

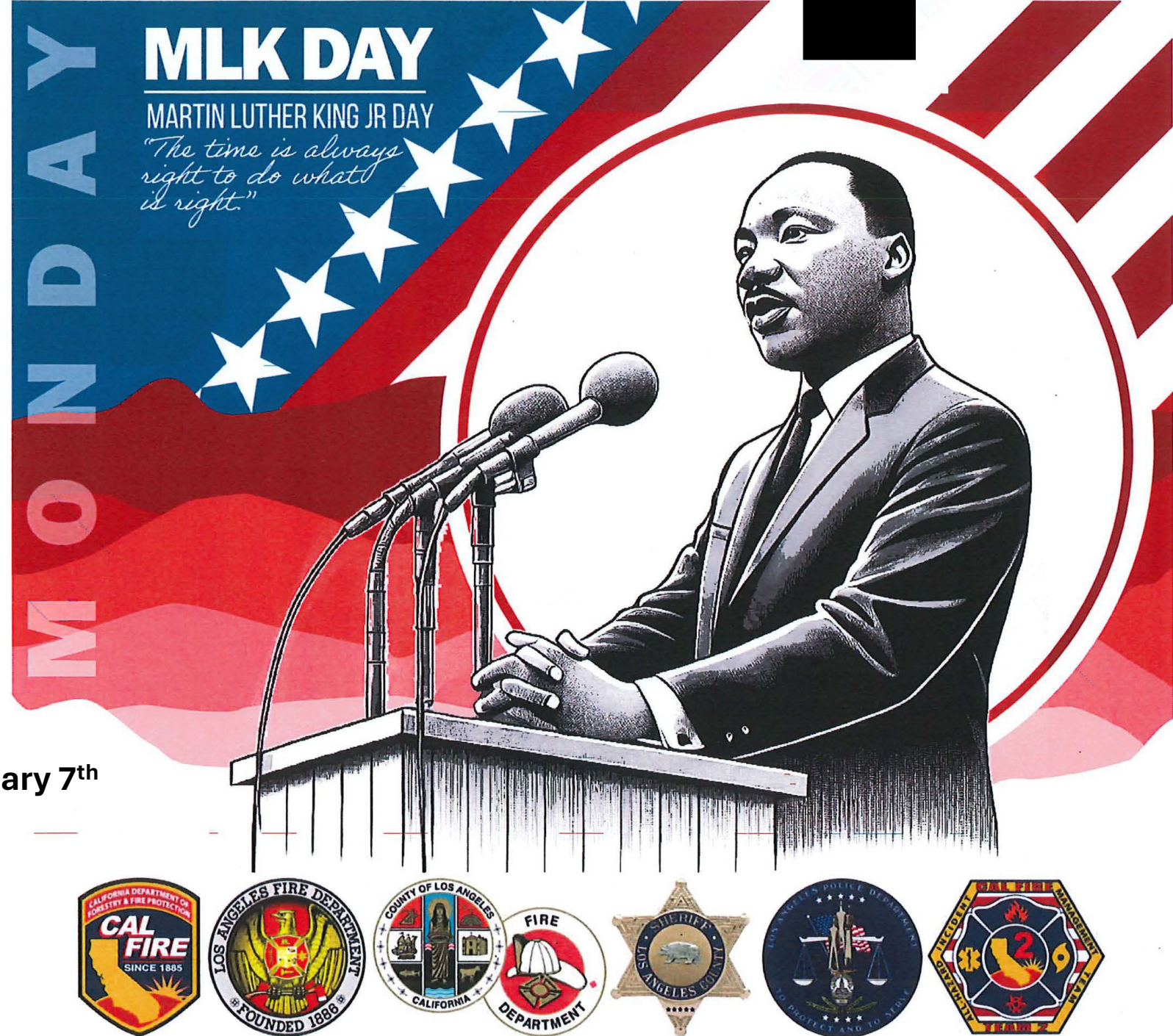
Palisades Incident

January 7th- January 28th 2025

Unified Command

CAL FIRE Incident Management Team 2
Los Angeles County Fire Department
Los Angeles Fire Department
Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department
Los Angeles Police Department

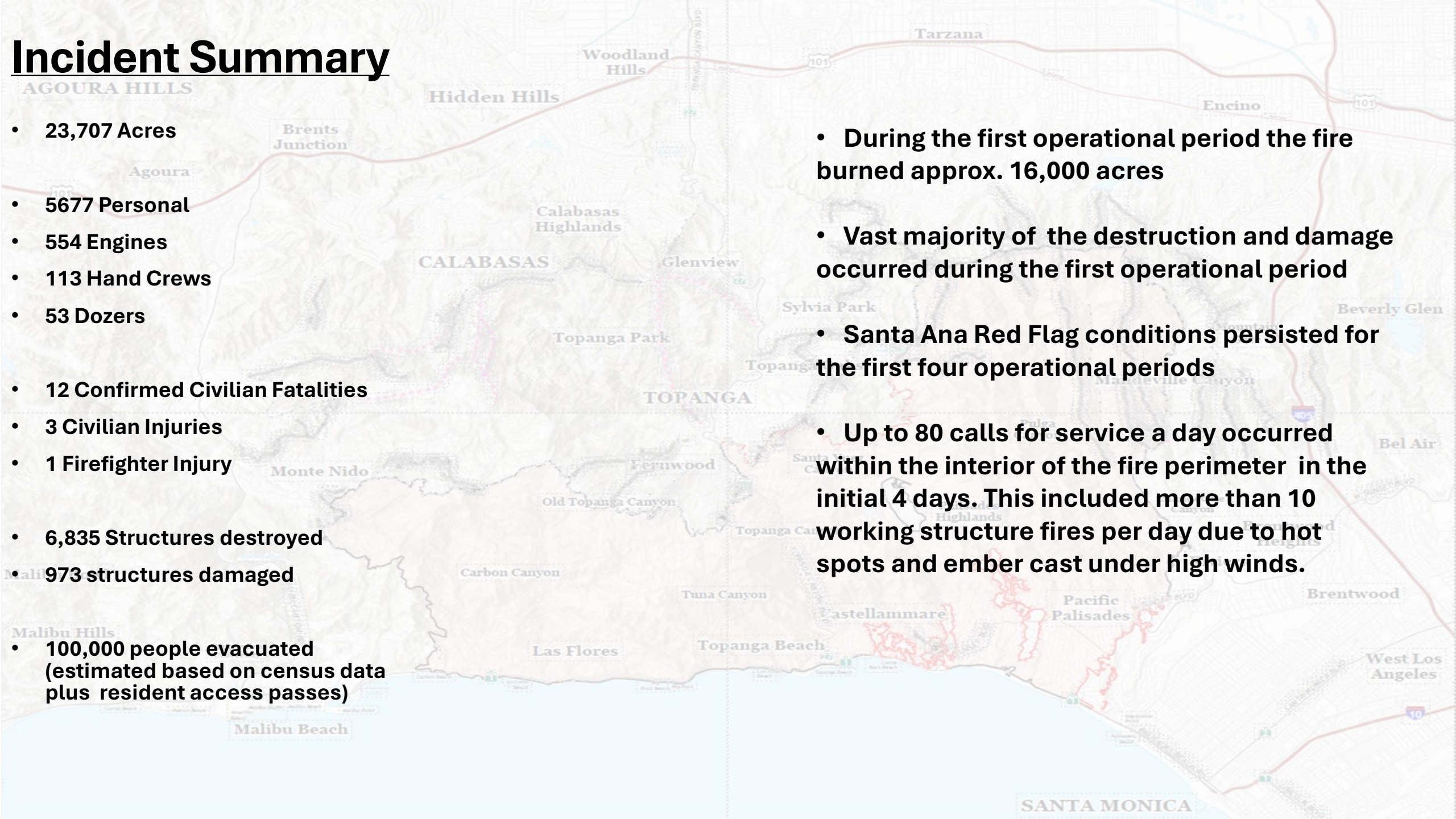
- Ignition occurred at approx. 1030 on January 7th
- CAL FIRE IMT 2 requested at 1400.
- Assumed Command 0800 January 8th.



