



JUNE 21, 2019

# WILDFIRE ANNEX

HAZARD-SPECIFIC ANNEX TO THE  
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT  
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA  
14700 WINCHESTER BLVD, LOS GATOS, CA



OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA & SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE  
55 WEST YOUNGER AVE, SAN JOSE, CA



**Suggested citation for this planning document**

Office of Emergency Management. (2019). *Wildfire Annex – Hazard Specific Annex to the County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Plan*. San Jose, CA: County of Santa Clara.



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## RECORD OF CHANGES

#	Date	Section	Description	Individual Making Change
01.				
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to acknowledge contributions from the following cities and towns; special districts; county departments and agencies; state agencies; federal agencies; and other planning partners:

### **Operational Area Cities and Towns**

City of Cupertino  
City of Milpitas  
City of Morgan Hill  
City of Monte Sereno  
City of Mountain View  
City of Palo Alto  
City of San Jose  
Town of Los Altos Hills  
Town of Los Gatos

### **Other Planning Partners**

American Red Cross  
Fire Safety Council

### **State Agencies**

Cal OES  
Cal Fire

### **County Departments**

Office of Emergency Management  
Office of the County Executive  
Office of Supportive Housing  
Public Health Department  
Parks and Recreation  
Emergency Medical Services Agency  
County 9-1-1 Communications  
Social Services Agency  
Consumer and Environmental Protection  
Agency - Animal Services  
Roads and Airports  
Facilities and Fleet

### **Special Districts**

\*Santa Clara County Fire Department

### **Federal Agencies**

National Weather Service  
FEMA

\*Lead County Agencies for the development of the County of Santa Clara's Wildfire Annex



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## PROMULGATION

The preservation of life, property, and the environment is an inherent responsibility of local, state, and federal government. While no plan can completely prevent death and destruction, reasonable plans carried out by knowledgeable and well-trained personnel can and will minimize losses.

The County of Santa Clara has prepared this hazard specific Wildfire Annex in compliance with the Standardized Emergency Management System, the National Incident Management System, and the Incident Command System. The Annex is intended to ensure the effective and efficient allocation of resources to protect the people of Santa Clara during times of emergency.

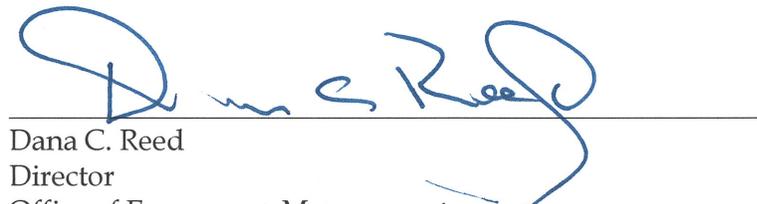
This Annex, an extension of the County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Plan, establishes the emergency organization, assigns tasks, specifies policies and general procedures, and provides for coordination of planning efforts for respective staff.

This Annex will be reviewed and exercised periodically and revised as necessary to satisfy changing conditions and needs.

The Office of the County Executive, Office of Emergency Management, and the Santa Clara County Fire Department give their full support to this Annex and urge all officials, employees, and residents – individually and collectively – to familiarize themselves with this Annex and to do their share in the total emergency effort of the County of Santa Clara.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Garry Herceg  
Deputy County Executive  
Office of the County Executive

2-8-2020  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana C. Reed  
Director  
Office of Emergency Management

2/08/2020  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Bowden  
Fire Chief  
Santa Clara County Fire Department

2/07/2020  
Date



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## HOW TO USE THIS PUBLICATION

The Wildfire Annex is organized into four components, as shown below; a summary of each component follows on the next several pages. This planning document is not meant to be read from beginning to end in just one sitting – or even several sittings. This publication was designed for a variety of audiences, each operating under a broad range of conditions ranging from emergency events to routine planning activities. This document is intended as a reference guide for readers to consult at key moments during preparedness and response, as well as by organizational planners during annex review and revision. In addition, the appendix includes resources and tools available for use to successfully manage a wildfire event.

Each component is intended to be read by a particular audience at a particular time. For instance, the Roles and Responsibilities Component, organized by agency, is an excellent source of condensed information related to how each agency is tasked to perform actions within the scope of this planning document. This component is recommended for departmental, agency, or jurisdictional leaders to gain familiarity with their roles and responsibilities as laid out in this functional annex. Planners and responders already familiar with the provisions of this hazard-specific annex may find the Roles and Responsibilities Component to be a great refresher.

A summary of each component, including information related to when each component should be used, and their intended audience follows, on the next several pages.

### **Component 1**

Administration and  
Overview

### **Component 2**

Concept of Operations

### **Component 3**

Roles and Responsibilities

### **Component 4**

Authorities, References, and  
Support Material



### Component 1

#### Annex Administration and Overview

**Who should read?**  
Agency planners and leaders; partner agencies

**When to read?**  
Before event, during training, during annex review and revision

**Component Contents**

- Record of Changes
- Acknowledgements
- How to Use this Publication
- Promulgation
- Annex Development
- Annex Planning Organization
- Annex Maintenance
- Training & Exercises

### Component 2

#### Concept of Operations

**Who should read?**  
Agency planners and leaders; response/recovery directors, coordinators, and personnel, including Emergency Operations Center (EOC) members and departmental staff; partner agencies

**When to read?**  
During training, during event, during annex review and revision

**Component Contents**

- Purpose, Scope, and Assumptions
- Annex Activation & Red Flag Warning Considerations
- Public Information and Engagement
- PSPS & Evacuation Considerations
- Mass Care & Shelter Considerations
- Re-entry and Repopulation Considerations

### Component 3

#### Roles and Responsibilities (R&R)

**Who should read?**  
Agency planners & leaders; response/recovery coordinators, directors; partner agencies

**When to read?**  
Before event, during training, during event as refresher, during annex review and revision

**Component Contents**

- R&R for County Departments
- R&R for Special Districts
- R&R for Private Organizations
- R&R for State Agencies
- R&R for Federal Agencies

### Component 4

#### Authorities, References, and Support Material

**Who should read?**  
Agency planners, response/recovery coordinators, directors, and personnel (including EOC members and departmental staff) as needed; partner agencies

**When to read?**  
During training, during event, during annex review and revision

**Component Contents**

- Authorities and References
- Acronyms and Definitions
- Info Collection & Management Tool
- Risk Analysis Mapping
- Public Info & Warning with Message Templates
- Conference Call Agenda



## COMPONENT 1: ADMINISTRATION AND OVERVIEW

### Intended Audience

The intended audience for this component includes:

- Department leaders tasked with the implementation of this hazard-specific annex.
- Department/Agency/planners within Santa Clara County likely to participate in, or contribute to, any pre-disaster planning, response, or recovery activities.
- State and federal auditors.
- Partner and ancillary organizations and jurisdictions.

### When to Read

This component is intended to be read:

- Before any emergency or disaster event to ensure compliance with established County policies with the ultimate intention of promulgation.
- During training to educate annex stakeholders on the document’s purpose, scope, and assumptions.
- During the plan review and revision cycle.

### Summary

*Component 1: Administration and Overview* serves:

- As a reference for local, state, and federal responders to integrate their agency operations with local procedures, if needed
- As a reference for local, state, and federal emergency management personnel to conduct an informed after-action investigation and report
- To provide the following information, as required by County’s standard emergency management planning document format and local planning conditions. See table below:

County OEM - Standard Annex Administration Component			
Record of Changes	p. 3	Annex Administration	p. 22
Acknowledgements	p. 5	Annex Development	p. 23
Promulgation	p. 7	Annex Planning Organization	p. 23
Table of Contents	p. 9	Annex Maintenance	p. 25
How to Use this Publication	p. 13	Training and Exercises	p. 26



## COMPONENT 2: CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

### Intended Audience

The intended audience for this component includes:

- Departments or agencies within the Santa Clara County Operational Area likely to participate in, or contribute to, any pre-disaster planning, response, or recovery activities.
- State and federal auditors.
- Partner and ancillary organizations and jurisdictions.

### When to Read

This component is intended to be read:

- During training to educate annex stakeholders on the operational coordination concepts utilized by all defined organizational entities identified throughout the Hazard-Specific Annex.
- During emergency or disaster event.
- During plan review/revision cycle.

### Summary

The purpose of *Component 2: Concept of Operations* is:

- To inform partner and ancillary organizations of the County's Wildfire preparedness and response procedures.
- As reference for local, state, and federal responders to integrate their agency operations with local procedures, if needed.
- As reference for local, state, and federal emergency management personnel to conduct an informed after-action investigation and report.

This component begins with a description of the planning purpose and scope, as well as a catalog of the assumptions that County planners utilized as parameters for this planning document. Changes in the planning environment may alter the anticipated outcome of this document. Additionally, any operation that deviates from the stated planning purpose, scope, or assumptions outlined in this publication may produce unintended or unanticipated outcomes.

The component goes on to describe the actions and considerations for the following topics:

- NWS Guidance (page 33) and Annex Activation (page 37).
- Red Flag Warning and Evacuation Considerations (page 40).
- Public Information and Engagement (page 44).
- PSPS (page 51) and Evacuation Considerations (page 53).
- Mass Care and Shelter Considerations (page 58).
- Re-entry and Repopulation Considerations (page 67).



## COMPONENT 3: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### Intended Audience

The intended audience for this component includes:

- Department/Agency planners within the Santa Clara County Operational Area likely to participate in, or contribute to, any pre-disaster planning, response, or recovery activities.
- State and federal auditors.
- Partner and ancillary organizations and jurisdictions.

### When to Read

- Before event.
- During event, as refresher (particularly if department and/or agency leader).
- During plan review/revision cycle.

### Summary

The purpose of *Component 3: Roles and Responsibilities* is:

- To inform partner and ancillary organizations of the County’s wildfire preparedness and response procedures.
- As reference for local, state, and federal responders to integrate their agency operations with local procedures, if needed.
- As reference for local, state, and federal emergency management personnel to conduct an informed after-action investigation and report.

*Component 3: Roles and Responsibilities* is intended to provide agency leaders with a quick point-of-reference to understand their organization’s role and responsibilities in accordance with this planning document. The table below catalogues the various agencies that have been tasked to perform some action in this hazard-specific annex.

Roles and Responsibilities			
County of Santa Clara Departments and Agencies			
Office of Emergency Management (OEM)	p 79	Roads and Airports (RDA)	p 81
Public Health Department (PHD)	p 80	Office of Supportive Housing (OSH)	p 81
Social Services Agency (SSA)	p 80	Santa Clara County Sheriff’s Office	p 82
Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation (PRK)	p 81	Medical Examiner Coroner (MEC)	p 82
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)	p 82	Facilities & Fleet (FAF)	p 82
County Communications	p 83	County Executive Office (CEO)	p 83
Private Organizations			
American Red Cross (ARC)	p 84	Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)	p 85



<b>Roles and Responsibilities</b>			
<b>State and Federal Agencies</b>			
California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)	p 85	California Department of Resources Recycling & Recovery (CalRecycle)	p 86
National Weather Service (NWS)	p 86	California Department of Forestry & Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)	p 85
<b>Special Districts</b>			
Santa Clara County Fire (SCCFD)	p 83	Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD)	p 84
Valley Transit Authority (VTA)	p 84		



## COMPONENT 4: AUTHORITIES, REFERENCES, AND SUPPORT MATERIAL

### Intended Audience

The intended audience for this component includes:

- Department/Agency planners within the Santa Clara County Operational Area likely to participate in, or contribute to, any pre-disaster planning, response, or recovery activities.
- State and federal auditors.
- Partner and ancillary organizations and jurisdictions.

### When to Read

- Before event.
- During plan review/revision cycle.

### Summary

The purpose of *Component 4: Authorities, References, and Support Material* is:

- To inform partner and ancillary organizations of the County's wildfire preparedness and response procedures.
- As reference for local, state, and federal responders to integrate their agency operations with local procedures, if needed.
- As reference for local, state, and federal emergency management personnel to conduct an informed after-action investigation and report.

The last component, *Component 4 References, Authorities, and Support Material*, provides users with a listing of all relevant authorities associated with this planning document (e.g., California Emergency Services Act, Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the Government Code) and applicable references that may be used for further investigation and research.

Furthermore, this component provides the reader with the following resources in the form of Appendices:

- **Appendix A** - Public Information and Warning with Message Templates SCCFD & OEM (page 103)
- **Appendix B** - Risk Analysis Mapping (page 109)
- **Appendix C** - Public Utilities Commission High Fire - Threat District Map (page 113)
- **Appendix D** - PG&E Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Bulletin (page 115)
- **Appendix E** - Protecting Public Health from Fire Ash (page 119)
- **Appendix F** - Mass Care & Shelter: QR Code (page 123)
- **Appendix G** - Mass Care & Shelter: Dash Pass (page 127)
- **Appendix H** - Debris Removal Right of Entry & Denial of Entry Forms (page 131)
- **Appendix I** - Hazard Advisory - Safety When Returning to Your Neighborhood



(Home/Business) (page 144)

- **Appendix J** - Flood After Fire Graphic (page 154)
- **Appendix K** - CalFire Repopulation Plan (page 158)
- **Appendix L** - Conference Call Agenda (page 166)



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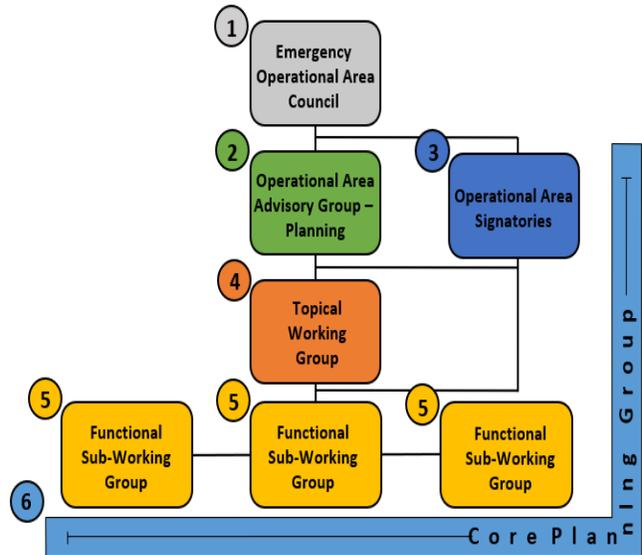
# ANNEX ADMINISTRATION



# ANNEX ADMINISTRATION

## ANNEX DEVELOPMENT

This Annex was developed in cooperation with over 50 area stakeholders representing more than 20 different agencies. Over the course of several months, the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) hosted a kickoff meeting and held numerous subcommittee working group sessions in-house and at satellite locations to ensure that an integrated, whole community planning approach was used to develop this document.



This Annex incorporates the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) methodology as a capabilities and performance-based exercise program providing a standardized methodology and terminology for exercise design, development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.

Recognizing this, the signatories to this Annex agree to participate in scheduled HSEEP exercises. The date and type of exercises will be identified by the Office of Emergency Management.

This Annex utilized a whole community planning approach consisting of the Operational Area Advisory Group for Emergency Planning, the Core Planning Group, the Wildfire Annex Working Group, and three Sub-Working Groups, including:

1. Alert and Warning Sub-Working Group.
2. Mass Care and Shelter Sub-Working Group.
3. Re-Entry and Repopulation Sub-Working Group.

## ANNEX PLANNING ORGANIZATION

### EMERGENCY OPERATIONAL AREA COUNCIL

The purpose of the Emergency Operational Area Council (EOAC) is to:

- Enhance planning and preparedness for large-scale emergencies.
- Create partnerships in emergency planning, preparedness, as well as training and exercise with the Operational Area (OA).
- Consolidate activities of cities and special districts to participate more efficiently in planning for future emergencies and disasters.
- Provide access to public-private partners to participate in emergency planning and preparedness.
- Develop broad-based emergency preparedness and funding priorities and recommendations.



The functional roles and responsibilities of the EOAC are to:

- Coordinate, review, and recommend Board of Supervisor adoption of emergency and mutual-aid plans, as well as the ordinances, resolutions, rules, and regulations necessary to implement those plans and agreements.
- Review and recommend disaster response policies, procedures, and funding priorities.
- Ensure a unity of purpose in emergency plans, policies, and procedures.
- Foster an effective flow of disaster information and emergency preparedness through training, uniformity in planning, response plans, and policies.

The EOAC established the Wildfire Annex as a planning priority in November 2018. As a result, the Wildfire Annex Working Group convened in January 2019 to begin the planning process.

### **SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA ADVISORY GROUP FOR EMERGENCY PLANNING**

The Santa Clara County OA Advisory Group for Emergency Planning is open to interested community stakeholders for participation; therefore, membership is dynamic. Members of the OA Advisory Group for Emergency Planning are composed of representatives from:

- Local jurisdictions (e.g., emergency managers, planners, public information officers, public works, public safety).
- Key County departments or agencies, such as SCCFD, County Communications, Emergency Medical Services, Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency, Public Health, Office of Supportive Housing, Social Services Agency, County Executive Office, Office of the Sheriff, etc.
- Allied agencies such as Red Cross, Collaborating Agencies' Disaster Relief Effort (CADRE), and the FireSafe Council.

This Group served as subject matter experts who provided guidance and instruction to the Core Planning Group and Sub-Working Groups throughout the development of this Annex.

### **CORE PLANNING GROUP**

The Core Planning Group, consisting of personnel from OEM and SCCFD, was responsible for coordinating, leading, and documenting all Work Group and Sub-Working Group meetings. Additionally, this group was tasked with writing, editing, and validating this Annex. As such, this group provided continuity, transparency, and a broad perspective in the drafting of this Annex.

### **WILDFIRE ANNEX TOPICAL WORKING GROUP**

The Wildfire Annex Working Group developed the framework, identified related subject matter experts, established divisions of labor, and developed work schedules necessary to draft this Annex, as designated by the EOAC. The Wildfire Annex Working Group established three Sub-Working Groups to collect, analyze, and synthesize information and resources necessary for the development of an emergency plan. Furthermore, the Sub-Working Groups were established in alignment with the FEMA Core Capabilities to assist the County in identifying program deficiencies and methodology enhancing the County's emergency management capabilities.



## **SUB-WORKING GROUP #1 – ALERT & WARNING**

Generally, the purpose of the Alert & Warning Sub-Working Group was to develop a process by which the OA can deliver coordinated, prompt, reliable, and actionable information to the whole community through the use of clear, consistent, accessible, and culturally and linguistically appropriate methods to effectively relay information regarding a wildfire event, as well as the actions being taken and the assistance being made available, as appropriate.

Specifically, this sub-working group worked to determine alert and warning trigger points that accurately reflect current and predicted environmental conditions that may result in wildfires within the OA. Additionally, the sub-working group drafted public message templates to expedite the communication process. This sub-working group also focused on additional messaging requirements needed to successfully address the unique requirements of the Access and Functional Needs community and other vulnerable demographic groups. For functions involved in emergency communications please refer to the Emergency Communications Annex. The Annex provides guidance for the planning and execution of emergency communication before, during, and after an incident, disaster, or emergency.

## **SUB-WORKING GROUP #2 - MASS CARE & SHELTER**

Generally, the purpose of the Mass Care and Shelter Sub-Working Group was to develop a process by which the OA can delineate overall guidelines for the care and shelter of people who need care and sheltering services during wildfire events. Specifically, this sub-working group worked to determine specific thresholds and trigger points to adequately inform and provide resources and insight regarding mass care and sheltering needs during a wildfire event. For functions involved in mass care and shelter please refer to the Mass Care and Shelter Annex. The Annex guides response in emergencies that require mass care and shelter of affected and displaced individuals at a level that exceeds the established operating capabilities in the affected jurisdiction.

## **SUB-WORKING GROUP #3 - RE- ENTRY & REPOPULATION**

Generally, the purpose of the Re-Entry & Repopulation Sub-Working Group was to develop a process by which the OA can define overall guidelines for re-entry and repopulation of the community after a wildfire event. Specifically, this sub-working group convened to determine proper processes, notification, and protocols, templates, and a beta website to provide wraparound services that would facilitate re-entry and repopulation following a wildfire evacuation.

## **ANNEX MAINTENANCE**

The Annex is considered a dynamic document. The County OEM, in coordination with SCCFD and other essential stakeholders, is responsible for the maintenance, review, and update of this Annex. At a minimum, this Annex will be reviewed annually and updated every three years. It is essential that the Santa Clara County Fire Department and County OEM make revisions and updates, in collaboration with participating persons, local jurisdictions, and other planning partners identified in this Annex to ensure accuracy and validity. If this Annex requires an immediate change due to lessons learned from trainings, exercises, or actual incidents, County OEM will identify a course of action for the review, update, and implementation of the necessary changes.



## TRAININGS AND EXERCISES

OEM has established a Training and Exercise program to enhance the Santa Clara County OA's capability in the mission areas of prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery. This planning document shall be incorporated into the County OEM Training and Exercise - Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan.

The nature of the training and exercise events will be determined by the County OEM Training and Exercise Section, in collaboration with the County OEM Planning Section, and in coordination with essential stakeholders identified in this planning document. Tools such as AlertSCC should be tested on a consistent basis in conjunction with countywide drills and exercises to improve capability gaps. Any lessons learned via training and exercising should be documented and forwarded to the County OEM Planning Section for planning product improvement.

Real-world events provide the best test of this Annex. Accordingly, activations of this Annex for actual events may meet the intent of County OEM's Training and Exercise Program. The Director of OEM will make such a determination following a detailed review of an event after-action report.

### TYPES OF EXERCISES

Exercises are meant to test systems, plans, and procedures, not people. An exercise can be as simple as a seminar or as complex as a full-scale exercise involving multiple jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of the OEM Training and Exercise Section to determine the best methods to use. Exercises fall into the following classifications:

- Discussion-Based Exercises
  - Seminars
  - Workshops
  - Tabletop Exercises
  - Games
- Operations-Based Exercises
  - Drills
  - Functional Exercise
  - Full-Scale Exercises



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# PURPOSE, SCOPE, OBJECTIVES, AND ASSUMPTIONS



## PURPOSE, SCOPE, OBJECTIVES, AND ASSUMPTIONS

### PURPOSE

The fire season in California typically occurs from late April through late October. During this time, the Operational Area (OA) is highly susceptible to wildfire events. The OA is especially vulnerable to wildfire because of the number of highly populated areas within the local watershed and the number of homes in the wildland urban interface. While each fire season varies slightly from year to year the variety of fuels in the OA make fire seasons a year-long event. We should prepare our community to be ready to evacuate year-round for wildfires with early indicators of likely increased fire activity, such as Red Flag Warnings. The National Weather Service (NWS) is more likely to issue Red Flag Warnings during California's drier seasons.

This Wildfire Annex is a hazard-specific annex to the County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and provides a framework for coordinating actions to be taken prior to and during a wildfire event that may result in evacuations and notifications. This Annex is written at the OA level to help ensure all jurisdictions, agencies, and partners within the OA have centralized information that will aid in the development of further local plans, as well as provide key information required to successfully mitigate the adverse impacts of a wildfire event.

The Annex will also outline wildfire OA coordination actions, public information & warning, evacuation considerations, and re-entry and repopulation considerations. To effectively respond to wildfire events and evacuations, each stakeholder should understand not only their agency's internal functions and capabilities but also the capabilities of other stakeholders in the OA.

To alleviate unnecessary overlap of duties or misallocation of resources, this Annex outlines relevant roles and responsibilities of jurisdictions, agencies, and partners prior to and during a wildfire event. Once implemented, this Annex will be utilized for training, drills, and actual responses.

### SCOPE

This Annex addresses preparedness, response, and limited recovery activities during wildfire events in the County. It applies to all public, private, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and community-based organizations (CBOs) within the OA.

All activities are in accordance with the state Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), which has been integrated with the federal National Incident Management System (NIMS). SEMS principles will be followed during multi-agency or multi-jurisdictional emergency management activities.

### OBJECTIVES

- Mitigate adverse impacts of wildfire events through the description of collaboration and coordination throughout the OA.
- Outline OA coordination actions preceding a weather event capable of resulting in a wildfire event.
- Ensure the consideration of key infrastructure and vulnerable populations during wildfire



events.

- Enhance situational awareness for all OA jurisdictions/partners during potential or actual wildfire events.

## ASSUMPTIONS

Certain assumptions can be made for the County wildfire risk and hazards. These assumptions form the foundation for this Annex and the County EOP associated with conducting emergency management operations in preparation for, response to, and transition to recovery from major wildfire emergencies:

- Wildfire emergencies or disasters are most likely to occur in the late spring season and carry over to the early winter season.
- The County's risk of wildfire activity is likely to increase in frequency and intensity over time due to climate change.
- The National Weather Service issues Red Flag Warnings, Fire Weather Watches, and Extreme Fire Behavior to alert fire departments of the possible onset of weather conditions that could lead to rapid or dramatic increases in wildfire activity (see NWS Fire Weather Guidance section).
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may pose serious threats to public health, life safety, property, the environment, and the local economy.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may result in significant transportation interruptions that may complicate other response operations.
- In wildfire emergencies or disasters, the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) will be utilized by responding agencies.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may require a multi-jurisdictional response.
- The County of Santa Clara is responsible for coordination of emergency actions in the unincorporated county area and will commit resources as available to save lives, property, and the environment.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may overburden local resources and necessitate utilizing pre-identified additional resources through established mutual-aid agreements with neighboring jurisdictions or requesting assistance from the State, as appropriate.
- County air quality may be impacted by distant wildfires.
- Major wildfire emergencies or disasters may generate widespread interest from the public and media and the Joint Information System will be used to communicate with the public.
- Community members with access and functional needs (AFN) will require advanced notice and planning for evacuation and sheltering.
- All County departments and agencies should exercise their best efforts to develop and maintain emergency plans.



# CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS



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# CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

## NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WILDFIRE GUIDANCE

Below are the wildfire bulletins that may be issued by the National Weather Service (NWS):

**Red Flag Warning:** NWS issues a Red Flag Warning to alert firefighting agencies and land managers to critical fire weather patterns that contribute to extreme fire danger or fire behavior. NWS issues a Red Flag Warning when fire conditions are expected to occur within 24 hours. A Red Flag Warning is the highest alert. During these times, the public should use extreme caution, because a simple spark can cause a major wildfire. Figure 1, below, shows the criteria considered by NWS prior to issuing a Red Flag Warning. Note that Red Flag Warning criteria involves multiple factors including relative humidity, sustained winds, moisture values as explained in the narrative in the matrix shown in Figure 1, below.

**Figure 1: Wind/Relative Humidity Decision Matrix for Northern California West of the Sierra Crest**

The matrix below assumes 10-hour fuel moisture of less than 6%, annual grasses are cured, and no wetting rain greater than 0.10 inch has fallen in the previous 24 hours.

Relative Humidity	Sustained 20 foot Wind Speed (Note: the wind event should be expected to last at least 8 hours)			
	Sustained Wind 6-11 mph	Sustained Wind 12-20 mph	Sustained Wind 21-29 mph	Sustained Wind 30+ mph
<b>Day MIN 29-42%</b> <b>Ngt MAX 61-80%</b>				<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>
<b>Day MIN 19-28%</b> <b>Ngt MAX 46-60%</b>			<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>
<b>Day MIN 9-18%</b> <b>Ngt MAX 30-45%</b>		<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>
<b>Day MIN &lt; 9%</b> <b>Ngt MAX &lt; 30%</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>	<b>RED FLAG WARNING</b>

Source: Geographic Area Coordination Center, National Interagency Fire Center, Watches and Warnings for California, [https://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/myfiles/Watches\\_and\\_Warnings\\_for\\_California.htm](https://gacc.nifc.gov/oscc/predictive/weather/myfiles/Watches_and_Warnings_for_California.htm).

When “Red Flag Warning” appears in the matrix in Figure 1, the forecaster should consider issuing a warning. Thus, the matrix provides a baseline. However, issuance of a Red Flag Warning is more nuanced. The NWS coordinates with other partners and may issue a warning at times that may not quite meet RFW criteria. For example, NWS may issue a warning for fire weather during a holiday



weekend in areas where NWS expects large crowds in public areas. Thus, partner agency information and societal impacts play a role. <sup>1</sup>

**Fire Weather Watch:** The NWS issues a Fire Weather Watch to alert firefighting agencies, land managers, and the public that coming weather conditions may result in extensive wildland fire occurrence or extreme fire behavior. A watch means critical fire weather conditions are possible within the next 12 to 72 hours. A Fire Weather Watch is one level below a warning, but fire danger is still high.

**Extreme Fire Behavior:** The NWS issues an Extreme Fire Behavior alert when a wildfire is likely to rage of out of control. The behavior of such fires is often more difficult to predict because they behave erratically, sometimes dangerously. One or more of the following criteria must be met for the NWS to issue this alert:

- Moving fast: High rate of spread.
- Prolific crowning or spotting.
- Presence of fire whirls.
- Strong convection column.

## FIRE WEATHER WATCH PRIOR TO RED FLAG WARNING – OP AREA COORDINATION

This section provides a framework for OA coordination that ensures the County follows a standardized approach in the event of a potential wildfire. The NWS issues a Red Flag Warning for weather events that may result in extreme fire behavior that will occur within 24 hours. NWS issues a Fire Weather Watch when such weather conditions could exist in the next 12 to 72 hours.

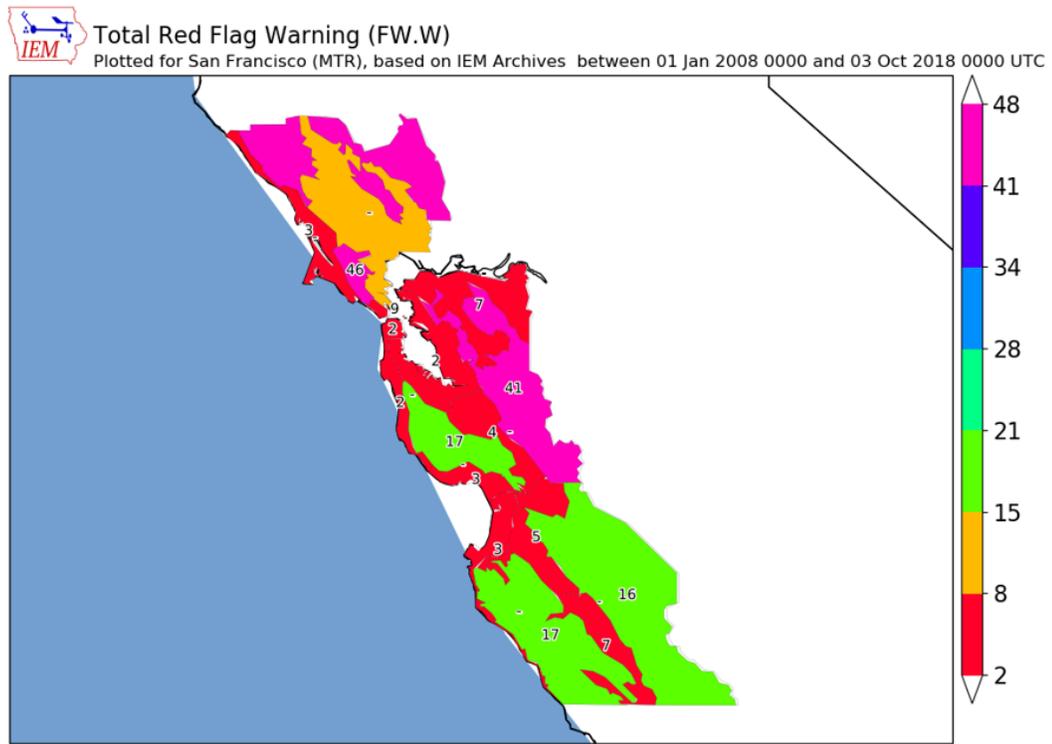
The figures below indicate the count for 2017 and 2018 regarding Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches in the San Francisco Bay Area, including Santa Clara County. Figure 2 shows a ten-year average from January 2008 through October 2018 of the location and number of Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches. Figure 3 shows Red Flag Warnings versus Fire Weather Watches in 2018. Figure 4 shows Red Flag Warnings versus Fire Weather Watches in 2017.

As shown in the figures below, Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings may vary from year to year. Red Flag Warnings in Santa Clara County may occur regardless of a Fire Weather Watch. Agencies should note that they should not rely on a Fire Weather Watch to prepare for a possible Red Flag Event that may occur with less than 24 hours' notice.

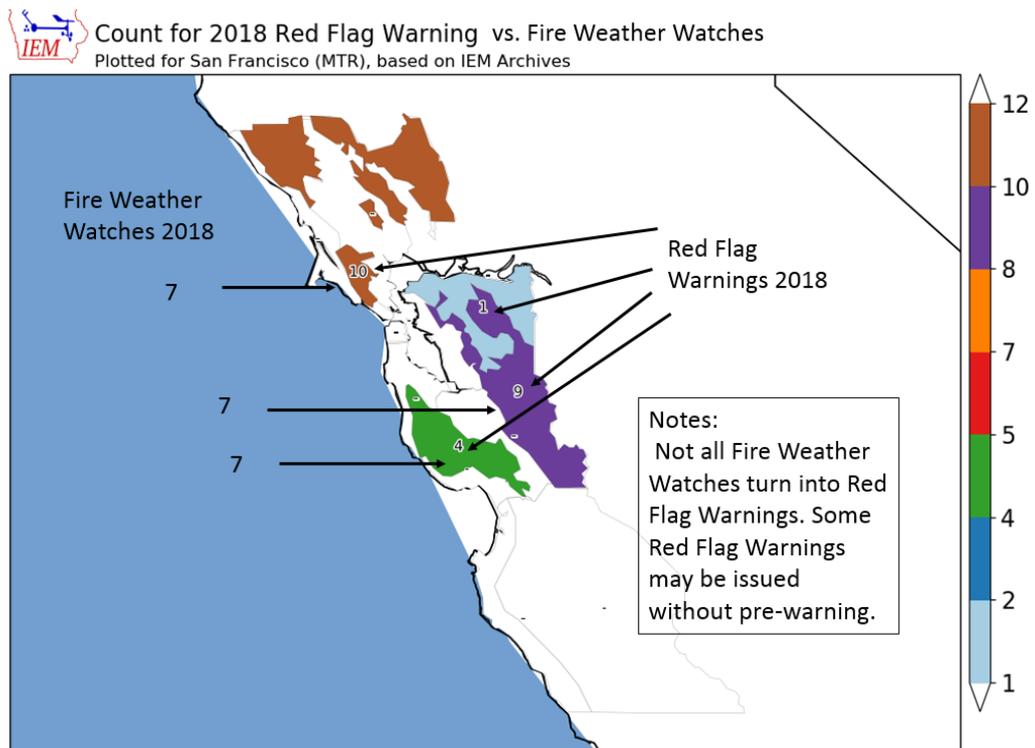
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<sup>1</sup> Brian Garcia Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) NWS, email message to author September 24, 2019.

**Figure 2: Total Red Flag Warnings and Fire Weather Watches Issued by NWS SF Bay Area/Monterey Between 2008-2018**

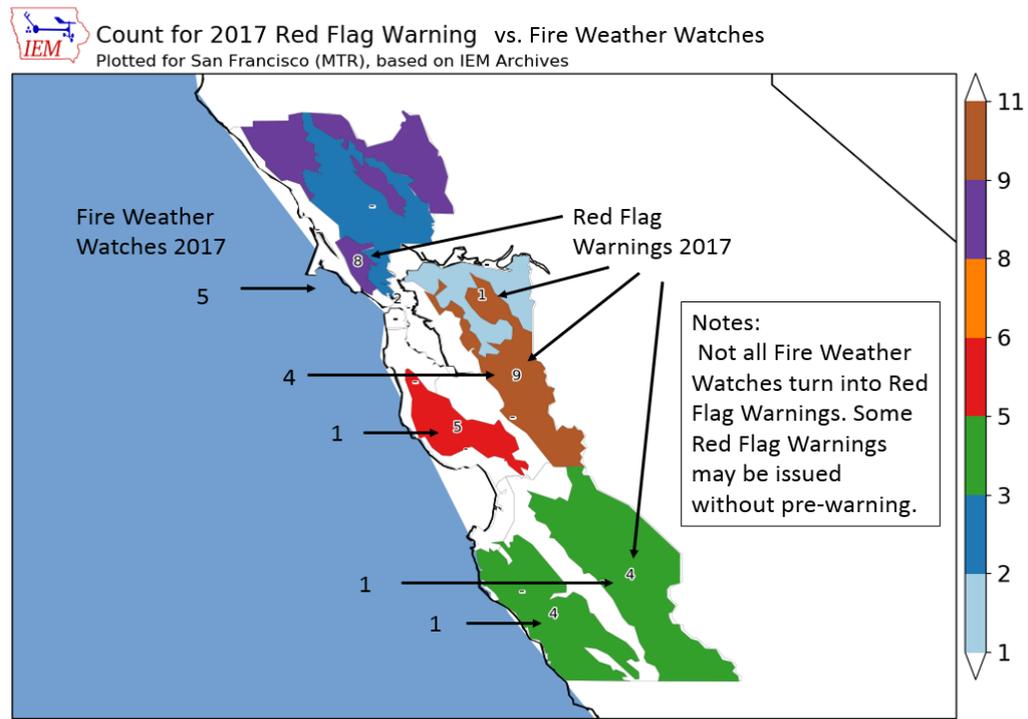


**Figure 3: 2018 Red Flag Warnings versus Fire Weather Watches**





**Figure 4: 2017 Red Flag Warnings versus Fire Weather Watches**



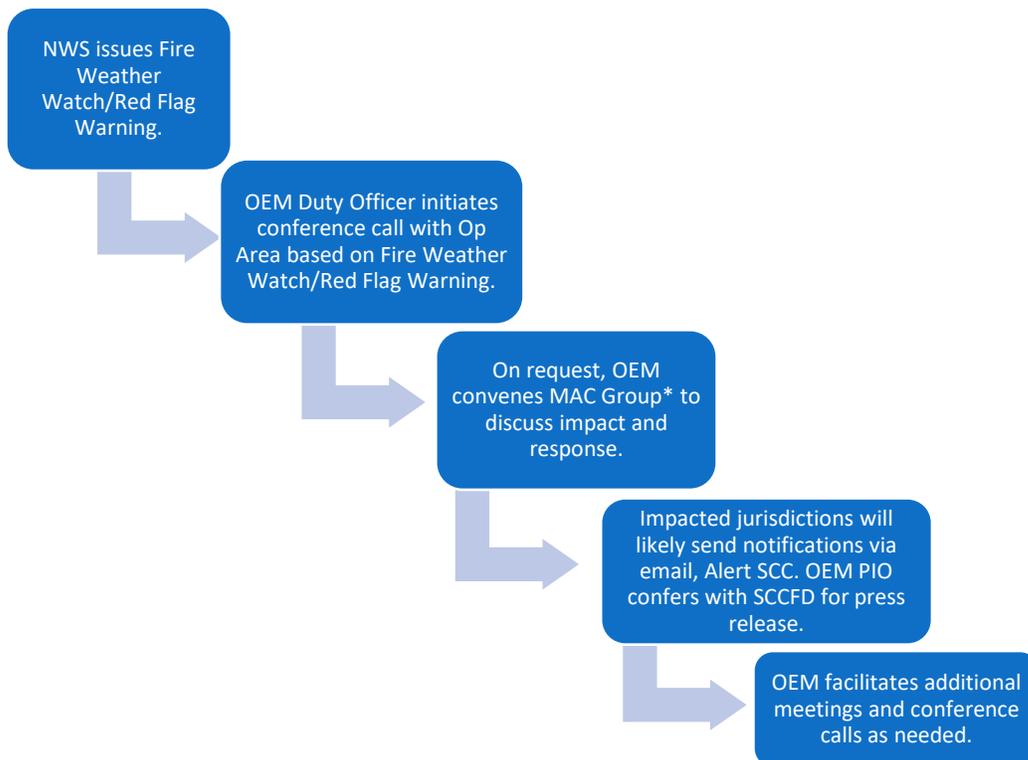


## ANNEX ACTIVATION

Once NWS determines that an upcoming Fire Weather Watch/Red Flag Warning could pose a substantial threat of wildfire, the OEM duty officer in consultation with OEM leadership may choose to begin implementing the actions detailed in the activity flow chart presented below. Santa Clara County OEM has identified “triggers” to initiate County preparedness and response activities to reduce such risks. Figure 5 illustrates the annex activation activity flow.

Though it is the intent of this Annex to standardize the approach of coordination across the OA, the actions described in the Pre-Red Flag Coordination Timeline below should be treated as guidance rather than as requirements. Event timelines and specific details are fluid and subject to changing circumstances. Each emergency event is unique. Therefore, emergency officials must remain flexible and tailor activities suggested in this Annex depending on the circumstances presented by the actual incident.

**Figure 5: Annex Activation Flow**



\*A Multiagency Coordination (MAC) Group acts as an executive or policy-level body during incidents, supporting resource prioritization and allocation, and enabling decision-making among elected and appointed officials and those responsible for managing the incident.



## PRE-RED FLAG COORDINATION TIMELINE

<b>Up to 48 Hours (2 days) Fire Weather Watch - Prior to Red Flag Event</b> (the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Department, Agency, or Element</b>
National Weather Service (NWS) indicates potential of upcoming Red Flag warning by issuing a Fire Weather Advisory (i.e., Hazardous Weather Outlook).	NWS
<p>If determined that Fire Weather Watch poses a significant threat of impact, the OEM Duty Officer (OEM DO) schedules a conference call with the Operational Area (OA) jurisdictions/partners. Conference call situational awareness requests will include the following information from the local jurisdictions/partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and planned preparedness/response actions (e.g. EOC, Department Operations Center (DOC) activations, resource staging, Fire Weather Watch preparedness activities).</li> <li>• Identify possible resource needs, limitations, and high-risk areas.</li> </ul> <p>The conference call should include non-governmental partners as well, such as PG&amp;E, American Red Cross, and other stakeholder agencies listed in the conference call template (<b>Appendix Q</b>). OEM will also determine a pre-fire situation reporting schedule, review relevant annexes and future conference call schedule.</p>	OEM DO/Local Jurisdictions/Local Partners
Based on NWS information and threshold considerations, and in collaboration with SCCFD, OEM determines whether or not the Fire Weather Watch notification poses a significant threat of impact.	OEM
OEM DO shares the NWS forecast with Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) the Social Services Agency (SSA), Animal Services (CEPA), access and functional needs (AFN) partners, and any other county departments/agencies. This provides partner agencies lead-time in planning for emergency shelter activation and other sheltering needs.	OEM DO/Partner Agencies
Consider activating a Joint Information Center (JIC), virtual or physical, for coordinated public messaging.	OEM Risk Communications Officer/Public Affairs Office/SCCFD
Begin participation in State and NWS conference calls, as applicable.	OEM DO

<b>36 - 24 Hours Fire Weather Watch - Prior to Red Flag Warning</b> (the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Department, Agency, or Element</b>
OEM DO continues to monitor NWS products and information.	OEM DO/NWS
<p>OEM DO holds a conference call with the OA jurisdictions/partners and request the following information from local jurisdictions/partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and planned preparedness/response actions (e.g. EOC/DOC activations, resource staging, Red Flag Warning preparedness activities).</li> <li>• Identify possible resource needs, limitations, and high-risk areas.</li> </ul>	OEM DO/Local Jurisdictions/Local Partners



Update Fire Weather Watch situation reporting schedule, review relevant annexes, and share future conference call schedule.	
<p>Santa Clara County Departments will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate all county healthcare facilities to ensure they have adequate fuel, water, health supplies, and an adequate staffing plan.</li> <li>• Disseminate Fire Weather Watch related health information to the public, including possibility of increased “poor “ Air Quality.</li> <li>• Issue any necessary health precautions.</li> <li>• Coordinate with OSH/SSA/CEPA for outreach support to vulnerable populations.</li> </ul>	PHD/OSH/SSA/CEPA
OSH, SSA, and Red Cross will coordinate shelter and shelter preparation as needed.	OSH/SSA/Red Cross/CEPA
OEM will consider development of a Situation Status Report (SitRep).	OEM
If a JIC is not currently activated, consider activating a JIC (virtual or physical) and continue public messaging.	OEM Risk Communication Officer/Public Affairs Office

<b>24 to 0 Hours Prior to Red Flag Warning</b> (the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Department, Agency, or Element</b>
As needed, review NWS Area Forecast Discussion report and consider requesting a Spot Forecast specific to an area within Santa Clara County.	OEM DO/NWS
Consider activation of the Operational Area (OA) Emergency Operations Center (EOC) after evaluation of threshold criteria and threat.	OEM DO/Local Jurisdictions/Local Partners
EOCs and Department Operations Centers (DOC) activate and finalize Red Flag preparations, as necessary.	PHD/Applicable Departments
Local jurisdictions/partners pre-stage resources in designated staging areas and monitor potential Red Flag vulnerability areas.	OSH/SSA/Red Cross/CEPA

<b>Red Flag Warning</b> (the following activities should be tailored, as dictated by the specific event)	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Department, Agency, or Element</b>
NWS to continue with updated briefings on the Red Flag Warning system via conference call.	NWS
Departments are monitoring Red Flag Warning impact on their employees, properties, facilities, and continuity of operations.	All
Develop OA SitRep or Incident Action Plan, as necessary.	OEM



## RED FLAG WARNING AND EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS

The Incident Commander or unified command will delineate all roles and responsibilities for evacuation efforts. The EOC may assist Incident Command or Unified Command with resource requests, decision-making, and coordination of activities, including public notifications as necessary.

Wildfire events or other disasters may result in the need to evacuate people as evacuations are coordinated at the local field level. The following planning assumptions are provided as a reference for consideration in plan development.

- A Red Flag Warning may trigger designation of evacuation routes due to:
  - Road construction: Early identification and resolution of current projects that could hamper first responder's access and civilian egress.
  - Estimated traffic loads: Daily traffic on adjacent highways and roads.
  - Typical routes of congestion: Early evacuation of sensitive areas may alleviate this concern.
- Assess residential addresses and care facilities where AFN concerns may impact evacuation efforts.
  - The AFN community will benefit from early drafting of an evacuation plan specific to the site or facility.
- Early collaboration and information-sharing by first responders:
  - Digital and analog map sharing with parcel and evacuation route maps.
  - Pre-determined partitioned zones for evacuations with trigger points.
  - Pre-determined safety zones, escape routes, and evacuation routes.
  - Pre-written Fire warning bulletins for Law and Fire PIOs.
  - Pre-written Fire Evacuation Orders for Law and Fire PIOs.
- Some residents may evacuate before being directed to do so. Public outreach programs have educated the community to evacuate prior to evacuation orders. In many cases, today's rapid wildfire progression leaves little time to both prepare and leave during an evacuation order. Community members who choose to stay behind should be identified by a system chosen by each local jurisdiction.
- Some residents may refuse to evacuate because of prior experiences. Magnifying factors include lack of transportation, expected traffic, AFN considerations, or refusing to leave private property unprotected or unsecured.
- Studies indicate that some residents will have a hard time deciding to evacuate based on consideration for their pets. Some residents may refuse to evacuate unless arrangements are made to care for their animals.
- Residents may require mass care emergency sheltering during an evacuation. See the Santa Clara County Operational Area Mass Care and Shelter Plan for additional details.
- OEM will work with county partners such as SSA, OSH, and the Red Cross to ensure shelters will be able to accommodate the evacuated population.



## AIR QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS

Wildfires pose immediate danger to lives and property, but poor air quality due to wildfire smoke and ash may lead to significant public health consequences that can persist for extended periods. Understanding the adverse health impacts of wildfire smoke is relevant to a broad group of stakeholders, including local and state public health officials, officials responsible for air quality monitoring and management, environmental scientists, and healthcare providers.

Wildfire smoke contains many contaminants known to adversely affect human health. Until recently, most of the research on the detrimental health impacts of air pollution were not wildfire specific. Wildfire smoke epidemiology is an active area of research with new methods uncovering associations that were previously undetectable, particularly for acute smoke events. The recent increase in fire activity has led to an uptick in published research on a broad range of health outcomes, including visits to hospital emergency departments, hospitalizations, medication prescribing, and emergency ambulance dispatches.

Certain groups are more susceptible to the effects of wildfire smoke, including children, people over 65, pregnant women, and people with pre-existing pulmonary or cardiovascular conditions. These sensitive sub-populations represent a significant percentage of the total population. As wildfire smoke research advances, it is likely that other groups will be added to the list of impacted sub-populations.

Further complicating this subject is the variation in individual response to smoke events. Some people may experience immediate health impacts while others may experience health impacts that manifest days or weeks later, depending on the underlying sensitivity.

Wildfire smoke can impact large geographic areas that span multiple health jurisdictions and air districts. Involved governmental agencies include local health departments, local and regional air districts, local environmental health departments, school districts, and multiple state and federal agencies. The ability of responsible agencies to effectively coordinate public messaging about current and forecasted air quality, coupled with consistent protective health recommendations, benefits the public who may otherwise remain uninformed or confused by conflicting messages.

### AIR QUALITY INDEX (AQI)

A useful tool developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to communicate information about air quality to the public is the Air Quality Index (AQI). The U.S. EPA's AirNow website, <https://www.airnow.gov>, displays air quality data by zip code using the AQI to indicate air quality values. The AQI uses a 6-level color-coded scale to communicate the health impacts of pollution at different concentration ranges (Green, Yellow, Orange, Red, Purple and Maroon). Each color-coded level has an associated descriptive term, progressing from "Good" to "Hazardous." The AQI is shown in Figure 6, below.



**Figure 6: Air Quality Index**

<b>Air Quality Index (AQI) Values</b>	<b>Levels of Health Concern</b>	<b>Colors</b>
<i><b>When the AQI is in this range:</b></i>	<i><b>..air quality conditions are:</b></i>	<i><b>...as symbolized by this color:</b></i>
<b>0 to 50</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Green</b>
<b>51 to 100</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Yellow</b>
<b>101 to 150</b>	<b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b>	<b>Orange</b>
<b>151 to 200</b>	<b>Unhealthy</b>	<b>Red</b>
<b>201 to 300</b>	<b>Very Unhealthy</b>	<b>Purple</b>
<b>301 to 500</b>	<b>Hazardous</b>	<b>Maroon</b>

Source: AirNow, Air Quality Index (AQI) Basics, <https://airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=aqibasics.aqi>, last updated June 18, 2019.

Wildfires lead to smoke production and many California communities have experienced sustained, elevated AQI values during recent wildfires. Public Health, in partnership with other appropriate County agencies will take the lead in developing and sending appropriate public messaging regarding air quality health concerns.



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# PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT



# PUBLIC INFORMATION AND ENGAGEMENT

## BACKGROUND

Communications channels include the County’s 24/7 communications technology solutions that can be broadcast to broad or targeted populations. Private broadcast print and online news media in multiple languages will be integral to broad inclusive communications as well as social media sites operated by the County including Nextdoor, Facebook, and Twitter.

