Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization And County Of San Diego Operational Area Emergency Plan

ANNEX B
Fire And Rescue Mutual Aid Operations

October 2010
Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization

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ANNEX B
FIRE AND RESCUE MUTUAL AID OPERATIONS

I. General

Introduction

This Operations Plan is created and intended to be an integral part of the San Diego County Operational Area Emergency Plan and the current State of California Fire and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan. In addition, it identifies the implementation procedures for mutual aid and other support.

In keeping with the “All-Risk” capabilities expected of fire service agencies, an effective Operations Plan must include provisions for, but not be limited to, fire and rescue operations, earthquake, floods, civil disturbance, riots, acts of terrorism, industrial accidents, hazardous material incidents, mass casualty incidents, air and water pollution.

Intent

No single community or agency has the ability or resources sufficient to cope with any and all emergencies for which the potential exists. This plan is designed to meet the anticipated needs of local agencies within pre-designated response zones, to access resources of adjacent agencies within the operational area, and to access the resources of other jurisdictions within Region VI or beyond, if necessary, to meet the needs of emergency incidents.

Purpose

1. To provide for the systematic mobilization, organization and operation of fire and rescue resources within each sub-regional response zone of the San Diego County Operational Area and to mitigate the effects of any disaster whether natural or man-caused.

2. To provide a comprehensive and compatible plan for expediting the mobilization and response of available fire and rescue resources on a local, area, region or statewide basis.

3. To provide for an annually updated fire and rescue inventory of all personnel, apparatus and equipment in the Operational Area.

4. To provide a plan for the interchange and dissemination of fire and rescue-related data, directives, and information between fire and rescue officials of local, area, region, state and federal agencies.

5. To identify the resources necessary for locating and removing endangered, trapped, injured, or isolated persons and providing adequate care.

6. To minimize loss of life, subsequent disability, and human suffering by ensuring timely and coordinated firefighting and search and rescue efforts.

7. To provide a system for locating, gaining access to and extricating people in need of assistance.
8. To promote annual training and/or exercises between plan participants.

Planning Basis

1. No community has resources sufficient to cope with any and all emergencies for which potential exists.

2. Fire and rescue managers must preplan emergency operations to ensure efficient utilization of available resources.

3. Basic to California's emergency planning is a statewide system of mutual aid, in which each local jurisdiction relies first upon its own resources.

4. The California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement between the State of California, each of its counties and those incorporated cities and fire protection districts signatory thereto:
   A. Creates a formal structure for provision of mutual aid.
   B. Provides that no party shall be required to unreasonably deplete its own resources in furnishing mutual aid.
   C. Provides that the responsible local official in whose jurisdiction(s) an incident occurs requiring mutual aid, shall remain in charge at such incident, including the direction of such personnel and equipment provided through mutual aid plans pursuant to the agreement.
   D. Provides that the intra-and inter-area and intra-regional mutual aid operational plans shall be developed by the parties thereof and are operative as between the parties thereof in accordance with the provisions of such operational plans.
   E. Provides that reimbursement for mutual aid extended under the California Fire Service and Rescue System Mutual Aid Plan and the operational plans adopted pursuant thereto, shall only be pursuant to the state law and policies in accordance with the State Office of Emergency Services polices and procedures.

5. Certain specialized types of fire and rescue resources may be considered outside of the mutual aid agreement by the responding agency and therefore may be subject to a pre-established agreement, which may be available only on a reimbursement basis.

6. Note: The United States Forest Service (USFS) is not a participant of the San Diego County Mutual Aid System. Therefore, all of their resources may fall into the category of “Assistance by Hire” including all applicable administrative charges and use fees. Consequently, all local resources who may respond to a request by the USFS may also fall into the category of “Assistance by Hire”.

7. The state is divided into six mutual aid regions to facilitate the coordination of mutual aid. San Diego County is located in Mutual Aid Region VI. Through this system, the Governor's Office is informed of conditions in each geographic and organizational area of the state, and the occurrence of an imminent threat of disaster.
8. In addition to fire and rescue resources, this plan includes both public and private agencies with support capability and/or emergency responsibilities.

9. This plan, as part of the San Diego County Operational Area plan, should be distributed to and discussed with management, command, operational, and support level personnel within each jurisdiction.

10. Emergency operations plans must be continuously reviewed, revised when necessary, and tested to encompass change and refinement consistent with experience gained through disaster operations and training, and changes in resource availability.

**Policy Statements**

In that Operational and Regional Plans are required to be consistent with the statewide Master Mutual Aid Agreement and the California Fire Assistance Agreement, the following policy statements are applicable to this operational plan.

1. The basic tenets of emergency planning are self-help and mutual aid.

2. Emergency planning and preparation is a task, which must be shared by all political subdivisions and industries as well as every individual citizen.

3. The California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan provides a practical and flexible pattern for the orderly development and operation of mutual aid on a voluntary basis between cities, cities and counties, fire districts, special districts, county fire department, and applicable state agencies. Normal fire department operating procedures are utilized, including day-to-day mutual aid agreements and plans, which have been developed by Fire and Rescue officials.

4. Reimbursement for mutual aid may be provided pursuant to a Governor's disaster proclamation or when conditions warrant invoking the Fire Assistance Agreement. There is no other existing provision for mutual aid reimbursement.
   
   A. Cal EMA shall be required to provide direction, ongoing guidance and monitoring throughout the process until reimbursement is received by local agencies.
   
   B. Memorandums of understanding between federal, state and local agencies will not include a commitment of local resources without the expressed, written consent of the local jurisdictions(s).

5. In developing emergency plans, provisions should be made for integrating fire and rescue resources into mutual aid organizations for both fire and non-fire related disaster; i.e., earthquake, flood, radiological defense, hazardous materials incidents, war/terrorism related sheltering and or relocation of significant portions of the population. In planning for war/terrorism related emergencies, provisions for pre and post attack activities should be included; i.e., shelter improvement, radiological monitoring and decontamination.

6. In developing local mutual aid and emergency preparedness plans, provisions must be made for liability and property damage insurance coverage on apparatus and
equipment used beyond the territorial limits of the political subdivision. Consideration must be given to the rights, privileges, and immunities of paid, volunteer, and auxiliary personnel in order that they may be fully protected while performing their duties under a mutual aid agreement or an emergency preparedness plan. Provision is made in state law to deal with these matters, and the procedure outlined therein should be followed to ensure maximum protection.

II. Organization And Responsibilities

Responsibilities of Local Agency

1. Reasonably exhaust local resources before calling for outside assistance.

2. Render the maximum practicable assistance to all emergency stricken communities, under provisions of the San Diego County Fire Mutual Aid Agreement.

3. Upon request, will provide a current annual inventory of all fire department qualified personnel, apparatus and equipment to the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator through the California Fire Inventory Records System.

4. Provide for receiving and disseminating information, data and directives.

5. Coordinate and conduct necessary training to adequately perform functions and responsibilities during emergencies.

6. Provide resources consistent with standards identified in the Field Operations Guide (ICS 420-1) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

Responsibilities of the Fire and Rescue Administrator

The Fire Chief, or senior fire and rescue official by other designated title of each local entity providing public fire protection, will serve as fire and rescue representative to their respective Zone Fire and Rescue Coordinator.