Incident Summary

- 23,707 Acres
- 5677 Personal
- 554 Engines
- 113 Hand Crews
- 53 Dozers
- 12 Confirmed Civilian Fatalities
- 3 Civilian Injuries
- 1 Firefighter Injury
- 6,835 Structures destroyed
- 973 structures damaged
- 100,000 people evacuated (estimated based on census data plus resident access passes)

- During the first operational period the fire burned approx. 16,000 acres
- Vast majority of the destruction and damage occurred during the first operational period
- Santa Ana Red Flag conditions persisted for the first four operational periods
- Up to 80 calls for service a day occurred within the interior of the fire perimeter in the initial 4 days. This included more than 10 working structure fires per day due to hot spots and ember cast under high winds.



- Nuances and interesting components were observed during the first two phases of the fire's progression. However, phase three is the most remarkable, with a 90-degree shift in the primary direction of spread followed by an explosive run spanning nearly 5 miles of coastline.
- Five miles of coastline in just seven hours. Although similar fire spread patterns have been documented, none have reached the extremes observed during the Palisades Fire.
- These vortices were shown to drive lateral fire spread in the Lahaina Fire, a process determined to occur independently of fire-atmosphere coupling.
- For the Palisades Fire, a similar downslope Santa Ana wind event may have triggered a hydraulic jump on the leeward side of the Santa Monica Mountains, creating turbulence and counter-rotating vortices along the fire's flanks. These vortices could have interacted with the fireline, driving lateral spread perpendicular to the dominant wind.



A photograph of a large fire at night, with bright orange and yellow flames consuming trees and structures in the background. In the foreground, a white SUV is parked on a dark surface, illuminated by the fire's glow. The image is split vertically, with the photograph on the left and a white background with text on the right.

Primary Actions

- Priorities – Life, Property. Perimeter Control
 - Structure and Community defense
 - Extinguishment of new structural ignitions
- Initial Protective Actions
 - Make Safe Operations
 - Ingress and egress
 - Hazardous Materials identification
- Establishment of a repopulation process. Multiple jurisdictions, Local Governments, utility companies, and infrastructure agencies .
- USAR actions
- Support WERT Analysis and Actions

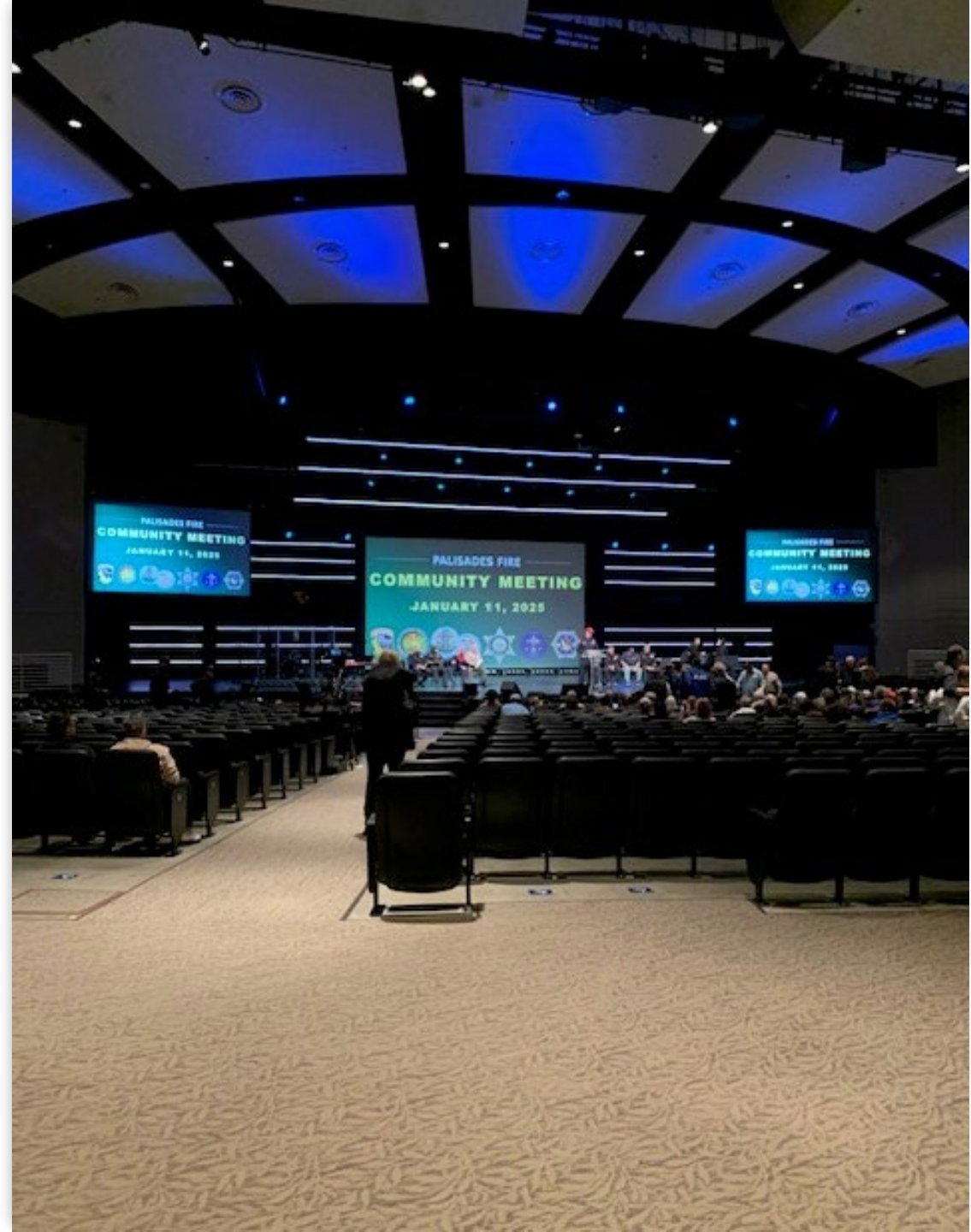


Incident Profile

- 67 elected official visits – Federal, State, and Local
 - POTUS
 - Governor
- State and Federal declarations
 - Presidential change
- Three Native American Tribes impacted
- LRA, SRA, FRA (National Parks),
 - Private, State Parks, National Parks, Los Angeles, Malibu, Santa Monica Brentwood, Encino, Tarzana, Non-Profit Conservancy
- Dignitary and celebrity interest and visits
- 4 EOC's activated
- 27 Liaison Officer required to meet the mission