Public information and engagement programs will comply with Titles II & III of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which require state and local governments, businesses, and non-profit organizations to communicate effectively with people who have disabilities or access and functional needs. The County’s goal is to ensure that communication is equally effective for all stakeholders. To help meet that goal, the County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has developed an Emergency Communications Annex. For complete discussion of public information in a disaster, see the Emergency Communications Annex.

In March 2019, the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) recently released State of California Alert & Warning Guidelines. The Guidelines establish a statewide protocol to enable and encourage consistent application of alert and warning best practices and procedures. The Guidelines provide that the safety of local communities requires designated alerting authorities to ensure they have multiple operators, adequate testing and training, and functional equipment and software.

Critical components of an effective and comprehensive alert and warning program include:

- Roles and responsibilities;
- When and how to issue a public alert or warning;
- Methods and technologies;
- Messaging;
- Alerting coordination;
- Training requirements; and
- System testing and exercise requirements.

## PUBLIC ALERT VERSUS PUBLIC WARNING

A **public alert** is a communication intended to attract public attention to an unusual situation and to motivate individual awareness. The measure of an effective alert message is the extent to which the intended audience becomes attentive and searches for additional information.

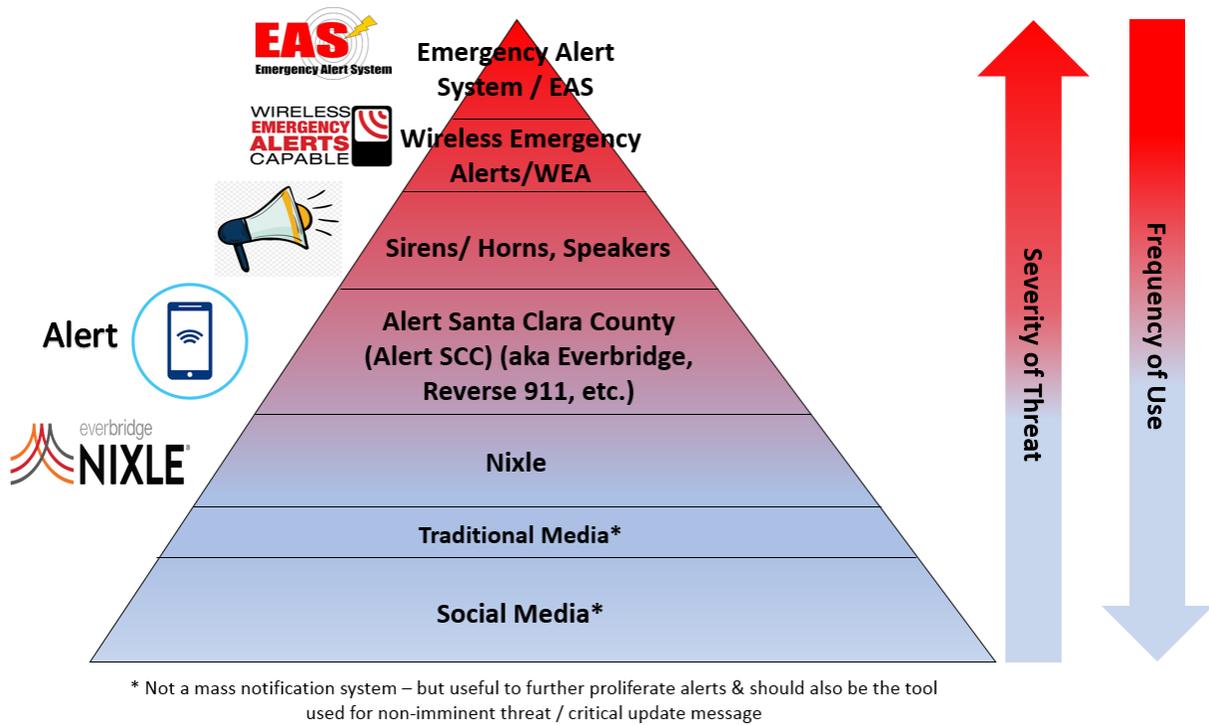
A **public warning** is a communication intended to persuade members of the public to take one or more protective actions to reduce losses or harm. The measure of an effective public warning message is the extent to which the intended audience receives the message and takes the protective action or heeds the guidance.



## OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF STATEWIDE ALERT & WARNING SYSTEM IN CALIFORNIA

Figure 7, below, illustrates a common process used for alert and warning. Santa Clara County’s Alert and Warning system is Alert Santa Clara County (AlertSCC). The County of Santa Clara often sends public notifications directly through AlertSCC.

Figure 7: Common Public Alert and Warning Processes



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY

It is an inherent responsibility of local government organizations and officials to keep the public informed about natural, human-caused, and technological disasters and what actions they need to take to protect themselves and their families. Depending on how the local area governments have organized and coordinated the local area alert and warning system, the local government responsibility can include city, special district, county, and multi-county jurisdictional areas.

It is incumbent on local officials to rapidly and adequately communicate to the public what is occurring and any steps or actions the public needs to take. These communications could include but are not limited to:

- Evacuation orders (including evacuation routes, shelter information, safety information, etc.);
- Locations of points of distribution for food, water, medicine, etc.;
- Red Flag Warnings.



## GUIDELINES FOR ISSUING PUBLIC ALERTS AND WARNINGS

Events or incidents can evolve in extreme ways. Alerts and warning need to be an integral component of a jurisdiction’s response to those events. Issuing public alerts and warnings requires the exercise of reasonable and well-informed judgment. There is no all-encompassing formula for making warning decisions. There are, however, some evidence-based principles and best practices that can help guide the decision-maker:

1. Incomplete or imperfect information is not a valid reason to delay or to avoid issuing a warning. Time is of the essence, as recipients of warnings will need time to consider, plan, and act after they receive a warning message.
2. The Integrated Public Alert & Warning Systems (IPAWS) should be a primary mechanism for issuing alert and warnings to ensure the greatest number of recipients within the impacted area are alerted when life safety concerns are present.
3. Messages should come from an authoritative source and should clearly identify the originating agency.
4. Warning messages can and should be updated and refined as additional information becomes available. Additionally, when the threat or warning messages are no longer applicable, a message stating that the message no longer applies should be sent.
5. Warning messages sent in error should be updated, clarified, or retracted within ten minutes of the message being confirmed as erroneous.

For Santa Clara County-specific message templates, see Appendix A, Alert and Warning.

## GUIDELINES FOR HOW TO ISSUE ALERTS AND WARNINGS

To the extent possible, warning messages should be distributed to all members of the community who are at risk, including commuters, travelers or transient populations, people with disabilities or access and functional needs, non-English speakers, people in remote or isolated areas, older adults, and people with limited technology.

People rarely act on a single warning message alone. To be effective, warnings should be delivered in various formats across multiple media platforms. This approach increases the reliability of warning delivery and provides a sense of corroboration that will encourage recipients to take protective actions.

### Planning

Getting the right messages to the right people at the right time during and after an emergency is possible with a resilient emergency communications program. OEM, in collaboration with the Santa Clara County Fire Department, County 9-1-1 Communications, and the Office of Public Affairs, will take the lead role in emergency communication during wildfire events. In performing this role, OEM and supporting agencies will utilize these principles:

- Prioritization of community members with special emphasis of those in high risk areas and individuals who have access or functional needs, including but not limited to:
  - Physical, developmental, or intellectual disabilities;



- Chronic conditions or injuries;
- Limited English proficiency;
- Older adults;
- Children;
- Low income, homeless, or transportation disadvantaged (e.g., dependent on public transit);
- Pregnant women.
- Contact information in digital form (e.g., in Excel on a flash drive) for County departments, media outlets, and community partners in private and public sector organizations that serve as conduits to stakeholder groups, including:
  - County departments;
  - Regional and local media;
  - Community-based organizations;
  - Faith-based organizations;
  - Labor and business organizations.
- Clear definition of roles and responsibilities for managing and executing emergency communications before, during, and after an incident, including:
  - organizational chart that designates clear authority for (1) approving messages and content, (2) releasing information to the media and public, and (3) serving as a spokesperson to the media.
  - Roles and responsibilities as referenced in the Emergency Communications Annex.
- Clear, well-organized, written protocols for message development and dissemination to ensure timely, accurate, and complete information that is relevant and useful to stakeholders, including:
  - Pre-written, hazard-specific press release templates that can be particularized with incident-specific information when needed.
  - Hazard specific message templates for multilingual and multicultural stakeholder segments that are tailored for specific communications channels.
  - A flash drive that contains press releases and message templates.
- Development of a detailed communications protocol specific to the incident. For example, OEM's Duty Officer issues a wildfire alert and immediately triggers the following outreach and communications actions:
  1. Emergency notification through the Integrated Public Alert & Warning (*IPAWS*) and Alert Santa Clara County (*AlertSCC*) to provide alerts, information and resources. Alert and warning notices are issued by Public Safety Answering Points (*PSAPS*).
  2. Emergency notification through news releases, press conferences, and television or radio public announcements.
  3. Content posted to digital channels including websites, landing pages, social media, 2-1-1, email, and text messages.



4. Distribution of printed materials such as fliers, brochures, and pamphlets.
5. Sirens and loudspeakers.
6. Ready Santa Clara County (ReadySCC) preparedness.

## SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

The use of social media for public alert warning begins with issuance of a Red Flag Event by the National Weather Service (NWS). This may be followed by a press release from the County of Santa Clara Office of Public Affairs, the Public Health Department, or OEM. The process for posting a press release will be to update the information on County of Santa Clara websites, reach out to local media, and follow up with information across all county-owned social media and digital channels. For further discussion of public information in a disaster, see the Emergency Communications Annex.

## ALERT SCC ENGAGEMENT

### PROTOCOL

OEM will rely on intelligence received from the NWS related to the wildfire to inform utilization of the AlertSCC mass notification tool when notifying the public is necessary.

### REACHING VULNERABLE POPULATIONS THROUGH ALERTSCC

Enrollment in AlertSCC is essential for all vulnerable populations. Those who are enrolled in the AlertSCC system will receive text messages linking them to critical information and services. Vulnerable populations can access the alert and notification system by registering for AlertSCC on the OEM website or through other County and local government websites. The County continues to explore avenues to make AlertSCC more inclusive and accessible to vulnerable populations.

Santa Clara County's homeless population can sign up for AlertSCC by sending a text to 888-777 with the keyword, "BADWEATHER." This enables them to receive alerts and emergency messages regarding weather events via cell phone.

AFN community members who may require additional assistance to evacuate their homes need earlier notification. One tool that helps address this need is the disaster preparedness report kept by the Santa Clara County Department of Aging and Adult Services and the Santa Clara County Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This report provides information that may assist field responders in supporting AFN populations.

Emergency messaging should follow a clear and concise format. Messaging across all agencies from an event should include similar information to prevent confusion. However, it is expected that templates for email and text will vary based on limits to characters. A sample of these templates can be found in Appendix A, Alert and Warning. For further discussion of methods for ensuring clear public information with a unified message across County offices and local jurisdictions in a disaster, see the Emergency Communications Annex.



## EVACUATION LANGUAGE CONSIDERATIONS

On the heels of the megafires that caused unprecedented loss of life and damage in 2017 and 2018, Cal OES published “The State of California Alert and Warning Guidelines” in 2019. Santa Clara County agencies issuing evacuation warnings or orders should understand the following as outlined by the “State of California Alert & Warning Guidelines” (p. 51):

Evacuation messages are particularly demanding on their originators, as they must be coordinated with agencies responsible for transport, traffic control, and evacuee reception and sheltering. Confusing and/or uncoordinated evacuation orders can have unintended adverse consequences. Evacuation messages must come from the jurisdiction’s designated authority, often the local law enforcement authority and should address issues such as:

- Direction and destination of travel (include a map image if possible);
- Routes to be used and routes to be avoided;
- Means of travel (by auto, by bus, on foot, etc.);
- Accessible transportation and sheltering resources;
- Things to take along (papers, medications, pets, etc.);
- Expected duration of relocation (a few hours, a day, etc.); and
- Phone or social media links for additional information.

In addition, the State’s Warning Guidelines provide that, when possible, warnings should be targeted to the area known to be at risk, while coordinating with any other affected jurisdictions as soon as possible. Having relationships in place to ensure continuity of operations is imperative. However, local jurisdictions should issue additional warning messages, or should request assistance from an alerting authority, if needed, to communicate local variations on the recommended protective action, to expand the target area for the message, or to utilize local warning dissemination capabilities that will enhance delivery of the warning to people at risk.

Because a wildfire is dynamic in nature, alert and warning and subsequent evacuation is best led by Incident Commanders or Unified Command at the wildfire incident and is best executed by Public Safety Answering Points. Lessons learned from the 2017 Tubbs Fire and 2018 Paradise Fire indicate that even with good preplanning, incident commanders or unified command will be the best resource for appropriate evacuation routes as the fire progresses. The incident commander or unified command should understand that early and rapid alert and warning is needed to properly evacuate community members from their homes. Special consideration should be given to the AFN community, who may need more time after notification to safely evacuate.

### **Alternative Use of Sirens and Loudspeakers**

Sirens and loudspeakers have been effective for alerting people both indoors and outdoors for widespread notifications. However, residents or visitors may not understand the purpose of a siren or may interpret it differently. If a community plans to rely on sirens or loudspeakers as a broad-spectrum approach for notification in a select area, the community must perform public education before siren or loudspeaker use. Some avenues for educating the public include:

- Monthly or quarterly tests.
- AM Radio.



- Alert SCC and Ready SCC.
- Social Media.
- 2-1-1.

## PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC (PG&E) PUBLIC SAFETY POWER SHUTOFF (PSPS)

California Senate Bill 901 (2018) requires investor-owned electric utilities to prepare and submit to the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) wildfire mitigation plans that describe the utilities' plans to prevent, combat, and respond to wildfires affecting their service territories. The Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E)'s 2019 Wildfire Safety Plan includes a "Public Safety Power Shut Off" (PSPS) plan (see Appendix D) to reduce the likelihood of wildland fires associated with overhead electrical facilities in high fire-threat areas, as shown in the PUC's High Fire-Threat District Map (see Appendix C). For complete discussion of PSPS events, see the Santa Clara County PSPS Annex.

The PG&E PSPS Plan's aim is to reduce accidental fires set by downed or compromised powerlines during elevated wildfire weather conditions by effectively cutting off the power to areas servicing structures in the wildland interface. AFN populations and those who rely on electric power to continue daily home or work operations may find themselves without power for two to seven days after a Red Flag Warning event or in other cases when PG&E determines there is a substantial risk to the community. An important consideration will be for agencies to reach out to populations that may be affected prior to a PSPS event. AFN populations need additional time to react to these events. Leveraging tools, such as PG&E's Medical Baseline and County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) In-Home Supportive Services Disaster Prep Reports, may be beneficial in establishing warning practices. For further discussion of the use of these tools in a PSPS event, see the Santa Clara County PSPS Annex.

As outlined in the PSPS Annex, pertinent stakeholders must be included in any conference calls discussing weather patterns that may lead to a PSPS event, including a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning. PG&E should be included in these calls. Other considerations include the following:

- Water departments or companies need advanced warning to ensure that reservoirs are filled prior to a shut off event.
- PSAPs need to be advised well in advance of any PG&E decisions to shut off power so they can ensure that back-up power to off-site repeaters and other communications equipment will function throughout the designated period.
- Fire stations, EMS, law enforcement, and other public service agencies need to be advised in advance to properly prepare to maintain public safety.

In the event of a PSPS, OEM may need to alter protocols for notifying and supporting the community due to lack of power, power outage frequency, and duration of the outage. As a result, in the event of spontaneous evacuations, evacuees may need to be directed to shelters, cooling centers, community centers, or any designated public gathering locations.

Once PG&E notifies the County of conclusion of the PSPS, the EOC or Duty Officer should be aware that it may take 24 to 48 hours or longer for PG&E to inspect and re-energize their lines. Length of time to re-energization will depend on how large of an area is impacted, and how much damage



has occurred to PG&E's electrical infrastructure. Emergency management and local government personnel should be prepared to support the community for extended durations of time. For further discussion of PSPS events, see the Santa Clara County PSPS Annex.

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# EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS



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# EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS

## EVACUATION OVERVIEW

In a wildfire incident requiring evacuation of areas within unincorporated Santa Clara County, local officials are responsible for determining:

- Whether and when to issue an evacuation order.
- Authority for issuing the evacuation order.
- Whether the evacuation order is mandatory or voluntary.
- Officials who are empowered to enforce the order.

## EVACUATION COORDINATION

### FIELD-LEVEL

In a wildfire incident, field-level Unified Command will act as the lead in evacuating the public from designated evacuation areas. The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) and mutual aid partners, the Valley Transportation Authority, Santa Clara County Department of Parks and Recreation, Consumer & Environmental Protection Agency, Roads & Airports, and the Sheriff's Department may provide evacuation support.

### EOC-LEVEL

During a wildfire evacuation, critical ongoing tasks to be carried out in the SCC EOC include:

- Continued communication with federal, state, and local agencies to obtain and relay information regarding wildfire impacts.
- Coordinating setup and staffing of evacuation facilities.
- Ensuring sufficient resources for evacuation activities.
- Tracking the progress of evacuation.
- Planning for re-entry of field responders into the evacuation area to perform safety and damage assessments, search and rescue, and additional evacuations as needed.
- Planning for issuance of "all clear" notifications allowing the public to re-enter the evacuation area.
- JIC coordination with traditional and social media to perform rumor control and to provide accurate information regarding the evacuation area and the need to stay outside that area until officials issue an "all clear" that it is safe for the public to return.

When an evacuation is ordered, the EOC Director or Operations Section Chief should consider appointing a special Deputy Section Chief to assist with coordination of evacuation-related information, and with tracking evacuation progress and resources needed to support response efforts. In addition, the EOC Coordinator may appoint an Evacuation Task Force or multi-agency coordination (MAC) group to strengthen coordination of evacuation functions in the EOC. The MAC group may be composed of existing EOC participants from relevant county departments and partner organizations, or if necessary, may be staffed with additional personnel.



## AUTHORITY TO ISSUE EVACUATION ORDER

In a wildfire, the decision whether to ask members of the public to evacuate or shelter-in-place is made by first responders in the field at the Incident Command Post, with input, when possible, from fire and law enforcement personnel. Evacuation involves relocation of people, pets, and service animals from an area of danger to a safe location. Evacuation orders should be issued when there is a clear and immediate threat to the life safety or health of members of the public, and fire or law officials determine that evacuation is the best option for their protection.

Under Penal Code § 409.5, when a calamity or disaster creates a menace to public health or safety, sheriff's deputies have the power to close the area where the menace exists to any person not authorized to enter or remain in the area. The local health officer is similarly empowered if there is an immediate menace to public health. Violation of Penal Code § 409.5(a) is also a misdemeanor. In addition, under Penal Code § 409.5(d), authorized members of the media cannot be excluded from closed areas unless peace officers at the scene reasonably determine that unrestricted media access will interfere with emergency operations.

## MANDATORY OR VOLUNTARY EVACUATION

An evacuation order may be mandatory or voluntary. In a mandatory wildfire evacuation, the order requires the public to leave an area in order to protect life, safety, or the general welfare of the population during an emergency. Those who fail to abide by a mandatory evacuation order may be arrested, charged with a misdemeanor, and evacuated, though only reasonable force may be used to enforce the order. In a voluntary evacuation, the order recommends but does not require evacuation of the public from a designated area.

When wildfire evacuation is necessary to protect life safety, fire or law officials should issue a mandatory evacuation order. Issuing a mandatory evacuation order emphasizes the urgency and seriousness of the situation and increases the likelihood that people will comply with the order. In contrast, issuing a voluntary evacuation order gives people in the evacuation area the mistaken impression that they can remain in the area without serious consequences, or that the county will be able to rescue them.

## ORDER REQUIREMENTS

A local evacuation order must be in writing and must be given widespread publicity and notice. In Santa Clara County, evacuation orders will include the following information:

- Whether the order is for a mandatory or voluntary evacuation;
- The personnel empowered to enforce the order (e.g., Sheriff, Fire Department);
- What enforcing personnel are authorized to do to enforce the order;
- The consequences of disobeying the order;
- The duration of the order, if known; and
- That the order is issued under the California Emergency Services Act, which invokes the penalty provision and immunity allowed under that Act.

The Joint Information Center or EOC PIO team is responsible for ensuring that issuance of the evacuation order is adequately publicized. Publicity must include:



- The type of order issued (whether mandatory or voluntary).
- The penalties for refusing to comply with the order.
- That first responders will not likely be able to assist anyone who remains in the evacuation area once wildfire spreads.
- Information on available evacuation routes, public transportation, and shelter facilities.

### EVACUATION OF PEOPLE WHO CANNOT SELF-EVACUATE

When a wildfire evacuation order is issued, SCC may lack the time or resources to completely evacuate designated evacuation areas. People with disabilities include those who have mobility, visual, hearing, speech, or cognitive functional limitations. Evacuating people with disabilities who cannot self-evacuate will require a significant commitment of personnel, specialized vehicles, and other resources.

At the field level, the SCCFD may serve as the lead department in coordinating the transportation of people with disabilities who require evacuation assistance. In meeting this responsibility, SCCFD will utilize additional resources as safety considerations allow.

Given the high demand and limited resources available to accomplish a short-notice wildfire evacuation, it is essential that licensed residential, rehabilitation, school, and other group care facilities within high fire risk areas have workable and tested evacuation plans detailing how they will transport persons under their care using their own resources. All people who live or work in high fire risk areas—especially people with disabilities—must also take responsibility for themselves by creating personal evacuation plans with family, coworkers, friends, or neighbors. Ongoing public outreach to these groups will be a critical part of the County’s public awareness efforts.



# MASS CARE AND SHELTER



# MASS CARE AND SHELTER

## BACKGROUND

Economic, cultural, and geographic factors are critical considerations when planning to provide shelter, feeding, sleeping, and sanitary accommodations for large numbers of people temporarily displaced from their residence by a wildfire. To address these issues, the County has a Mass Care and Shelter Annex to the Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). This annex outlines policies and guidelines addressing mass care preparedness, response, recovery activities, transportation, and the need for temporary protective shelter. Additionally, the Mass Care and Shelter Annex discusses feeding of the general population and actions at the Operational Area (OA) level to mitigate the impact of a catastrophic wildfire on the affected population. Other annexes relevant to mass care and shelter are addressed below.

## MASS CARE

The Mass Care and Shelter Annex can be found at the OA Emergency Operations Center (EOC). It can also be found online on the County of Santa Clara Office of Emergency Management (OEM) website in the “For Partners” section of the site, under the “Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)” subheading, at: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/oes/partners/Pages/home.aspx>

The annex applies to all OA public, private, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with operational responsibilities for mass care. It is designed to guide response in emergencies that require the mass care and shelter of affected and displaced individuals at a level that exceeds the established operating capabilities in their affected jurisdiction.

Examples of mass care services provided to members of the public affected by wildland fires include sheltering, feeding, animal considerations, donations, and client casework. Many entities provide mass care services to individuals affected by wildland fires. It is essential that those services are coordinated to provide the best possible care.

The mass care function falls under Emergency Support Function (ESF) #6 for shelter and mass care. The Mass Care and Shelter Annex describes the process of providing displaced persons with access to mass care when impacted by a disaster. As defined by the National Response Framework (NRF) Emergency Support Function #6 – Mass Care, Emergency Assistance, Housing and Human Services Annex, and California’s ESF #6 Care and Shelter Annex, mass care includes sheltering, feeding operations, bulk distribution of emergency items, and collecting and providing information on victims to family members. The Mass Care and Shelter Annex is a functional annex to the OA EOP and works in conjunction with other OA EOP functional annexes.

## MEDICAL CARE AT SHELTERING OPERATIONS

Past incidents have shown that having medical personnel on hand to provide access to medical equipment and medications is essential. Our community expects that the local, state, and federal government, with support from NGOs and the local community, will assist victims of disasters as much as possible.



The Santa Clara County Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) coordinates the prioritization and movement of scarce medical and health resources within, into and out of the Santa Clara County Op Area during extraordinary emergencies, disasters, multi-casualty incidents or in response to mutual aid requests consistent with the California Medical Mutual Aid Plan and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Medical Emergency Operations Manual. This function facilitates considerations related to securing available mobile medical units.

### ANIMAL EVACUATION CONSIDERATIONS

The Santa Clara County Animals in Disaster Annex is currently being updated by the County Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA)/ Animal Services. When complete, it will be found at the OA Emergency Operations Center and online at the County of Santa Clara Office of Emergency Management website in the “For Partners” section, under the “Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)” subheading, linked here: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/oes/partners/Pages/home.aspx>.

The future annex should reflect evidence-based principles and best practices that can help guide practitioners. Primary information the plan should cover include the following:

- Animals that are eligible for conventional transport.
- Animal reunification.
  - Leveraging technology (e.g., websites and other platforms).
- Use of large animal evacuation (LAE) trailers as emergency sheltering for companion animals.
- Provisions for service and assistive animals and household pets.
- Challenges to housing animals outside the shelter, such as heat and air quality issues that may create dangerous conditions.
- Animal owner may spontaneously evacuate prior to notification (3 to 7 days).

### FAMILY ASSISTANCE CENTERS

A family assistance center (FAC) is a central location established to provide information and services to the families of people who are missing or who have been injured or killed in an incident. Services that may be provided at a FAC include emotional support, spiritual care, and health and social services. The EOC Director, in consultation with the County’s Behavioral Health Services (BHS), may decide to set up a FAC to serve families in unincorporated areas of the County impacted by a wildfire. Management and staffing of the FAC will be overseen by BHS. BHS will also be responsible for coordinating the participation of other local agencies such as the County’s Social Services Agency (SSA), volunteers, community-based (CBOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs), and private nonprofit (PNP) organizations.

### LOCAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS

Local assistance centers (LAC) assist communities by providing a central location for services and resource referrals for unmet needs following a disaster or significant emergency. The LAC is normally staffed and supported by local, state and federal agencies, as well as non-profit and voluntary organizations. The LAC provides a single facility where individuals, families, and businesses can access available disaster assistance programs and services. LAC services may



include replacing personal documents such as driver’s licenses, birth certificates, and Social Security cards; and connecting people with services such as housing, loans, and other assistance. The EOC Director or Recovery Officer may decide to set up a LAC for unincorporated areas of the County impacted by a wildfire. Establishment of a LAC should be done in coordination with the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Individual Assistance (IA) Branch and with County departments and agencies that may provide services at the LAC, such as the Office of Building Inspection and Office of the Assessor. The County will be responsible for management and staffing of the LAC and for coordinating the participation of local government agencies, volunteers, CBOs, and PNP organizations. For additional discussion of LACs, see the County of Santa Clara’s Mass Care and Shelter Plan.

### DONATIONS MANAGEMENT (MONETARY AND IN-KIND)

The Donations Management Annex can be found at the OA Emergency Operations Center and also on the OEM website in the “For Partners” section, under the “Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)” subheading, linked here: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/oes/partners/Pages/home.aspx>.

While the overwhelmingly preferred method of donations is monetary, in-kind donations are inevitable. The Donations Management Annex has identified strategies for coordinating in-kind donations including the following:

- Silicon Valley Community Foundation is the lead agency for tracking and coordinating monetary donations, including the development of a web-based system to match donors with recipients and establishing policies and procedures with regard to the web-based system.
- Utilization of the Donations Management Annex Working Group to engage with a range of community-based organizations as key partners for successful implementation of the Annex.
- Support from the OEM Emergency Communications and Outreach Section to coordinate messaging.
- Collaborating Agencies’ Disaster Relief Effort (CADRE) and the Northern California Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) will aid in identifying local resources for management of donated goods.

### AMERICAN RED CROSS ASSUMPTIONS & CONSIDERATIONS

Establishing shelters can be more difficult due to unpredictable fire and wind behavior. Relocation of a shelter once established can be an arduous task. Therefore, a careful selection of shelter sites should include the following considerations:

- Safe distance away from the fire and other possible hazards.
- Ease of accessibility in order to remain open.
- Better air quality.

It is preferable that shelters be opened in areas where there is an uncompromised power supply. Given the new potential for power to be out over large areas during a PSPS event, adjacent counties should have increased coordination for sheltering throughout the region. For further discussion of PSPS, see the PSPS Annex.



## SHELTER LOGISTICS

Current trends for wildfire shelters show tendencies to be larger and stay open longer than other shelters due to wildfire complexity. The following logistics should be considered:

- Wildfire shelters may need more medical support than some other shelter types due to the possibility that arriving clients have respiratory issues due to smoke exposure before and during evacuation.
- Many large facilities lack appropriate climate control, and doors may need to remain closed due to air quality concerns. Portable fans and AC's should be considered.
- Some individuals prefer to sleep in their vehicles adjacent to the shelter and utilize resources. They may be at risk of developing medical problems due to the heat and possible dehydration. Monitoring is advisable.
- Medical outbreaks such as Norovirus may occur.
- Mental health support is necessary for shelter occupants.
- Considerations for increased capacity and long-term feeding.

## LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY

While no incident should be tied to one specific method of communication, the ability to leverage technology to communicate important information to community members should be considered for wildfires. Though warning and evacuation messaging is vitally important, after initial actions, community members should be able to access online resources at shelters, community centers, and gathering places during the incident. Local jurisdictions should be able to easily use online technology to maximize the effectiveness of local messaging regarding community resources.

Use of a Quick Response (QR) code to link affected community members with an OEM- associated incident website should be considered for wildfire events where community members need to rely on information from a variety of assisting agencies. Because of the ubiquitous nature of personal smart devices within the community, using an easily downloadable QR code may assist community members in resource gathering. The QR code, similar to a "bar code," can be read by an imaging device such as a camera and will automatically link digital phones and tablets to a website focused on updates and community resources for the incident (see Appendix F). A sign posting how to use a simple QR code with a website link can be placed in areas where community members may gather during and after a wildfire event such as:

- Government buildings- local, state, and federal.
- Emergency shelters.
- Hospitals and clinic waiting rooms.
- Points of distribution.
- Places of worship.
- Commercial stores- (e.g., grocery stores, supply stores- where affected community members will be shopping).
- Veterinarian clinics.
- Vehicle mounted dash passes or related community information pamphlets.

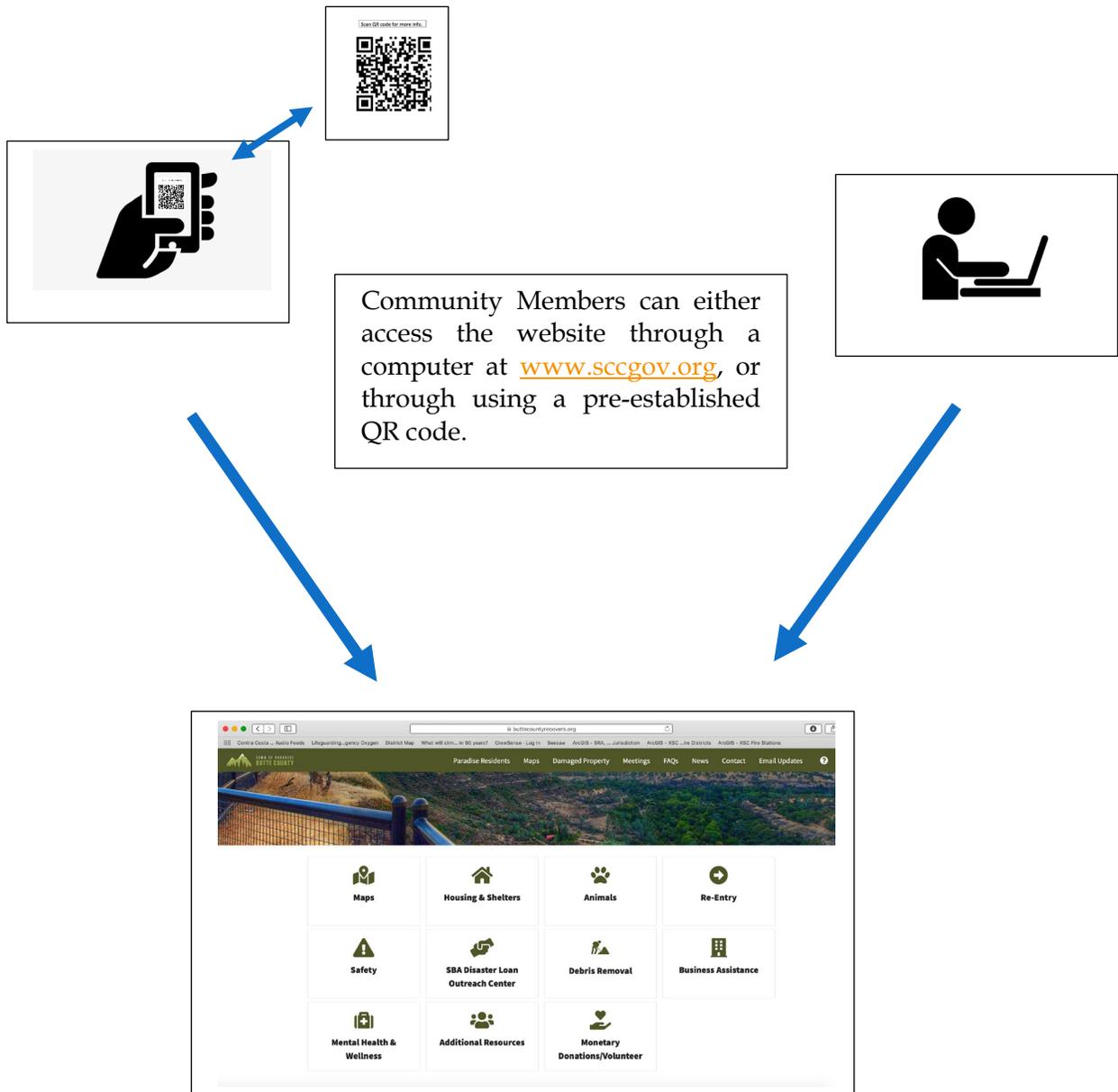


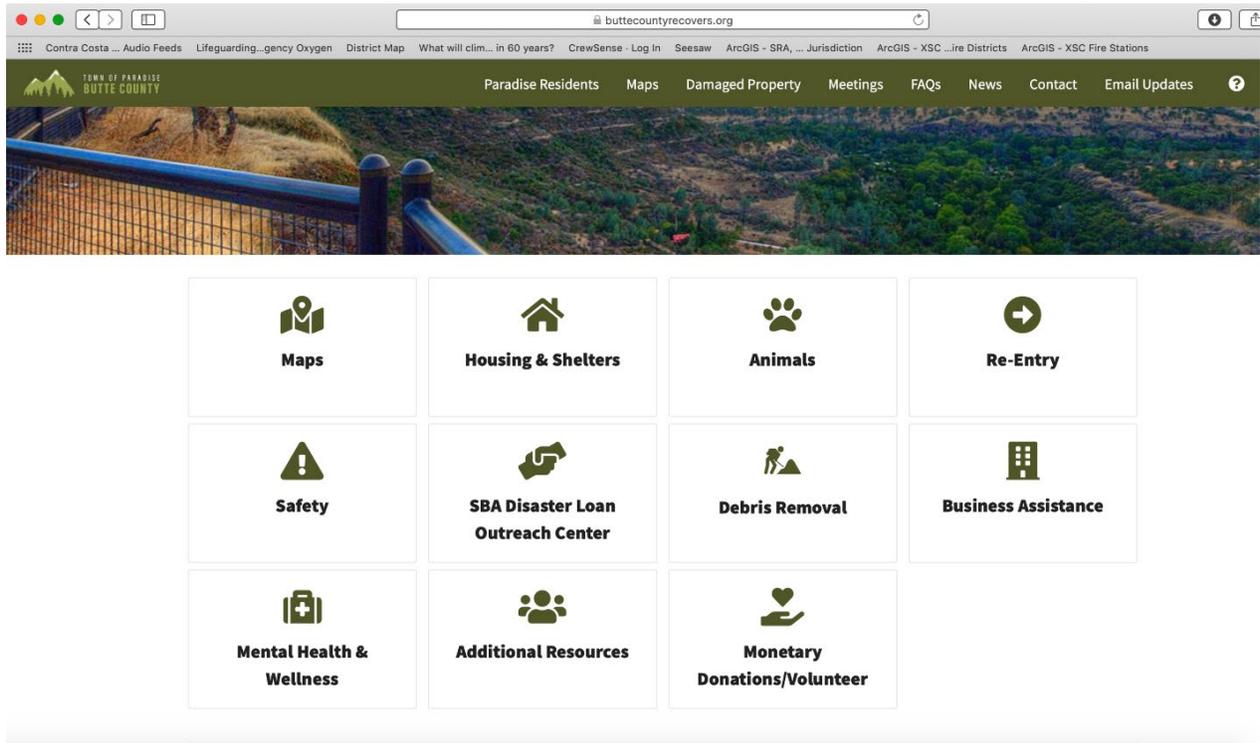
- Social media websites.

The webpage, should strive to be an all-inclusive site that includes emergency information, links to other pages, and other types of information, such as:

- Maps.
- Housing and shelters.
- Re-entry.
- Safety.
- Family reunification.
- Animal reunification.
- Debris removal.
- Small Business Administration (SBA) Disaster Loan Outreach Center.
- Business Assistance.
- Mental health and wellness.
- Monetary donations.
- Volunteer opportunities.
- Additional Resources and FAQs.

## QR CODES/COMMUNITY INFORMATION WEBSITE





Sample Website from <https://buttecountyrecovers.org>



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# RE-ENTRY AND REPOPULATION





# RE-ENTRY AND REPOPULATION

## BACKGROUND

California wildfires have presented unique challenges for re-entry and repopulation. In 2017 alone, California evacuated over 200,000 residents due to wildfire. Regional examples of evacuations include Lake County (Valley Fire - 2015), Santa Clara County (Loma Fire - 2016), Sonoma County (Tubbs Fire - 2017) and in Butte County (Camp Fire - 2018). These jurisdictions were taxed with re-entry and repopulation for their communities. It is essential to distinguish between short term re-entry and the long-term goal of repopulation to ensure a comprehensive approach to address each of these unique challenges.

## RE-ENTRY

The process of re-entry is used for community members to **temporarily** survey their homes and businesses in previously evacuated areas. Every effort should be made to ensure that community members return to their homes as soon as safely possible. However, re-entry must be coordinated to ensure safety of the public and of responders, protection of property, and the continuation of response and recovery activities. Decisions regarding when to permit community members to return to the affected area as part of re-entry will be made cooperatively in the County EOC with guidance from County partners and municipalities in the impacted areas. Prior to allowing evacuees to return to their properties, jurisdictions must consider public health and safety, and recommendations from the County's Public Health Department (PHD), Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA), law enforcement, and other involved response agencies.

The Sheriff's Office, in coordination with the EOC and JIC, will be responsible for notifying residents when it is safe to return to their homes and businesses. Law enforcement also will be responsible for ensuring re-entry occurs in an orderly and safe fashion. A successful re-entry process must be flexible enough to consider post-disaster conditions, size and population of the evacuated area, and availability of resources. The re-entry process and operation must minimize the danger and properly warn those who may be entering potentially unsafe areas.

## WHEN TO ALLOW RE-ENTRY

The Incident Commander or Unified Command is responsible for determining when it is safe to begin the process of re-entry. The Incident Commander or Unified Command will provide this initial re-entry status notification to the EOC. A multi-agency coordination (MAC) group comprised of relevant departments or agencies may be formed in the EOC to further assess safety requirements to ensure safe public re-entry. Decisions regarding when to permit community members to return to the affected area will be made cooperatively in the County EOC with County partners, including Public Health, CEPA, and municipalities in the impacted areas, based on the criteria below.

The decision to allow re-entry will be based on an overall evaluation of the situation, including the following major factors:

- Access - As soon as possible after a wildfire, a survey (ground or aerial) of the impacted areas should be conducted to identify and prioritize the most seriously impacted areas. The survey will determine the level of damage to major transportation routes into the area and



the time needed for debris clearance from those routes.

- Wildfire activity – Wildfire activity is controlled and is no longer a threat to the public.
- Public health – Impacted jurisdictions must consider the health and safety of residents and business owners, and recommendations from the county’s Public Health Department (PHD), Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency (CEPA), law enforcement, and other involved response agencies.
- Water and other needed services – Water and sewer services are operational or reasonable accommodations are in place or may be made available within a reasonable time. If full-scale re-entry is impossible, consider allowing a phased re-entry so residents or business owners can re-enter at specified times for a fixed number of hours. For further information on phased re-entry, see that section, below.

### RE-ENTRY COORDINATION GUIDELINES

Re-entry operations require coordination with various organizations and agencies. In addition, successful re-entry requires prior assignment and understanding of re-entry responsibilities. A suggested sequence of coordination activities for the EOC and Operations includes the following:

- Communicate with municipalities and the State EOC on all re-entry issues.
- Conduct aerial surveys of the impacted areas.
- Organize damage assessment teams.
- Coordinate all other agencies.
- Establish and monitor checkpoints and set up roadblocks as necessary.
- Enforce curfews if needed.
- Monitor road conditions and report traffic flows and counts.
- Provide mutual aid to municipal law enforcement through County and Municipal EOCs.
- Provide impacted areas with perimeter security as needed.

### RE-ENTRY TEAMS

To facilitate the re-entry process, Re-entry Teams should begin the process of clearing access to critical facilities and roads. Re-entry Teams are not search and rescue teams, as this process should have already occurred. Rather, Re-entry Teams focus on ensuring safe access to areas that have been impacted by the incident. Re-entry Teams consist of, but are not limited to:

- Roads and Airports or contracted crews with heavy equipment (e.g., wheel loader, backhoe) and chain saw crews.
- Power crews to identify and remove downed utility lines (e.g., power, cable).
- Medical Examiner-Coroner.
- Fire service agencies to provide incident, evacuation, and re-entry support.
- Law enforcement to provide security for the above personnel and to secure the impacted area as resources allow.



## PHASED RE-ENTRY

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recommends that re-entry be implemented in a phased approach that incorporates the coordinated movement of evacuees back into a community once the wildfire emergency has concluded and re-entry is planned. Phased re-entry typically marks the transition to recovery and to repopulation activities. Once the decision to permit re-entry has been made, law enforcement personnel should set up checkpoints and roadblocks as needed based on the level of damage that has occurred. Re-entry can proceed as recommended using a phased approach. This helps ensure primary access to essential personnel and allows for management of the number of people entering the disaster area.

Many communities have adopted the following approach to phased re-entry:

Phase A - Phase A involves the re-entry of agencies and groups that play key roles in restoring normal operations in the impacted areas following a disaster. Law enforcement personnel should restrict access during this phase to provide for area safety and security. Phase A agencies and groups may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Law enforcement and security agencies, which may include:
  - Private security for facilities and residential communities.
  - California Highway Patrol and County of Santa Clara Sheriff's Office personnel staffing roadblocks and performing crime prevention in evacuated areas.
- Search and rescue teams and the Medical Examiner-Coroner, if necessary.
- Fire and EMS crews.
- Health agencies.
- CEPA.
- Facility and industry emergency response teams.
- Debris clearance and removal crews.
- Infrastructure and utilities repair personnel.
- Mutual Aid Resources, if applicable.
- Damage Assessment Teams and other personnel, at the direction of the County and Municipal EOCs.

Phase B - Phase B involves the short-term, limited re-entry of other critical groups, as well as residents and business owners in the impacted area, to assess damages. The local EOC, in coordination with public safety personnel, should determine when it is safe to begin Phase B re-entry. Phase B groups include, but are not limited to, the following:

- All agencies and personnel listed under Phase A.
- Residents and business owners associated with property in the impacted area.
- Insurance adjusters and contractors conducting insurance assessments in the impacted area.
- Relief workers.
- Commodities Points of Distribution (CPOD) Teams.



EOC Operations Section personnel should be in contact with the field for situational awareness regarding the progress of re-entry, to ensure overall coordination. During subsequent operational periods following the fire incident, the Incident Commander should advise EOC staff of the current status of re-entry and repopulation.

### RE-ENTRY PROCEDURE GUIDELINES:

Best practices suggest the following procedures be used to facilitate a safe, effective, timely re-entry process:

- Evacuees will return to the area using prescribed primary and secondary evacuation routes.
- Pre-established traffic control points will be used to verify that residents or workers have a need to enter a restricted area, and to deny entry to those who do not belong in or need access to the impacted area.
- Local law enforcement officers should be primarily responsible for establishing and staffing checkpoints for re-entry in their jurisdiction. Local check points may be supplemented by county, state, and mutual aid assistance. Secondary check points may be established by local jurisdictions when required.
- Residents should have proper identification that proves residence within the disaster area, such as a driver's license, voter's registration card, utility bills, or property tax receipts. Identification procedures are intended to provide guidance for law enforcement personnel who may be directing access to disaster-impacted localities.
- Vehicle dash passes should be created, distributed, and displayed to restrict entry into impacted areas to those who need or require access during re-entry. Entering vehicles should be asked to display a dash-mounted pass. Use of dash passes expedites the re-entry process and ensures appropriate security is maintained in impacted areas. The dash pass would be for residents, business owners and employees, or approved guests, to provide for tracking and accountability for law enforcement and fire agencies post-fire event, who need to know who is coming and going in restricted areas. For a sample dash pass, see Appendix G.
- To reduce congestion, dispensing of vehicle dash passes will need to occur at locations other than checkpoints. For example, dispensing may occur at Local Assistance Centers (LACs) or shelters.
- An Identification Verification Area (IVA) should be established close to each checkpoint for those with questionable identification. Law enforcement may limit the flow of returning traffic to better manage the checkpoints.
- County officials should decide if curfews are necessary to limit the movement of people into restricted areas during specific time periods.

### INFORMING EVACUEES OF RE-ENTRY PROCEDURES

Public Information Officers at the Incident Command Post, EOC, and JIC will coordinate messaging regarding re-entry procedures. This will be done through multiple means, including news releases, public briefings, social media, website messaging, and Everbridge notifications.



## REPOPULATION

Prior to evacuees permanently returning to their residences or places of work, local jurisdictions must consider public health and safety, and any recommendations from the County's Public Health Department (PHD), CEPA's Department of Environmental Health (DEH), law enforcement, and other involved response agencies. Once the above recommendations have been considered, the following checklist should inform the repopulation process:

- Identify time and date of repopulation and areas to be repopulated.
- Type of repopulation, such as:
  - Community members who live or work in the area.
  - General public.
- Other considerations:
  - Is the threat mitigated?
  - Are power lines secured?
  - Are long-term utility solutions available, such as water and sanitation?
  - Are transportation system hazards mitigated? For example, have roads been cleared, bridges inspected, hazardous trees removed?

## DEBRIS REMOVAL

The County is currently developing a Santa Clara County Disaster Debris Management Annex. When complete, it will be found at the OA Emergency Operations Center and online at the County of Santa Clara Office of Emergency Management website in the "For Partners" section, under the "Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)" subheading, linked here: <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/oes/partners/Pages/home.aspx>.

Debris from structures burned by wildfires has been shown to contain toxic substances as well as household hazardous waste that can pose a threat to humans, animals, and the environment. Asbestos and other chemicals such as heavy metals, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and polychlorinated biphenyls are examples of hazardous materials that may be present in fire-related debris. Household hazardous waste that may be present include batteries, herbicides and pesticides, automotive products, propane tanks, and paints. In addition, the ash from fires is itself toxic. The potential for human exposure to such substances creates a public health hazard. In a declared local emergency, it is within the authority of the Health Officer to take any preventive measures necessary to protect and preserve the public health from any public health hazard within the jurisdiction (see California Health and Safety Code § 101040(a)).

The designated Public Information Officers will need to inform returning community members of these potential hazards and how to best protect themselves during re-entry and repopulation. In addition, County PHD and CEPA will need to play an integral role in deciding when to allow community members back into neighborhoods that law and fire have deemed safe for return. Re-entry and repopulation forms that may be used to address this need include the following (see Appendix H-M):

- Legal Disclaimer.



- Information Sheet: “Returning to your Neighborhood.”
- Information Sheet: “Safety when Returning to your Home or Business after a Fire.”
- Information Sheet: “Protecting Public Health from Fire Ash.”
- Information Sheet: “Benefits of the Public Clean Up Program.”
- Debris Removal Right of Entry Permit to allow jurisdictions or their designee to perform debris removal on private property and Refusal of Entry form.
- Information Sheet: Debris Clearance Public Clean Up.

In addition, attention should be given to ensuring that town hall forums or other public engagements are held to provide displaced community members with efficient access to this information. Ideally, these forums should be hosted at any Local Assistance Center (LAC) or Disaster Recovery Center (DRC) that is set up to provide community members with further assistance.

## WATERSHED EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (WERT)

Fires that burn on non-federal land, including private, state, and local jurisdiction areas, can be assessed by a Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) led by CAL FIRE and composed of state experts. WERTs develop and share a report specific to each incident. To obtain WERT support, the Incident Commander or Unified Command would submit a mission tasking request for CAL FIRE WERT assistance to the County EOC. The County EOC would in turn submit the mission tasking request to Cal OES at either the Regional Emergency Operations Center or the State Operations Center. Cal OES is responsible for tasking CAL FIRE with the mission if appropriate.

A primary goal of the WERT is to perform a rapid evaluation of risks to the burned landscape, which may include debris flows, flooding, and rock falls. The debris flow considerations are completed to ascertain specific threats to human life, property, cultural resources, the environment, and habitat values to support the overall process. WERT products can also provide spatially clear views of post-fire process and hazards to life and property to allow stakeholders to focus their efforts on values-at-risk (VARs), areas that are most affected by post-fire watershed conditions.

The WERT process includes the following steps:

- Development of a soil burn severity map.
- Performing spatially explicit modeling and evaluation of post-fire debris flow potential, erosion rates, and peak flow.
- Identify VARs that are subject to hazards on non-federal land.
- Determine the extent of hazards for VARs.
- Make preliminary or general recommendations to mitigate those hazards.
- Communicate risks and suggested mitigation strategies to affected and responsible parties.

Local jurisdictions may be able to obtain funding from FEMA or from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to implement suggested emergency protection measures and mitigation projects. This mitigation work may include installing structure protection for identified



VARs, such as K-rails, sandbags, and muscle wall. K-rails are barriers, often used on freeways during construction activities, which can be used to minimize flood and mudslide impacts.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION STRATEGY FOR RE-ENTRY AND REPOPULATION

Re-entry may be the most complex part of the post-incident response. Community members will be anxious to return to their properties and to receive proper guidance in addressing needs preventing their recovery. Conversely, community members re-entering a zone of fire damage may be subject to exposure of a variety of chemicals, fire ash, debris, and hazardous materials. The Public Information Strategy for both re-entry and repopulation is vitally important to ensure public trust and inclusion. In creating an appropriate public information strategy for the incident, the Public Information Officer and Joint Information Center (JIC) should consider the following:

- Have we ensured that the public is informed about the identification required for re-entry (e.g., dash pass, driver's license, or other appropriate forms of documentation)?
- When will re-entry begin, and is it a full-scale, phased, or temporary re-entry?
- If a phased re-entry, what are the different groups and when will each group be allowed to enter the evacuated area?
- What are the safety considerations?
- Instructions on permissible re-entry area activities if restrictions are in place?
- Consistency with incident and local jurisdictions needs?



# ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



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## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section provides basic guidance on the roles and responsibilities of various county departments and agencies and other partners within the OA prior to and during Red Flag Warning or wildfire events.

### COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA – DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

#### OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is lead Operational Area (OA) agency for all four phases of emergency management, which include mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Specifically, OEM is responsible for ensuring the development, implementation, and maintenance of a comprehensive OA EOP and associated plans/annexes.

#### Planning

OEM is responsible for ensuring the development, implementation, and maintenance of this hazard-specific annex in accordance with the Annex Development and Maintenance provisions of this planning document.

#### Response

- In consultation with OEM leadership and NWS, the OEM duty officer (DO) will determine when a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning may pose a substantial threat of wildfire or other wildfire-related issues to the OA, and may choose to activate this annex
- If determined that a wildfire poses a significant threat of impact, the OEM DO will schedule a conference call with the OA jurisdictions and partners up to 48 hours before an anticipated Red Flag Warning.
- If a determination by the local Fire Department anticipates critical fire weather activity prior to or independent of the NWS that is based on local weather and fuel models, the Fire Department may choose to contact the OEM DO to issue a warning advisory to the public with the same messaging as the Fire Weather Watch.
- In the event of a wildfire, the best vantage point for evacuation considerations will be the Incident Commander or Unified Command at the incident. The OEM DO should strive to ensure that all requests are being addressed and staffing for either a partial or full EOC activation has been communicated.
- OEM DO will share the NWS forecast with the Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) and the Social Services Agency (SSA), and other appropriate allied agencies, as this provides OSH and SSA lead-time in planning for emergency shelter activation and other sheltering needs.
- OEM DO will continue to monitor NWS information throughout the entire event and will request spot forecasts, as needed.
- OEM leadership will periodically hold a conference call with OA jurisdictions and partners and will request the following information from local jurisdictions and partners:
  - Current and planned preparedness or response actions (e.g., EOC or DOC activation, resource staging).
  - Identify possible resource needs, limitations, and high-risk areas.



- Fire situational awareness.
- OEM leadership will determine pre-wildfire situation reporting schedule and future conference call schedule.
- OEM leadership and the OEM Risk Communications Officer will consider activating a virtual or physical Joint Information Center (JIC) for coordinated public messaging.
- OEM Leadership will participate in state or regional calls, as applicable.
- OEM leadership will monitor conditions throughout the entire event and will consider activation of the Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (EOC), as necessary.
- OEM's Operations Section will develop the OA Situation Report (SitRep) as necessary. If activated, the EOC Planning Section will develop the EOC Action Plan.
- OEM leadership will review after-action reports and determine if County OES planning, training, and exercises met the needs posed by the real-world event.
- OEM will continue to participate in any annex review, update, or revision and will assist where able.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

### **Planning**

The Public Health Department (PHD) serves as the coordinating body for all hospital and healthcare facility emergency management components. PHD provides strategic resource support and medical expertise to hospitals and health care facilities.

### **Response**

- Develop and recommend objectives that protect the health of the county's population during a Red Flag or wildfire event, including the various vulnerable populations.
- Coordinate all county healthcare facilities to ensure they have adequate fuel, water, and health supplies, and an adequate staffing plan.
- Develop and disseminate wildfire smoke-related health information to the public as needed.
- Issue any necessary health precautions.
- Coordinate with the County Office of Supportive Housing for outreach support to vulnerable populations.
- Provide recommendations for repopulation, in coordination with the Consumer and Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Environmental Health and other relevant agencies.

## **SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY**

### **Planning**

The Social Services Agency (SSA) is the county agency responsible for coordinating mass care and shelter across the OA in an emergency or disaster. SSA constantly works in close collaboration with the American Red Cross (Red Cross) to ensure mass care and shelter services are responsive to the County's operational needs.

### **Response**



- Assume emergency role when the OA EOC is activated or the Director of OEM requests assistance.
- Prepare for emergency shelter activation and other sheltering needs, when notified as necessary.
- Coordinate shelter operations in coordination with County stakeholders and allied agencies, as applicable.

## ROADS AND AIRPORTS

### Planning

The Roads and Airports Department (RDA) preserves, operates, and enhances the County's expressways, unincorporated roads, and three general aviation airports to meet the needs of the traveling public.

### Response

- Maintain and clear roads with debris.
- Provide situational awareness regarding road closures and debris removal for community access and egress.

## OFFICE OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

### Planning

The mission of the Office of Supportive Housing (OSH) is to increase the supply of housing and supportive housing that is affordable and available to extremely low income and special needs households.

### Response

In a wildfire, OSH would coordinate shelter beds with overnight accommodations throughout the County. Prior to or during wildfire episodes, OSH is responsible for conducting outreach to the various homeless populations that may be impacted.

## SCC COUNTY PARKS

### Planning

The mission of the Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department (PRK) is to provide, protect, and preserve regional parklands for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations.

### Response

During a wildfire event, PRK will provide the EOC and County partners with situational awareness regarding park closures or other impacts, awareness of hazardous conditions, and monitoring guest safety.



## OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

### Planning

The mission of the Medical Examiner-Coroner (MEC) is to serve the community by conducting objective medicolegal death investigations in a compassionate manner in all deaths that fall under the jurisdiction of the MEC.

### Response

- During a wildfire event the MEC can confirm the causes of fatalities with specific implications or concerns related to the wildfire event.
- Decedent identification and notification of next-of-kin.

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY SHERIFF

### Planning

The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office (SO) is dedicated to preservation of public safety by providing innovative and progressive service in partnership with the community.

### Response

During a wildfire event the SO can provide situational awareness from the field and may assist with evacuation of people in threatened areas. The SO may also provide or oversee security at county shelters and re-entry and repopulation checkpoints as resources allow.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

### Planning

The mission of the Santa Clara County Emergency Medical System (EMS) is to provide a cost-effective, collaborative, and outcome-based EMS delivery system that produces clinically superior and culturally competent care while achieving high levels of patient satisfaction for the people of Santa Clara County.

### Response

EMS can inform the EOC of volume increase in calls for service and can coordinate with county hospitals.

## FACILITIES AND FLEET

### Planning

Facilities and Fleet (FAF) provides full service physical plant operations management, capital construction management, project management, lifecycle maintenance or repair of all vehicle and equipment, and organization-wide mail and parcel processing or distribution services.

### Response

In a wildfire event, FAF will ensure all HVAC, and County cooling centers are functional and have their needs addressed. FAF will also assist other pertinent county facilities with access and logistics needs.



## COUNTY COMMUNICATIONS

### Planning

The Santa Clara County 9-1-1 Communications Department exists to protect lives, property, and the environment by providing the vital connection between the community and emergency responders.

### Response

County Communications can provide situational awareness regarding call volume for wildfire-related calls. County Communications also may reach out to the OEM Duty Officer or other agencies and jurisdictions to provide situational awareness and may issue AlertSCC messaging on request by the OEM Duty Officer or other jurisdictions within the County. If necessary, County Communications serves as the alternate EOC facility for OEM.

## COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

### Planning

The Office of the County Executive (CEO) provides support to the County's Board of Supervisors, to the County's various organizations, and to the residents and businesses of Santa Clara County. The CEO ensures implementation of legislative mandates and Board policies. It provides analytical support, strategic planning, policy analysis, and budgetary oversight for the County organization. In addition, the CEO seeks to safeguard civil rights, and to educate, inform, and advise both those who administer and those who receive County services.

### Response

The CEO's office during a wildfire event can be an integral resource for coordination of elected officials needs and establishing other key priorities.

## SPECIAL DISTRICTS

### SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### Planning

The Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) exists to protect the lives, property, and environment within the communities served from fires, disasters, and emergency incidents through education, prevention, and emergency response. SCCFD will be the lead agency in wildfire preparedness, mitigation, and response. In partnership with County OEM, SCCFD public information officers are responsible for development and implementation of this annex.

### Response

The goal of the SCCFD is to protect public health by minimizing the impact of the event on the community and environment. SCCFD provides these services through the following departments:

- Fire Suppression and Rescue.
- Fire Investigation.
- Emergency Medical Services.
- Special Operations Task Force.
- Office of Emergency Management.



## SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

### Planning

The Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) manages an integrated water resources system that includes the supply of clean, safe water, wildfire protection, and stewardship of streams. The SCVWD effectively manages 10 dams and surface water reservoirs, three water treatment plants, an advanced recycled water purification center, a water quality laboratory, and nearly 400 acres of groundwater recharge ponds, providing wholesale water and groundwater management services.

### Response

- Provide guidance and access to information and products related to waterway conditions and SCVWD activities throughout the entire event.

## VALLEY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

### Planning

The Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) is an independent special district that provides accessible, community-focused transportation options throughout Santa Clara County. VTA's paratransit services are provided by a private contractor. The VTA system includes:

- A database of clients.
- Automated routing and scheduling software.
- GPS and Automated Vehicle Location.
- A communications system.

The database of registered clients includes at-risk seniors, individuals with physical or mental disabilities, and individuals with language barriers. The database is encrypted and is available on an emergency basis to the OA EOC. The database can provide specific information about clients for mass transportation and evacuation planning and operations.

### Response

- Provide access to database of registered clients including at-risk seniors, individuals with physical or mental disabilities, and individuals with language barriers, as requested.
- Assist with evacuation of members of the public in areas potentially impacted by wildfire.
- On request, assist with transportation of field responders as resources allow.

## PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

### AMERICAN RED CROSS

#### Planning

The American Red Cross shelters, feeds, and provides emotional support to victims of disasters; supplies about 40 percent of the nation's blood; teaches skills that save lives; provides international humanitarian aid; and supports military members and their families. The Red Cross is a not-for-profit organization.

#### Response



- Temporary shelter and food support.

## PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY

### Planning

The Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) is an investor-owned utility (IOU) that provides natural gas and electric service to a 70,000-square-mile service area in northern and central California, including Santa Clara County. PG&E is regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission. PG&E monitors fire weather and may issue energy forecasts, flex alerts, and Public Safety Power Shutoffs in an effort to serve their customers and protect PG&E infrastructure.

### Response

- Inspection and restoration of electric and gas infrastructure for re-entry and repopulation.
- Provide situational awareness regarding ongoing efforts.

## OPERATIONAL AREA

### COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

As the lead agency in the OA, the County of Santa Clara is responsible for coordinating resources across the OA during a disaster. It is the primary point of contact for brokering resources among cities within the county and requesting state and federal resources when the need exceeds available resources at the local level.

## STATE AGENCIES

### CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

#### Planning

The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) is responsible for coordination of overall state agency response to large scale disasters in support of local jurisdictions. Cal OES is responsible for assuring the State's readiness to respond to and recover from all emergencies or disasters—whether natural or human-caused emergencies and disasters—and for assisting local jurisdictions in their emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and hazard mitigation efforts.

#### Response

- Host regional- or state-wide conference calls, if scale of wildfire event requires wider coordination.
- Coordinate overall state agency response to large-scale disasters in support of local jurisdictions.
- Facilitate requests for state and federal aid and recovery activities between impacted or responsible agencies at the state, federal, OA, and local level.

### CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION

#### Planning



The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) is responsible for fire protection and stewardship of over 31 million acres of California's privately-owned wildlands, including State Responsibility Areas in Santa Clara County. In addition, CAL FIRE provides varied emergency services in 36 of the State's 58 counties via contracts with local governments.

### **Response**

- Provide wildland fire fighting services in areas of Santa Clara County served by CAL FIRE's Santa Clara Unit (SCU).
- Respond to medical calls, hazardous material spills, search and rescue missions, civil disturbances, train wrecks, and other incidents as appropriate.
- Provide mutual aid resources as appropriate.

## **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES RECYCLING & RECOVERY**

### **Planning**

The California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) oversees and manages contractors and consultants to conduct local debris removal operations, including the removal of wildfire ash, debris, and contaminated soil, at no out-of-pocket cost to property owners. Homeowners who choose to participate in the debris removal phase of the state-managed cleanup program are required to return signed right of entry forms to their local governments.

### **Response**

The state-managed debris removal program has two phases: removal of household hazardous waste and removal of other fire-related debris.

- Phase 1: Household Hazardous Waste Removal.
- Phase 2: Debris Removal, including:
  - Site assessment and documentation.
  - Debris removal.
  - Confirmation sampling.
  - Erosion control measures.
  - Final inspection.

## **FEDERAL AGENCIES**

### **NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE**

#### **Planning**

The National Weather Service (NWS) is a component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). NOAA is an Operating Unit of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The NWS' mission is to provide weather, water, and climate data, forecasts, and warnings for the protection of life and property and the economy.

#### **Response**

- Provide initial notification of upcoming high fire danger weather activity.
- Provide spot forecasts as requested.



- Develop and distribute timely meteorology products in support of emergency actions and as requested.



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## AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

Emergency response, like all governmental action, is based on legal authority and has nationally recognized best-practices. The Wildfire Annex is a functional annex to the overall County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Plan, and follows local, state, and federal guidelines.

### LOCAL

County of Santa Clara Emergency Operations Plan.

County of Santa Clara Emergency Management Planning Program.

County of Santa Clara Ordinance Code, Division A8 – Civil Protection and Emergency Services.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).

### STATE

Statewide Alert and Warning Guidelines, 2019.

CalFire Community Wildfire Prevention & Mitigation Report (in response to executive order N-05-19).

California Department of Public Health Wildfire Cleanup Information for California Health Officials 2019

California Department of Public Health Wildfire Smoke: Public Health Considerations 2019.

Cascading Effects and Escalation in wildfire Power Failures (2017).

Accessibility to Emergency Information and Services, Government Code § 8593.3.

California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) (Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 6 of the California Code of Regulations).

California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement.

California Emergency Services Act, (Title 2, Division 1, Chapter 7 of the Government Code).

Emergency Function 8 – Public Health and Medical.

Standardized Emergency Management System Regulations (SEMS) Title 19, Division 2, Chapter 1 of the California Code of Regulations.

State of California Emergency Plan.

Cal. Gov. Code §§ 8634, 8655; California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, Legal Guidelines for Controlling Movement of People and Property During an Emergency (Sacramento, CA, 1999), 8, 19, 23, 24, 32.

Cal. Pen. Code § 409.5(a); Cal. Health & Saf. Code § 101040(a).

*Leiserson v. City of San Diego* (1986) 184 Cal. App. 3d 41, 51 (Leiserson II).

Cal. Gov. Code § 8634.

Procedural Guide for Watershed Emergency Response Teams, WERT Agency Involvement and Staffing, page 8.



## FEDERAL

Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency (Executive Order 13166).

Individuals with Disabilities in Emergency Preparedness (Executive Order 13347).

Homeland Security Act.

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP).

Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD) 5 management of domestic incidents.

National Engagement – Planning Consideration: Evacuation and Shelter-In-Place August 9, 2018.

National Incident Management System (NIMS).

National Response Framework (NRF) 2016.

National Disaster Recovery Framework.

Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act (PL 109-308).

Post-Disaster Safety Assessment Program: Guideline to the Activation and Utilization of Program Resources.

Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (PKEMRA) (PL 109-295).

Presidential Policy Directive (PPD) 8: National Preparedness.

Public Law 920, Federal Civil Defense Act of 1950 (PL 920).

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (PL 93-288) as amended.

Sandy Recovery Improvement Act.

Title 44 Emergency Management and Assistance.

## MISCELLANEOUS

Larimer County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan - January 2017.

FEMA Re-Entry Welcome to G0358 Evacuation and Re-entry Planning Course.

Complex Fires EOC – After Action Report & Improvement Plan – October 2017.



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## ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS



# ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

## ACRONYMS

<b>AFN</b>	Access and Functional Needs
<b>BHS</b>	Behavioral Health Services, Santa Clara County
<b>Cal OES</b>	California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
<b>CAL FIRE</b>	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
<b>CalRecycle</b>	California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
<b>CBO</b>	Community-Based Organization
<b>CDPH</b>	California Department of Public Health
<b>DOC</b>	Department Operations Center
<b>EOC</b>	Emergency Operations Center
<b>EOP</b>	Emergency Operations Plan
<b>FAC</b>	Family Assistance Center
<b>FBO</b>	Faith-Based Organization
<b>FEMA</b>	Federal Emergency Management Agency
<b>IA</b>	Individual Assistance
<b>IVA</b>	Identification Verification Area
<b>LAC</b>	Local Assistance Center
<b>MAC</b>	Multi-Agency Coordination
<b>MHOAC</b>	Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator
<b>NRF</b>	National Response Framework
<b>NGO</b>	Non-Governmental Organization
<b>NIMS</b>	National Incident Management System
<b>OA</b>	Operational Area
<b>OA EOP</b>	Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan
<b>OEM</b>	Office of Emergency Management
<b>PG&amp;E</b>	Pacific Gas & Electric
<b>SEMS</b>	Standardized Emergency Management System
<b>SSA</b>	Social Services Agency, Santa Clara County
<b>WERT</b>	Watershed Emergency Response Team



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## DEFINITIONS

**Access and Functional Needs (AFN):** As defined by the National Response Framework (NRF) Access and Functional Needs may be present before, during, or after an incident in one of more areas and may include, but are not limited to, communication, medical care, maintaining independence, supervision, and transportation.

**Affected Population:** Anyone who has been displaced, injured, or suffered some loss due to a disaster.

**American Red Cross (Red Cross):** The Red Cross is a humanitarian organization, led by volunteers, that provides relief to victims of disasters and helps people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies. It does this through services that are consistent with its Congressional Charter and the Principles of the International Red Cross Movement.

**Annex:** An annex is an addition to a document.

**Appendix:** Appendices provide relevant information already referenced in the guidance. Typically, this includes forms used or other necessary information.

**California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES):** California Governor's Office of Emergency Services.

**Catastrophic Incident:** A catastrophic incident is any natural or manmade incident, including terrorism, which produces severe and widespread damages of such a magnitude as to result in the requirement for significant resources from outside the affected area to provide the necessary response.

**Community-Based Organization (CBO):** Non-profit organizations that operate within a single local community and constitute a subset of the wider group of NGOs. They are frequently run by volunteers and often self-funding. Some are formally incorporated with written charters and boards of directors, while others are much smaller and more informal.

**Disaster:** A disaster is a sudden calamitous emergency incident bringing great damage,

**Emergency:** Any occasion or instance that warrants action to save lives and to protect property, public health, and safety

**Emergency Medical Service (EMS):** A service providing out-of-hospital, acute medical care, transport to definitive care, and other medical transport to patients with illnesses and injuries, which prevent the patient from transporting themselves.

**Emergency Operations:** Actions taken during an emergency to protect life and property, care for the people affected, and restore essential community services.

**Emergency Operations Center (EOC):** A site from which government officials coordinate, monitor, and direct response activities during an emergency.

**Evacuation:** Organized and supervised dispersal of people from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas.

**Evacuation Order:** Danger is imminent, residents need to leave immediately.



**Evacuation Route:** A road or series of roads used to move people away from an incident in a safe manner.

**Evacuation Warning:** Danger is expected in the next 4-6 hours, residents should be prepared to leave if or when conditions change or leave now as a precaution.

**Evacuee:** All persons removed or moving from areas threatened or struck by a disaster.

**Family Assistance Center (FAC):** A central location established by local government to provide information and services to the families of potential incident casualties. Services that may be provided at a FAC include emotional support, spiritual care, and health and social services.

**Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is the federal agency responsible for coordinating emergency planning, preparedness, risk reduction, response, and recovery. The agency works closely with state and local governments by funding emergency programs and providing technical guidance and training. These coordinated activities at the federal, state, and local levels ensure a broad-based emergency program.

**Fire Weather Watch:** Notice issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions which may result in extreme fire behavior could exist in the next 12-72 hours. A Fire Weather Watch is one level below a Red Flag Warning, but still indicates high fire danger.

**Hazard:** Any source of danger or element of risk to people or property.

**Hazardous Material:** Any substance or material that when involved in an accident and released in enough quantities, poses a risk to people's health, safety, and/or property. These substances and materials include explosives, radioactive materials, flammable liquids or solids, combustible liquids or solids, poisons, oxidizers, toxins, and corrosive materials.

**Incident:** An occurrence or event, either human-caused or by natural phenomena, that requires action by emergency response personnel to prevent or minimize loss of life or damage to property and the environment.

**Incident Action Plan (IAP):** is an organized course of events that addresses all phases of incident control within a specified time. An IAP is necessary to effect successful outcomes in any situation, especially emergency operations, in a timely manner. Tactics are measurable in both time and performance.

**Incident Command System (ICS):** The Incident Command System (ICS) is a standardized emergency management concept designed to provide an integrated organizational structure for managing emergencies, and to enable coordinated emergency response across jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during emergencies. It is based on proven management tools that contribute to the strength and efficiency of the overall system.

**Joint Information Center (JIC):** A facility established to arrange all incident-related public information activities. It serves as the physical location where public information officials can locate to perform critical emergency information, crisis communications, and public affairs functions.



**Local Assistance Center (LAC):** A site established by local government to provide people and businesses impacted by an incident with “one-stop” access to available assistance programs and services from local, state, and federal governmental agencies, service organizations, and private sector representatives.

**Local Jurisdiction:** Local jurisdiction refers to the cities, towns, school districts, and special districts that are encompassed within the geographical borders of the County of Santa Clara. In the case of unincorporated areas, local jurisdiction refers to the county itself.

**Major Disaster:** Any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high-water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, explosions, or other catastrophe which, in the determination of the President, causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant assistance under the Federal Disaster Relief Act.

**Mass Care and Shelter:** The actions that are taken to feed and house the affected population from the effects of a disaster. Activities include providing temporary shelter, food, medical care, clothing, and other essential life support needs to those people that have been displaced from their homes because of a disaster or threatened disaster.

**Medical Baseline:** The Medical Baseline Program, also known as Medical Baseline Allowance, is an assistance program for residential customers who have special energy needs due to qualifying medical conditions. The program includes two different kinds of help:

- A lower rate on your monthly energy bill;
- Extra notifications in advance of a Public Safety Power Shutoff.

**Megafire:** A very large wildfire, typically one covering more than 100,000 acres.

**Mitigation:** Pre-event planning and actions that aim to lessen the occurrence or effects of potential disaster.

**Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC):** The participation of government and other organizations involved at any level of the SEMS organization working together in a coordinated effort to facilitate decisions for overall emergency response activities, including the sharing of critical resources and the prioritization of incidents.

**Multi-Jurisdiction Incident:** An incident where multiple jurisdictions have a statutory responsibility. Under ICS, these incidents will be managed under Unified Command.

**Mutual Aid:** Voluntary aid and assistance by the provision of services and facilities, including but not limited to fire, police, medical and health, communication, transportation, and utilities. Mutual aid is intended to provide adequate resources, facilities, and other support to jurisdictions whenever their own resources prove to be inadequate to cope with a given situation.

**Mutual Aid Agreement:** Written agreement between agencies and/or jurisdictions in which they agree to assist one another upon request, by furnishing personnel and equipment.

**Natural Disaster:** Any hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, snowstorm, drought, fire, or other catastrophe which causes, or which may cause, substantial damage or injury to civilian property or persons.



**National Incident Management System (NIMS):** The National Incident Management System (NIMS) provides a comprehensive approach to emergency management for all hazards. NIMS integrates existing best practices into a consistent nationwide approach to domestic emergency management that is applicable to all jurisdictional levels (public and private) and across functional disciplines. NIMS is based on a balance of flexibility and standardization. NIMS is flexible and allows government and private entities at all levels to work together to manage domestic emergencies, regardless of their cause, size, location, or complexity. NIMS also provides a set of standardized organizational structures.

**National Response Framework:** The National Response Framework (NRF) presents the guiding principles that enable all response partners to prepare for and provide a unified national response to disasters and emergencies – from the smallest incident to the largest catastrophe. The Framework establishes a comprehensive, national, all-hazards approach to domestic incident response. The Framework documents the key response principles, roles, and structures that organize national response. It describes how communities, States, the Federal Government, and private-sector and non-governmental partners apply these principles for a coordinated, effective national response. And it describes special circumstances where the Federal Government exercises a larger role, including incidents where Federal interests are involved and catastrophic incidents where a State would require significant support. It allows first responders, decision makers, and supporting entities to provide a unified national response.

**Non-Governmental Organization (NGO):** An entity with an association that is based on interests of its members, individuals, or institutions, and that is not created by a government, but may work cooperatively with government. Such organizations serve a public purpose, not a private benefit. Examples of NGOs include faith-based charity organizations and the Red Cross.

**Office of Emergency Management (OEM):** OEM is the lead agency in fulfilling the County's responsibility under the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 of Division 1 of Title 2 of the CA Government Code) and also serves as the Operational Area Coordinator for County of Santa Clara under the Standardized Emergency Management System (CA Government Code 8605)

**Operational Area (OA):** A geographical area that encompasses all local governments within a county, including the county. The operational area serves as the coordination and communications link between the local government and the state. The operational area prioritizes resources and coordinates mutual aid among entities within the operational area. Each operational area is responsible for activating and operating an EOC.

**Operational Area Emergency Operations Center (OA EOC):** The physical location at which the coordination of information and resources to support operational area activities normally takes place.