The Fire Chief in whose jurisdiction the incident occurs shall request their dispatch center to contact the Zone Coordinator to respond with mutual aid assistance. Whenever the incident is, or potentially will be, beyond the capabilities of that local agency, the requesting agency should specify the exact resources needed. This resource is generally provided by a request for designated resources by type with a specific capability. When there is a need for specialized equipment, the procedural request should still be made through the Zone Coordinator.

1. Directs all action toward stabilizing and mitigating the emergency including controlling fires, saving lives, safeguarding property and assisting other emergency services in restoring normal conditions.

2. Develops an effective emergency plan for use of the resources under its control and ensures that such a plan is integrated into the emergency plan of the operational area of which the fire and rescue administrator is a part. This plan should include provisions for, but not be limited to, fire and rescue operations, earthquake, floods,
Civil disturbance, riots, acts of terrorism, industrial accidents, hazardous material incidents, mass casualty incidents, air and water pollution.

3. Makes maximum use of existing facilities and services within each community prior to requesting assistance from neighboring jurisdictions.

4. Conducts mutual aid activities in accordance with established operational procedures.

5. During emergency operations, keeps the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator informed on all matters.

6. If receiving mutual aid, maintains responsibility for all logistical support of mutual aid personnel and equipment consistent with the State Mutual Aid Plan and any other local agreements.

7. Prepares personnel and equipment inventories and forward copies to the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators annually.

8. Maintains an up-to-date schedule for alerting fire and rescue personnel in emergencies and a checklist of timely actions to be taken to put emergency operations plans into effect.

9. Establishes emergency communication capabilities with the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator.

10. Anticipates emergency needs for such items as emergency fire equipment, commonly used spare parts and expendable supplies and accessories, and ensures functional availability of these items in locations convenient for ready use.

11. Develops a radiological monitoring capability and comprehensive training program within the department.

12. When requesting aid will be in charge of all staffing and apparatus received. Requests for mutual aid will be directed to the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator via the Zone Coordinator.

13. Provides mutual aid resources when requested by the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator to the extent of their availability without unreasonably depleting local resources.

14. Maintains appropriate records, data, and other pertinent information of mutual aid resources committed.

15. Provides approximate time commitment and justification of mutual aid needs in request for resources to the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator. Periodically evaluates the need for mutual aid committed and notifies the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator.
Responsibilities of the Zone Coordinator/Process for changing Zones

The Zone Coordinator is elected for a three-year term by the fire rescue chiefs within a designated zone. Zones are established by the Fire Advisory Committee. (Reference: San Diego County Fire Mutual Aid Agreement). The criteria for changing zones can be found in Appendix I. Criteria to form a Zone:

**Geographic**
- No splitting of agency boundaries
- No isolating of agencies
- Take advantage of highway network
- Balancing of Resources (relative to risk)

**Operational Efficiency**
- Most efficient access to M/A resources
- Distribution of resources
- Surge Capacity
- Zone Risk (Wildland, High Rise, Urbanization, etc.)

Local agencies requesting assistance from outside their jurisdiction request their dispatch centers to contact their Zone Coordinator. The Zone Coordinator will then contact the Area Fire Coordinator (Echo I). The Zone Coordinator should keep the Op Area Coordinator apprised of any significant changes in resource status

When notified by the local jurisdiction that their resources are inadequate to cope with the emergency at hand, the following steps should be taken:
1. Activate local mutual aid plan.
2. Notify the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator.
3. Request needed resources.
4. Prepare to receive and utilize mutual aid requested/provided.
5. For further details See Appendix I

Responsibilities of the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator

The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator is elected by the San Diego County Fire Chiefs for a three-year term. The Coordinator shall appoint two or more alternate fire and rescue coordinators.

The Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator is notified whenever required resources exceed the capability of a particular zone, when more than one jurisdiction is involved in mutual aid, and when the incident is within the area but beyond the resources of the jurisdiction in which it occurs.
Zone Coordinators requesting assistance outside their zones request their dispatch centers to contact the Area Coordinator, who will then process the request and provide the closest available resources to respond. Resources will be dispatched using the criteria found in the categories listed in the Field Operations Guide, ICS 420-1.

1. Organizes and acts as chairperson of an Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinating Committee composed of the Alternate Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators and/or fire chiefs within the operational area. The committee may include others as deemed necessary by the chairperson. This committee shall meet at least once each year and may hold additional meetings as deemed necessary by the chairperson.

2. In cooperation with the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinating Committee, will:
   A. Organize, staff and equip area fire and rescue dispatch centers in accordance with the principles enumerated in the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan.
   B. Aid and encourage the development of uniform fire and rescue operational plans within the area.
   C. Aid and encourage the development of countywide fire and rescue communication nets operating on the approved fire frequencies for the county.
   D. Maintain an up-to-date inventory system on fire and rescue apparatus and personnel within the area for use in dispatching. Compile and forward this information to the respective Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator annually.
   E. Develop a dispatching procedure for all state-owned OES fire apparatus, rescue truck, communication vehicles and other specialized resources assigned within the area.
   F. Provide fire and rescue coordination to the County OES Operational Area Disaster Preparedness Official.
   G. Responsible to aid and assist local, region and state officials in planning, requesting, and utilizing mobilization centers as needed for staging strike teams and personnel where appropriate.

3. During a “State of War Emergency”, shall report to the Area Emergency Operations Center to serve on the staff of the Operational Area Disaster Preparedness Director. If necessary, an authorized representative may serve on this staff in place of the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator.

4. During a “State of Emergency” declared by the Governor, or as may be necessary, shall report to the Area Emergency Operations Center or such other location as directed by the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator. If necessary, an authorized representative may assume this duty.
5. Will be responsible for coordination of all fire and rescue resources within the operational area on major mutual aid operations.

   A. If the emergency is within the jurisdiction of the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator and the emergency overloads the communication facilities, the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator may assign dispatching of mutual aid equipment to an alternate fire and rescue dispatch center.

   B. Shall keep the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator informed of all operations.

   C. Evaluates requests for assistance from local agency and determines the resources from that operational area which can provide the most timely assistance and initiates appropriate response thereof. Determines if the timeliest assistance is from one adjacent operational area and if so, requests assistance from that Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator not to exceed five engine companies or individual resources, and notifies the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent area, either for timely responses or when the need is beyond the operational area capability, the request must be made to the region.

   D. Determines approximate time commitment and justification of resources issued to local agency, and length of time it will utilize these resources. Periodically evaluates the justification and commitment to the local agency of these resources and notifies the region.

   E. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator will advise the requesting jurisdiction of the origin of resources responding to the request for assistance.

   F. Shall notify and advise the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator, in a timely manner, of the need to establish mobilization centers and/or staging areas.

6. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator is not responsible for any direct fire or other emergency operations accept those which occur with the jurisdiction of its own department, agency, etc. The local official in whose jurisdiction the emergency exists shall remain in full charge of all fire and rescue resources, staffing, and equipment furnished for mutual aid operations.

7. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator along with the Office of Emergency Services, is responsible for the update of this annex every four years.

8. Keeps the Zone Coordinators informed of resource status within the Operational Area.

**Responsibilities of the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator**

1. Organizes and acts as chairperson of the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinating Committee, composed of Alternate Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinators and the
Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators within the region. This committee may include others as deemed necessary by the chairperson. This committee shall meet at least once a year and may hold additional meetings as deemed necessary by the chairperson.

2. On receipt of information of an emergency within the region, this may require regional mutual aid, or upon request of the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator, shall assume responsibility for coordination and dispatch of regional mutual aid resources.