Incident Profile

- International Media Event
- Daily Press Conferences at the ICP facilitated by the Team
- Daily Press Conferences at the Hall of Administration
- Nightly Community Incident Updates (virtual)
- 5 in person Community Town Hall Events
 - Q&A
 - Talking points
 - Elected's request to speak
- Over 100 PIOs required to meet the mission



Mutual Aid

- Interstate MA with different capabilities based on agreements
 - Nevada
 - Oregon
 - Washington
 - Utah
 - Idaho
 - Montana
 - New Mexico
 - Texas
- International Response
 - British Columbia
 - Mexico
 - Israel
- IAPS produced in different languages

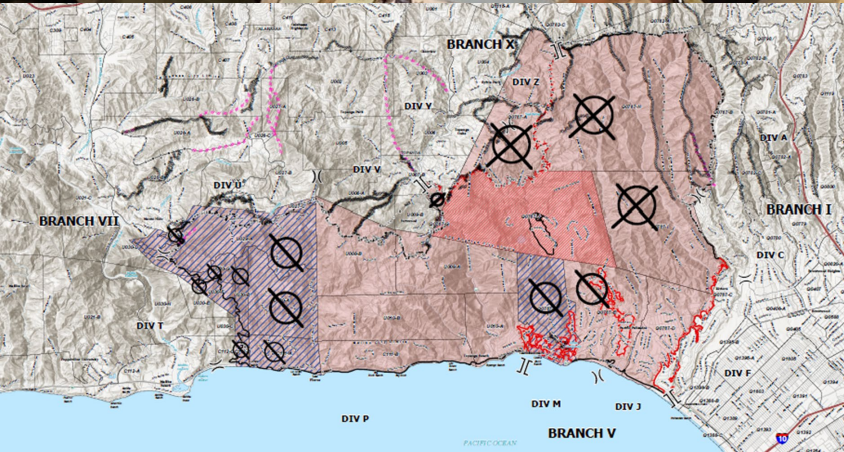


Challenges and Injects

- PD ICP – embed team AREP / LELO
- Celebrity visits
 - Elon Musk
 - Fox Sports
- VOAD's
- Donations
- Suppression repair complaint
- Cultural site damage
- HazMat identification – Historic number of EV's and battery walls
- 3 base camps required
- Private drone incursions
 - 40 in 36 hours
- Funding of USAR supplies orders
- 2nd IMT shared use of ICP for 7 days



WATERSHED ACCESS PASS TEAM 5



Evacuations and Repopulation

- Individuals changing plan after consensus
- “CAL FIRE says”
- Re-population support task force (SOC)
- Environmental Protection Agency
 - Repopulation “18 months”
- Agency PIO’s changing messaging post Repop meeting
- Inaccurate information sharing outside of Incident
- Lack of correct attendance at Repop (**decision makers**)
- Politically connected private contractors
- LA EVAC maps vs. Genasys protect
 - Residence only
- Elected’ s in EVAC / Repop meetings
- Different strategies and desires for different jurisdictions

- **1200 messaging**
- **DINS process**
- **Pass Program**
- **Elderly EVAC**
- **Genysas Zone names**
- **QR codes at hotels**
- **Amazon**