**Operational Area Emergency Operations Plan (OA EOP):** A document that describes how people and property will be protected in disaster and disaster threat situations; details who is responsible for carrying out specific actions; identifies the personnel, equipment, facilities, supplies, and other resources available for use in the disaster; and outlines how all actions will be coordinated.

**Paratransit:** The family of transportation services which falls between the single occupant automobile and fixed route transit. Examples of paratransit include taxis, carpools, vanpools,



minibuses, demand-responsive bus services, and specialized bus services for the mobility impaired or transportation disadvantaged.

**Plan:** A document that describes the broad, overall jurisdictional response to potential extraordinary emergencies or disasters.

**Preparedness:** The range of deliberate, critical tasks and activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve operational capability. Preparedness is a continuous process involving efforts at all levels of government and between government and private-sector and non-governmental organizations to identify threats, determine vulnerabilities, and identify required resources. Preparedness is operationally focused on establishing guidelines, protocols, and standards for planning, training and exercises, personnel qualification and certification, equipment certifications and publication management.

**Red Flag Warning-** Issued by the National Weather Service for weather events which may result in extreme fire behavior that will occur within 24 hours.

**Recovery:** The long-term activities beyond the initial emergency response phase of disaster operations that focus on returning all systems in the community to a normal status or to reconstitute these systems to a new condition that is less vulnerable.

**Resources:** Personnel and equipment available, for assignment to incidents or to EOCs.

**Response:** Activities that address the direct effects of an incident; immediate actions to save lives, protect property.

**Shelter:** Facilities providing safe, sanitary, and secure refuge before, during, and after disaster incidents. (Note: This may also include some facilities that provide immediate necessary safe haven sheltering during an incident but are not capable of ongoing operations once other options are available.) Shelters may include general population shelters, medical needs shelters, or household pet shelters.

**Situational Report (Sit Rep):** is a form of status reporting that provides decision-makers and readers a quick understanding of the current situation. It provides a clear, concise understanding of the situation – focusing on meaning or context, in addition to the facts.

**Spontaneous Evacuation:** Residents or citizens in the threatened areas observe an emergency event or receive unofficial word of an actual or perceived threat and without receiving instructions to do so, elect to evacuate the area.

**Special District:** A unit of local government (other than a city or county, with authority or responsibility to own, operate, or maintain a project (e.g., a water district).

**Spot Forecast:** A special forecast issued to fit the time, topography, and weather of a specific incident. These forecasts are issued upon request of the user agency and are more detailed, timely, and specific than zone forecasts. Usually, on-site weather observations or a close, representative observation is required for a forecast to be issued.

**Standardized Emergency Management System:** The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) is used to manage emergency response in California. SEMS consists of five hierarchical levels: field, local, Operational Area, regional, and State. SEMS incorporates the principles of the Incident Command System, the Master Mutual Aid Agreement, existing discipline-



specific mutual aid agreements, the Operational Area concept, and multi-agency or interagency coordination and communication. Under SEMS, response activities are managed at the lowest possible organizational level.

**Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT):** Fires that burn on non-federal land, including private, state, and local jurisdiction landscapes, will be assessed by a Watershed Emergency Response Team (WERT) led by CAL FIRE and composed of state experts, and shared via a WERT report for each individual incident. The objective of the WERT report is to identify risks to values in/on the burned landscape.

**Wildland Urban Interface (WUI):** A zone of transition between wildland (unoccupied land) and human development. Communities in the WUI are at risk of catastrophic wildfire and their presence disrupts the ecology.



# APPENDIX A – PUBLIC INFORMATION AND WARNING WITH MESSAGE TEMPLATES



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# APPENDIX A, PUBLIC INFORMATION AND WARNING WITH MESSAGE TEMPLATES



## SANTA CLARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

### FIRE WEATHER ALERT & WARNINGS

#### DEFINITIONS

*Red Flag Warning:* Notice issued by the National Weather Service for weather events that will occur within the next 24 hours and may result in extreme fire behavior.

*Fire Weather Watch:* Notice issued by the National Weather Service when weather conditions which may result in extreme fire behavior could exist in the next 12-72 hours. A Fire Weather Watch is one level below a Red Flag Warning, but still indicates high fire danger.

*Evacuation Warning:* Danger is expected in the next 4-6 hours, residents should be prepared to leave if/when conditions change or leave now as a precaution.

*Evacuation Order:* Danger is imminent, residents need to leave immediately.

#### ALERT SANTA CLARA COUNTY TEMPLATES

##### RED FLAG WARNING

*(email)*

RED FLAG WARNING - Santa Clara County [Date/time]

Due to expected weather conditions with the potential to result in extreme fire behavior, the National Weather Service has issued a Red Flag Warning for the \_\_\_\_\_ area(s) of Santa Clara County on [Date/time].

Residents are urged to review family evacuation plans and report any sign of smoke or fire immediately by dialing 911.

Adhere to burn restrictions, do not use sparking tools or equipment that could ignite dry vegetation.

For more information visit [www.\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](http://www._____.).

*(voicemail)*

Same as email but read aloud

*(SMS Text – 90 characters)*



[WARNING/ADVISORY] – [Areas impacted] [Date/time]

RED FLAG WARNING – Santa Clara County east foothills. 6/1/19 8:00pm – 6/3/19 10:00pm.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION AND WARNING

**NOTE:** Readers should be aware that County OES intends to develop a Crisis Communications Functional Annex to the County’s EOP throughout the course of 2019. The following section was developed *prior* to the County’s work on the forthcoming Crisis Communications Functional Annex. This section should be updated when new documentation has been developed and approved.

### Public Information Messaging Considerations

Prior to the arrival of potential wildfire activity that may impact the OA, the following items should be considered for public messaging:

- Potential magnitude/severity of wildfire events on life, property, the environment, and the economy.
- Probability of occurrence (based upon history and future expectations)
- Threat/hazard assessment
- Vulnerabilities
- Consequences
- External assistance requirements
- Evacuation plans
- Requirements for individuals with access and functional needs (AFN)

### Joint Information Center (JIC) Activation Considerations

Activation of a JIC, whether physical or virtual, should be considered during the following circumstances:

- 2 or more jurisdictions impacted - Large/Complex incidents
- Large scale evacuations
- Public Health Department Advisories - Major utilities outages
- Impacted roadways throughout the OA
- Public Alerting and Notifications

**NOTE:** While, the County has recently contracted with Everbridge to update AlertSCC, the brief descriptions below are accurate.



During an emergency, the County, local governments, special districts, NGOs, CBOs, and private companies should coordinate their messaging efforts to ensure that complete and accurate information is disseminated to the public to include individuals with access and functional needs.

The County has various systems in place for disseminating warnings and emergency information to the public, which are described below:

- AlertSCC is the county's public alert and notification system which has been made available for use to each of the 15 cities/towns within the county. AlertSCC uses a 9-1-1 database to deliver messages to the public via landline-based telephones. Additionally, the public can register through a web portal to directly receive AlertSCC alerts and notifications on cell phones and via email and SMS. Representatives from each of the local jurisdictions have been trained and authorized to create and send public alerts and notifications. OES and County Communications staff are available 24/7 to assist the local jurisdictions in creating and sending public messages, as needed.
- The Emergency Alert System (EAS) is a national public warning system that may be used by local authorities to deliver important emergency information to the public via local broadcast media. The county's primary station is KCBS (740 AM) and KSJO (92.3 FM) serves as the county's backup station. OES and County Communications have the credentials to access EAS and script emergency messages to inform the public of a threat, the steps to be taken by them, and where additional information can be obtained.

The Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) is an internet-based capability Federal, State, and local authorities can use to issue critical public alerts and notifications. OES has been credentialed on behalf of the county to access IPAWS through our AlertSCC and WebEOC systems. IPAWS delivers alerts simultaneously through multiple communications devices reaching as many people as possible to save lives and protect property. These communication pathways include EAS (described above) and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA). The WEA system is capable of delivering alerts and notifications to cell phones within a geographic area without the cell phone being registered with the local alerting system.



<b>Source</b> Say who the message is from	<b>EXAMPLE</b> <div style="background-color: #0056b3; color: white; padding: 2px;">LCPD</div> Check and monitor local media now <div style="background-color: #e67e22; padding: 2px;">Explosion at Superior dam Potential damage</div> <div style="background-color: #27ae60; padding: 2px;">and flooding</div> <div style="background-color: #27ae60; padding: 2px;">in Sherman Heights</div> <div style="background-color: #c0392b; padding: 2px;">Message expires 8:00 AM PDT</div>  <b>TEMPLATE</b> <u>[Insert title and organization of a local, familiar,</u> <small>SOURCE</small> <u>authoritative message source]</u> Check and monitor <u>local media now</u> <u>[Insert description of event, dam</u> <small>HAZARD</small> <u>name, and threat here]</u> <u>in [Insert location of threat</u> <small>LOCATION</small> <u>here]</u> <u>Message expires [Insert time here]</u> <small>TIME</small>
<b>Hazard</b> Describe the flooding event its impacts	
<b>Location</b> State the impact are boundaries in a way that can be understood (for example: use street names, landmarks, natural features, and political boundaries)	
<b>Protective Action</b> Tell people what protective action to take, the time when to do it, how to accomplish it, and how doing it reduces impacts	
<b>Time</b> Tell people when the alert/warning expires and/or new information will be received	

(From State of California Alert & Warning Guidelines, 2019) (Dennis Mileti)

## ALERT SANTA CLARA COUNTY TEMPLATES

### TO MAXIMIZE EFFECTIVENESS OF ALERT AND WARNING MESSAGES

1. Record the voicemail in a calm, female voice (if available)
2. Send sequential messages to reinforce the urgency
3. Include links to more information
4. Only include high information maps, e.g. specific to the geography of the incident with a "You Are Here" marker (when possible).

### LONG VERSION: ALERT SCC TEXT, VOICEMAIL, EMAIL, NEXTDOOR AND FACEBOOK (1,289 CHARACTERS)

This is an emergency message from (Agency Name).

The time is XX:XX am/pm

A wildfire is approaching (Name the location of neighborhood, using street names, landmarks, natural features and political districts)

Please listen carefully to this entire message.

Your life is at risk - you need to take these actions right now.

Again, your life is at risk - listen carefully:

1. Gather all family members and pets.
2. Gather important items.
3. Bring all important medications with you.
4. Turn off all appliances and lights in your home



5. Leave your neighborhood right now and drive to the home of a friend or family member outside of the evacuation area. (Include alternative transportation suggestion for those who do not have cars.)
6. For your safety, use the following evacuation route: (Provide route using familiar landmarks, when possible)
7. (When applicable, include name and location of evacuation center.) (Name of Town or City) has designated the (Name of Facility) as your emergency evacuation center. The evacuation center is located at (Street Address, City)
8. For information, tune to local your radio station (KCBS, 740 AM)
9. Or visit this website: log on to (website with additional information and instructions).
10. If you are unable to leave your home right now, call 9-1-1 for help.

### SHORT VERSION FOR LIMITED CHARACTER SYSTEMS (EAS, WEA) (961 CHARACTERS)

This is an emergency message from (Agency Name).

The time is XX:XX am/pm

A wildfire is approaching (Name the location of neighborhood, using street names, landmarks, natural features and political districts)

Please listen carefully to this entire message.

Your life is at risk – you need to take these actions right now.

Again, your life is at risk – listen carefully:

1. Gather all family members and pets.
2. Leave your neighborhood right now and drive to the home of a friend or family member outside of the evacuation area. (Include alternative transportation suggestion for those who do not have cars.)
3. For your safety, use the following evacuation route: (Provide route using familiar landmarks, when possible)
4. For information, tune to local your radio station (KCBS, 740 AM)
5. Or visit this website: log on to (website with additional information and instructions).
6. If you are unable to leave your home right now, call 9-1-1 for emergency assistance.

### TWITTER VERSION (KEEP IT UNDER 280 CHARACTERS)

This is an emergency message from (Agency Name) at XX:XX am/pm

A wildfire is approaching (Name the location of neighborhood, using street names, landmarks, natural features and political districts)

1. Evacuate right now. (Include alternative transportation suggestion for those who do not have cars.)
2. If you cannot evacuate, call 9-1-1 for help.

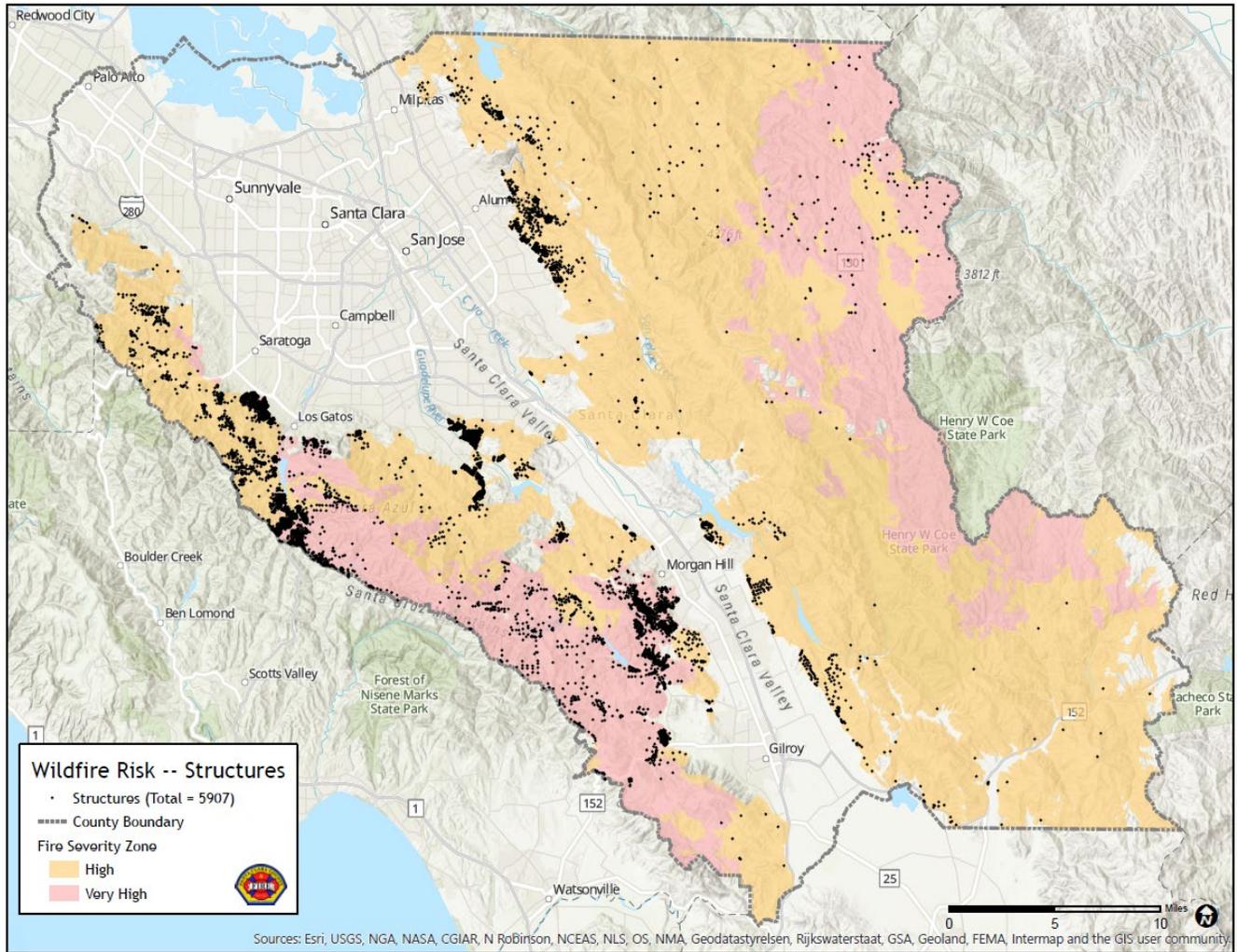


## APPENDIX B – RISK ANALYSIS MAPPING



## APPENDIX B – RISK ANALYSIS MAPPING

This Appendix contains the information regarding vulnerable populations, the location of hospitals, schools, fire departments, police departments. The objective of this map is to provide users with a reference for planning considerations during a fire Event.





## SANTA CLARA COUNTY SOCIAL VULNERABILITY INDEX

The County of Santa Clara Social Vulnerability Index is based on the Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) created by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. The goal of the SVI is to include social vulnerability in the risk equation. By understanding the nature and location of socially vulnerable community members, the Operational Area can better address emergency considerations through the entire disaster cycle (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery). For a detailed visual of Santa Clara County’s Risk Analysis Mapping, see this link: <https://bit.ly/2ZNgcrz>

Variable	Description
Percent individuals below poverty	Percent of persons below federally defined poverty line, a threshold that varies by the size and age composition of the household.
Percent civilian unemployed	Based on total population 16+. Civilian persons unemployed divided by total civilian population. Unemployed persons actively seeking work.
Per capita income	The mean income computed for every person in the census tract.
Percent persons with no high school diploma	Percent of persons 25 years of age and older, with less than a 12th grade education (including individuals with 12 grades but no diploma).
Percent senior	Percent persons 65 years of age or older
Percent minor	Percent persons 17 years of age or younger
Percent male or female householder, no spouse present, with children under 18	Other family: male householder, no wife present, with own children under 18 years + Other family: female householder, no husband present, with own children under 18 years.
Percent minority	Total of the following: black or African American alone + American Indian and Alaska Native alone + Asian alone + Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone + some other race alone + two or more races + Hispanic or Latino – white alone.
Percent person 5 years of age or older who speak English less than *well*	For all age groups and all languages – the total of persons who speak English not well or not at all.
Percent multi-unit structure	Percent housing units with 10 or more units in structure.
Percent mobile homes	Percent housing units that are mobile homes.
Crowding	At household level, more people than rooms. Percent total occupied housing units (i.e., households) with more than one person per room.
No vehicle available	Percent households with no vehicle available.
Percent of persons in group quarters	Percent of persons who are in institutionalized group quarters (e.g., correctional institutions, nursing homes) and non-institutionalized group quarters (e.g., college dormitories, military quarters).
Source(s): American Communities Survey, 2008 – 2012; US Census Bureau, 2010; Flanagan, Gregory et al., 2011.	



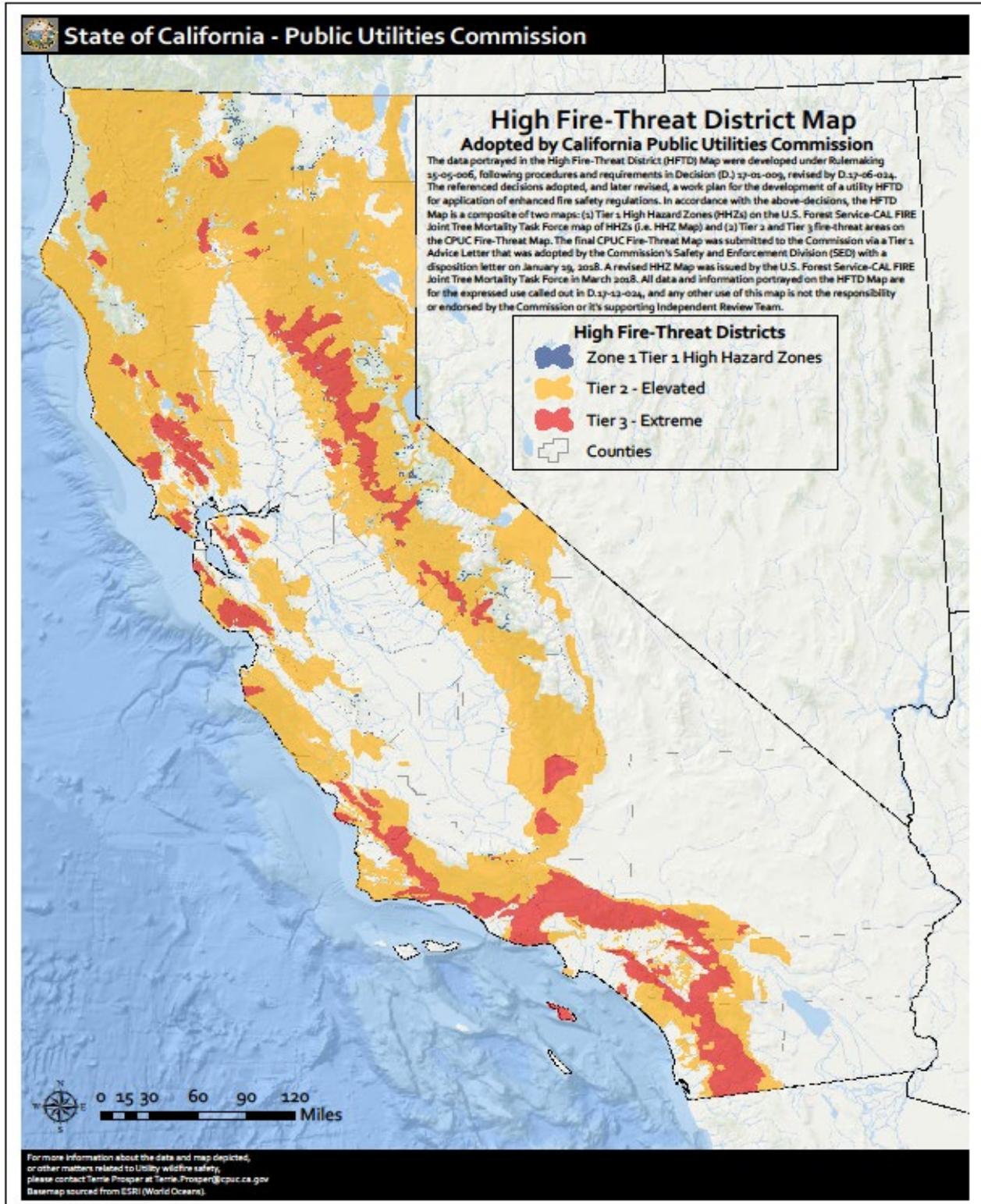
# APPENDIX C – PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION HIGH FIRE – THREAT DISTRICT MAP



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# APPENDIX C – PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION HIGH FIRE – THREAT DISTRICT MAP





## APPENDIX D – PG&E PSPS BULLETIN



# APPENDIX D – PG&E PSPS BULLETIN



**Community Wildfire Safety Program**  
**Public Safety Power Shutoff**

February 2019

## Working Together To Protect Our Communities From Wildfires

Given the continued and growing threat of extreme weather and wildfires, and as an additional precautionary measure following the 2017 and 2018 wildfires, we are expanding and enhancing our Community Wildfire Safety Program to further reduce wildfire risks and help keep our customers and the communities we serve safe. This includes expanding our Public Safety Power Shutoff program beginning with the 2019 wildfire season to include all electric lines that pass through high fire-threat areas – both distribution and transmission.

We know how much our customers rely on electric service and that there are safety risks on both sides. We will only proactively turn off lines as a last resort in the interest of safety to help reduce the likelihood of an ignition when extreme fire danger conditions are forecasted. While customers in high fire-threat areas are more likely to be affected, any of PG&E's more than 5 million electric customers could have their power shut off if their community relies upon a line that passes through a high fire-threat area.

## Public Safety Power Shutoff Criteria

Our Wildfire Safety Operations Center (WSOC) monitors fire danger conditions across our service area and evaluates whether to turn off electric power lines in the interest of safety.

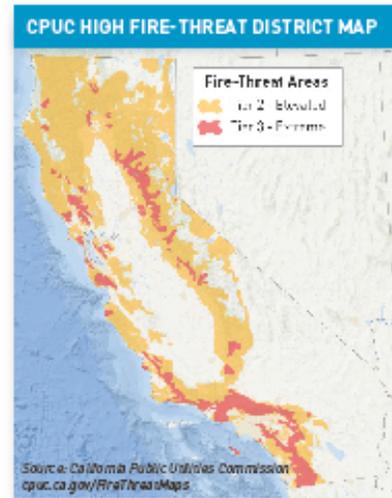
**While no single factor will drive a Public Safety Power Shutoff, some factors include:**

 <p><b>A RED FLAG WARNING</b> declared by the National Weather Service</p>	 <p><b>LOW HUMIDITY LEVELS</b> generally 20% and below</p>
 <p><b>FORECASTED SUSTAINED WINDS GENERALLY ABOVE 25 MPH AND WIND GUSTS IN EXCESS OF APPROXIMATELY 45 MPH</b>, depending on location and site-specific conditions such as temperature, terrain and local climate</p>	
 <p><b>CONDITION OF DRY FUEL</b> on the ground and live vegetation (moisture content)</p>	 <p><b>ON-THE-GROUND, REAL-TIME OBSERVATIONS</b> from PG&amp;E's WSOC and field observations from PG&amp;E crews</p>

Following the wildfires in 2017 and 2018, some of the changes included in this document are contemplated as additional precautionary measures intended to further reduce future wildfire risk. "PG&E" refers to Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of PG&E Corporation. ©2019 Pacific Gas and Electric Company. All rights reserved. CCC-1218-0763

## Potentially Impacted Areas

- The most likely electric lines to be considered for shutting off for safety will be those that pass through areas that have been designated by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) as at elevated (Tier 2) or extreme (Tier 3) risk for wildfire. This includes both distribution and transmission lines.
- The specific area and number of affected customers will depend on forecasted weather conditions and which circuits PG&E needs to turn off for public safety.
- Although a customer may not live or work in a high fire-threat area, their power may also be shut off if their community relies upon a line that passes through an area experiencing extreme fire danger conditions.
- This means that any customer who receives electric service from PG&E should be prepared for a possible public safety power outage.



