When Wildfires Strike
What to Expect and How to Prepare

Welcome
Municipal fires in California history have been consistently breaking records for the costliest in terms of lives lost and property destroyed – all while our departments and personnel are even more prepared than ever to battle these regional disasters.
What’s In It For Me?

• Learn how to work with the hundreds of fire resources that could be headed your way
• Be introduced to work that can be done ahead of time to make things easier
• Understand what may be in front of you
• Identify what a disaster for your neighbor jurisdiction could mean for you

Introductions

**Brian Estes**
Cal Fire Unit Chief - Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit &
Fire Chief - Placer County Fire Department

**Dana Carey**
Emergency Manager
County of Yolo

**Lauren Gill**
Town Manager
Town of Paradise

**Randall Stone**
Mayor
City of Chico
Before an Event

Pre Fire Efforts
- Fuels Management
- Prescribed Fire
- Fuels Crews
- CAL FIRE Grants

Preparedness
- Firewise Communities
- Fire Safe Councils
- City WUI Plans
- Cooperative Agreements
### Why is CAL FIRE Coming?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>They work for us</th>
<th>They were asked to come</th>
<th>They are responsible</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Some jurisdictions contract Fire Department duties to CAL FIRE and they provide full service Fire and EMS services to that jurisdiction</td>
<td>CAL FIRE could be ordered under Mutual Aid to assist a local Fire Department or Mission tasked to Assist a local jurisdiction</td>
<td>If you have State Responsibility Areas, CAL FIRE has fiscal and jurisdictional responsibility for wildland fires</td>
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**California’s Fire & Rescue Mutual Aid System Working To Battle Season’s Biggest Wildfires**

By July 11, 2017 - Jonathan Grable

Bringing into action for yet another season, teams of specially-trained firefighters from across the state are being strategically deployed to...
What is a Base Camp

How Do We Work Together

Information Sharing with IMT
• 0700 – Ops Briefing
• 1000 – Cooperators Mtg
• 1800 – Planning Mtg

Coordination with Local City
• Public Information Officers
• Liaison Officers
• Law Enforcement Liaison Officers
• City EOC Representation
Evacuation Preparedness

• Create a System
• Educate the Responders - how to use it
• Educate the Public - what may happen
Alert & Warning

Pre-event:
• Public Education
• Citizen Opt-in

During:
• Coordination & Redundancy
• Multiple Formats

Mass Care & Sheltering
**Emergency Operations Center**

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<tr>
<th>Public Information</th>
<th>Continuity of Government</th>
<th>Prepare for Recovery</th>
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<td>Grow your presence during non-emergency times so the public knows where to find the most accurate information</td>
<td>Ensure that you are planning to continue those things that can’t be stopped and re-direct staff to assist where you can</td>
<td>Document EVERYTHING! The recovery process is long and will require the involvement of almost every department you have</td>
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Local Knowledge

- Population & Culture
- Area
- Challenges
6:30 am Fire starts in Pulga and in 1.5 hrs. reaches Town of Paradise.
Wind speeds clocked at 79 miles an hour. The wind flung softball size embers 1-2 miles ahead of the fire.

10:45 am Nov. 8, 2018

After a Week

- 90% of Town staff lost their homes
- 100% of Council lost their homes
- 49 EMMA workers
- Managing Resources
- National, State, Local Emergency

Destroyed Structures
November 2018
Phases of Long-Term Recovery

Partial Project List:
- Debris Removal
- Standing Burnt Trees
- Sewer System
- Evacuation Routes
- Road Widening
- Building Resource Center
- Underground Utilities
- Multi-Family Housing
- Planning/Zoning
- Early Warning System/Siren
- Building Code Inspectors
- Fire Station

Financial Planning & Implementation

Town Vision/Long-Term Recovery Plan

Communications
- Print Media
- Television/Radio
- Social Media
- Zone Captains
- Weekly Updates
- Makeitparadise.org
- Social Media
- Live events (community meetings, educational forums, etc.)
Debris Removal

• Search and Rescue for human remains
• Damage assessments/cost assessments
• Debris

Things We Didn’t Consider

• Extended Disaster/Continuity of Government in a long-term crisis
• Loss of property and sales tax base
  – $1.5 billion in property value lost
  – $87 million revenue loss projected over 10 years
• Coordination with local agencies (Water)
• Coordination with State and Federal Agencies
• Difficulty of traumatized staff trying to help traumatized residents
• Public Requests for Information Act
• Communication-Communication-Communication
  – Never enough information
  – Rumor Control/social media
  – JIC
The Mass Exodus

CHICO

Long-Term Impacts
Working Together

A New Population
Take-Away

Q & A

ANY QUESTIONS?