CAL FIRE IMT 2

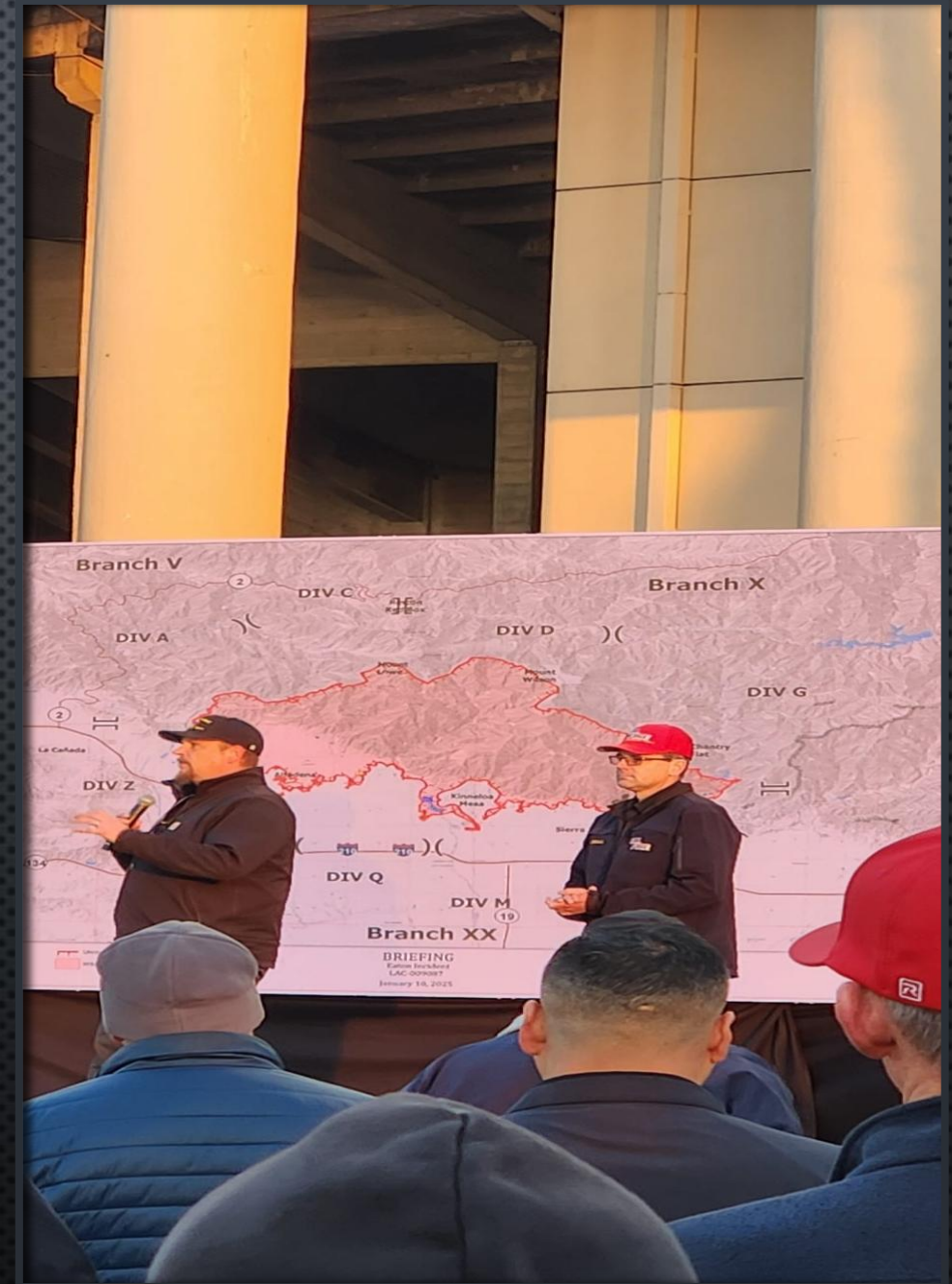
Palisades Fire



January 7-28, 2025 Malibu, California



- ON JANUARY 7, 2025 AT 1818 HOURS THE EATON INCIDENT STARTED ON STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA (SRA) IN THE EATON CANYON AREA, IN UNINCORPORATED LOS ANGELES COUNTY, PROTECTED BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT, UNDER COUNTY CONTRACT THROUGH CAL FIRE.
- INITIAL ATTACK CONSISTED OF RESOURCES FROM LOS ANGELES COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT, UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE – ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST, ARCADIA FIRE DEPARTMENT, PASADENA FIRE DEPARTMENT, SIERRA MADRE FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND OTHER COOPERATING AGENCIES.
- BY JANUARY 9TH, THE EATON FIRE HAD FOUR IMTs ASSIGNED AND ENTER INTO UNIFIED COMMAND.
- LACOFD TYPE 3 IMT
- LACOSD IMT
- CWCG CAIIMT 5
- CAL FIRE IMT 3



LAND OWNERSHIP

DPA	Acres	%
FEDERAL	9747	70%
LOCAL	3540	25%
STATE	734	5%

LRA by City	Acres	% of Total Acreage
ALTADENA	2327	16.60%
ANTELOPE	1	0.01%
ARCADIA	105	0.75%
KINNELOA MESA	106	0.76%
MONROVIA	1	0.01%
PASADENA	370	2.64%
SIERRA MADRE	630	4.49%

- THE EATON INCIDENT OCCURRED IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND SPANNED THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY TO THE SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS.
- THE TOPOGRAPHY OF THE FIRE AREA RANGES FROM 1,100 FEET IN THE VALLEY TO NEARLY 5,600 FEET AT MOUNT WILSON.
- THE LAND IS PREDOMINANTLY MOUNTAINOUS, WITH SLOPES VARYING FROM 0 TO 80%.
- THE LAND OWNERSHIP OF THE FIRE AREA INCLUDES A COMBINATION OF PRIVATE LAND, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND THE ANGELES NATIONAL FOREST.
- MOST OF THE FIRE'S DIRECT PROTECTION AREA (DPA) FELL UNDER THE FEDERAL PROTECTION AREA (FPA) AND LOCAL RESPONSIBILITY AREA (LRA), WITH A MINIMAL PORTION FALLING UNDER THE STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREA (SRA).
- CALFIRE - SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRES JANUARY 2025

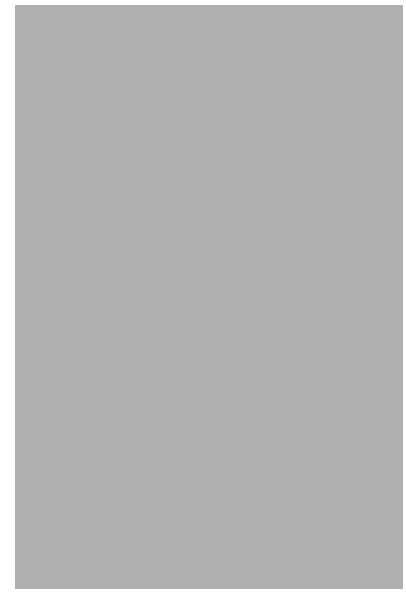
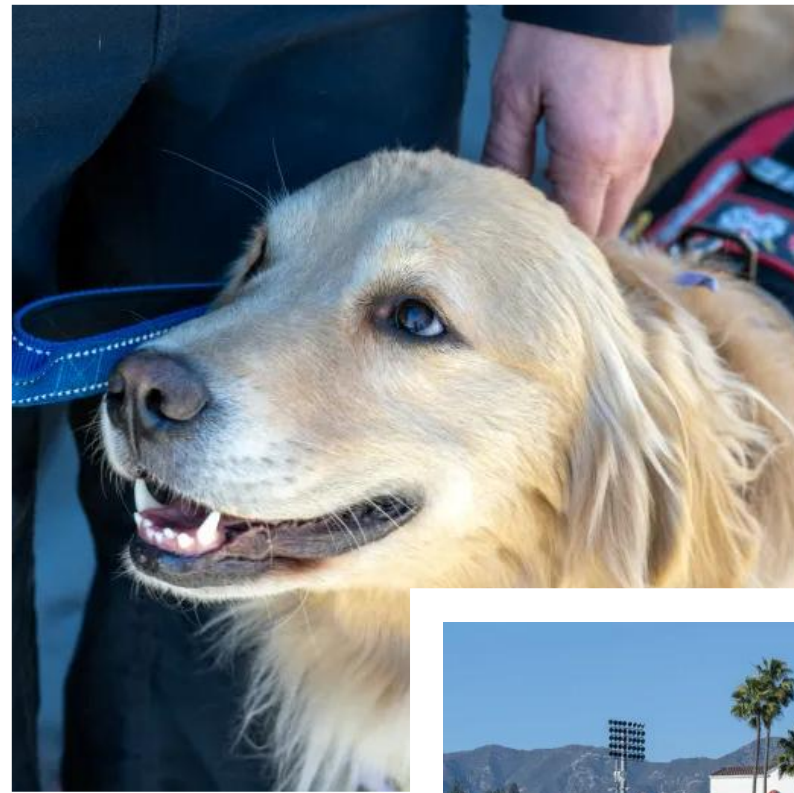


SERVICE AND SUPPORT

LOGISTICS

- ESTABLISHED BASE CAMP & ICP AT THE ROSE BOWL STADIUM. THIS ENCOMPASSED A TOTAL AREA OF **75** ACRES AND ALL IMT'S CO-LOCATED AT THIS SITE.
- THE LOCATION WAS GENEROUSLY DONATED BY THE CITY OF PASADENA AND WAS IDEAL TO SUPPORT **4,000** FIREFIGHTERS, **700** NATIONAL GUARDSMEN, **400** LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND **500** CCC'S.
- BOTH NATIONAL CATERER AND CALFIRE MKU WERE UTILIZED TO PROVIDE FEEDING .
- WITH 2 FEEDING LOCATIONS ON SITE AND THE NUMEROUS PRIVATE FOOD CATERERS SHOWING UP, ESTIMATING HEAD COUNTS AND FORECASTING FOR FOOD ORDERING BECAME A CHALLENGE AS WELL.
- PRADO CAMP MKU ALONE SERVED **43,193** MEALS.

- CAPITALIZED ON USE OF BOTH HEMS AND VIPER FOR ORDERING. FED AND CALFIRE ORDERING MANAGERS WERE CO-LOCATED AT LA COUNTY EOC TO STREAMLINE & PROCESS ORDERS.
- AT THE HEIGHT OF THE INCIDENT **550** HOTEL ROOMS WERE BEING BOOKED EACH NIGHT.
- HOUSING/HOTELS FOR CANINES AND HANDLERS TO STAY TOGETHER.
- NEED FOR A 24-HOUR VETERINARIAN IN ICP TO CONDUCT CHECK UPS AND MEDICAL ON CANINES.



