developed the Bay Area Regional Emergency Coordination Plan to provide a framework for collaboration and coordination during regional events.

The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP) was prepared in accordance with national and state emergency management systems and plans—in particular, the National Incident Management System, the Standardized Emergency Management System, the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, the California State Emergency Plan, and relevant mutual aid plans. The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan does not supersede or exclude any of these concepts or plans; rather, it places them in the context of a response to an event in the Bay Area, during which time the Regional Emergency Operations Center is activated.

The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan builds on California's existing Standardized Emergency Management System, through better definition of regional components of that system, including coordination across disciplines and levels of government, resource sharing, and regional decision-making. It also incorporates elements that previously have not been addressed in detail at the regional level under the Standardized Emergency Management System. A suite of documents, the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan comprises a Base Plan and the following nine subsidiary plans that address detailed elements for specific disciplines and operational activities:

- RECP Care and Shelter Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Communications Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

- RECP Hazardous Materials Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Law Enforcement and Coroner/Medical Examiner Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Logistics Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Medical and Health Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Recovery Subsidiary Plan
- RECP Transportation Subsidiary Plan.

Development of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan was a collaborative effort among the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Coastal Region; the cities of Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose; and the Operational Area lead agencies for the ten Bay Area counties, as described in Section 1. Over two hundred other local, regional, state, Federal, and non-governmental organizations also participated in the process to develop the plan and its subsidiary components.

Preparation of the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan was supported by a grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiative. This program provides metropolitan areas with funding for regional planning, equipment, training, and exercises to prepare for critical incident response.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES), Coastal Region will maintain the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan and is responsible for all future revisions and modifications. Additional plans and tools that are developed at the regional level, including products using future U.S. Department of Homeland Security grants, will be incorporated into the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan, as appropriate.

A note about a special design element in the suite of documents that comprise the Bay Area Regional Emergency Coordination Plan: the Base Plan and the subsidiary plans each has a corresponding icon, which in the electronic version of each document serves as a hyperlink. Clicking on an icon along the right- and left-hand columns on each page will bring the reader directly to that plan.

Acknowledgments

The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan is a product of the collaborative efforts of the following entities:

- Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Coastal Region
- Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Branch
- Region II Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator
- California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
- Contra Costa County Fire Protection District
- Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Fire Department
- Oakland Fire Department
- San Francisco Fire Department
- San Jose Fire Department
- Santa Clara County Fire Department
- Solano County Fire Department.

Additional Region II fire and rescue agencies provided input to the plan through the Region II Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator.

URS Corporation prepared the RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan with consultant support from Mr. Terry Gitlin and stakeholder management support from CirclePoint.

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Record of Changes

Date	Agency	Comments
March 2008	OES Coastal Region	Final

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Section 1 | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Introduction

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Section 1 – Introduction

PURPOSE

The Regional Emergency Coordination Plan (RECP) provides an all-hazards framework for collaboration among responsible entities and coordination during emergencies in the San Francisco Bay Area. The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan provides a framework for coordination among the OES Fire and Rescue Branch in the Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC), the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinators, the sixteen Operational Areas within OES Coastal Region,[1] and the State Operations Center (SOC) Fire and Rescue Branch. The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan also provides an overview of the established Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System and its relationship to the REOC during emergency response to a regional event.

The RECP does not replace existing emergency response systems. Rather, it builds on the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), the California State Emergency Plan, and the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan to provide methods for cooperation among Operational Areas and OES Coastal Region. The RECP complies with the requirements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS), and is consistent with the National Preparedness Goal.

OBJECTIVES

The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan defines the following:

- A clear system for regional coordination and response among fire and rescue and other disciplines
- Roles and responsibilities of agencies and personnel involved in regional fire and rescue activities, to include:
  - Personnel involved with the Fire and Rescue Branch at the Operational Area and regional and state levels
  - State and Federal agencies and/or teams supporting the response to an event that exceeds the capabilities of local government within the region.

SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY

General Applicability

The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan was developed in accordance with the concepts and methods of the Incident Command System and the Multi-Agency Coordination System (MACS). The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan does not supersede or exclude any existing plans; rather, it places relevant plans in the context of a

[1] OES Coastal Region is an administrative region under OES that incorporates, and is responsible for, sixteen counties in and around the San Francisco Bay Area.

response to an event within the region, during which time the REOC is activated. More specifically, it does not address, or supersede, local procedures for:

- Tactical operations and incident command
- Local response activities
- Established mutual aid relationships and procedures at the local level.

Furthermore, the RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan is not tactical; rather, it focuses on regional support for and coordination of fire and rescue operations.

Geographic Extent

The RECP was developed for OES Coastal Region, which encompasses the following sixteen counties as illustrated on Figure 1. Ten of these counties (marked with *) supported the development of the RECP through collaboration with OES Coastal Region and the three Bay Area Urban Area Security Initiative cities (Oakland, San Francisco, and San Jose).

- Alameda*
- Contra Costa*
- Del Norte
- Humboldt
- Lake
- Marin*
- Mendocino
- Monterey
- Napa*
- San Benito
- San Francisco*
- San Mateo*
- Santa Clara*
- Santa Cruz*
- Solano*
- Sonoma*

The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan applies to Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Region II, in which mutual aid activities are coordinated among fire and rescue agencies in the aforementioned sixteen counties.

AUTHORITIES, REQUIREMENTS, AND REGULATIONS

- California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. March 2002.
- California Master Mutual Aid Agreement. November 1950.
- FIRESCOPE, Multi-Agency Coordination System Procedures Guide, MACS 410-1. May 2006.
- Standardized Emergency Management System Guidelines. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. January 2001.
- State of California Emergency Plan. State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services. September 2005.