3. In cooperation with the Fire and Rescue Coordinating Committee shall:
   A. Organize, staff, and equip a Regional Fire and Rescue dispatch center in accordance with the principles enumerated in the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan.
   B. Select and submit to the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator, the names of individuals to serve as its alternates at the Regional Fire and Rescue dispatch centers.
   C. Aid and encourage the development of uniform fire and rescue emergency plans within the region, through the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators.
   D. Aid and encourage the development of countywide fire and rescue communication nets, tying CAL FIRE departments to an Operational Area Fire and Rescue dispatch center.
   E. Maintain an up-to-date inventory system of fire and rescue apparatus and personnel within the region for use in dispatching. Compile and forward this information to the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator annually.

4. During a "State of War Emergency", the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator or the authorized representatives shall report to the Regional Emergency Control Center, acting as Fire and Rescue liaison to the OES Regional Manager.

5. During a "State of Emergency" proclaimed by the Governor, or as may be necessary, the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator or the alternate will report to the Regional Emergency Control Center or other locations as directed by the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator.

6. Is responsible for dispatching all Cal EMA and/or CAL FIRE and rescue resources within the region on major mutual aid operations.
   A. If the emergency exists within the jurisdiction of the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator and overloads the communication facilities, the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator may assign dispatching of mutual aid equipment to an Alternate Regional Fire and Rescue dispatch center.
   B. Keeps the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator informed of all operations within the region.
   C. Evaluates requests for assistance from area and determines the region resources from that region which can provide the most timely assistance, and initiates appropriate response thereof. Determines if the timeliest assistance is from an adjacent region and if so, requests assistance from
that Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator (not to exceed five engines or individual resources), and must notify the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator of this action. When resources are needed from more than one adjacent region, either for timely response or when the need is beyond region capability, the request must be made to the State.

D. Needs to request approximate time commitment and justification of resources issued to operational area, and length of time it will utilize these resources. Shall periodically evaluate the justification and commitment to the Operational Area of these resources, and notify the State.

E. The Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator will advise the requesting Area of the source of all assistance responding to the Area.

F. Shall notify and advise the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator, in a timely manner, of the need to establish mobilization centers and/or staging areas.

7. Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator will monitor and coordinate backup coverage within an area or region when there is a shortage of resources.

8. Calls and conducts elections within the respective Operational Areas for Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator. These elections will be held every three years and when a vacancy occurs or at the request of the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator. Communications and dispatch requirements will be considered in electing coordinators.

9. The Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator is not responsible for any direct fire or other emergency operations except those, which occur within the jurisdiction of its own department, agency, etc. The local official in whose jurisdiction the emergency exists shall remain in full charge of all fire and rescue resources furnished for mutual aid operations.

10. Responsible to aid and assist in planning, utilizing, and requesting mobilization centers as needed for staging strike teams during mutual aid operations.

Responsibilities of the Chief, State Fire and Rescue Coordinator

1. The Office of Emergency Services, Fire and Rescue Division:

A. Prepares, maintains, and distributes the basic California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan for coordinating statewide emergency fire and rescue resources which include, but are not limited to, all regularly established fire and rescue services within the state.

B. Develops and maintains a "Fire and Rescue Emergency Operations Plan" and "Standard Operating Procedure" for the use and dispatch of OES Fire and Rescue personnel, apparatus and other fire and rescue resources as necessary. Such plans shall be made available to appropriate levels of command; i.e., Operational Area and Region Fire and Rescue Coordinators, dispatch centers, and CAL FIRE and rescue officials.
C. Organizes, staffs, and equips the State Fire and Rescue dispatch center and alternate facilities necessary to ensure effective statewide coordination and control of mutual aid fire and rescue operations.

D. Monitors ongoing emergency situations, anticipates needs, and prepares for use of inter-regional fire and rescue mutual aid resources, establishing priorities and authorizing dispatch.

E. State Fire and Rescue Coordinator will monitor and coordinate backup coverage between regions when there is a shortage of resources.

F. Consults with and keeps the Director of the Office of Emergency Services informed on all matters pertaining to the fire and rescue services, and through the State Fire and Rescue Coordinator, keeps the California Emergency Council informed of current policy matters and proposed revisions in the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan.

G. Consults with and assists federal and other state agency representatives on all matters of mutual interest to the fire and rescue service.

H. Coordinates fire and rescue emergency mutual aid operations throughout the state, both on and off scene.

I. Assists state and CAL FIRE and rescue agencies in utilizing federal assistance programs available to them and keeps them informed of new legislation affecting these programs.

J. Assists in the coordination of the application and use of other state agency resources during a "State of Emergency" or "State of War Emergency."

K. Develops and provides training programs and materials for effective application and utilization of the California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid Plan.

L. Encourages the development of training programs for specialized emergencies involving fire and rescue services; i.e., radiological monitoring, civil disturbances, staff and command training.

M. Calls for and conducts elections for Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator. These elections will be held every three years or any time a vacancy occurs.

N. Develops procedures for reimbursement of state and local agency expenses associated with assistance rendered during a major incident.

O. Standardizes forms and procedures for the records required for response of OES and/or CAL FIRE and rescue resources responding to incidents or operational area coverage which qualify for reimbursement.
III. Concept Of Operations

System Overview

The fire and rescue mutual aid defined in this local operational plan is rendered pursuant to the California Master Mutual Aid Agreement and is based upon an incremental and progressive system of mobilization. Mobilization plans have been based upon the concept of providing a fire-rescue entity sufficient resources, without extraordinarily depleting fire and rescue defenses outside of the area of disaster. Under normal conditions, fire rescue mutual aid plans are activated in ascending order starting with local, operational area, region, and Inter-Region. In certain circumstances mobilization of significant fire and rescue forces from within the area or region of the disaster may be impractical and imprudent. Inter-regional mutual aid is, therefore, not contingent upon mobilization of uncommitted resources within the region of the disaster.

1. Rescue resources include resources available through automatic and/or day-to-day mutual aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions. Local mobilization plans are activated by requests to participating agencies and must provide for notification of the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator upon activation. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall be notified of those committed resources in order to determine resource availability for subsequent response.

2. Operational Area fire and rescue resources are resources made available to a participating agency through the approved and adopted San Diego County Mutual Aid Agreement. Mobilization of Operational Area resources are activated by the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator or designated representative, in response to a request for assistance from an authorized fire official of the participating agency in need. The Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator must notify the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator of all area resources committed. Following are the general terms of the San Diego County Mutual Aid Agreement

   A. All mutual aid provided under this agreement will be without expectation of reimbursement for the duration of the incident so long as no out of county resources which are being reimbursed are assigned to the incident

   B. Once an out of county resource eligible for reimbursement is assigned to the incident, any mutual aid resources provided by Operational Area agencies will be eligible for reimbursement from the time of their original assignment to the incident.

3. Regional fire and rescue defense resources include all resources available to a participating agency through the approved and adopted Regional Fire and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan. Operational Area plans are significant elements of the regional plans.

4. In response to a request for assistance from an Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator, the mobilization of regional fire and rescue resources are directed by the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator. Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinators must notify the Chief, OES Fire and Rescue Division, of resources committed.
5. Fire and Rescue Dispatch Centers must be adequately equipped for emergency operations. They should be located in a facility which conducts 24-hour a day operations, and must be equipped to permit direct communications with all fire and rescue service agencies within their area of operations. They must be staffed with competent personnel and equipped with such maps, charts, records and operational data as are necessary to perform emergency operations. Alternate Fire and Rescue Dispatch Centers should have the same capability as primary centers, thus ensuring continued operations in the event of failure of the primary centers.