LOGISTICS (CONT.)

PRIVATE DONATIONS QUICKLY BEGAN TO CLOG UP
CAMP WITH TRAFFIC AND DELIVERABLES!!



FINANCE



Collaboration between CAL FIRE IMT-3 Finance Section Chief and federal Finance Section Chief developed a process that honors both federal and state policies.

The finance plan was established by identifying fiscal authority for CAL FIRE and USFS, adhering to federal and state policies, and creating a multi-IMT communication process that met the intent of the incident.

Due to the multi-jurisdictional nature, “You Order, You Pay” was the chosen and most effective method.

Initial challenges involved ordering items that were not traditionally covered under 0900 E-fund spending and sourced thru EOC. IE: rotary saw blades, dusk masks, Canine booties.

Cost estimate for Eaton Fire: \$ **33,781,049.00** (only capturing CALFIRE resources and request #'s in the 20,000 block)

LIAISON



- LIAISON STRUCTURE: **11** LOFRS, **5** LELOS
- 1 LOFR EMBEDDED IN LA COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC) FOR DURATION OF INCIDENT.
- 2 LOFRS ASSIGNED TO VIP TASK FORCE
- COORDINATED 61 VIP BRIEFINGS AND TOURS
- COMMUNICATED AND COORDINATED WITH **230** INDIVIDUALS FROM **86** COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS.
- LELOS MANAGED THE REPOPULATION OF OVER **32,500** RESIDENTS.



PUBLIC INFORMATION

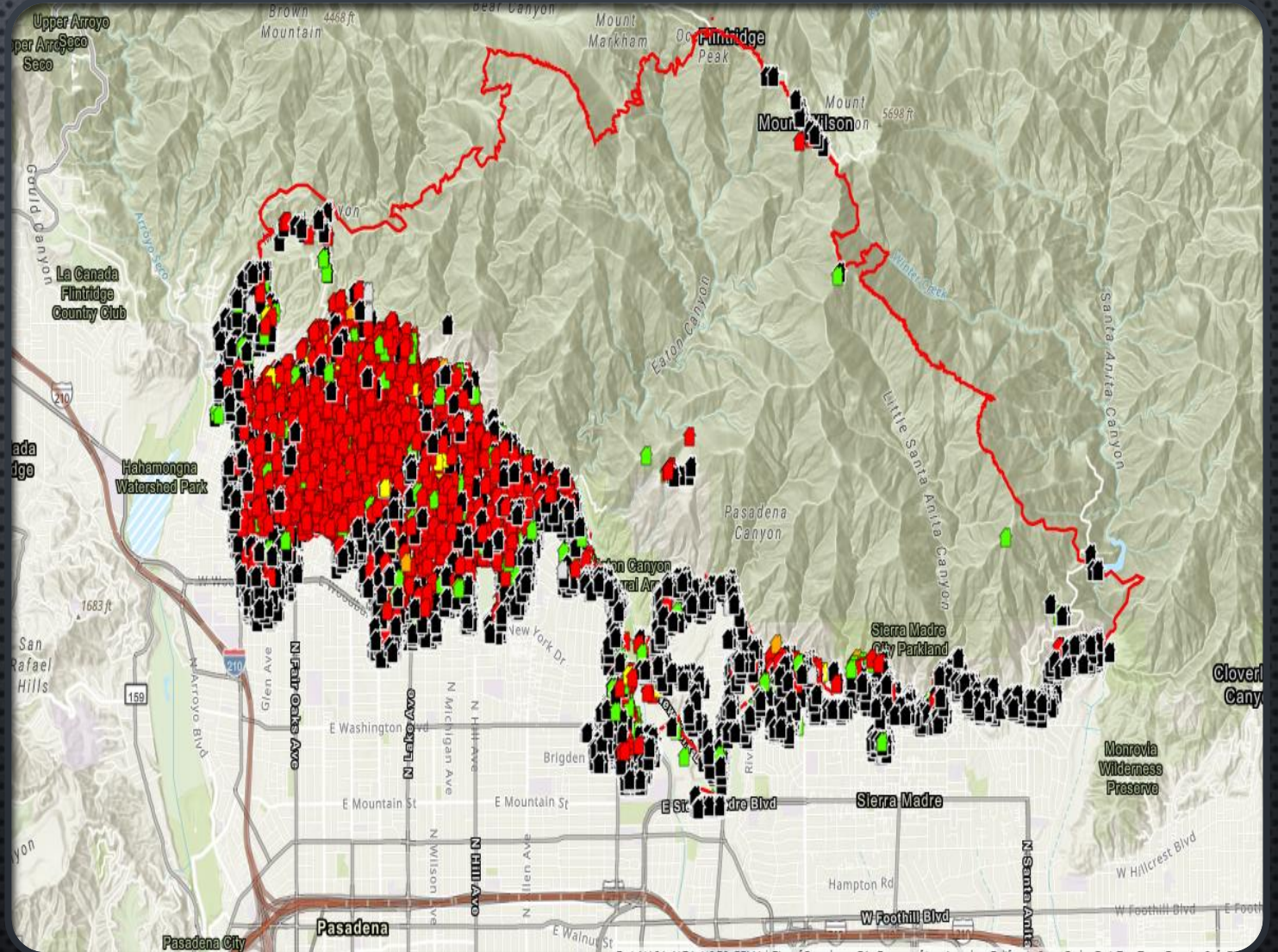
- TASKED WITH PROVIDING COORDINATED MESSAGING TO PUBLIC, ELECTED OFFICIALS, COOPERATORS AND STAKEHOLDERS.
- CONSTANT COORDINATION WITH PALISADES INCIDENT ON MESSAGING, PRESS CONFERENCES, AND IN PERSON COMMUNITY MEETINGS TO AVOID COMPETING TIMEFRAMES.
- ESTABLISH VIP TASK FORCE FOR TOURS AND VISITS. CONSISTED OF ONE IC, OSC AND MULTIPLE PIO'S AND LOFRS. WAS A HUGE SUCCESS FOR INCIDENT.
- INTERCEPT CELEBRITY VISITS DAILY TO MINIMIZE IMPACT
- **1.2 MILLION** VIEWS ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS
- **2,763** MEDIA INTERVIEWS
- **10,506** PUBLIC CONTACTS TO PROVIDE UPDATES