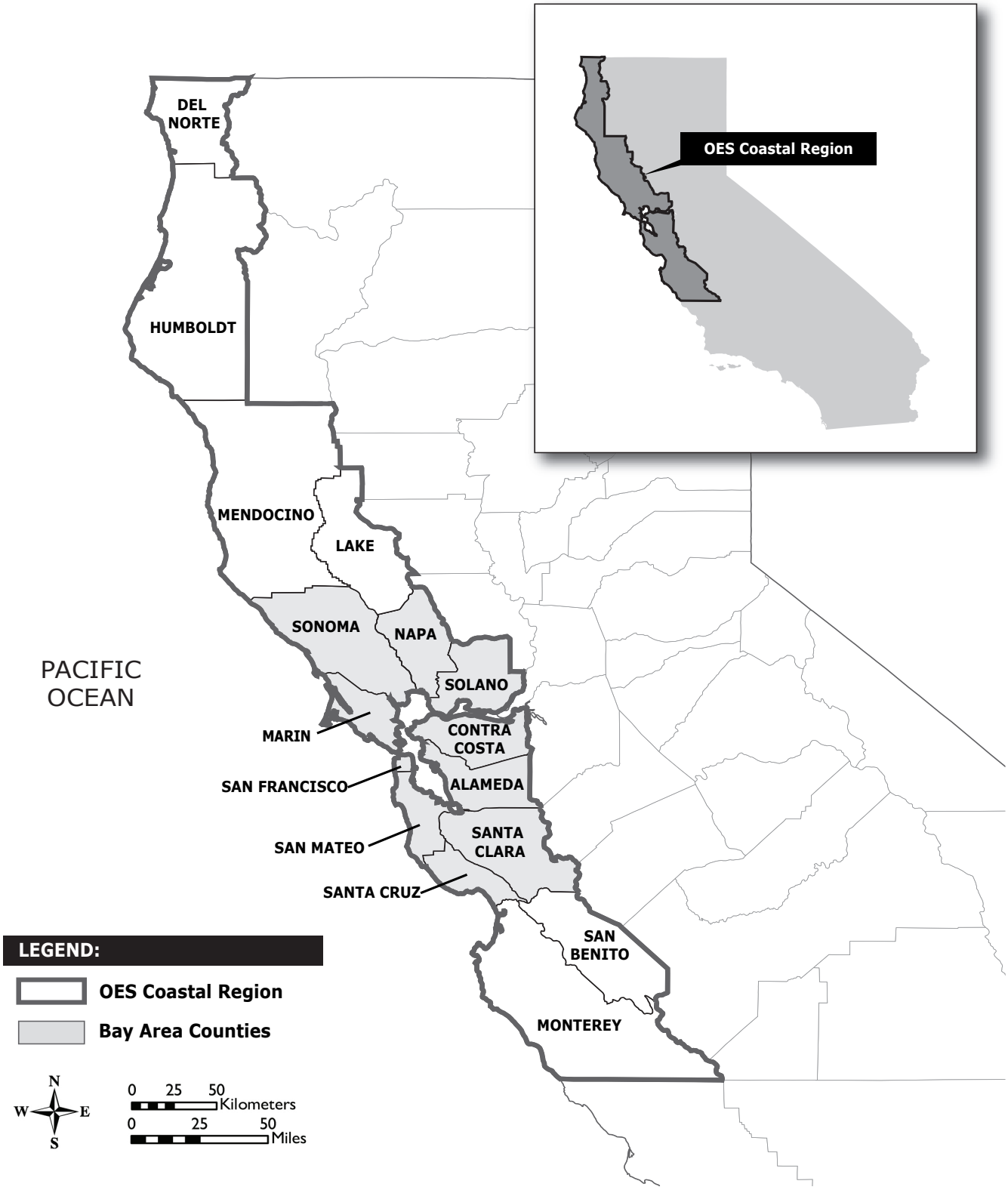

Figure 1
OES Coastal Region and Bay Area Counties

- FIRESCOPE Incident Command System Field Operations Guide MACS-420-1. July 2005.

PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

OES Coastal Region is responsible for the maintenance, revision, and distribution of the RECP and its subsidiary plans. In coordination with the Mutual Aid Regional Advisory Committee, OES Coastal Region will assess the need for revisions annually. Refer to the RECP Base Plan for further details regarding plan development and maintenance.

Section 2 | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Planning Assumptions and Considerations

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Section 2 – Planning Assumptions and Considerations

PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan is based on the following development and implementation assumptions.

- Similar to the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan, the RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan is applied on a day-to-day basis whenever fire and rescue resources are required at the regional level.
- The Region II Mutual Aid Coordinator will assign a representative to staff the REOC Fire and Rescue Branch.
- Under the premise of the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, no agency will be forced to give up and provide resources outside of their jurisdictional boundaries.
- During an event that affects multiple operational areas and multiple disciplines in the Bay Area, the REOC will coordinate with the Fire and Rescue Region II Coordination Center.
- During a regional emergency, major disaster, or catastrophic event within the region, the response capabilities of individual Operational Areas are likely to be exceeded, and resources from both within and outside of the region will be required.

SUMMARY OF THE FIRE AND RESCUE MUTUAL AID SYSTEM

The OES Fire and Rescue Branch manages the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, the primary purpose of which is to assist fire services in California with mutual aid planning and coordination. The State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for the overall coordination of the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System, and manages the statewide response of mutual aid resources to all kinds of fire, rescue, and disaster-related emergencies through six fire and rescue mutual aid regions in California. The sixteen Operational Areas within the scope of the RECP are located in the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Region II (see Figure 2). The OES Fire and Rescue Branch also maintains OES fire engines and other specialized equipment to support mutual aid requests.

The State of California Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan is a supporting document to the California State Emergency Plan. The Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan guides mutual aid systems at each level — local, Operational Area, regional, and state. The Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan also provides varying levels of guidance for day-to-day circumstances or unusual or emergency disaster situations.