## PSPS Event Notifications

Extreme weather threats can change quickly. When and where possible, we will provide customers with advance notice prior to turning off the power. We will also provide updates until power is restored.

### TIMING OF NOTIFICATIONS (when possible)

- ~48 HOURS before power is turned off
- ~24 HOURS before power is turned off
- JUST BEFORE power is turned off
- DURING THE PUBLIC SAFETY OUTAGE
- ONCE POWER HAS BEEN RESTORED

### HOW WE'LL NOTIFY CUSTOMERS

We will attempt to reach customers through **calls, texts and emails** using the contact information we have on file. We will also use **pge.com** and **social media** channels, and we will keep **local news and radio outlets** informed and updated.

## Working With Our Customers To Prepare

We are continuing to reach out to our customers and communities about wildfire safety and steps they can take to prepare their homes, families and businesses.

- **Update your contact info** by visiting [pge.com/mywildfirealerts](http://pge.com/mywildfirealerts) today to make sure we have your current contact information.
- **Identify backup charging methods** for phones and keep hard copies of emergency numbers.
- **Plan for any medical needs** like medications that need to be refrigerated or devices that require power.
- **Build or restock your emergency kit** with flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies and cash.

### Learn More about PG&E's Community Wildfire Safety Program.

Call us at  
**1-866-743-6589**

Email [wildfiresafety@pge.com](mailto:wildfiresafety@pge.com)

Visit [pge.com/wildfiresafety](http://pge.com/wildfiresafety)



# APPENDIX E – PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH – ASH INFORMATION BULLETIN



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## APPENDIX E – PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH – ASH INFORMATION BULLETIN

### PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH FROM FIRE ASH

All persons accessing burned structures should be aware of the potential hazards associated with those sites. Cleanup efforts at these sites may expose you to ash, soot, and fire decomposition products that can cause health effects including, but not limited to, eye, skin, and respiratory irritation. If possible, try to **AVOID** direct contact with ash. If you get ash on your skin, in your eyes, or in your mouth, wash it off as soon as you can, with clean water.

Ash from burned structures is generally more hazardous to your health than forest ash. Fire ash contains microscopic particles (dust, dirt, soot) that can be deposited on indoor and outdoor surfaces and can also be inhaled if the ash becomes airborne. Unless tested, the ash is not classified as a hazardous waste, however it may contain traces of hazardous chemicals such as heavy metals (lead, cadmium, nickel and arsenic), asbestos (from older homes or other buildings), perfluorochemicals (from degradation of non-stick cookware), flame retardants, and caustic materials (from household cleaners.) For these reasons, it is advisable to be cautious and avoid any unnecessary exposure to the ash.

**Health Effects of Ash:** Fire ash may be irritating to the skin, nose, and throat, and may cause coughing and/or nose bleeds. Fine particles can be inhaled deeply into lungs and may aggravate asthma and make it difficult to breathe. If the ash contains asbestos, nickel, arsenic or cadmium, then exposure is a particular concern because these substances may cause cancer. Because the substances in the ash vary, it is always best to be cautious.

**High-Risk Persons:** People with asthma or other lung diseases, pregnant women, and the elderly or very young should exercise special caution because they may be more susceptible to health effects from the ash.

**Children:** Do not allow children to play in ash. Clean and sanitize all children’s toys carefully after possible contamination. Children should not be in the vicinity while cleanup is in progress. Even if great care is exercised, it is easy to stir up ash that may contain hazardous substances. In addition, the exploratory behavior of children may result in direct contact with contaminated materials.

**Pets:** Clean ash off house pets and other domesticated animals if they have been in contaminated areas. However, it is best to not allow pets in these areas due to the potential risk to their health and their ability to spread contamination outside of the affected areas.

**Clothing:** Durable clothing is recommended, when in proximity to ash. Wear gloves, long-sleeved shirts, and long pants to avoid skin contact, whenever possible. Goggles are recommended. Contact with wet ash may cause chemical burns or irritation on skin. Change your shoes and clothing prior to leaving the decontamination site, to avoid tracking ash into your car, home, etc.

**Face Masks:** When exposure to dust or ash cannot be avoided, use a well-fitted NIOSH-certified air-purifying respirator mask. This type of mask can be purchased from most hardware stores. A mask rated “N-95” is much more effective than unrated dust- or surgical-masks in blocking ash particles. Although smaller sized masks may appear to fit a child’s face, manufacturers do not recommend their



use for children. If your child is in an area that warrants wearing a mask, you should remove them from that area to an environment with cleaner air. Please note that using an N95 respirator will make it more difficult to breathe normally. People with existing health conditions that could be exacerbated should consult with their personal physician first.



# APPENDIX F – MASS CARE & SHELTER: QR CODE



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## APPENDIX F – MASS CARE & SHELTER: QR CODE

A sample QR sign for mass care and shelter. The sign is enclosed in a black border and contains the following elements: the County of Santa Clara and Santa Clara County Fire logos at the top left; a QR code in the center; and text providing instructions and a list of services. A call to action box is located at the top right, and a safety reminder box is at the bottom right.

Scan QR code for more info.

Please use the QR code or go to [www.SCCGOV.org](http://www.SCCGOV.org) for information including:

- Updates/ Alerts
- Shelter Location
- Family/ Animal Reunification
- Community Assistance
- Access to FEMA and Local documents'
- Re-Entry and Re-Occupation

Call **911** in event of an emergency-  
Please stay informed :  
AlertSCC, radio and news reports

Sample of QR sign linking cell phone / tablet users to a pre-established resource website



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## APPENDIX G – MASS CARE & SHELTER: DASH PASS



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## APPENDIX G—MASS CARE & SHELTER: DASH PASS

Depending on the size of the event, law enforcement may be tasked with trying to properly identify who should be allowed access into a fire safe zone. Zone safety may also change so it is important that law enforcement have the ability to know how many civilians are in a particular zone. An established identification procedure (e.g., require driver's license or company identification) will be needed to start this process. In some cases, back-up documentation may suffice (e.g., utility bills, deeds, property tax documents, car registration).

***Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Management***

Name/ Business _____	  
Zone _____	
Address _____	
Parcel Number _____	
Cell Phone _____	

Call 911 in event of an emergency-  
Please stay informed :  
AlertSCC, radio and news reports

Scan QR code  
for more info.



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# APPENDIX H – DEBRIS REMOVAL RIGHT OF ENTRY & DENIAL OF ENTRY FORMS



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# APPENDIX H – DEBRIS REMOVAL RIGHT OF ENTRY AND DENIAL OF ENTRY FORMS



## **Debris Removal Right-of-Entry Permit** (For Providing Debris Removal on Private Property)

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor's Parcel Number (APN): \_\_\_\_\_

Age of Structure(s): \_\_\_\_\_

The undersigned hereby certifies they/he/she are/is (check):

\_\_\_\_\_ The owner(s) with authority to grant access to the property at (address) \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ The authorized agent of the Property Owner resident at above address.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Owner/Owner's authorized agent) hereby permit the County of Santa Clara (County), State of California, and Federal Government, and all of their officers, employees, agencies, contractors and subcontractors, to enter the Owner's property located at the above-referenced address (the Property), subject to all licenses, easements, encumbrances, and claims of title affecting the Property upon the following terms and conditions:

**1. Grant of Right-of-Entry.** Permission is hereby granted and Owner hereby grants to the County, State of California, Federal Government, and all of their officers, employees, designees and/or permittees a right of entry ("Permit") to enter upon the Property, and all related appurtenances thereto, for the purpose of inspecting, testing materials, removing and clearing any or all wildfire-generated debris of whatever nature including but not limited to ash, vehicles, trailers, miscellaneous debris, construction debris, waste or other materials from the Property, subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Permit, and to perform all incidents necessary thereto. Owner understands and accepts that the entity performing debris removal on behalf of County will determine on a case-by-case basis what materials qualify as "debris" to be removed from the site pursuant to the removal program and that structural foundations and trees deemed hazardous to work crews may also be removed pursuant to this Permit. The Owner understands that this Permit does not obligate the County, its contractors, or other government agents to perform inspection, testing, or debris clearance. Owner understands that County will undertake no cleanup action until this Permit is signed and returned. Owner understands that participation in this program shall not operate to either require or prohibit County from later deeming a condition remaining on the property a public nuisance. Owner will not be charged for the work conducted by the County,



government agencies, or its contractors. However, if the Owner receives insurance proceeds or compensation from any other source for debris removal, the Owner's obligation is set out in paragraphs 2 and 3, below.

**This is not a request for a permanent easement and/or right-of-way and the permission granted will automatically terminate upon completion of said work, as determined at the discretion of County, its officers, employees, designees and/or permittees.**

**2. Private Insurance Coverage.** Most homeowner and auto insurance policies have coverage to pay for the costs of removal of wildfire-generated debris and damaged items. Owner understands that in the event state financial assistance is received by Owner for purposes of inspection, testing or removing debris hereunder, state law (California Disaster Assistance Act, California Government Code sections 8680-8692) requires Owner to reimburse County for the cost of removing wildfire-generated debris to the extent covered in Owner's insurance policy. Owner hereby assigns to County any and all insurance proceeds he/she would be entitled to for the removal of debris and damaged items from the Property. Owner agrees to inform the insurance company listed below of this assignment and will instruct the insurance company to issue all insurance proceeds directly to County. In the event the insurance company listed below issues insurance proceeds to Owner for the removal of debris from the Property, Owner agrees to immediately and without delay forward such insurance proceeds to County.

If the Owner has insurance in effect at the time of the wildfire that provides coverage for debris removal; and/or vehicle removal; or provides any other similar coverages, the Owner hereby assigns any and all rights, benefits, and proceeds with respect to these particular coverages under any applicable insurance policy to County. Owner also hereby authorizes that any benefits or proceeds payable under the coverage for vehicle and debris removal, or any other similar coverages, be paid directly to County up to the specified amount of coverage, after which Owner shall not be liable for any further costs to County. In the event that coverage for debris removal, or any other similar coverages, are not provided on the basis of a specified amount but are included within another coverage category, payment to County shall be limited to the unused benefit amount (if any) in that coverage category after the residence is rebuilt, after which Owner shall not be liable for further costs to County. Owner authorizes the release to County of Owner's pertinent insurance information (i.e., insurance policy, declarations page, and any policy endorsements) from Owner's insurance provider for the policy that was in effect at the time of the wildfire and authorizes County to request a copy of Owner's insurance policy and related documents from Owner's insurance provider. Owner makes this assignment and authorization in consideration of County's agreement to perform the services of removing wildfire-generated debris from the insured property.

Owner also understands that, when requested, Owner must provide a copy of the insurance policy, proof/statement of loss and settlement agreement from Owner's insurance company to County.

Owner (\_\_\_\_ does, \_\_ does not) have homeowner's or other similar insurance. If Owner indicates that Owner does not have such insurance, Owner certifies under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that there was no insurance in effect at the time of the wildfire which may provide coverage for the costs of inspection, testing or removing debris.

Insurance Information for the Property:  
Insurance \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_



Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Claim Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Secondary Insurance Information for the Residential Property or other damaged items on the property:

Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Claim Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Insurance Information for the Property or other damaged items on the property:

Insurance \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Claim Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Duplication of Benefits:** In Property Owner/agent has an obligation to file an insurance claim if coverage is available. Property Owner/agent understands and acknowledges that receipt of compensation or reimbursement for performance of the aforementioned activities from any source, including Small Business Administration, private insurance, an individual and family grant program or any other public or private assistance program could constitute a duplication of benefits prohibited by federal law. If the Property Owner/agent receives any compensation from any source for debris removal activities on this Property, the Property Owner/agent will report it to the County.

Owner will advise County in writing of any insurance settlements for debris removal in accordance with the terms set forth in Section 2 of this Permit. Owner further agrees to reimburse County within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt from such insurance proceeds, for the cost of the debris removal conducted by County in accordance with the terms set forth in Section 2 of this Permit. In the event the insurance proceeds are less than the cost of debris removal incurred by County, Owner will not be responsible for the difference. If the insurance proceeds exceed County's cost of debris removal, Owner will keep any excess proceeds. Owner understands that all disaster related funding, including that for debris removal from private property, is subject to audit.

**4. County's Obligations:** In consideration of the permission granted, County agrees to the following:

No permanent structure that appears safe and habitable to the entity performing debris removal will be disturbed or damaged. Work will be performed in such a manner that it will not materially affect ingress or egress to or from the Property. This determination shall not operate to either require or prohibit County from later determining that a public nuisance exists on the Property. If Owner is present at time the debris removal team enters the Property and demands that certain debris not be removed, this debris will not be removed. Owner understands and acknowledges that if he/she refuses to allow removal of debris deemed hazardous by federal, state, or local officials, Owner shall still be legally responsible to timely and lawfully remove the hazardous debris at his/her own cost.



Gates shall be closed and/or locked at all times, except when ash and debris removal activities are in progress.

Any pre-existing improvements on the Property, such as fences, gates, etc. which are damaged or temporarily removed in the debris removal process will be repaired and/or replaced.

**5. Indemnification - Hold Harmless:** County shall not be liable for, and Owner shall indemnify and hold harmless County, the State of California, California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), the Federal Government, and any of their officers, agencies, agents, contractors, subcontractors, employees and volunteers, against any and all claims, deductibles, self-insured retentions, demands, liability, judgments, awards, fines, mechanics’ liens or other liens, labor disputes, losses, damages, expenses, personal injury, death, and charges or costs of any kind or character, including attorneys’ fees and court costs (hereinafter, collectively referred to as “Claims”), which arise out of or are in any way connected to actions arising out of this Permit, and Owner hereby releases, discharges, and waives any Claims or any action, in law or equity, arising therefrom.

**5.1 Owner shall make Owner’s best efforts to mark any sewer lines, utilities (electricity, gas, cable, etc.), septic tanks and water lines located on the Property.**

**6. No County Assumption of Liability for Remediation:** In consideration of the assistance County is providing to Owner under this Permit at no cost to Owner, and subject to Section 4 of this Permit, County assumes no liability or responsibility, and Owner shall not seek to recover from County, Cal OES, CalEPA, CalRecycle, the Federal Government, or any of their officers, agencies, agents, contractors, subcontractors, employees and volunteers, the costs of any remediation of damages to the Property incurred due to actions taken pursuant to this Permit.

**7. County’s Agents:** Any person, firm, or corporation authorized in writing to work upon the Property by the County shall be deemed to be County’s agent, including but not limited to the State of California, Cal OES, CalEPA, CalRecycle, the Federal Government, contractors and subcontractors and shall be subject to all applicable terms hereof.

**8. Authority:** Owner represents and warrants that it has full power and authority to execute and fully perform its obligations under this Permit without the need for any further action, including but not limited to any further action, notice to, or approval from any co-owner(s), leaseholder(s), tenant(s), lender(s), or lienholder(s), and any person(s) executing this Permit on behalf of the Owner(s) is the duly designated agent(s) of Owner(s) and is authorized to do so, and that fee title to the Property vests solely in Owner(s). If this Right of Entry Permit is executed by anyone other than Owner(s), it shall be accompanied by a complete and legible notarized authorization form signed by Owner(s). Incomplete or illegible authorization forms will not be recognized as lawful designation of authority.

**State of California Disaster Debris Removal Program:** By initialing each provision below, Owner(s) hereby acknowledge the following activities that will be conducted by County and/or County’s Agents:

\_\_\_\_\_ **Eligibility:** This program is applicable **only** to residential property, including rental properties, and contents thereon, where occupants reside as a primary or secondary home. Any



property that is sold prior to issuance of the cleanup certification will be withdrawn from the program and billed for cleanup services, unless both new and former owners sign a property transfer affidavit.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Owner Notification of Entry:** As this program involves access to the Property by County and/or County's agents at various times throughout the cleanup process, Owner(s) will only be contacted to arrange for cleanup at the "Ash and Debris Cleanup" phase (Step 4). This contact will attempt to be made 24-48 hours in advance. Owner(s) will not be contacted for property access during the other steps. All agents associated with the program will have proper identification and will provide that upon request.

The Property (is, \_\_\_ is not) a rental property and Owner(s) (\_\_\_ does, \_\_\_ does not) request for the tenant to be contacted prior to entry for special instructions. Owner(s) (\_\_\_ do, \_\_\_ do not) transfer all decisions related to cleanup to tenant.

**Contact Information for the Tenant:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Property Accessibility:** Due to the need for property access by County and/or County's Agents, the Property will be made accessible throughout the cleanup process (i.e., Owner(s) will provide gate code/keys to ensure property access.) Owner(s) acknowledges either (\_\_\_) a gate code or (\_\_\_) a key is required for access. Owner shall provide a gate code: \_\_\_\_\_ or key which shall be dropped off at the debris removal operations center.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Foundations:** In order to participate in this program, Owner(s) must allow removal of all foundations. Stem walls and retaining walls may be left on a case-by-case basis for erosion control purposes only, as approved by the Operations Chief and/or his or her designee. Any Owner(s) initiating participation in the program and later deciding to keep a foundation will be withdrawn from the program and billed for cleanup services up to that point. In addition, it is Owner's responsibility to fill any depression(s) left on the Property from the removal of foundations.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Soil Sampling:** Part of the debris removal program is to take soil samples in the debris footprint to determine if all ash is removed and no longer poses a public threat. In some instances, if soil samples do not meet the cleanup goals for this project, additional soil will be removed from the debris footprint and more soil samples will be taken. In order to participate in this program, Owner(s) must allow access to County's agents so all necessary soil sampling can be conducted after all debris and ash is removed.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Wells and Septic Systems:** Pumping and/or removal of wells and septic tanks/systems are not part of this program. Only those septic tanks that are deemed to be hazardous to cleanup crews will be pumped. All other identified wells/septic tanks will be fenced off to ensure proper marking and safety.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Propane/Fuel Tanks:** Propane and other fuel tanks found on the Property will be assessed as part of the "Household Hazardous Waste Assessment and Removal" phase (Step 1.) Tanks will be assessed to determine whether fuel remains. Small and medium tanks (less than 80 gallons capacity) will be removed. Large propane tanks that are leased by a gas company will not be removed through this program (property owners must contact the gas company and arrange for them to pick up/remove their damaged tank.) If tanks are owned by the property owner, they may be removed through this program during the "Ash and Debris Cleanup" phase (Step 4.)



Owner(s) acknowledge that they (\_\_\_do,\_\_\_ do not) own large propane tank(s) and the Owner(s) (\_\_\_\_ does, \_does not) want them removed during the “Ash and Debris Cleanup” phase.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Repairs:** Debris and ash removal crews will do their best to avoid and minimize damage to areas and intact structures surrounding the impacted property site. Where wells, septic and leach lines are properly identified in advance by Owner(s) as part of the Permit, the Operations Chief *may* authorize attempted repair of any damage done to these as part of the cleanup process. (*Please note* before and after photos are taken of site conditions.) However, ultimately, Owner(s) acknowledges the Permit indemnification-hold harmless clause (Section 5 above) for all structures associated with the Property.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Driveways and Roads:** Repair of publicly accessed roads and driveways is not part of this program. Road damage to public rights-of-way will be addressed by County. Damage to privately owned driveways as a result of this program’s operations will be assessed and *may* be repaired on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the Operations Chief. Repair to damaged concrete or asphalt driveways will consist only of gravel placement for purpose of ingress/egress.

**Entire Agreement.** This Permit constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings and representations, oral or written, are superseded.

**Modification.** The provisions of this Permit may not be modified, except by a written instrument signed by both parties.

**Partial Invalidity.** If any provision of this Permit is determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Permit shall not be affected thereby. Each provision shall be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

**Successors and Assigns.** This Permit shall bind and benefit the parties and their successors and assigns, except as may otherwise be provided herein.

**Notices.** Any notice required hereunder shall be provided as follows:

Contact Information for the County:

Department of Environmental Health  
1555 Berger Drive #300  
San Jose, CA 95112

Contact Information for the Owner:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Submission by facsimile or email attachment.** In lieu of personal delivery, Owner(s) may elect, at his/her own option and at his/her own risk, to transmit to the County by facsimile or email attachment a complete, legible, and fully executed Right of Entry Permit and (as applicable) an



Owner Authorization to Designate Agent form. Owner(s) is responsible to ensure complete, legible, timely, and accurate transmission of such documents, and County shall not be held responsible for any errors or omissions related to electronic or facsimile transmission, including but not limited to errors resulting from failed or delayed transmission, delays resulting from SPAM filters, technical malfunctions of facsimile machines or electronic communication equipment, inability to open attached documents, or other failure of the County to timely receive and act upon these documents.

a. Fax: (408) 408-298-6261

b. Email (attach as pdf):

The Property Owner/agent understands that an individual who fraudulently or willfully misstates any fact in connection with this agreement may be subject to penalties under state and federal law, including civil penalties, imprisonment for not more than five years, or both, as provided under 18 USC 1001.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, Owner and the County of Santa Clara County have executed this Permit effective \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Owner 1 Signature    Owner 2 Signature

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Approved by County of Santa Clara and verified that the Property, APN, and Owner are accurate and meet the eligibility requirements of program:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Director of Environmental Health



**Disaster Debris Removal Program Property Information**

Please check all that apply on the Property:

Large Item Description	Quantity	Keep	Remove	Comments
Vehicles				
Boats				
Trailers				
Other:				

Underground Tanks	Location	Construction Date (If Known)	Comments
Septic <sup>1</sup>			
Fuel/Oil <sup>2</sup>			
Water			
Other:			

Septic tanks will be pumped of all waste as part of the debris removal project if posed as a hazard to crews.

Owner(s) must provide documentation of ownership for large propane tanks to be removed.

Underground Structures	Location	Construction Date (If Known)	Comments
Basement			
Root Cellar			
Other:			

**Special Instructions** (directions to contractors to access the Property or notable items Owner wishes to try to recover):



## DENIAL OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY

### Owner's Refusal to Participate in County Program to Remove Disaster Debris from Private Property and Acknowledgment of Responsibility to Remove Disaster Debris from Owner's Property

Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Number and Street)

\_\_\_\_\_

(Secondary)

\_\_\_\_\_

(Zip)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, "Owner," or Owner's authorized agent am the owner of real property located at the address provided above (the "Property"), subject to all licenses, easements, encumbrances, and claims of title affecting the Property.

#### Understanding of County Program for Disaster Debris Removal on Private Property

I have been advised of and understand that the County of Santa Clara, in conjunction with State and Federal agencies, has developed an inspection and debris removal plan ("Plan") for disaster debris generated by the [name and type of disaster] on [date of disaster]. The Plan calls for the inspection, testing, and removal of all [name and type of disaster]-generated debris of whatever nature, including but not limited to construction debris, trees, waste, ash, vehicles, or other materials, from the Property. I understand that as part of the Plan, the County has sought my permission to enter the Property.

#### Denial of Right of Entry to County to Perform Disaster Debris Removal

By signing this form, I am denying consent to the County, its officers, employees, and agents, to enter on the Property for purposes of inspecting, testing, and removing [name and type of disaster]-generated debris. For purposes of this document, the County's "agents" are defined as any person, agency, firm, or corporation authorized to implement the Plan by the County, including but not limited to the State of California, the Federal Government, and their officers, agencies, agents, contractors, subcontractors, employees, and volunteers.

Despite this Denial of Right of Entry, I also understand that the County, the State of California, and the Federal Government may have the right to enter the Property under applicable law.

#### Owner's Acknowledgment of Responsibility for Debris Removal on Property

I understand that I am responsible for the inspection, testing, and removal of all [name and type of disaster]-generated debris of whatever nature on the Property in compliance with all Federal laws and regulations, State laws and regulations, and local codes and ordinances.



**Owner’s Authority to Execute and Perform Owner’s Obligations Under this Document**

Owner represents and warrants that Owner has full power and authority to execute this Denial, without the need for any further action. Any person executing this Denial on behalf of Owner represents that he or she is the duly authorized agent of Owner, and that fee title to the Property vests solely in Owner. If this Denial is executed by anyone other than Owner, it must be accompanied by a complete and legible notarized Agent Authorization Form signed by Owner. Incomplete or illegible authorization forms will not be recognized as a lawful designation of authority.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Owners’ Signature)* \_\_\_\_\_ *(Date)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Print Name)*

Contact Information of Owner (Optional):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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# APPENDIX I – HAZARD ADVISORY - SAFETY WHEN RETURNING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD (HOME/BUSINESS)



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# APPENDIX I – HAZARD ADVISORY - SAFETY WHEN RETURNING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD



## HAZARD ADVISORY

**NOTICE:** *The Butte County Health Officer has issued a hazard advisory strongly suggesting no habitation of destroyed property until property is declared clear of hazardous waste and structural ash and debris by Butte County Environmental Health.*

YOU ARE ENTERING A HAZARDOUS AREA  
ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK

In the burn area, you will encounter dangerous conditions and will be exposed to toxic materials that may include but are not limited to:

- Embers /hot ash
- Hazardous materials, including: ash, asbestos, heavy metals, oils, fire retardants, pesticides and other hazardous materials
- Puncture hazards, including: broken pipes, exposed nails, broken glass, damaged structural elements
- Potential explosive hazards including: propane tanks, ammunition, and solvents
- Slippery surfaces
- Toxic airborne particles
- Uneven ground
- Unstable structures

Wear protective gear and minimize time of exposure



## HEALTH AND SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR RE-ENTRY AND DEBRIS REMOVAL AFTER FIRE

*If you visit your property to collect belongings and mementos, please familiarize yourself with the information in this packet. It contains important details about the hazards of entering a fire-impacted area.*

### DEBRIS AND HAZARDOUS WASTE

- Fire damage can create significant health and safety hazards that may be present at individual properties. **It is recommended that structure ash is not disturbed due to potential exposure to toxic materials.** If you choose to visit your property, please consider the following:
  - Wear sturdy shoes (steel toes and shanks are recommended) and clothing
  - Hazardous chemicals and conditions may be present
  - Inspect propane tanks for visible damage before turning on
  - Cover all clothing when in proximity to ash. Wear gloves, long-sleeved shirts, and long pants to avoid skin contact, whenever possible. Goggles should be worn. Contact with wet ash may cause chemical burns or irritation on skin. Change your shoes and clothing prior to leaving the decontamination site, to avoid tracking ash into your car, home, etc.
  - Anything in contact with ash should be cleaned and sanitized. **Sorting through/cleaning fire debris is not recommended.**
  - Be aware of slip, trip, fall, puncture and overhead hazards.
  - Do not use leaf blowers or do any activities that will put ash into the air.
  - Wear a close fitting respirator mask that is rated N-95 or P-100 to block particles from ash or smoke from being inhaled. N-95 respirators are well-fitted when they do not come into contact with facial hair; strap tension is adequate, not overly tightened; and masks fit across the nose bridge. A tight seal would not be possible for most children, even with a small adult-size model. People with heart or lung disease should consult their physician before using a respirator.
  - The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the only agency that certifies respirators to determine that they adequately protect people. Look for NIOSH approval on the package or label.