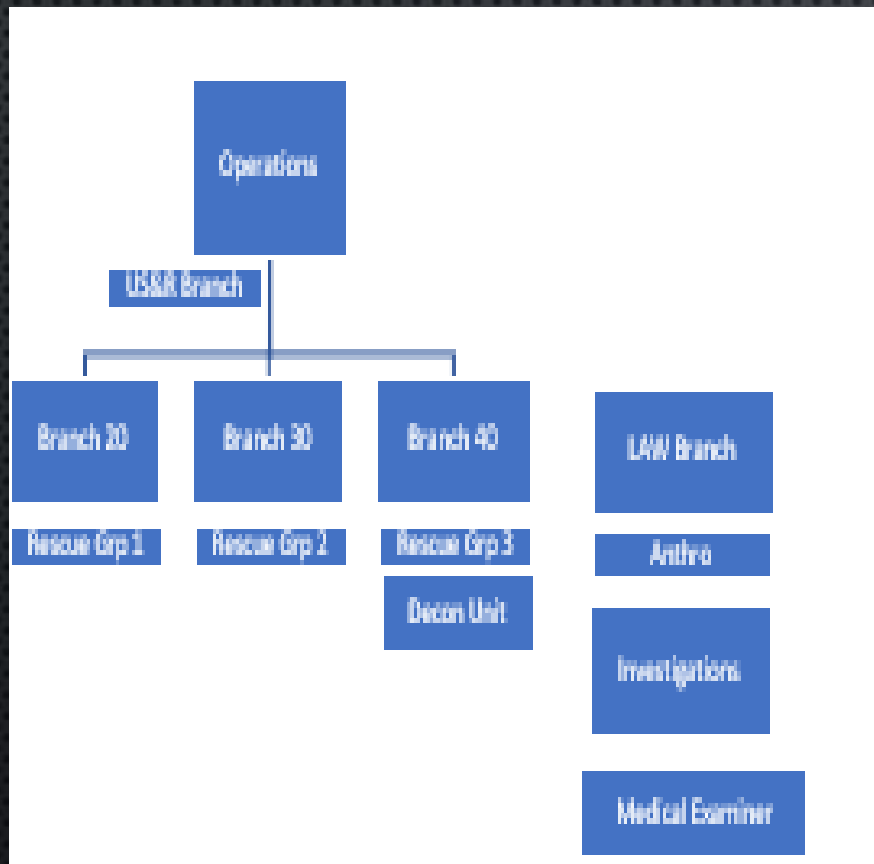
OPERATIONS

DIVISION OF LABOR

- **FEDS GO HIGH, WE GO LOW**
- WILDLAND SUPPRESSION COORDINATED BY CAIIMT 5
- USAR, SAR, RECOVERY, DINS, DATA COLLECTION EVAC/RE-POP ORGANIZED AND FACILITATED BY CAL FIRE IMT 3.



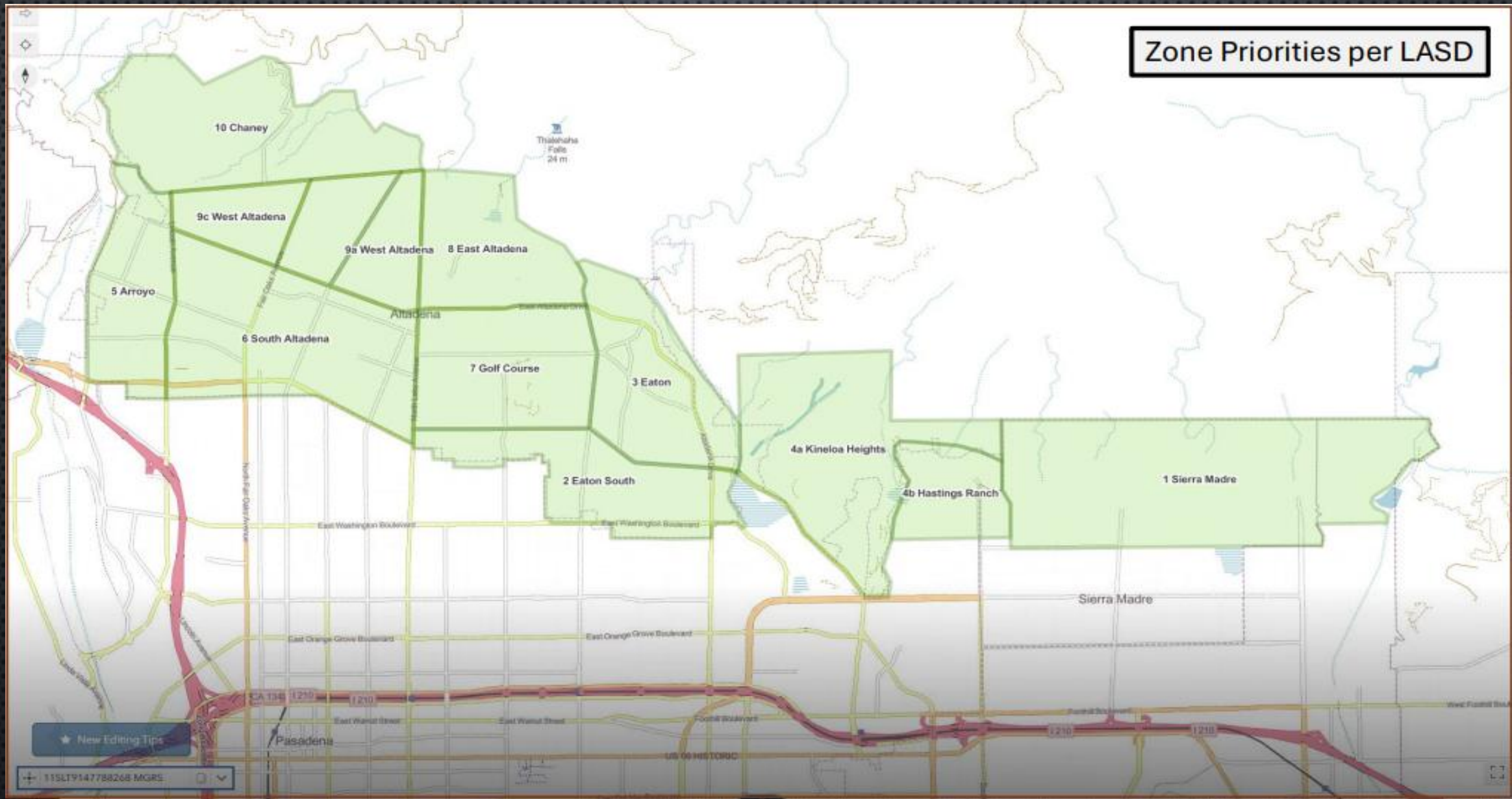
“YOU’RE
OVERPROMISING
AND GOING TO
UNDER DELIVER”



- The challenge with an incident of this magnitude is that there are two type one incidents overlapping each other. The fire and the search and recovery each represent complex incidents and involve communities that do not often interact. Maintaining unity of command and accountability is a challenge.
- To alleviate this challenge the operations section chose to create a US&R branch to manage the entire operation administratively and during the planning phases.
- Once the teams were deployed to the area of operations, they would work under the OPBD assigned by the incident for that geographical area.
- This maintained accountability and ensured that any medical emergencies or immediate communications would be shared immediately to everyone working on that branch.
- An Infrastructure Branch was established to work with County and City Public works depts, as well as water departments to assist with cleanup efforts and debris flow prevention. Tasks also included opening roadways, debris basin clean out, storm drains, wells, hazardous tree removal and evaluating potential sites in need of sand bag placement.



