

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE AGENCIES STRIKE TEAM ACTIVATION DRILL INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE

**TOPIC:** WILDLAND FIRE INCIDENT

**PURPOSE:** To exercise the Strike Team in a wildland fire environment and to improve the multi-agency Mutual Aid readiness and effectiveness.

**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- Santa Clara County Local Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan, Appendices 1,2,11,14A
- ICS 420-1 (FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide Chapter 14 – WUI)

**TIME:** 30 to 60 minutes

**DESIRED OUTCOMES:**

- Personnel will describe the key components of the Santa Clara County Local Fire Service and Rescue Mutual Aid Plan (Basic Plan, Appendix 11).
- Personnel will identify the applicable communications channels for mutual aid responses.
- Personnel will identify tasks associated with geographic and functional assignments at large-scale wildland fires; this could be with or without structures being threatened.
- Personnel will describe the major functions of ICS and how they relate to the wildland fire environment.
- Personnel will have a better understanding of an Incident Action Plan, and the usage of proper ICS forms to be completed (#201,202,205,206,214).

- Personnel will describe the use of T-cards and present completed T-cards.
- Understand safety concerns and accountability for large-scale wildland events (10/18's and LCES).

#### KEY COMPONENTS:

- Establish common roles, terminology and communications.
- Identifying basic elements for a complete report of conditions for the first arriving apparatus (Fuel type, Rate of spread, Size, Structures threaten/ not threaten).
- Assure that minimum ICS positions/ functions are assigned.
- Priority of assignments, company assignments, strike team assignments, and task forces.
- Determined proper tactics and strategy (indirect, direct, or no action).
- Geographic designations of wildland fires (Division A to Z), as referred to in Appendix 11.
- Basic Structure Protection operations and tactical actions.
- Safety and Operational procedures when working with aircraft.
- Know incident safety danger signals such as " Life Hazard Alerts" and their procedures.
- Identify and understand the three components that impact the spread of wildland fires (Weather, Fuel, Topography).
- Requesting resources within Santa Clara County or adjacent Counties, Initial Attack versus Immediate need versus Planned need.
- Establishing a Unified Command system.

- Strike Team travel assignments (apparatus placement).
- Personnel conduct.

### TACTICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

#### **1. Review Appendix 1, Radio Communications Plan.**

*Question: Do company officers understand what frequency restrictions are in effect during large wildland fire events, and the difference between travel, command, and tactical frequencies?*

*Do company officers understand radio procedures when working a wildland event under a Mutual Threat Zone?*

#### **2. Review Appendix 2, Local Government Strike Teams.**

*Question: Can company officers identify all Strike Team configurations in the county and apparatus (XSC 2301A, 2302A, 2303A and contingency strike teams 2310C, 2311A, 2313A)? And can they explain what the numbering and letter designators mean?*

*Question: Do company officers understand the Strike Team rules of conduct?*

*Question: Do company officers understand the differences between response modes (Initial attack, Immediate need, planned need)?*

#### **3. Review Appendix 11, Incident Command System.**

*Question: Do company officers understand when the "Basic Plan" of ICS goes into effect and what components it has?*

*Question: Can company officers identify the minimum ICS functions/positions?*

*Question: Do company officers understand the importance of personnel accountability and the usage of the T-card system (ICS# 219)?*

*Question: Can company officers identify other resources with different colored T-cards?*

*Question: Can Company officers demonstrate their ability to communicate "Clear Objectives" and to document them in Incident Action Plans (IAP) and ICS# 202?*

*Question: Do company officers understand the importance to keep documentation with ICS # 214 forms?*

*Question: Can company officers identify geographical designations (Divisions/Groups/Branches) and give examples of each?*

#### **4. Review Appendix 14A, Firefighter Incident Safety and Accountability Guidelines.**

*Question: Can company officers define a "Life Hazard" and site examples?*

*Question: Can company officers explain how to set up a "Life Hazard Control Zone"?*

*Question: Do company officers understand the role of a "Life Hazard Lookout"?*

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Have company officers been given a pre-incident briefing and an expectation of their potential assignment?
2. Obtained order/request numbers.
3. If Initial Attack, identify rendezvous point and contact person (ICS designator).
4. Travel Channel (Dispatch channel of incident owner or White 1). Out of county: California Emergency Services Radio System (CESRS).
5. Command Channel (Command channel of incident owner or primary channel of incident owner).
6. Tactical Channel (Tactical channel of incident owner or primary channel of incident owner)
7. Air/Ground Channel (CDF Air/Ground or USFS Air/Ground)

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY:**

1. T-Cards from each engine company are given to the Strike Team Leader and they shall be checked for accuracy.

2. Resources arriving at incident shall check into staging, base, check-in, or other sites.

EQUIPMENT KNOWLEDGE AND READINESS:

- Safety Equipment
- Did the participants have the necessary equipment to respond to a large wildland fire event?
- Knowledge of the Santa Clara County Mutual Aid Plan.
- T-Cards- Are the T-cards completed correctly? Is the information consistent with the information provided in the Santa Clara County Mutual Aid Plan?
- Basic knowledge of the three factors that influence fire behavior (Weather, Fuel, Topography).

COMMENTS

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