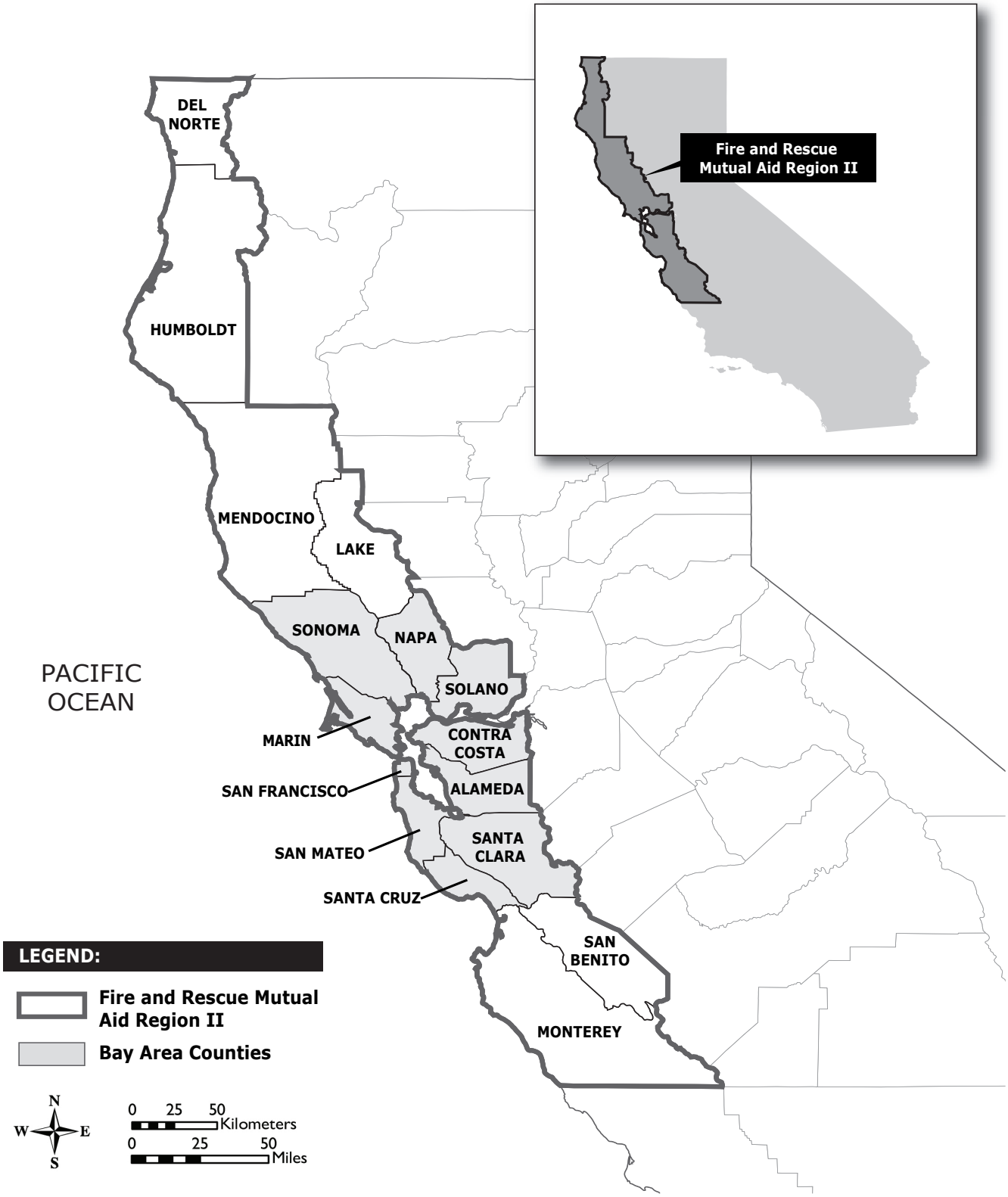

Figure 2
Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Region II

The RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan addresses the REOC Fire and Rescue Branch, when activated, and its coordination with the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System.

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Section 3 | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Roles and Responsibilities

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Section 3 – Roles and Responsibilities

This section of the RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan outlines the roles and responsibilities of local, Operational Area, regional, state, and Federal agencies and personnel involved in fire and rescue response activities during a regional emergency or disaster.

LOCAL LEVEL

At the level of the incident, the responding agency is responsible for on-scene management of the incident. The Incident Commander is responsible for on-scene management of the incident and establishes command and control. The Incident Commander also is responsible for requesting resources required within the local jurisdiction. The affected jurisdiction may activate an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and coordinate requests for resources through the appropriate channels. When a local EOC has been activated, the local EOC maintains communication and coordination with the designated Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator. Depending on the magnitude of the incident, the capability of local resources, and the need for further resources, the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator may request activation of an Operational Area EOC.

OPERATIONAL AREA LEVEL

An Operational Area includes local jurisdictions, regional entities, and fire districts within a county. For mutual aid purposes, the Operational Area also may include state agencies (such as university fire departments) or Federal agencies (for example, the Alameda County Operational Area includes the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory fire department).

Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator

The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator is a Fire Chief from a jurisdiction within the respective Operational Area. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator may report to a designated location such as a Departmental Operations Center or to an Operational Area EOC. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Activating the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System at the Operational Area level
- Managing the provision of mutual aid to and from fire and rescue agencies within the Operational Area
- Coordinating resources directly through the Region II Mutual Aid Coordinator when a mutual aid request cannot be met within the Operational Area.

Operational Area EOC Fire and Rescue Branch Coordinator

The affected Operational Area may activate the Operational Area EOC, in which the Fire and Rescue Branch supports the coordination of fire and rescue activities within the Operational Area. The Operational Area EOC Fire and Rescue Branch Coordinator is responsible for:

- Establishing and maintaining communications with the Fire and Rescue branches at local EOCs, and with the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator
- Exchanging information and coordinating with the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator to ensure that all response activities are interconnected and complementary
- Serving as liaison for communicating the provision of non-fire resources to other disciplines within the Operational Area EOC.

REGIONAL LEVEL

Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator

The Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator is an elected Fire Chief from one of the Operational Areas within the region. He or she conducts operations from the Region II Coordination Center.[2] If possible, the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator, or designee, may send a pre-designated staff member to the REOC as directed by the State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator. The Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Activating the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System at the regional level
- Maintaining regional fire and rescue resource inventories, coordinating regional mutual aid and intra-regional mutual aid, and tracking fire and rescue resources
- Evaluating resource requests from the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator and determining which region could provide resources timely
- Informing the State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator of all operations within the region, including notification of the need to establish mobilization centers and/or staging areas
- Leading the discussion of fire and rescue activities during the REOC Regional Coordination Group calls and briefing calls with the affected Operational Areas.

REOC Fire and Rescue Branch Director

The REOC Fire and Rescue Branch Director is a pre-designated staff member from the Region II Fire and Rescue Coordinator's workforce. This person may report to the REOC when called upon by the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator or the SOC Fire and

[2] Currently, the Region II Coordination Center is located at the Headquarters of the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District.

Rescue Branch Chief. The REOC Fire and Rescue Branch Director is responsible for:

- Establishing coordination and communication with the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator, the REOC Operations Section Chief, and the State Fire and Rescue Branch Chief
- Reporting current fire and rescue information to the REOC Operations Section Chief, and conveying resource commitments, needs, and emerging issues to the REOC Operations Section Chief for inclusion in the Response Information Management System (RIMS) Branch Report
- Providing input for the development of the REOC Action Plan
- Coordinating with the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator to participate in the REOC Regional Coordination Group calls and briefing calls with the affected Operational Areas.

STATE LEVEL

State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator

During a state of emergency, when ordered by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act, all fire protection agencies become an organizational part of the OES Fire and Rescue Branch. The State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator or designee is the State Fire and Rescue Branch Chief. The State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator is responsible for:

- Overseeing the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System and taking appropriate action on requests for mutual aid received through the Regional Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator channels
- Monitoring and coordinating mutual aid coverage in affected regions
- Communicating and coordinating with the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator
- When Federal resources for fire-fighting or Urban Search and Rescue are deployed, coordinating with the appropriate Emergency Support Function (ESF) lead agency
- Assisting the SOC Operations Section Chief with the preparation of state-level situation reports and briefings to the Governor
- Assigning mission numbers for state agencies to conduct work outside their day-to-day and statutory responsibilities.

STATE FIRE AND RESCUE AGENCIES WITHIN REGION II

State agencies located in Region II may be available to respond during an emergency response to an event within the region. These agencies would be requested through the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System.

State agencies and their roles are as follows.

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

- Provides a representative to the Operational Area, region, and/or state level. Participation is dependent on the support needed, the magnitude of the event, and the availability of resources from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, also known as CalFire.
- Provides fire protection services, and, when available, rescue, first aid, and other emergency services to forests and other wildland areas within the region.
- May be mission-tasked for non-fire missions during an emergency and/or disaster.
- Assists with personnel and equipment, including conservation camp crews, for fire suppression, rescue and cleanup, communications, radiological monitoring, and personnel care, as required.

California State Fire Marshal

- Assists the State Fire and Rescue Branch by providing personnel to facilitate the coordination of mutual aid fire and rescue operations.
- Provides personnel for the investigations of arson and explosions and emergencies involving flammable liquids in pipelines.