Zone Priorities per LASD



- Develop an organized & systematic process to get everyone thru “the door”

- USAR teams
- SAR teams
- LE
- Canine HRD teams
- Anthropologists
- Medical Examiners
- Suppression personnel
- Environmental health
- Public works
- DINS
- Utility companies
- Residents





THE ROE WERE THAT ONCE ANYTHING WAS LOCATED WHICH REQUIRED FURTHER INSPECTION THE SEARCH TEAMS WOULD BACK OUT AND CONTACT LE.

A DEPUTY WOULD TAKE CONTROL OF THE SCENE AND DIRECT FURTHER INSPECTION TO INCLUDE THE USE OF A CANINE HRD OR DEBRIS REMOVAL.

IF THE ITEM BEING INSPECTED REQUIRED FURTHER INSPECTION AN ANTHROPOLOGIST WAS CONTACTED. A DEPUTY WOULD USE AN LE CAMERA TO SEND A PHOTO.

IF THE ANTHRO DETERMINED A HIGH DEGREE OF SUSPICION THAT THE ITEM WAS HUMAN, THE HOMICIDE UNIT WOULD BE CONTACTED AND ARRIVE TO TAKE CONTROL OF THE SCENE.

THE ME'S OFFICE AND ANTHRO WOULD DIRECT ANY WORK ON THAT SITE FOLLOWING THEIR ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES.

AN LASD DEPUTY WAS EMBEDDED AT EVERY LEVEL OF THE ORGANIZATION TO ENSURE COMMUNICATIONS WERE MAINTAINED.

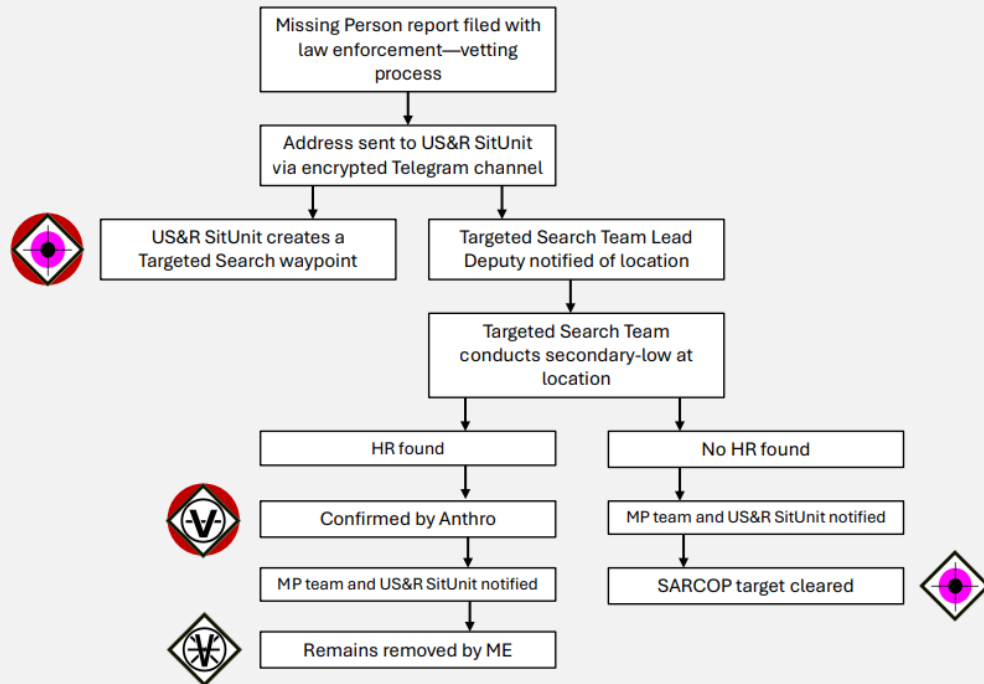
THIS WAS AT THE BRANCH LEVEL; GROUP SUPERVISOR LEVEL AND DEPUTIES WERE EMBEDDED WITHIN SOME OF THE SEARCH GROUPS.



Satellite Image shows Eaton Fire on Wednesday January 8, 2025 in Altadena, California.- Maxar Technologies

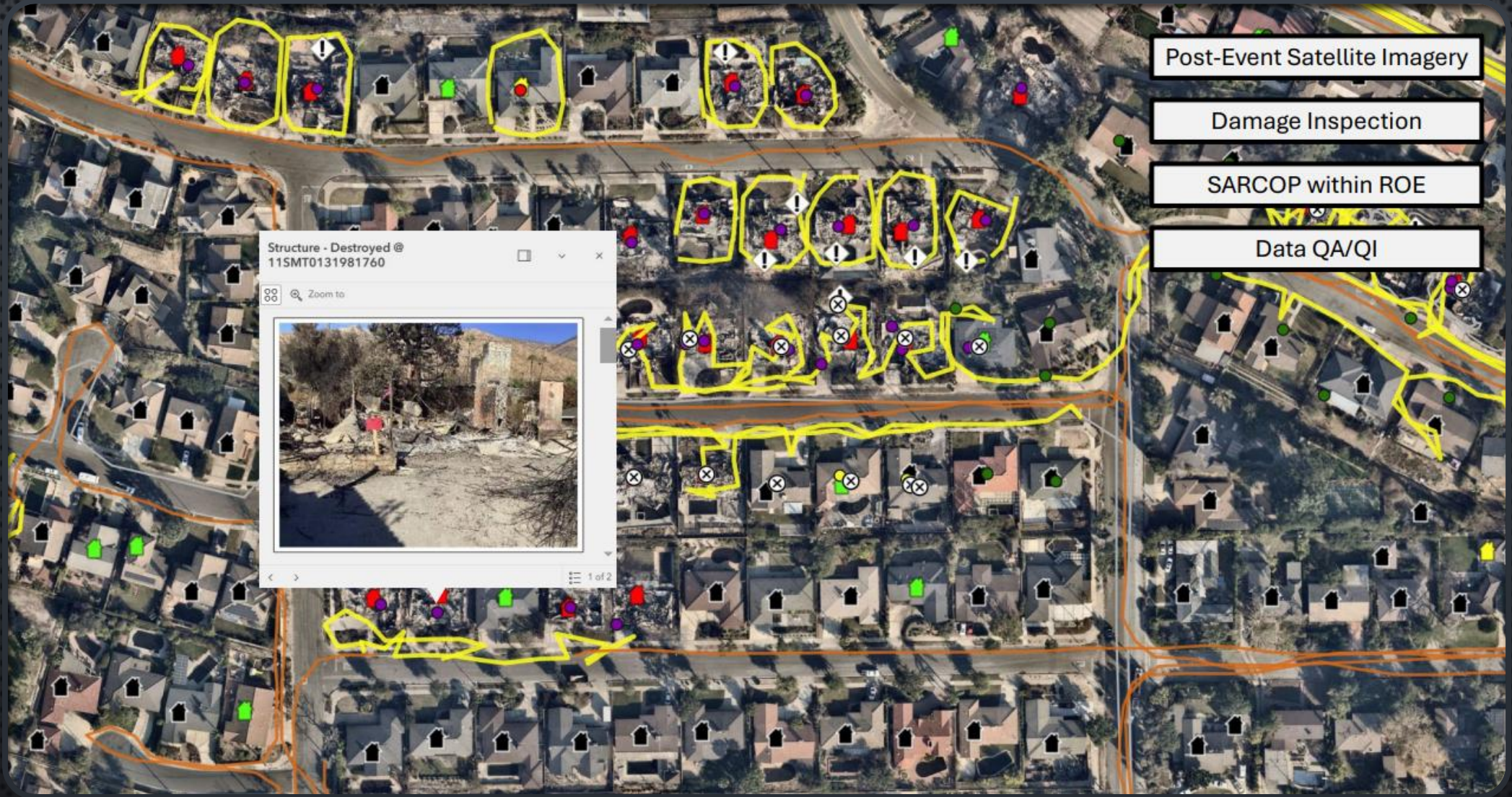
- LASD DEFINED THE SEARCH PRIORITIES INTO A ZONE NETWORK. THIS WAS TO FACILITATE REPOPULATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPLACEMENT.
- THESE PRIORITIES WERE COMMUNICATED THROUGH THE ICS ORGANIZATION TO THE SEARCH TEAMS. THE SEARCH TEAMS RECORDED PROGRESS ON SARCOP.
- THE US&R SIT UNIT TRACKED PROGRESS THROUGH SARCOP. ITEMS REQUIRING FURTHER INVESTIGATION OR LOCATIONS THAT WERE MISSED WERE TRIPLE VETTED THROUGH THE SIT UNIT BY COMPARING MULTIPLE DATA SETS FROM DINS, PRE AND POST FIRE SATELLITE IMAGERY AND INTEGRATION OF SEARCH TRACKS AND SEARCH LOCATIONS.
- THIS RESULTED IN A HIGH DEGREE OF CERTAINTY THAT NO LOCATION WITHIN THE FIRE PERIMETER WENT UNSEARCHED.
- EVERY EVENING A DOWNLOAD WAS COMPLETED WITH THE SEARCH TEAM MANAGERS, GROUP SUPERVISORS AND LE TO VALIDATE PROGRESS AND DETERMINE THE SEARCH PLAN FOR THE NEXT DAY.