IV. Communications

System Overview

Communications at emergency incidents are managed through the use of a common communications plan and an incident-based communication center established solely for the use of command, tactical and support resources assigned to the incident. This includes incident-established radio networks, on-site telephone, public address, and off-site incident telephone/microwave/radio systems.

The control point for integrated communications in the field is Echo III, or alternate mobile communications vehicles such as the Sheriff’s Mutual Aid Communications Van, regional interoperable communications vehicles and RACES 1. Echo III is a mobile command center, which is dispatched to the incident to assign and coordinate radio frequency use, as set forth in the Incident Command System (Ref. Field Operations Guide ICS 420-1).

The communications system used by all fire agencies within the San Diego County Operational Area is described in Annex I.

System Capability

The current radio systems in place throughout the Operational Area are designed to provide each fire agency with a Local Communications Net, Command and Tactical Frequencies and a County Mutual Aid Command Net.

The communication units are responsible for developing plans to make the most effective use of incident-assigned communications equipment and facilities; the installation and testing of all communications equipment; supervision and operation of the Incident Communications Center; distribution and recovery of equipment assigned to incident personnel; and the maintenance and on-site repair of communications equipment.

The Field Communications Unit (Echo III) has a major responsibility for effective communications planning, due to the potential multi-agency use of ICS. This is especially important in determining required radio nets, establishing interagency frequency assignments and ensuring that maximum use is made of all assigned communications capability.
To enhance the communications system, the following fixed facilities and mobile units exist within this County:

**Echo I:**
This Communication Center is located at the California Department of Forestry/CAL FIRE Headquarters at Monte Vista. This is the Primary Command and Control Center for the fire mutual aid radio system within the Operational Area.

**Echo III:**
This is a Mobile Command Unit which is dispatched to incidents in the field to provide communications links between on scene personnel and between the scene and the dispatch center. Upon its arrival, it will be utilized as the Communications Unit for the incident. There are other communication units available throughout the county, please refer to Annex I for additional information.

### V. Incident Command System

It is the intent of this plan that the Incident Command System as developed by FIRESCOPE and as adopted within the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS) be utilized for the management of all emergency incidents. Qualifications required for each position within the Incident Command System structure shall be approved as follows:

- 200 level certification and lower: Authority having Jurisdiction chief/administrator
- 300 level certifications: California Incident Command System Committee (CICCS),
- San Diego County Operational Area
- 400 level certifications: Region

Agencies are reminded that personnel must be properly certified and qualified to perform in the various ICS positions.

### VI. Regional Urban Search And Rescue

Urban Search and Rescue involves the location, rescue (extrication), and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped. Urban Search and Rescue is considered a “multi-hazard” discipline, as it may be needed for a variety of emergencies or disasters including earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, storms and tornadoes, floods, dam failures, technological accidents, terrorist activities, and hazardous materials releases. The Urban Search and Rescue Task Forces are FEMA assets and are ordered through the Mutual Aid Process. Go to the FEMA website for specific information on US&R resources.
VII. Swiftwater Rescue Teams

Swiftwater Rescue Teams involve the location; rescue (extrication) and initial medical stabilization of victims trapped in swift moving and floodwater conditions. The teams are staffed, trained, and equipped following NIMS and FIRESCOPE standards.

The teams in San Diego County can be mobilized for operations anywhere in the County. Each Zone coordinator will maintain a current list of Swiftwater/Flood Rescue resources and will make the list available to the Operational Area Fire Coordinator.

If a team is needed and the requesting agency does not have their own team, the request is made to the Zone Coordinator through the zone dispatch center who will supply teams if the Zone’s teams are available. If the team is not available within the zone, the request goes to the Area Fire Coordinator who will attempt to fill the request within the Operational Area. If nothing is available within the area, the request will be forwarded to the State Office of Emergency Services through the normal statewide mutual-aid system. OES/Cal EMA has availability of additional Swift Water Flood Rescue teams and other regional resources throughout the state. For specific details regarding available resources, alert status, and current contact information for teams and technical specialists, see Appendix II.

VIII. Metropolitan Medical Strike Team

The Metropolitan Medical Strike Team (MMST) responds to acts of Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) terrorism. The team consists of medical, fire service, law enforcement and public health personnel in addition to environmental and hazardous materials specialists. They are trained and outfitted to perform field level response efforts for the consequences of the terrorist use of weapons of mass destruction. This team forms the technical nucleus of a comprehensive response capability to NBC terrorism. It includes specialized personnel to direct and coordinate immediate response, mitigation and recovery operations at the incident scene. The MMST can be activated by the Incident Commander through the Sheriff’s Communications Center. Refer to Annex D for details.

IX. San Diego County Firefighting Air Resources Programs

Within San Diego County aerial firefighting resources are provided by CAL FIRE fixed wing and tactical aircraft, the San Diego County Sheriffs Department Type II and III helicopters, the City of San Diego Type II helicopters, the USFS Type II helicopter, and, through MOU’s with CAL FIRE, the Navy and USMC have Type I helicopters. Periodically, additional air resources become available for use by OP Area agencies (e.g.; SDG&E Type 1). For numbers of resources, types and aircraft descriptions, see Appendix III.
X. San Diego County Rescue Helicopter Resources

Within San Diego County, aerial rescue helicopters are provided by: San Diego Sheriff in cooperation with CAL FIRE operates Type II with hoist (BLS), San Diego City has Type II with hoist (ALS), and USCG has Type I with hoist (BLS). For number of resources, types and description of ability, see Appendix IV.

XI. Community Emergency Response Teams (Cert)

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in San Diego County are trained to be able to augment fire personnel in the time of a disaster within their communities. Each program is community based and sponsored by a local Public Safety Agency within their jurisdiction. Each CERT program will respond within the scope of their training at the direction of their sponsoring agency. CERT members are identified by green vests and are registered members of the Disaster Service Worker Program. For additional information please see Appendix V.

XII. Technical Rescue Resources

The technical rescue resources consist of, Mass Casualty Units, Confined Space Units, Trench Rescue Units, Heavy Rescue Units and Rope Rescue. These units are staffed by firefighters and stationed throughout the county. Resources should be requested through the local dispatch center. For resource type, location, and unit designator, see Appendix VI.

XIII. Hazardous Material Response Resources

The San Diego County Operational Area Hazardous Materials Area Plan (Area Plan) describes the system currently in place in San Diego County for managing hazardous materials emergencies. The San Diego County Department of Environmental Health (DEH), Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) is the administering agency for the Area Plan.

The activities carried out by the HMD, Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team (HIRT), and the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services (OES) to effectively manage hazardous materials emergencies are coordinated, in part, through the Area Plan. The Area Plan is designed to integrate the operational activities of San Diego County's Emergency Services Organization, Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT) into the on-scene operational procedures for the local, State or Federal agency who have primary responsibility for a hazardous chemical emergency in the jurisdiction. For Area Plan, see Appendix VII.