California Department of Fish and Game

- Assists responding agencies with search and rescue missions.
- Acts as the lead state agency for off-highway hazardous materials spills. Recommends actions during hazardous materials incidents that affect streams, waterways, fish, and wildlife. Works extensively with Federal agencies in accordance with the Area Contingency Plan for oil spill responses.

California Highway Patrol

- Acts as the on-scene Incident Commander during emergencies involving hazardous materials on all freeways, state-owned toll bridges, highways, and roads in unincorporated areas of the state.

California Department of Transportation

- Assists with the identification and containment of hazardous materials incidents and the coordination of traffic flow restoration with the California Highway Patrol.

FEDERAL FIRE AND RESCUE AGENCIES WITHIN REGION II

Several Federal fire and rescue agencies advantageously located in Region II may be available to respond to an event within the region. The Federal agencies and their roles are as follows.

Department of Defense, Travis Air Force Base, Fire and Emergency Services Department — Solano County

- Provides emergency firefighting suppression, aircraft rescue firefighting, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, and technical rescue response.
- Provides mutual aid to fire departments in Solano County.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory — Livermore

- Provides fire prevention services, emergency firefighting suppression, emergency medical services, and hazardous materials response.
- Provides mutual aid to fire departments in Livermore-Pleasanton, Alameda County, and Tracy.

U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Presidio Fire Department — The Presidio of San Francisco

- Provides fire prevention services, emergency firefighting suppression, emergency medical services, and hazardous materials response.
- Provides mutual aid to fire departments in San Francisco and Marin County.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Ames Research Center Fire Department — Moffett Field

- Provides fire prevention services, emergency firefighting suppression, aircraft rescue firefighting, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, and technical rescue response.
- Provides mutual aid to fire departments in Santa Clara County.

Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces — California

- The California Urban Search and Rescue task forces are a joint partnership between local sponsoring fire agencies, OES, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as components of the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System. They are primarily managed, coordinated, and deployed by the State Fire and Rescue Branch.[3]
- Eight of the twenty-eight Urban Search and Rescue task forces situated across the United States are in California.

[3] Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Branch, California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System, Urban Search and Rescue Program, Revised January 2004.

- Two of the eight task forces are within Region II:
  - California Task Force #3, Menlo Park Fire Department
  - California Task Force #4, Oakland Fire Department.
- Each task force is made up of sixty-two members, all of whom are specially trained and equipped to perform the required search, rescue, medical, and technical Urban Search and Rescue functions, including hazardous materials response. For further task force organizational details, see Appendix B, Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Organization Chart, and Appendix C, Urban Search and Rescue Team Typing.
- Each task force is ready for deployment within 6 hours of notification.
- All of California's task forces are sponsored by fire departments. The request for one of the task forces can be made through the fire, law, or medical mutual aid systems. If full task force resources are not required, single Urban Search and Rescue resources may be requested through the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System. See Appendix D, Process for Ordering Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region V Office — Vallejo

- Manages the eighteen national forests and one national grassland area in Region V, which includes California.
- Coordinates activities among national forests and has the ability to provide general firefighting personnel and equipment, tactical air operations for fire suppression activities, and remote sensing capability, including various types of fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters.
- Provides interagency Incident Management Teams.

U.S. Coast Guard, District 11 — Alameda

- Provides personnel and equipment for marine firefighting incidents and hazardous materials response.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX — San Francisco

- Provides technical assistance and advice about fires that involve hazardous materials and to identify uncontaminated water sources for firefighting.

FEDERAL RESOURCES DURING AN EMERGENCY OR DECLARATION OF DISASTER

When the resources of a state are exceeded by an event, the President of the United States may declare an emergency or disaster in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (the Stafford Act).[4] Under a Presidential declaration of emergency or disaster, the Federal Government provides financial resources and direct Federal assistance in response to requests from the state. FEMA coordinates the response to state requests for assistance. In accordance with the National Response Framework, the Federal Government organizes its resources according to ESFs, each of which is led by a Federal agency. ESFs that provide fire and rescue assistance are as follows. (For further details on the role of Federal agencies in emergencies and disasters, refer to the RECP Base Plan.)

Emergency Support Function #4 — Firefighting

- ESF #4 manages and coordinates firefighting activities, including the detection and suppression of fires on Federal lands, and provides personnel, equipment, and supplies in support of state and local agencies involved in rural and urban firefighting operations.
- The coordinating Federal agency for ESF #4 is the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service.

Emergency Support Function #9 — Urban Search and Rescue

- ESF #9 rapidly deploys components of the National Urban Search and Rescue response system to provide specialized life-saving assistance to state and local authorities during large-scale incidents requiring Urban Search and Rescue response activities.
- Urban Search and Rescue activities include locating, extricating, and providing medical treatment on site to victims trapped in collapsed structures.
- FEMA is the coordinating Federal agency for ESF #9.
- As previously described, eight Urban Search and Rescue teams within California may be deployed under ESF #9.

[4] 42 United States Code § 5121-5206.

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Section 4 | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Concept of Operations

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Section 4 – Concept of Operations

All levels of California's fire and rescue system operate in accordance with the Incident Command System, SEMS, and NIMS. The State Fire and Rescue Branch manages day-to-day operations of the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System. Its primary responsibility is to assist California fire services with mutual aid planning and coordination.

COORDINATION OF RESOURCES

Fire and rescue mutual aid operations begin at the local level, and, depending on the scope of the event, may involve support and coordination from Operational Areas, the region, and the state. At the local level, Fire Chiefs determine the magnitude of the fire and rescue emergency within their area and determine the need for fire and rescue resources. At the Operational Area, the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator manages the provision of mutual aid and communicates and coordinates with the Region II Mutual Aid Coordinator. The Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator manages the provision of mutual aid within the Region, and elevates requests to the SOC Fire and Rescue Branch Chief, who is responsible for the overall state management of fire and rescue mutual aid resources. Figure 3 illustrates coordination and resource requests for mutual aid systems among SEMS levels.

Fire and Rescue Resources

Fire and rescue mutual aid resources are relied upon at the local, Operational Area, regional, and state levels. Examples of fire and rescue resources include personnel, apparatus, and equipment under the direct control of the fire and rescue service needed to provide mutual aid assistance for all emergencies (including fire engines, ladder trucks, emergency medical service units, hazardous materials units, urban search and rescue, crash and fire rescue, bulldozers, helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft, hand crews, fire boats, and communications equipment).

Non-Fire and Rescue Resources

If a request for non-fire and rescue resources is passed through the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System to the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator, the coordinator passes that request to the REOC Fire and Rescue Branch Director, who coordinates with other disciplines in the REOC. Conversely, requests for fire and rescue resources that reach the REOC Operations Section are transmitted to the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator for allocation. The Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator decides how the resources will be allocated.