Line of Effort 1: Targeted Search



Line of Effort 2: Wide Area Search





What we faced

Structures damaged and/or destroyed:		Total Structures Undamaged: 7,890	
Total Structures Damaged: 1,073		Total Structures Destroyed: 9,418	
<u>Single-Family Residences:</u>		<u>Mixed Commercial/Residential:</u>	
Damaged: 750	Destroyed: 6,018	Damaged: 2	Destroyed: 5
<u>Nonresidential Commercial:</u>		<u>Minor Structures:</u>	
Damaged: 33	Destroyed: 153	Damaged: 260	Destroyed: 3,145

EATON FIRE IS AT NUMBER 2 FOR MOST DESTRUCTIVE WILDFIRES IN CA HISTORY.

Top 20 Most Destructive California Wildfires

FIRE NAME (CAUSE)	DATE	COUNTY	ACRES	STRUCTURES	DEATHS
1 CAMP (Powerlines)	November 2018	Butte	153,336	18,804	85
2 EATON (Under Investigation)*	January 2025	Los Angeles	14,021	9,413	17
3 PALISADES (Under Investigation)*	January 2025	Los Angeles	23,707	6,833	12
4 TUBBS (Electrical)	October 2017	Napa & Sonoma	36,807	5,636	22
5 TUNNEL - Oakland Hills (Rekindle)	October 1991	Alameda	1,600	2,900	25
6 CEDAR (Human Related)	October 2003	San Diego	273,246	2,820	15
7 NORTH COMPLEX (Lightning)	August, 2020	Butte, Plumas, & Yuba	318,935	2,352	15
8 VALLEY (Electrical)	September 2015	Lake, Napa & Sonoma	76,067	1,955	4
9 WITCH (Powerlines)	October 2007	San Diego	197,990	1,650	2
10 WOOLSEY (Electrical)	November 2018	Ventura	96,949	1,643	3
11 CARR (Human Related)	July 2018	Shasta County, Trinity	229,651	1,614	8
12 GLASS (Undetermined)	September 2020	Napa & Sonoma	67,484	1,520	0
13 LNU LIGHTNING COMPLEX (Lightning / Arson)	August 2020	Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Yolo, Lake, & Colusa	363,220	1,491	6
14 CZU LIGHTNING COMPLEX (Lightning)	August 2020	Santa Cruz, San Mateo	86,509	1,490	1
15 NUNS (Powerline)	October 2017	Sonoma	54,382	1,355	3
16 DIXIE (Powerline)	July 2021	Butte, Plumas, Lassen, & Tehama	963,309	1,311	1
17 THOMAS (Powerline)	December 2017	Ventura & Santa Barbara	281,893	1,063	2
18 CALDOR (Under Investigation)	September 2021	Alpine, Amador, & El Dorado	221,774	1,003	1
19 OLD (Human Related)	October 2003	San Bernardino	91,281	1,003	6
20 JONES (Undetermined)	October 1999	Shasta	26,200	954	1

Structures include homes, outbuildings (barns, garages, sheds, etc) and commercial properties destroyed.

This list does not include fire jurisdiction. These are the Top 20 regardless of whether they were state, federal, local or tribal responsibility.

*Numbers not final *DINS Disclaimer: These numbers are preliminary based on aerial assessments dedicating heat sources which can include chicken coops, outbuildings, sheds, water containers, etc. *Validated inspections are currently being ground-verified by Damage Assessment Teams.



2/7/2025

WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED

- **9192** STRUCTURES SEARCHED
- **1104** MILES OF SEARCH TRACKS RECORDED
- **69** TARGETED SEARCHES COMPLETED
- **17** SETS OF HUMAN REMAINS RECOVERED
- **7** DAYS OF US&R OPERATIONS
- TOTAL PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE SEARCH..**335**
- **61** VIP BRIEFINGS AND TOURS
- COORDINATED & COLLABORATED WITH **260** INDIVIDUALS FROM **86** COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS IN THE LOFR SHOP.
- MANAGED THE REPOPULATION OF OVER **32,500** RESIDENTS.
- **2,763** CONTACTS WITH MEDIA FOR INTERVIEWS, ESCORTS AND PRESS CONFERENCES
- DELIVERED INFORMATION TO **1,212,646** VIEWERS THRU SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS
- LOGISTICALLY SUPPORTED 4,000 FIREFIGHTERS, 700 NATIONAL GUARDS AND 400 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
- COMPLETED **18,381** DINS INSPECTIONS
- ASSISTED BUILDING IN SAFETY BY ASSIGNING MULTIPLE ENGINE STRIKE TEAMS TO CONDUCT RED TAGGING OF BUILDINGS. **7,063** WERE COMPLETED IN A 24-HOUR SHIFT. THIS EXPEDITED THE RE-ENTRY, MAKE SAFE AND REPOPULATION.

COMMUNICATION,
COORDINATION AND
COLLABORATION WAS THE KEY
TO PROVIDING THE BEST
OUTCOME TO A DEVASTATING
EVENT.



- Questions?