XIV. Other Resources

It is recognized that fire agencies have support resources that are unique and although they do not belong in the other categories, identifying them will allow fire rescue agencies to be aware of
assets within the region that can support their incidents. A couple of examples of resources to be found in this section include Rehabilitation Units and support equipment. For a list of resources, please see Appendix VIII.
# APPENDIX I

## Fire Mutual Aid Zones And Dispatch For County-Wide Fire Radio Network System

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<thead>
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NOTE: Federal installations may be included in any of the above zone
County of San Diego Mutual Aid Zones

Policy for Changing Zones

1. There are four (4) Fire Mutual Aid Zones in San Diego County
   - North Zone
   - Metro Zone
   - Central Zone
   - East Zone

2. Procedure for Managing Zone Changes:
   A. The Operational Area Zone Coordination Group will be the formal committee that will review and make final decisions on changes within the respective zones.

   The committee will consist of the following members:
   - Operational Area Coordinator (Spokesperson)
   - Alternate Area Coordinator(s)
   - North Zone Coordinator
   - Metro Zone Coordinator
   - Central Zone Coordinator
   - East Zone Coordinator

   B. Group Responsibilities:
   - Receive requests and resolve issues that may arise within the respective zones (zone changes, resource changes, etc.)
   - The Coordination Group will review and weigh the operational merits of the request(s)
   - The Coordination Group will vote to approve or disapprove the request
   - The Coordination Group’s decision is final
   - Once a decision is made by the Group, the Operational Area Coordinator (or Alternate Coordinator if in the O/C position) will respond in writing to the requesting agency(s) and copy all Operational Area Coordination Group Agencies
APPENDIX II

Swiftwater Rescue Resources
SAN DIEGO REGIONAL AQUATIC LIFESAVING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM
Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Team Alert Procedures

The following procedures were developed to enhance the area-wide readiness and use of existing Swiftwater/Flood Rescue Teams. While individual agency operations may vary slightly in reaction to each Alert level, the criteria at each level remains the same throughout the Operational Area.

**ALERT I**
Criteria: Rainfall predictions: COAST 1/2” – 1” FOOTHILL 1” – 1 1/2” MOUNTAIN 1 1/2” +

Incidents involving persons or vehicles attempting to cross moving water within the County are possible.

Response: Designated vehicles are equipped for Swiftwater Rescue (SR) conditions. Trained personnel are available 24 hours a day, and additional team members may be on call. Once availability is determined, contact YOUR fire dispatch agency with info.

**ALERT II**
Criteria: Rainfall predictions: COAST 1” – 2” FOOTHILL 2” – 3” MOUNTAIN 3” +

SR incidents within the County are likely.

Response: Designated vehicles are equipped for SR conditions and available for emergency response. Trained personnel are assigned to shifts, additional team members are available for immediate recall. Once availability is determined, contact YOUR fire dispatch agency with info.

**ALERT III**
Criteria: Rainfall predictions: COAST 2” – 3” FOOTHILL 3” – 4” MOUNTAIN 4” +

Heavy rain conditions are prevalent, and SR incidents within the County are imminent.

Response: All available SR trained members are assigned to equipment. All equipment is available for immediate response. In some cases, equipment and teams are strategically deployed in advance of an incident. Once availability is determined, contact YOUR fire dispatch agency with info.

**NOTE:**
When a Dispatch Center is made aware of Swiftwater / Flood Rescue Teams at Alert II and Alert III levels, that agency shall then contact the Zone Coordinator and update the resource information. The Zone Coordinator shall then contact the Area Coordinator and update accordingly.

Existing conditions such as saturated ground or rivers near flood stage from previous rainfall will also be taken into consideration when determining Alert levels.

Alert Procedures Rev 3-28-08 dp
APPENDIX III

Firefighting Helicopter Resources
Aviation Assets San Diego County

Firefighting helicopters

San Diego Sheriff’s Department/CAL FIRE Helicopter Program
The San Diego County Sheriff’s Department Fire/Rescue Helicopter Program is capable of responding two Type II firefighting and multi-mission-capable helicopters. These helicopters are known as County Copters 10 and 12 (Super 205 A++). These helicopters are dedicated, local controlled regional resources and are available to all public safety agencies in San Diego County. At least one of these aircraft are staffed with a CAL FIRE Helitack Captain and Sheriff pilot year round, the second ship is also covered with a CAL FIRE Helitack Captain and Sheriffs Pilot during periods of increased fire danger, typically June through November as dictated by weather conditions.

During peak fire season one aircraft will be staffed with an eight person Helitack crew. Their goal is to rapidly contain hot spots ahead of the main ground attack while being supported by helicopter drops. The crew usually consists of a Helitack Captain acting as the crew leader with five to six Firefighters.

When requested, the helicopters will provide an immediate initial attack response for wildland fires, air-supported emergency services, search and rescue missions, technical rescue operations and transportation and deployment of emergency service personnel and associated equipment within San Diego County currently during daylight hours only.
Aircraft Fleet

![Aircraft in action](image)

**Specifications:**
- **Cruise Speed:** 125 mph
- **Gallon Capacity:** 360 plus
  - 324/bucket

**Manufacture**
Bell Helicopters, Fort Worth, Texas

**Crew**
Pilot, Co-pilot, and nine Firefighters

**Mission**
The Bell 205 is the civilian version of the UH-1H that CAL FIRE uses for its helicopter fleet. Their missions are identical. In San Diego County, CAL FIRE jointly staffs a Bell 205-A1++ with the sheriff’s department. The 205-A1++ has an improved rotor system and more powerful engine than the original 205. With seating for up to 9 passengers, this aircraft can be used for initial-attack fire missions as well as crew transport. A tank can be equipped on the belly of the aircraft that can hold 375 gallons.
Specifications:
Cruise Speed: 152 mph
Gallon Capacity: 180

Manufacturer
Bell Helicopter

Crew
Pilot

Bell 407
The Bell 407 is one of the newest additions to the Jet Ranger family. The 407 is based on the older Bell 206L-3. The aircraft has some major modifications from older models including a four bladed main rotor system, increased engine performance and slightly expanded inside cabin area. Passenger seating is the same as the Bell Long Ranger, providing seating for a total of six passengers excluding the pilot. As with most light helicopters, they have the ability to take-off and land in relatively small areas.

The Bell 407 can be used for a variety of activities including aerial reconnaissance and aerial ignition. For wildland fire use, it is becoming the light helicopter of choice at many bases. The helicopter's increased speed, lifting capability and improved density altitude performance makes this helicopter ideal for wildland fire initial attack.
**MD 500D**

The 500D was originally manufactured by Hughes Helicopters, which is now owned by McDonnell Douglas Corporation. The civilian Model 500 is a direct descendent of the U.S. Army’s OH-6A, originally designed as an observation helicopter during the Vietnam conflict. The egg shape design provided excellent crash survival characteristics. The 500 model is very maneuverable. They are used for a variety of activities such as aerial reconnaissance, aerial ignition, and wildland fire suppression.

There are several unique features of this aircraft. The engine exhaust pipe is directly under the tailboom. Seating in the 500D is extremely cramped. There are three seats in the back, but they can actually accommodate only two. Front seat passenger sits on the right side instead of the left.

**Manufacturer**
Hughes Helicopters /
McDonnell Douglas

**Crew**
Pilot

**Specifications:**
- **Cruise Speed:** 144 mph
- **Gallon Capacity:** 120
San Diego Fire-Rescue
The San Diego City Fire-Rescue Department Air Operations Division is capable of responding two Type II firefighting and multi-mission-capable helicopters from July through December and one Type II from January through June. These helicopters are known as City Copter 1 (Bell 212) and City Copter 2 (Bell 412). They are available for both day and night operations. These helicopters are a dedicated, locally controlled regional resource and are available to all public safety agencies in San Diego County.