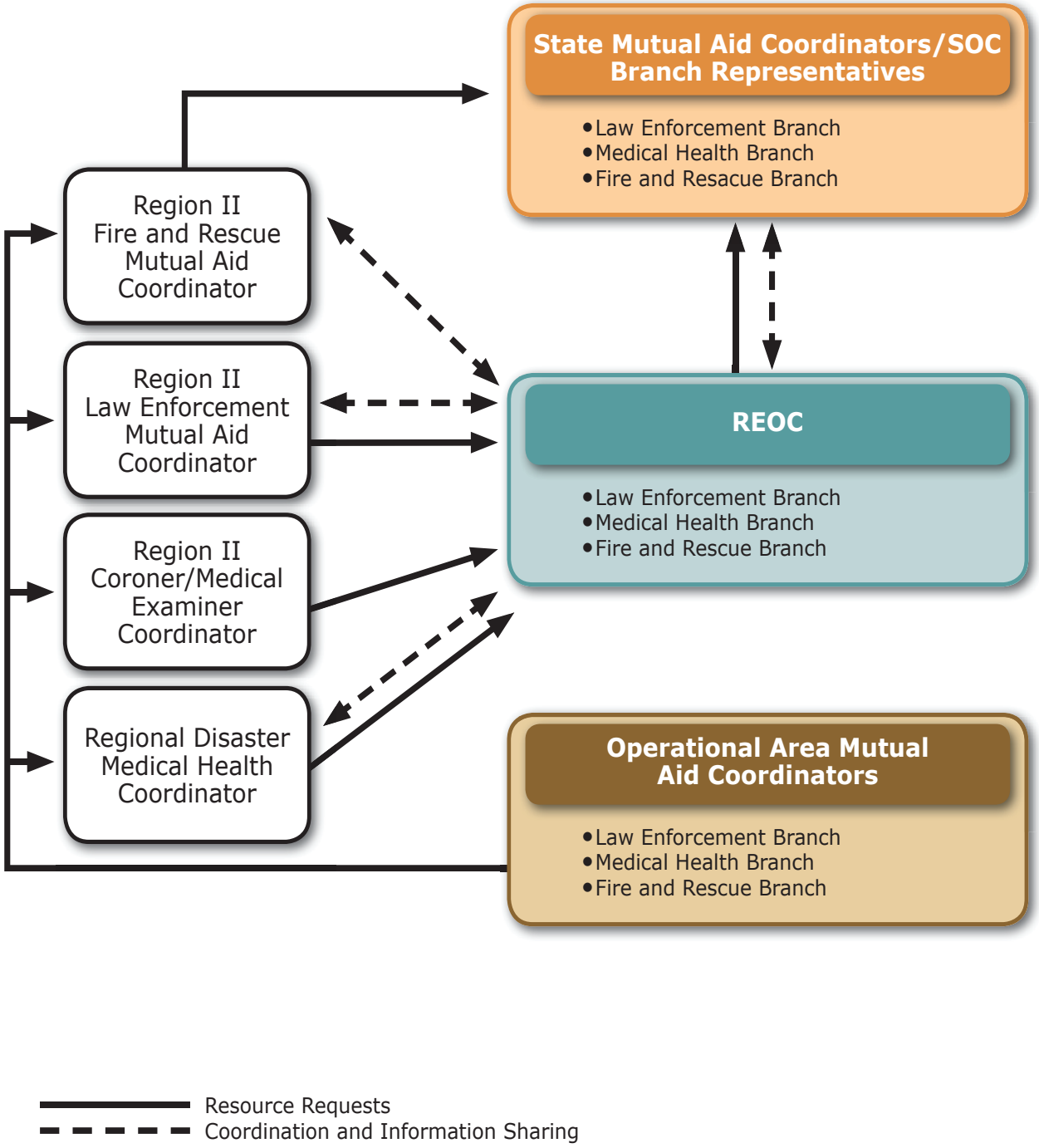

Figure 3
Mutual Aid Resource Requests

Federal Resources

If state and local fire and rescue capabilities are exceeded, the state may request Federal resources under a Presidential declaration of emergency or disaster, as previously described. Requirements for Federal fire and rescue resources are identified by the State Fire and Rescue Branch and requested through the SOC. Federal resources deployed through ESFs #4 and #9 are coordinated with local Incident Commanders by the State Fire and Rescue Branch.

Resource Request Tracking

The Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator tracks the availability of resources at the Operational Area level within Region II. Currently, this is accomplished using a web-based inventory updated periodically by Operational Area Mutual Aid Coordinators in the counties participating in the system.[5] For other counties, the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator contacts the Operational Area Mutual Aid Coordinators for updates.

Local, Operational Area, and regional mutual aid coordinators manage fire and rescue resources using the Resource Order Status System (ROSS). ROSS, which is used to manage resources rather than to track them, shows resources that have been requested, disposition of orders, and the current inventory of available resources. ROSS is a Federal system maintained by the U.S. Forest Service.

When a response originates from outside the requesting Operational Area jurisdiction, the State Fire and Rescue Branch assigns specific mission tasking numbers to track fire and rescue mutual aid resources that are tasked to specific incidents. At the regional level, the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator receives mission tasking or resource order numbers from the State Fire and Rescue Branch and pushes the assigned information down to the Operational Area Mutual Aid Coordinator(s).

Reimbursement

Under California's mutual aid system, mutual aid is provided without reimbursement unless conditions warrant invoking the terms of the California Fire Assistance Agreement by the State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator. Once this system is invoked, OES coordinates the reimbursement process and provides direction, ongoing guidance, and monitoring throughout the process until reimbursement is received by local agencies.

Mission numbers do not ensure reimbursement of response costs, nor do they imply that OES will cover the costs of the mission. Rather, they are a tracking tool that records a mutual aid incident and its disposition in a database for future reference and retrieval. Mission numbers

[5] The Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid website is located at http://oes.r02.org/.

ensure that OES will endorse claims by the tasked state agency for reimbursement from appropriate state and Federal agencies. Mission numbers issued by the SOC and REOC are valid only for state agencies. The existence of a mission number also implies that the State Fire and Rescue Branch queried the requestor to ensure that mutual aid criteria have been met prior to tasking an out-of-county mutual aid response. Federal or state reimbursement may be available for services provided during a Presidentially declared emergency or disaster.

Communications Systems

OES provides and maintains a statewide fire radio network service that consists of sixty-eight base stations and twenty-two mountain top repeaters. This communication network provides a link between the Operational Area dispatch centers, regional fire dispatch centers, and the OES Fire and Rescue Branch at the SOC. Specific to fire and rescue incidents, the most common key radio channels for emergency response coordination are the California On-Scene Emergency Coordination Channel (CALCORD), which is available to state and local public safety agencies and covers non-fire resource requests, and WHITE FIRE, which is available to all fire agencies. See Appendix E for the FIRESCOPE Statewide Channel Plan.

For fire incidents, the jurisdictional, on-scene authority identifies the appropriate communication system. For further details of regional emergency communications systems, refer to the RECP Communications Subsidiary Plan.