When requested, the helicopter will provide an immediate initial attack response for wildland fires, air-supported emergency services, search and rescue missions, technical rescue operations and transportation and deployment of emergency service personnel and associated equipment within San Diego County. Both aircraft are FAA approved for night-vision-goggle (NVG) operations.

Aircraft Fleet

Specifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cruise Speed</th>
<th>140 mph</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gallon Capacity</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Manufacturer
Bell Helicopter

Crew
Pilot and Co-pilot

Bell 412
The Bell 412 was developed in the late 1970s and is essentially a Bell 212 with a four bladed rotor system. It can perform slightly better than the 212 at higher altitudes. This aircraft can also carry passengers, cargo, and do long line work. Many local fire departments use the Bell 412 for fire suppression. The Bell 412 can have a large tank mounted on the bottom or can carry a bucket.

Bell 212
The Bell 212 was introduced by Bell Helicopter in 1968. The 212 aircraft is used for passenger transport and cargo movement, both internal and external. This aircraft has twin engines and two rotor blades. The 212 is one of the most popular Type 2 helicopter on the national call-when-needed helicopter contract. The Bell 212 is the civilian version of the UH-1N “Twin Huey”. Many local fire departments use the Bell 212.
United States Forest Service

The Cleveland National Forest is capable of responding one Type II Helicopter out of the Ramona Air Attack Base. This aircraft is known as Copter 538 and is under contact from June 1st until November 30th. When requested, the helicopters will provide an immediate initial attack response for wildland fires during daylight hours only. This aircraft is available on a National response basis and controlled by the United States Forest Service.

This aircraft will be staffed with an eight person Helitack crew. Their goal is to rapidly contain hot spots ahead of the main ground attack while being supported by helicopter drops. The crew usually consists of a Helitack Captain acting as the crew leader with five to six Firefighters.

Aircraft Fleet

Specifications:
- Cruise Speed: 115 mph
- Gallon Capacity: 360

Manufacturer
Bell Helicopter

Crew
Pilot and Co-pilot

Bell 212
The Bell 212 was introduced by Bell Helicopter in 1968. The 212 aircraft is used for passenger transport and cargo movement, both internal and external. This aircraft has twin engines and two rotor blades. The 212 is one of the most popular Type 2 helicopter on the national call-when-needed helicopter contract. The Bell 212 is the civilian version of the UH-1N “Twin Huey.” Many local fire departments use the Bell 212.
CAL FIRE
The CAL FIRE San Diego Unit Aviation Program has the ability to respond two Type III Grumman S-2T Air tankers and one North American OV-10A Air Tactical aircraft. These aircraft are permanently stationed at the Ramona Interagency Air Attack Base. An equal number of aircraft are stationed in Hemet, California approximately 12 air miles North of the San Diego County line. The S2T is capable of dropping 1200 Gallons of Long Term fire retardant. The OV-10A is utilized as a command and control aircraft, coordinating the air space over an emergency incident.

Aircraft Fleet

OV-10A “Bronco”
Air Tactical Aircraft

Specifications:
- Cruise Speed: 258 mph
- Gallon Capacity: not applicable

Manufacturer
North American-Rockwell, Columbus, Ohio.

Crew
Pilot and Air Tactical Group Supervisor

Original Owner
U.S. Navy/Marines, 1968-1993. The OV-10A was used as a counter-insurgency (military intelligence) aircraft and close air-support to military ground forces.

Acquired by CAL FIRE
In 1993, CAL FIRE acquired 16 OV-10As from the Department of Defense. Fourteen of those have been converted and are available for use as air attack planes. The OV-10s replaced the original cessna 0-2As that CAL FIRE had been using for air attack. The OV-10s are newer, larger, and faster, provide a larger field of vision for the crew and are more maneuverable than the older O-2As.

Mission
CAL FIRE uses OV-10As as aerial command and control of aircraft on wildland fires. The crew provides tactical coordination with the incident commander on the ground, providing information on the movement and spread of the fire. The OV-10A crew then directs CAL FIRE’s airtanker and helicopter pilots where to make their retardant and water drops.
**Grumman S-2T**
Type III Airtanker

**Specifications:**
- **Cruise Speed:** 305 mph
- **Gallon Capacity:** 1,200

**Manufacturer**
Grumman Aerospace, Bethpage, New York

**Crew**
Pilot

**Original Owner**

**Acquired by CAL FIRE**
In 1996, CAL FIRE acquired 26 S-2E/G planes from the Department of Defense. CAL FIRE had the aircraft converted for fire-fighting configuration and fitting them with modern, powerful turboprop engines. The completely reconditioned S-2Ts are faster, safer, and more maneuverable. They can carry a larger retardant payload than the older S-2A air tanker CAL FIRE utilized since the 1970's. The S-2T air tanker is part of CAL FIRE's air program modernization efforts that will result in the safest and most efficient mix of aircraft to carry out the fire fighting mission. CAL FIRE currently has 23 S-2Ts that are utilized statewide.

**Mission**
CAL FIRE utilizes the S-2T air tankers for fast initial attack delivery of fire retardant on wildland fires.
United States Navy
CAL FIRE and the United States Navy share an operational agreement that allows CAL FIRE San Diego Unit to access Navy resources during a time of local disaster. This agreement is part of the Federal Defense Support to Civilian Authorities or DSCA process. Both United States Navy and United State Marine Corp have signed operational agreements with CAL FIRE. CAL FIRE San Diego Operational Unit. The CAL FIRE San Diego Unit Chief in coordination with the County Fire/Rescue Coordinator has the ability to request assistance from the United States Navy Region Southwest.

Aircraft Fleet

Navy UH-60 Seahawk

![Navy UH-60 Seahawk](image)

**Specifications:**
- **Cruise Speed:** 183 mph
- **Gallon Capacity:** 780/bucket

**Manufacturer**
Sikorsky Aircraft Corp

**Crew**
Pilot, Co-pilot and a Military Helicopter Manager

The UH-60 was originally designed for the U.S. Army in the 1970s as a light transport helicopter, air assault and a military medivac helicopter. The aircraft is a four bladed, twin engine helicopter. The popular UH-60 has a civilian version called a S-70 “Firehawk.” Today CAL FIRE and other fire agencies train with members of the California and Nevada National Guard to use their aircraft as surge capacity during major wildfire events.
United States Marine Corp
CAL FIRE and the United States Marine Corp share an operational agreement that allows CAL FIRE San Diego Unit to access USMC resources during a time of local disaster. This agreement is part of the Federal Defense Support to Civilian Authorities or DSCA process. Both United States Navy and United States Marine Corp have signed operational agreements with CAL FIRE. CAL FIRE San Diego Operational Unit. The CAL FIRE San Diego Unit Chief in coordination with the County Fire/Rescue Coordinator has the ability to request assistance from the United States Marine Corp Installations West or MCI West.

Aircraft Fleet

Boeing CH-46 “Sea Knight”
Military Helicopter

![Boeing CH-46 “Sea Knight”](image)

**Specifications:**
- **Cruise Speed:** 140 mph
- **Gallon Capacity:** 224/bucket

**Manufacturer**
- Boeing Company / Vertol Aircraft Company

**Crew**
- Pilot, Co-pilot and a Military Helicopter Manager

Boeing CH-46 “Sea Knight”
The Boeing CH-46, known as the “Sea Knight”, is the military version of the Boeing-Vertol 107. The CH-46 was designed in the late 50s for the U.S. Marine Corps to be a medium-lift helicopter, and is primarily used to transport cargo. The aircraft is able to provide all-weather, day-or-night assault transport of combat troops, supplies and equipment. Assault Support is its primary function, and the movement of supplies and equipment is secondary. Additional tasks include combat support, search and rescue, support for forward refueling and rearming points. The CH-46 and the CH-47 are most recognizable by their tandem rotors.
**CH-53E “Super Stallion”**
United States Marine Firefighting Aircraft

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**Specifications:**
- **Cruise Speed:** 173 mph
- **Gallon Capacity:** 2,000/bucket

**Manufacturer**
Sikorsky Aircraft Corp.

**Crew**
Pilot, Co-pilot and a Military Helicopter Manager

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**Sikorsky CH-53E “Super Stallion” (Sikorsky S-80E)**
The Sikorsky CH-53E, known as the Super Stallion, is the largest and heaviest helicopter used by the U.S. Marine Corps and Navy. It is one of the few helicopters in the world that uses three turbine engines and can be refueled in flight. The aircraft is used to transport personnel and equipment, and lift heavy loads. The CH53E is capable of lifting 16 tons, transporting the load 50 miles and then returning. The aircraft is a shipboard helicopter configured especially for caring cargo back and forth from military ships. The CH-53E is designated the model S-80 by Sikorsky. During major firestorms, the CH-53E can be used to augment CALFIRE’s own air fleet for fire suppression.
APPENDIX IV

Rescue Helicopter Resources

Aerial Rescue Resources
Three agencies that have an Aerial Rescue capability in the San Diego Region:

A. San Diego Sheriff’s Department/CAL FIRE - When requested, the helicopters will provide an immediate air-supported emergency services, search and rescue missions, technical rescue operations and transportation and deployment of emergency service personnel and associated equipment within San Diego County during daylight hours only.

B. San Diego Fire-Rescue Department - When requested, the helicopter provides an immediate initial attack response for wildland fires, air-supported emergency services, search and rescue missions, technical rescue operations and transportation and deployment of emergency service personnel and associated equipment within San Diego County. Both aircraft are FAA approved for night-vision-goggle (NVG) operations. Both aircraft have Advanced Life Support capabilities.

C. United States Coast Guard - Has three MH-60T helicopters. They have surface search/weather radar. Aircraft have Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) and a high powered searchlight. Aircraft are available for alert launch however their area of expertise is over water operations. If assistance is needed, especially at night over land. A thorough risk assessment will be done before accepting the mission. Mission acceptance is dependant upon current SAR missions being performed by available aircraft.

San Diego Fire-Rescue
2 Type II Helicopter Hoist Capable (ALS) Day or Night
San Diego Sheriff/CAL FIRE
1 Type II Helicopter Hoist Rescue Capable (BLS) Daytime Only

United States Coast Guard
Three Type I Helicopters. Hoist Rescue Capable (BLS) Day or Night. Land or over water rescue capable.
APPENDIX V

Community Emergency Response Teams

Each CERT Team is uniquely trained by their host fire agency. To order these resources or obtain specific capability information, contact the sponsoring fire agency.

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<th>SPONSORING FIRE AGENCY</th>
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<tr>
<td>9. Del Mar</td>
<td>Del Mar FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. East County (Cities of El Cajon, Lemon Grove, Santee, La Mesa)</td>
<td>El Cajon FD – LEAD AGENCY Lemon Grove FD, Santee FD, La Mesa FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Elfin Forest/ Harmony Grove</td>
<td>Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Encinitas</td>
<td>Encinitas FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Escondido</td>
<td>Escondido FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Imperial Beach</td>
<td>Imperial Beach FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Julian/ Cuyamaca</td>
<td>Julian-Cuyamaca FPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Lakeside</td>
<td>Lakeside FPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Mountain Empire</td>
<td>Campo Fire-Rescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National City</strong></td>
<td><strong>NO CURRENT PROGRAM</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. North County</td>
<td>North County FPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Oceanside</td>
<td>Oceanside FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Palomar Mountain</td>
<td>Palomar Mountain VFD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Pine Valley</td>
<td>Cal Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Poway</td>
<td>Poway FD</td>
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<tr>
<td>23. Ramona</td>
<td>Cal Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Rancho Santa Fe</td>
<td>Rancho Santa Fe FPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Rural</td>
<td>Cal Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. San Marcos</td>
<td>San Marcos FPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. San Miguel</td>
<td>San Miguel FPD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Solana Beach</td>
<td>Solana Beach FD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Valley Center</td>
<td>Cal Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Vista</td>
<td>Vista FD</td>
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</table>
APPENDIX VI

Technical Rescue Resources

The Technical Resources for Appendix VI will be added once collected.
Appendix VII

Hazardous Material / Decon Resources

SAN DIEGO COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AREA PLAN

Introduction

The San Diego County Operational Area Hazardous Materials Area Plan (Area Plan) describes the system currently in place in San Diego County for managing hazardous materials emergencies. The Area Plan has been prepared pursuant to Division 20 Chapter 6.95 (Section 25503) of the California Health and Safety Code and in accordance with Title 19 of the California Code of Regulations. All procedures described in this plan have been implemented to include Sections 2722-2728 CCR Title 19 and are noted on the Optional Model Reporting Form. The San Diego County Department of Environmental Health (DEH), Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) is the administering agency for the Area Plan and was assisted in its preparation by the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD).

The activities carried out by the HMD, Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team (HIRT), and the San Diego County Office of Emergency Services (OES) to effectively manage hazardous materials emergencies are coordinated, in part, through the Area Plan. This document also references information covering hazardous substance inventories and emergency response spill planning received from regulated businesses, community groups and the U.S. Coast Guard which also are integrated into this Area Plan and the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization Operational Area Emergency Plan.

The Area Plan is designed to integrate the operational activities of San Diego County's Emergency Services Organization, Hazardous Incident Response Team (HIRT) into the on-scene operational procedures for the local, State or Federal agency who have primary responsibility for a hazardous chemical emergency in the jurisdiction.

The Hazardous Materials Division

The San Diego County Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) is the administering agency for the California Health and Safety Code (HSC) Chapter 6.95, hazardous materials release response plans and inventory, and the California Code of Regulations, Title 19. As the Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), the HMD has overall responsibility for the Business Plan Program, the Risk Management Plan Program, the Area Plan, and Community-Right-to-Know and Chemical Emergency Response Services. As the sole CUPA (effective July 1, 1996) in San Diego county, the HMD is also the lead regulatory agency in the county for conducting inspection activities related to hazardous waste generators (HSC Chapters 6.5), hazardous and acutely hazardous materials users, (HSC Chapter 6.95, Articles 1 & 2), underground storage of hazardous materials (HSC Chapter 6.7), and medical waste generators (HSC Chapter 6.1). The HMD was created in 1981 to provide a regional program to regulate the use and disposal of hazardous materials and waste. The HMD has grown from a single-person unit in 1981 to a
program which now has approximately 50 professional staff. In the fiscal year 2005-06, the HMD inspected approximately 13,000 facilities required to San Diego County Operational Area 1 March 2007 Hazardous Materials Area Plan comply with one or more of six CUPA program elements.

**Industry Compliance Program**

The HMD Industry Compliance Program enforces the California Health and Safety Code (HSC) Chapters 6.1 (Medical Waste Management), 6.5 (Hazardous Waste Generators), 6.7 (Underground Storage of Hazardous Substances), and 6.95 (Business Plans).