ACTIVATION

Similar to the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan, the concepts of the RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan are applied whenever fire and rescue mutual aid resources are required.

The Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System supports, and is coordinated with, the operation of the REOC in situations during which the REOC is activated. The REOC is activated when one or more Operational Area EOCs in the region is activated, or when ordered by the Regional Administrator or higher authority. The REOC Fire and Rescue Branch is activated at the discretion of the REOC Director and/or the REOC Operations Section Chief. At the state level, the Fire and Rescue Branch may operate before or without activation of the SOC.

To activate Federal response, the OES Director may choose to obtain the Governor's concurrence on the deployment of Urban Search and Rescue task force(s). Once the mission is approved, activation is made through the Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid System.[6]

[6] Governor's Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Branch, California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System, Urban Search and Rescue Program, Revised January 2004.

REGIONAL DECISION-MAKING

Resource Allocation

The Mutual Aid Coordinator at each SEMS level is responsible for filling resource requests and prioritizing resources based on the urgency of the request and priorities established in the action planning process. When requests exceed the resources available within the region, the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator forwards the request to the state level. For multidisciplinary events, the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator works directly with the REOC Fire and Rescue Branch Director to ensure that prioritization decisions are coordinated with decisions made by other disciplines.

The state may also form a MACS Group at the Operational Area, regional, and/or state level to coordinate fire and rescue resources. As defined under the Incident Command System, a MACS Group consists of multiple agencies/jurisdictions, and is a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications that are integrated into a common system for coordinating resources and supporting emergency operations through the prioritization of incidents and the sharing and allocation of critical resources. A MAC provides a basis for interagency coordination, with a focus on establishing priorities for response, allocating critical resources based on established priorities, and coordinating resource information.

Regional Response Activities

The REOC Director also may convene Regional Coordination Group conference calls, to include the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator, to discuss and coordinate regional response priorities, outstanding issues, and other response decisions, such as mutual aid requests. Additional agency representatives and subject matter experts may be included in these calls, as needed. The conference call also may involve mutual aid coordinators and/or branch directors from other disciplines when they are needed to implement decisions related to the response activities.

The objectives of a regional conference call are to determine the status of resources for response and how regional resources can be optimized to benefit the region, and to broker the provision of mutual aid resources from Operational Areas within the region. The REOC Director ensures that decisions made by this group are consistent with overall regional response strategies, and are interconnected and complementary, rather than duplicative.

REOC ACTION PLANNING

The REOC Planning and Intelligence Section will develop a REOC Action Plan for each operational period that the REOC is activated. The REOC Action Plan articulates REOC priorities, which form the

basis of coordination of response activities across the activated REOC disciplines (refer to the RECP Base Plan for more information). The REOC Fire and Rescue Branch Director may provide input on information received from the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator.

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

- All fire and rescue functions assigned to the Region are carried out from the Region II Fire Coordination Center. If the Region II Fire Coordination Center is damaged, inaccessible, or otherwise not functional, fire and rescue functions will be carried out from an alternate location within Region II.
- During an event that renders the Region II Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator unable to perform his or her duties, a pre-designated, alternate coordinator takes on this role for Region II. If the alternate coordinator is not able to perform the assignment, then the State Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Coordinator assigns a coordinator, which most likely would be a Fire Chief from an unaffected area.
- The State Fire and Rescue Branch determines which region is assigned this responsibility based on the circumstances of the event.
- If the ROSS system is down, resource cards are used as a fallback method for tracking resources.

Appendix A | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

List of Acronyms

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Appendix A – List of Acronyms

CALCORD	California On-Scene Emergency Coordination Channel
EOC	Emergency Operations Center
ESF	Emergency Support Function
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
MACS	Multi-Agency Coordination System
OASIS	Operational Area Satellite Information System
OES	Governor's Office of Emergency Services
NIMS	National Incident Management System
RECP	Regional Emergency Coordination Plan
REOC	Regional Emergency Operations Center
RIMS	Response Information Management System
ROSS	Resource Order Status System
SEMS	Standardized Emergency Management System
SOC	State Operations Center

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Appendix B | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Organization Chart

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Appendix B – Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Organization Chart