In 1989, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors adopted an ordinance establishing a medical waste management program—the first program of its kind in California. Currently the HMD conducts inspections of medical waste generators and requires the generators to prepare a Medical Waste Management Plan.

The HMD also provides hazardous materials emergency response services in a coordinated effort with the SDFD. These activities are conducted countywide under a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), of which the cities in San Diego County are a part.

The HMD enforcement of HSC Chapter 6.95 (CCR Title 19) requires a permit for the following activities:

- Storage of hazardous materials in quantities greater than or equal to 55 gallons, 500 pounds, or 200 cubic feet.
- Construction or modification of a facility which will store the above quantities of hazardous materials.

The HMD Industry Compliance Program also incorporates the requirements of California Health and Safety Code, Section 25503(e)(1). As part of the Program, staff will regularly inspect permitted businesses and gather information regarding inventory, emergency response and employee training.

**Data Management System**

The HMD has developed a computer system to manage data submitted by businesses and collected during on-site waste generator and/or community right-to-know inspections of permitted businesses. This data management system is used to store business-specific information, such as hazardous materials inventory, waste generation information, underground hazard materials storage and site maps. The system also stores emergency contact information, generates inspection records, notices of violation, billing and fees, and compiles information for various reports.

Reports include the First Responder Hazardous Materials Business Plan (FRHMBP), which are specialized summaries of hazardous materials inventories of all businesses that contain hazardous materials. The FRHMBP is designed to easily keep responding
San Diego County Operational Area 2 March 2007 Hazardous Materials Area Plan personnel aware of the chemical hazards within businesses in their jurisdiction. It also serves as an aid in conducting informed hazard and risk analysis during chemical emergencies.

FRHMBP reports and electronic information in the form of a comprehensive secure database on a CD are provided to all fire agencies in the region, and updated each month. Hardcopies and Electronic versions are kept at HMD headquarters and on each HIRT vehicle. Emergency response personnel on the HIRT vehicles are able to access additional information using onboard computers and cellular modems.

The HMD's Data Management System also generates monthly reports for fire agencies throughout San Diego County. These reports include business and inventory data on CDROM and in hard copy format. Reports are also available to fire departments upon request. Limited, non-confidential data concerning businesses are also available on the DEH website.

In addition to the existing DEH-HMD data management system, the department is developing a Local Area Network (LAN) based software package supported by a Graphic Information System (GiS) for accessing and managing all CUPA required data collection and reporting information. When implemented up-to-date hazardous materials storage, handling and emergency response information will be accessible to stakeholders and fire agencies from a desktop computer or available on line 24 hours per day. DEH hopes to have the system operational sometime in 2008.

One component of the GIS data set will include the Consequences Assessment Tool Set (CATS) provided by Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). CATS software assesses the consequences of technological and natural disasters to population, resources, and infrastructure. It is a user-friendly software package for the PC which combines state-of-the-art hazard and consequence prediction, digital, and GiS information within an easy-to-use Graphical Interface, and is available on HIRT vehicles for use during chemical emergencies.

In addition to the current hazardous materials storage and handling inventory information maintained by DEH-HMD for first responders, a duplicate of that data is routinely provided to the San Diego County Regional Poison Center on CD-ROM. This information is available upon request 24 hours per day for use by emergency response and medical personnel.

Additionally, DEH and the Poison Control Center use the Micromedix’s Database (Chemknowledge®). The Chemknowledge® database provides the response agencies with critical information covering the physical, chemical and biological hazards and risk characteristics of hazardous materials used by businesses in the county. Chemknowledge® is also available on all HIRT emergency response vehicles.

The business-specific inventory information collected by the HMD Industry Compliance Program is also used to identify those facilities that handle hazardous substances which may require a risk management plan (RMP). A stationary source (non-transportation) with more than a threshold quantity of a “regulated substance” in a process is required to Prepare and submit a risk management plan to the CUPA.
San Diego County Operational Area 3 March 2007 Hazardous Materials Area Plan

The RMP requires a facility to conduct a comprehensive evaluation of all the administrative and operational procedures associated with a process using "regulated substances" within a facility. The risk management plan consists of a hazard assessment process which requires owners to identify the regulated substance and quantities on-site, document a five-year accident history, develop worst-case and most likely release models which affect the community, and develop an accidental release prevention program and emergency response plan. After a suitable review, HMD and the USEPA will receive and approve all RMPs.

Currently, approximately 120 businesses in the county are preparing RMPs following State and Federal requirements.

The facility screening method and other specific CalARP information is contained in the "Hazardous Materials Division California Accidental Release Prevention Program Guidelines" (February 25, 1999) (Appendix E).

San Diego County Operational Area 4 March 2007 Hazardous Materials Area Plan

The Unified San Diego County Hazardous Materials Incident Response Team

The Department of Environmental Health, Hazardous Materials Division has been the State designated enforcement authority for hazardous waste management in San Diego County since 1981. Emergencies resulting from releases of hazardous materials occur throughout the county. These emergencies include illegal abandonment or disposal of hazardous wastes, industrial manufacturing and transportation accidents, clandestine drug lab activities, chemical explosions and hoaxes involving hazardous materials and biological agents.

Recognizing the need to protect the public health from chemical release emergencies, the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors directed staff to amend the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Agreement to establish and implement the Hazardous Incident Response Program (February 11, 1986). Unanimously approved by all incorporated cities and the county, the Unified Disaster Council (UDC) became the governing body of the program whose daily operation is administered by the Office of Emergency Services (OES). The HIRT Program is funded through a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) of the UDC with contributions from each incorporated City and the County. The funding formula is based on property-assessed values, populations and the number of incident responses occurring in each jurisdiction. The total program budget for FY 05/06 and FY 06/07 is $1,490,494. Program costs are reduced by revenue from responsible party cost recovery, interest on the HIRT Trust Fund, and contributions from the United States Marine Corps on MCAS Miramar, Campo and Pala Indian Reservations.

The single-source contract with the JPA calls for hazardous materials emergency response to be provided countywide through the joint efforts of the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD) HAZMAT Team and the San Diego County Hazardous Materials Division (HMD) HAZMAT Team. Each of these agencies have highly trained teams with many years experience in responding to hazardous materials emergencies.
The SDFD HIRT is responsible for mitigating, containing and/or controlling the release, effecting rescues and other related tasks. The DEH HIRT is responsible for assessing the risk to public health and safety and the environment, taking the necessary steps to mitigate these hazards, ensuring adequate cleanup of the area and conducting necessary enforcement activities. HIRT provides advice and technical support to the first responder but does not assume scene management responsibilities. The first responder or appropriate agency maintains full control and authority over the incident and retains responsibility for release of public information concerning the incident. Complete descriptions of background information, the purpose and objectives of HIRT, the legal authority and the mutual aid agreements that allow its continued operation are discussed in the Unified San Diego County Emergency Services Organization HIRT Program description (Section D).

Historically, in the 20 plus years of operation, the HIRT has responded to approximately 8000 chemical emergencies. Generally, 50% of the chemical emergencies occur in the City of San Diego, with 20% in the unincorporated areas of the county and the remaining 30% in the other cities. In the unincorporated county areas there remains a heavy dependency on HIRT services to support the limited response resources that often are
Appendix VIII

Other Resources

Other Resources for Appendix VI will be added once collected.