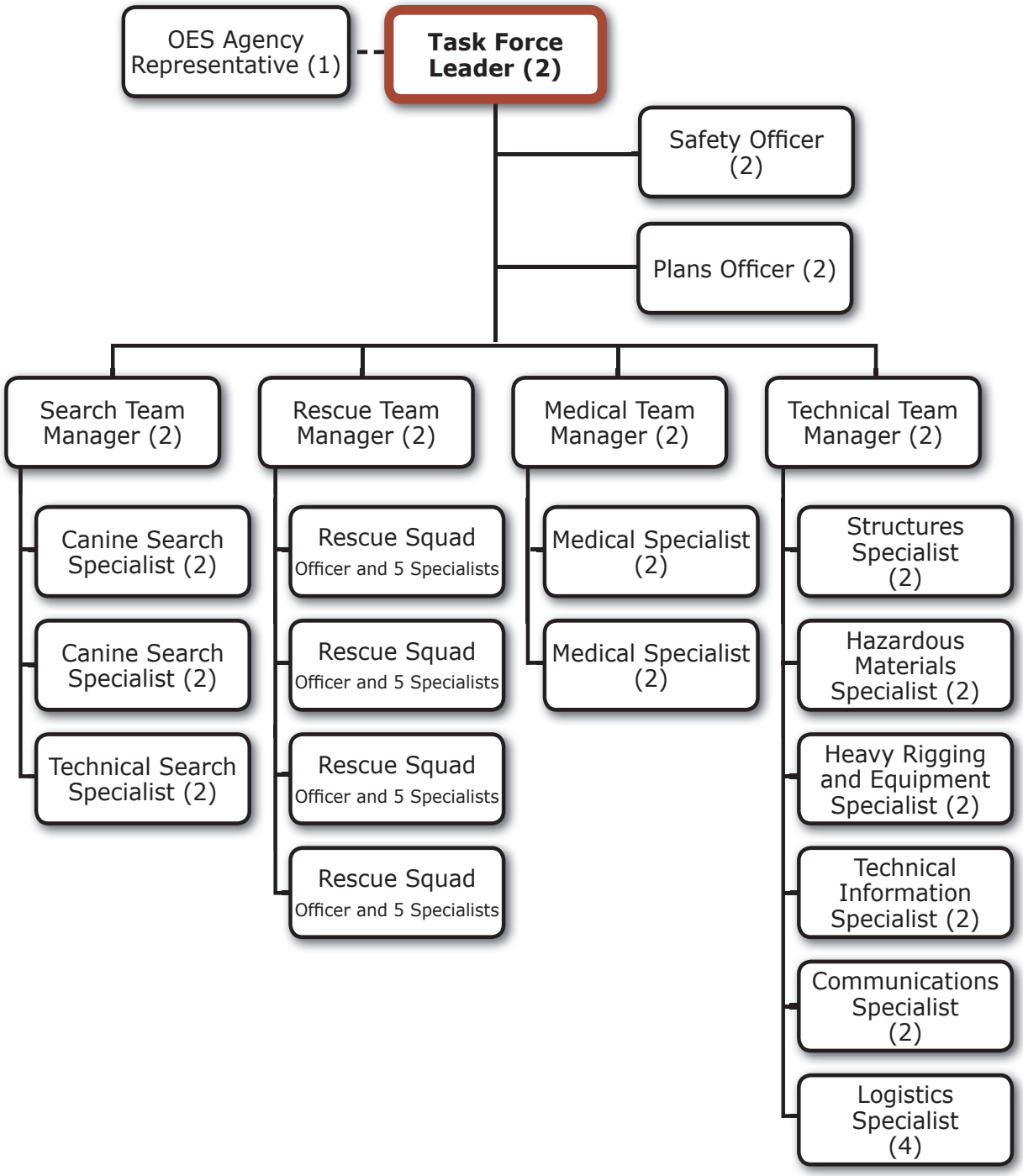

Figure B-1
Urban Search and Rescue Task Force

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Appendix C | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Urban Search and Rescue Team
Typing Levels of Operational Capability

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Appendix C – Urban Search and Rescue Team Typing Levels of Operational Capability

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TYPE 4 (BASIC) OPERATIONAL LEVEL

Represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at incidents involving non-structural entrapment. Personnel at this level shall be competent at surface rescue that involves minimal removal of debris and building contents to extricate easily accessible victims from damaged, but non-collapsed structures.

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TYPE 3 (LIGHT) OPERATIONAL LEVEL

Represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations for incidents involving the collapse or failure of light-frame construction. This level is also capable of conducting low-angle or one-person load rope rescue.

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TYPE 2 (MEDIUM) OPERATIONAL LEVEL

Represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of heavy wall construction. This level is also capable of conducting high-angle rope rescue (not including highline systems), confined space rescue (no permit required), and trench and excavation rescue.

URBAN SEARCH AND RESCUE TYPE 1 (HEAVY) OPERATIONAL LEVEL

Represents the minimum capability to conduct safe and effective search and rescue operations at structure collapse incidents involving the collapse or failure of heavy floor, pre-cast concrete, and steel frame construction. This level is also capable of conducting high-angle rope rescue (including highline systems), confined space rescue (permit required), and mass transportation rescue.

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Appendix D | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

Process for Ordering Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces

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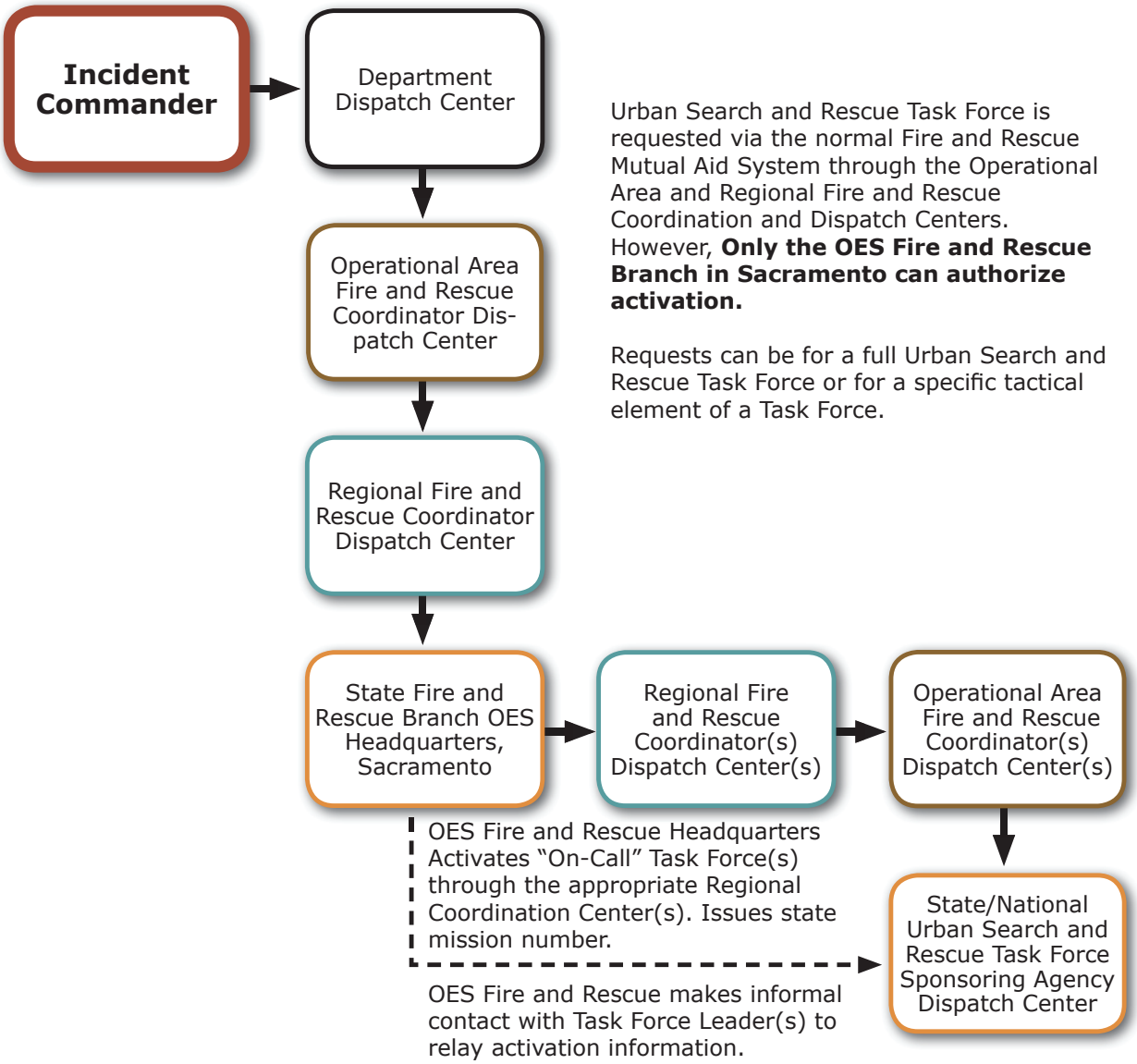
Appendix D – Process for Ordering Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces



Resource Ordering and Request Information

- Type and nature of incident or potential situation.
- Number and type of Urban Search and Rescue resource(s) requested.
  (Full Task Force or specialized elements.)
  (OES will indicate requested task force(s) by agency name and task force number.)
- Requesting agency (order and request number if applicable).
- State mission number.
- Reporting location.

Figure D-1
Procedures for In-State Request for Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces

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Appendix E | RECP Fire and Rescue Subsidiary Plan

FIRESCOPE Statewide VHF Channel Plan

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Appendix E – FIRESCOPE Statewide VHF Channel Plan*

First Priority

Channel ID	Receive and Transmit Direct	Repeater Transmit	Bandwidth	Transmit Power	Usage Notes
WHITE 1	154.2800		WIDE	HIGH	1
WHITE 2	154.2650		WIDE	HIGH	1
WHITE 3	154.2950		WIDE	HIGH	1
CALCORD	156.0750		WIDE	HIGH	2
CDF COMMAND 1	151.3550	159.3000	WIDE	HIGH	3,7
CDF COMMAND 2	151.2650	159.3300	WIDE	HIHG	3,7
CDF COMMAND 3	151.3400	159.3450	WIDE	HIGH	3,7
CA TRAVEL NET	169.1250	168.3250	NARROW	HIGH	3,4
OES 1	154.1600		WIDE	HIGH	
OES 2	154.2200		WIDE	HIGH	
CDF TAC 2	151.1600		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 10	151.4000		WIDE	HIGH	7
NIFC COMMAND 1	168.7000	170.9750	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC COMMAND 2	168.1000	170.4500	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC COMMAND 3	168.0750	170.4250	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC COMMAND 4	166.6125	168.4000	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC COMMAND 5	167.1000	169.7500	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC COMMAND 6	168.4750	173.8125	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC COMMAND 7	162.9625	171.7875	NARROW	LOW	3,4,5,6
NIFC TAC 1	168.0500		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
NIFC TAC 2	168.2000		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
NIFC TAC 3	168.6000		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
NIFC TAC 4	164.1375		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
NIFC TAC 5	166.7250		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
NIFC TAC 6	166.7750		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
NIFC TAC 7	168.2500		NARROW	LOW	4,5,6
USFS R5 TAC 4	173.9125		NARROW	LOW	5,6
USFS R5 TAC 5	173.9625		NARROW	LOW	5,6
USFS R5 TAC 6	173.9875		NARROW	LOW	5,6
USFS AIR-GROUND	170.0000		NARROW	LOW	5,6
CDF AIR-GROUND	151.2200		WIDE	LOW	5
BLM AIR-GROUND	167.9500		NARROW	LOW	5,6
AIR GUARD	168.6250		NARROW	LOW	5,9

*July 2005

Second Priority Channels – Narrowband VHF Interoperability Channels Available for Primary Usage on January 1, 2005

Vcall	155.7525		NARROW	HIGH	8
VTAC 1	151.1375		NARROW	LOW	5,8
VTAC 2	154.4525		NARROW	LOW	5,8
VTAC 3	158.7375		NARROW	LOW	5,8
VTAC 4	159.4725		NARROW	LOW	5,8

Third Priority Channels – CDF Tactical Channels and CDF Command Channels (excluding CDF Tacticals 2 and 10 and Commands 1, 2, and 3 already contained in first priority)

CDF TAC 1	151.1450		NARROW	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 3	151.1750		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 4	151.1900		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 5	151.2500		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 6	151.3250		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 7	151.3400		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 8	151.3700		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 9	151.3850		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 11	151.4450		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 12	151.4600		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 13	151.4750		NARROW	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 14	159.2250		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 15	159.2700		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 16	159.2850		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 17	159.3150		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 18	159.3450		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 19	159.3600		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 20	159.3750		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 21	159.3900		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 22	159.4050		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF TAC 23	159.4500		WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 4	151.4000	159.3750	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 5	151.3700	159.2850	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 6	151.2500	159.3600	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 7	151.4600	159.3900	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 8	151.4450	159.3450	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 9	151.1750	159.4500	WIDE	HIGH	7
CDF COMMAND 10	151.1900	159.2250	WIDE	HIGH	7

Fourth Priority Channels – U.S. Forest Service Administration and Support Nets, Bureau of Land Management, National Parks, and Statewide Operational Area Mutual Aid Channels

To be determined as a result of a statewide audit of appropriate mutual aid channels by Operational Area.

Usage Notes

1. The WHITE channels require individual licensing from the FCC. WHITE Channel operational policies are outlined in OES Fire Operations Bulletin 28.
2. Use of CALCORD is subject to the CALCORD Plan, under an executed CALCORD agreement with OES. Contact OES Telecommunication (916-845-8630) for information.
3. Federal and State of California Agencies use the following sixteen tones for repeater access. These must be included for repeater use. These tones must be programmed on the transmit side only of mobile and portable radios.

1. 110.9	2. 123.0	3. 131.8	4. 136.5
5. 146.2	6. 156·7	7. 167.9	8. 103.5
9. 100.0	10. 107.2	11. 114.8	12. 127.3
13. 141.3	14. 151.4	15. 162.2	16. 192.8

4. In order to program California Travel Net, all “Note 4” channels (NIFC Command and Tactical channels) must be programmed in the radio.
5. Transmitters are to be set to the lowest available power setting on this frequency
6. For use when assigned by an incident. Incident COMLs must obtain authorization for the use of these channels through the NIFC Communications Duty Officer (208-387-5644).
7. For use when assigned by an Incident. Incident COMLs must obtain authorization for the use of these channels through the CDF Southern Region or Northern Region Command Center
8. Specific channel usage guidelines will be determined by the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (CALSIEC). Tone 6 (156.7Hz) is used as the common tone (transmit and receive).
9. National Air Guard – 168.625 MHz – A National Interagency Air Guard frequency for government aircraft assigned to incidents. It is used in emergency communications for aviation. A separate receiver is required to permit continuous monitoring in aircraft. Transmitters on this frequency should be equipped with an encoder on 110.0 Hz.

   168.625 is restricted to the following use:

   1. Air-to-air emergency contact and coordination.
   2. Ground-to-air emergency contact.
   3. Initial call, recall, and re-direction of aircraft when no other contact frequency is available.

All ICS205 Communications Plans on incidents that use federal or CDF aircraft should have this channel programmed in the last available channel slot of cache portable radios.

The following Interoperability Channels in the 800 MHz band are available for use by the California Fire Service:

Channel ID	Receive and Xmit Direct	Repeater Transmit	Usage Notes
Int’l Calling Channel (ICALL)	866.0125	821.0125	10
Int’l Tactical Channel 1 (ITAC 1)	866.5125	821.5125	10
Int’l Tactical Channel 2 (ITAC 2)	867.0125	822.0125	10
Int’l Tactical Channel 3 (ITAC 3)	867.5125	822.5125	10
Int’l Tactical Channel 4 (ITAC 4)	868.0125	823..0125	10
Statewide Fire/EMC Tactical (FIREMARS)	868.9875	823.9875	11
Northern CA Fire/EMC Tactical (FIREMARS 2)	866.9125	821.9125	11,12

10. These channels are for inter-agency/inter-discipline use. No single-agency, routine communications permitted. Tone 6 (156.7 Hz) is used as the International common tone (transmit and receive).
11. Use as a Fire and EMS single-agency or strike-team common channel is permitted. Tone 6 (156.7 Hz.) is used as the common tone (transmit and receive). Use is subject to an executed use agreement with OES. Contact OES Telecommunications (916-845-8630) for information.
12. Not available for use in Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, or Ventura counties.

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