### DO NOT REMOVE ASH AND DEBRIS WITHOUT APPROVAL FROM BUTTE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

- The county is working with various state and federal partners who will assess ALL properties for household hazardous waste and asbestos and remove those materials from each property. After the property has been cleared of hazardous waste – to ensure safety to workers, the public, and the environment – certain protocols must be followed during a wildfire disaster when removing structural ash and debris left from the fire. There are two options for property owners to manage the debris and ash from the wildfire disaster. The property owner can either sign up for the **government-sponsored debris removal program** or they may undertake the clean-up at their own expense through **private fire debris cleanup** with work performed by qualified personnel under oversight of the Environmental Health Division. The hazardous waste and debris removal program through the state and federal programs will not have any out-of-pocket costs for the property owner. The cleanup requirements for private cleanup are under development and will be announced to the public soon.



### FOOD SAFETY

- Perishable food items that have not been properly stored (at or below 41 °F) for more than four hours is not considered safe and must be thrown out.
- If your home has been damaged and you find non-perishable food items we recommend that you DO NOT use them. The containers may appear to be intact but high temperatures may have caused the seams to fail, resulting in the contents being exposed to potential contamination.
- When In Doubt, Throw It Out!!

### WATER SAFETY

**At this point, water available from your tap should be considered unsafe until the proper water tests can be completed. Boil water notices are in place for all public water systems and will be lifted at some time in the future when water is determined to be safe. If you have a private well, see handout entitled "Well Disinfection & Sampling Information".**

- If your well has been damaged, it may have been exposed to potential contamination and can contaminate surrounding groundwater if not repaired properly. Fire can damage the well casing, electrical conduits and piping. DO NOT use the water for consumption which includes drinking, cooking, dishwashing, oral hygiene, hand washing, bathing and pets.
  - The well must be repaired by a qualified professional, properly disinfected as per Butte County Environmental Health's requirements and then tested to determine the water is safe for consumption.
  - Qualified professionals include licensed well drillers, pump contractors and/or certified distribution operators. Water sampling may be conducted by the Butte County Public Health laboratory or by a local state certified laboratory (FGL and Basic Laboratory in Chico, CA).

### SEPTIC SYSTEMS

- Fire could have damaged your septic system. The damage would have most likely occurred to the piping between the house and the septic tank, or from the septic tank to the leach field. Damage sometimes occurs from heavy equipment such as backhoes and bulldozers used to fight the fire or to clean up debris. The repairs to the system must be done by qualified professionals as per Environmental Health Division requirements.

### TREE DAMAGE

- Many trees have been identified as hazardous due to the fire and will be removed in the coming days. These trees may be on your property or near your property. Upon return, you may see trees marked with white spray paint with the code:
  - P1 (extreme hazard, may fall at any time)
  - P2 (hazardous, scheduled for removal)

### ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

- Please treat any and all down power lines or wires as energized and live with the potential to cause serious injury, up to and including death.



## Returning to Your Neighborhood

Visiting your property for the first time since the evacuation will be an emotional experience and we want you to know that you are not alone—there are many people and agencies here to help you. This loss of a physical home, a shelter, a place of security, filled with memories, is difficult to bear. For many, a sense of home comes from neighbors and from the wider community. The building you called home may be gone, but your community is with you to help you recover and rebuild. We extend our deepest sympathy to you and your family and we want you to know that we are committed to assuring you have access to the services and support you need.

Please familiarize yourself with the information in this packet. It contains important details about the hazards of entering an area that has been in a fire.

### *What Has Occurred in Your Neighborhood Since the Fire*

Crews have removed propane tanks, utility lines, and environmental hazards. Utility providers have gone through to shut off gas, electrical and water services.

Thorough searches for missing people who may have perished in the fire were undertaken with the utmost care and respect for the deceased and their families.

### *What to Expect When You Arrive in Your Neighborhood*

Once evacuation orders are lifted, you will need to get an entry pass. Entry passes will be distributed at check in locations. Once you have received an entry pass you may enter your neighborhood through one of the official entry points.

**The Condition of Your Property:** After a fire, many dangers remain and if you choose to enter the property, you are doing so at your own risk. For your safety, building inspectors have inspected homes that appear damaged from the exterior. When visiting your property, you may find it in one of the following conditions:

1. **No Structure Remaining** – There is no structure standing on your property.
2. **Partial Structure Remaining** – Some homes have sections of walls or chimneys still standing. These structures are not secure and pose an immediate risk of collapse. If you choose to enter the property, you are doing so at your own risk.
3. **Red-Tagged** – The home is standing but is not safe to enter. The structure on your property was inspected by a building inspector and deemed unsafe to enter. Conditions



of structural support may be severely damaged, and entry could cause bodily injury or even death. If your home is red tagged, please contact the building official on-site or your local permitting agency to arrange for an escorted entry into the property.

4. **Standing Structure** – The structure on your property is standing and is safe to enter. Although these properties may look intact, they may have sustained smoke or other damage. Structures that do not show damage from the exterior have not been inspected.

If your property was not evacuated but was adjacent to or in close proximity to the fire, you may want to consider getting your home inspected for damage and check to see if you qualify for coverage.

### *Taking Care of Yourself and Your Family*

**Know that You Have the Right to Privacy:** The media has helped us stay connected and informed during these devastating fires; part of that coverage has included personal stories about how people’s lives have been impacted. You and your family are under no obligation to consent to be interviewed, photographed or filmed. If approached by a member of the media (reporter, camera person, photographer), you have the right to request your privacy.

As you return to your property our focus will be on providing you with safe, secure, and private time to evaluate your situation. We have asked that the media be respectful of this highly personal and difficult time, as you return to your neighborhood and reunite with friends and neighbors, evaluate your losses, and determine next steps.

**Looking Through the Remains of Your Property:** Sifting for valuables is permitted but not recommended for health reasons. Small scale sifting through ashes to locate remaining personal items will not impact your ability to get financial assistance. Please be advised that digging, piling materials up or moving large pieces on or off the property can jeopardize your eligibility for state and federally sponsored cleanup and could put your health at risk.

If you choose to search through the remains of your home, wear proper protective equipment and take the following precautions:

- Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeve shirts and long pants.
- Wear protective gear such as gloves, protective face masks and goggles.
- Keep children and pets away.
- Anything with ash should be cleaned and sanitized.
- Asbestos, heavy metals, by-products of plastic combustion and various other chemicals may be present in your home and neighborhood.
- Walk around the perimeter before entering, noting any debris and structure that could fall.



**Emotional Support** is important for all who experienced this disaster. The emotional toll can be devastating and further compounded the financial strains of losing your home, business, or personal property. Profound sadness, grief, and anger are normal reactions to an event such as this. During your return to your neighborhood emotional support services will be available including mental health providers and clergy. For additional support, please call 2-1-1 to be connected with providers in your area.

### ***Disposing of Hazardous Materials***

The County of Santa Clara and the State of California’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES) will be coordinating a cleanup effort of private properties that ensures safe cleanup and disposal. This will be in both the incorporated and unincorporated areas. Ash and debris from burned buildings and homes can contain toxic substances due to the presence of hazardous materials.

Household hazardous waste must be handled separately from other burn debris and may not go into local landfills. Residents are strongly urged to leave all the debris in place and are encouraged to NOT remove items from their property. Household hazardous waste includes unused or leftover portions of products used in your home that contain toxic chemicals. Products labeled caution, warning, danger, poison, toxic, flammable or corrosive are considered hazardous waste.

### ***Recovery and Rebuilding***

may not go into local landfills. Residents are strongly urged to leave all the debris in place and are encouraged to NOT remove items from their property. Household hazardous waste includes unused or leftover portions of products used in your home that contain toxic chemicals. Products labeled caution, warning, danger, poison, toxic, flammable or corrosive are considered hazardous waste.

### ***Important Contacts***

[www.sccgov.org](http://www.sccgov.org)  
Santa Clara County Department of Public Health  
Santa Clara County Department of Environmental Health  
Santa Clara County Animal Services  
FEMA  
American Red Cross



## Safety When Returning to Your Home or Business after a Fire

A structure fire can cause serious damage, and in some cases a total loss. The building and many of the items in your home or business may have been badly damaged by flames, heat, smoke, and water.

You may find things that the fire did not burn up but are now ruined by smoke and soggy with water used to put out the flames. Anything that you want to save or reuse will need to be properly cleaned.

Firefighters may have cut holes in the walls of the building to look for hidden flames. They may have cut holes in the roof to let out heat and smoke. Cleanup will take time and patience.

### General Safety Tips: USE CAUTION!

- Wear sturdy shoes (steel toes and shanks are recommended), a face mask, and clothing.
- Hazardous chemicals and conditions may be present.
- Inspect propane tanks for visible damage before turning on.
- Wear protective gear when sorting through possessions. Anything in contact with ash should be cleaned and sanitized. Sorting through/cleaning burn debris is not recommended for health reasons.
- Be aware of slip, trip, fall, and puncture hazards.

It is important to understand the risk to your safety and health even after the fire is out. The ash and dirty water left behind could make you ill.

Be very careful if you touch any fire-damaged items. Ask the advice of the fire department, local building officials, your insurance agent, and restoration specialists before starting to clean or make repairs.

Do not eat, drink, or breathe in anything that has been near the flames, smoke, ash, or water used to put the fire out.

### Safety

Fire ash may be irritating to the skin, nose, and throat may cause coughing and/or nose bleeds. Fine particles can be inhaled deeply into lungs and may aggravate asthma and may make it difficult to breathe.



- Refrain from cleaning ash and fire debris until professional hazardous waste cleanup services are secured. Seek professional damage and debris removal/restoration services.
- When exposure to dust or ash cannot be avoided, use a well-fitted NIOSH-certified air-purifying respirator N-95 mask.
- Children should not be in the vicinity while cleanup is in progress. Even if care is exercised, it is easy to stir up ash that may contain hazardous substances.
- Clean ash off house pets and other domesticated animals if they have been in contaminated areas.
- It is best to not allow pets in these areas due to the potential risk to their health and their ability to spread outside of affected areas.
- Wear gloves, long-sleeved shirts, and long pants to avoid skin contact. Goggles are recommended. Contact with wet ash may cause chemical burns or irritation on skin. Change your shoes and clothing prior to leaving the decontamination site, to avoid tracking ash into your car, home, etc.

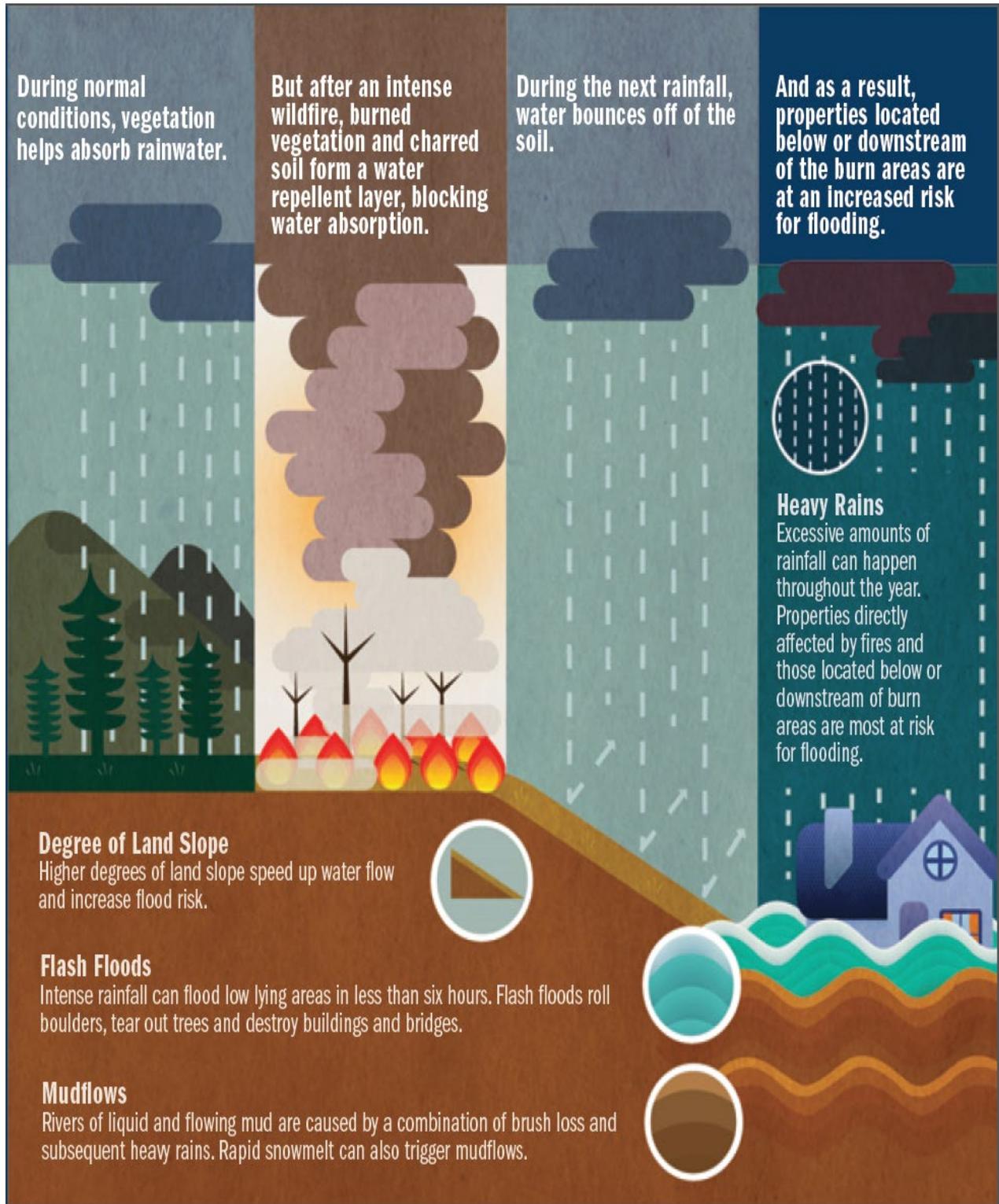


## APPENDIX J – FLOOD AFTER FIRE GRAPHIC



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## APPENDIX J – FLOOD AFTER FIRE GRAPHIC





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## APPENDIX K – CAL FIRE REPOPULATION PLAN



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## APPENDIX K – CAL FIRE REPOPULATION PLAN

# REPOPULATION PLAN \_\_\_\_\_ FIRE CA-SCU-000000



**00/00/00 @ 2400 HOURS  
VERSION 1**



***THIS PACKET WILL ASSIST EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL  
IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A REPOPULATION PLAN.***

**REPOPULATION PLAN INSTRUCTIONS BLOCKS 13-17):**

- BLOCK 13. FILL IN THE INCIDENT NAME, INCIDENT NUMBER, AND THE DATE/TIME THE PLAN SHOULD BE INITIATED. THIS IS THE FIRST STEP OF THE INCIDENT REPOPULATION PLAN.
- BLOCK 14. LIST AREAS THAT ARE BEING AFFECTED BY THE REPOPULATION PLAN. FOR EACH AREA, LIST ANY CLOSURES THAT WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT ONCE THE AREA IS REPOPULATED.
- BLOCK 15. PLACE A CHECK BY EACH SAFETY ISSUE ONCE THE ITEM HAS BEEN MITIGATED OR CLEARED BY THE AUTHORIZING INDIVIDUAL AS WELL AS THE DATE AND TIME IT WAS AUTHORIZED.
- BLOCK 16. DISTRIBUTE THE PLAN AS DETAILED. PLACE A CHECK FOR EACH POSITION AS THE PLAN IS DISTRIBUTED.
- BLOCK 17. ADD THE NAME OF THE PREPARER AND HAVE THE INCIDENT COMMANDER DATE AND SIGN THE PLAN.

REPOPULATION CRITERIA SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT EMERGENCY WORKER SAFETY AND THE COMMUNITY NEEDS.

CONTROL OF REPOPULATION TO AN EVACUATED AREA SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING PLANNING MEETINGS WITH COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF AND COORDINATED WITH MEDIA RELEASES AND INCIDENT ACTION PLAN INSTRUCTIONS. LOCAL RESIDENTS MAY BE ALLOWED TO REPOPULATE WITH ESCORTS OR WHILE MOP-UP OPERATIONS AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR CONTINUE IF THE SITUATION ALLOWS.

COORDINATION WITH ASSISTING AND COOPERATING AGENCIES IS CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF REPOPULATION PLANNING. ULTIMATELY IT IS A LAW ENFORCEMENT DECISION BASED ON FIRE DEPARTMENT INPUT TO APPROVE REPOPULATION OF CITIZENS BACK INTO AN AREA PREVIOUSLY CLOSED OR EVACUATED.

**DEFINITIONS**

**EVACUATION ORDER-** MOVEMENT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS OUT OF A DEFINED AREA DUE TO AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT. AN EVACUATION ORDER SHOULD BE USED WHEN THERE IS POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL THREAT TO CIVILIAN LIFE WITHIN 1 TO 2 HOURS OR WHEN THE IC DEEMS IT NECESSARY TO PROTECT CIVILIANS.

**EVACUATION WARNING-** ALERTING OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN A DEFINED AREA OF A POTENTIAL THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT. AN EVACUATION WARNING MAY BE ISSUED WHEN THE POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL THREAT TO CIVILIAN LIFE IS MORE THAN 2 HOURS AWAY.

**LEVELS OF CLOSURE-** A CLOSURE PROHIBITS THE USAGE OR OCCUPANCY OF A DEFINED AREA SUCH AS A PARK, BEACH, OR ROAD DUE TO A POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL THREAT TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND/OR SAFETY. MEDIA IS ALLOWED UNDER ALL CLOSURE LEVELS UNLESS PROHIBITED UNDER PC 409.5

**LEVEL 1 CLOSURE / COLOR CODE GREEN-** CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT LOCAL RESIDENTS; MAY REQUIRE ESCORTS.

**LEVEL 2 CLOSURE / COLOR CODE YELLOW -** CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT FD, LE, AND CRITICAL INCIDENT RESOURCES (I.E. UTILITY COMPANIES, CALTRANS, COUNTY ROADS, ETC.).





<input type="checkbox"/>	INFRASTRUCTURE HAZARDS MITIGATED (ROADS, BRIDGES, ETC) <input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC WORKS <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY ROADS, SCC COUNTY	
<input type="checkbox"/>	LAW <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL SHERIFF   PD <input type="checkbox"/> CHP ENFORCEMENT APPROVAL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	FOREST SERVICE	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ANIMAL CONTROL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INCIDENT COMMANDER APPROVAL	
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIRE AGENCIES NOTIFIED <input type="checkbox"/> CAL <input type="checkbox"/> USFS FIRE <input type="checkbox"/> FIRE DEPARTMENT	
<input type="checkbox"/>	AMERICAN RED CROSS NOTIFIED	
<input type="checkbox"/>	EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER(S) NOTIFIED	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INCIDENT INFORMATION OFFICER NOTIFIED	
<input type="checkbox"/>	INCIDENT LIAISON OFFICER NOTIFIED	
<input type="checkbox"/>	ICS 209 UPDATED	
<b>BLOCK 16</b>		<b>EVACUATION PLAN DISTRIBUTION</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	INCIDENT COMMANDER(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF(S)
<input type="checkbox"/>	PLANNING SECTION CHIEF (BOX)	<input type="checkbox"/> LOGISTICS SECTION CHIEF



<input type="checkbox"/> FINANCE SECTION CHIEF		<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER
<input type="checkbox"/> LIAISON OFFICER		<input type="checkbox"/> INCIDENT SAFETY OFFICER
<input type="checkbox"/> LAW ENFORCEMENT		<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC OFFICIALS (MAYOR/CITY MANAGER)
<input type="checkbox"/> CALTRANS/LOCAL STREETS DEPT		<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER(S)
<input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY OES		<input type="checkbox"/> CAL OES
<input type="checkbox"/> CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL		<input type="checkbox"/> BOX
<b>BLOCK</b> <b>17</b>	<b>PREPARED BY:</b>	<b>DATE:00/00/0000</b>
INCIDENT COMMANDER:		TIME:
INCIDENT COMMANDER:		TIME:

**DEFINITIONS**

**EVACUATION ORDER-** MOVEMENT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS OUT OF A DEFINED AREA DUE TO AN IMMEDIATE THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT. AN EVACUATION ORDER SHOULD BE USED WHEN THERE IS POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL THREAT TO CIVILIAN LIFE WITHIN 1 TO 2 HOURS OR WHEN THE IC DEEMS IT NECESSARY TO PROTECT CIVILIANS.

**EVACUATION WARNING-** ALERTING OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN A DEFINED AREA OF A POTENTIAL THREAT TO LIFE AND PROPERTY FROM AN EMERGENCY INCIDENT. AN EVACUATION WARNING MAY BE ISSUED WHEN THE POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL THREAT TO CIVILIAN LIFE IS MORE THAN 2 HOURS AWAY.

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**LEVEL 1 CLOSURE / COLOR CODE GREEN-** CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT LOCAL RESIDENTS; MAY REQUIRE ESCORTS.

**LEVEL 2 CLOSURE / COLOR CODE YELLOW -** CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT FD, LE, AND CRITICAL INCIDENT RESOURCES (I.E. UTILITY COMPANIES, CALTRANS, COUNTY ROADS, ETC.).

**LEVEL 3 CLOSURE / COLOR CODE ORANGE -** CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC EXCEPT FD AND LE.



**LEVEL 4 CLOSURE / COLOR CODE RED** - CLOSED TO ALL TRAFFIC INCLUDING FD AND LE.

**SHELTER IN PLACE**- DIRECTING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO STAY SECURED INSIDE THEIR CURRENT LOCATION. USED IF EVACUATION WILL CAUSE HIGHER POTENTIAL OF LOSS OF LIFE.

**SAFE REFUGE AREA**- A TEMPORARY LOCATION TO HOLD EVACUEES UNTIL SAFE EVACUATION IS POSSIBLE.

**RESCUE**- EMERGENCY ACTIONS TAKEN WITHIN THE AFFECTED AREA TO RECOVER AND REMOVE INJURED OR TRAPPED CITIZENS. BOUNDARIES OF THE AREAS WHERE RESCUE IS PLANNED SHOULD BE IDENTIFIED ON THE INCIDENT MAP WITH NOTATION THAT ENTRY IS RESTRICTED TO RESCUE WORKERS ONLY.



## APPENDIX L – CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA



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## APPENDIX L – CONFERENCE CALL AGENDA



# WILDFIRE EVENT CONFERENCE CALL

## SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPERATIONAL AREA



COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA AND SANTA CLARA FIRE  
55 W YOUNGER AVE, SAN JOSE, CA 95110



Conference Call Agenda		
<b>Dial-In Information: (877) 411-9748 Code: 915321#</b>		<b>Call 1</b>
<b>Date: TBD</b>	<b>Time: TBD</b>	<b>Chair: SCC OEM</b>
<b>Purpose:</b> Share Situational Awareness, Discuss Agency Issues, and Identify Resource Needs		
<b>Operational Period: N/A (Preparedness)</b>		
NWS Products		
National Weather Service Watches, Warnings and Advisories ( <a href="#">LINK</a> )		
Participating Agency/Organization/Jurisdiction		
<input type="checkbox"/> National Weather Service	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Office of Education	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Office of Supportive Housing
<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Public Health	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC EMS	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Social Services
<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Medical Examiner - Coroner	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Sheriff's office	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Clara County Op Area Fire Mutual Aid Coordinator
<input type="checkbox"/> Cal Fire / South County Fire	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC County Comm	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Parks
<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Office of Public Affairs / OEM PIO	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/> SCC County Counsel
<input type="checkbox"/> SCC CEO	<input type="checkbox"/> VTA	<input type="checkbox"/> Open Space
<input type="checkbox"/> SCVWD	<input type="checkbox"/> 2-1-1	<input type="checkbox"/> American Red Cross
<input type="checkbox"/> Cal OES	<input type="checkbox"/> SJ Water	<input type="checkbox"/> PG&E
<input type="checkbox"/> City of Campbell	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Cupertino	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Gilroy
<input type="checkbox"/> City of Los Altos	<input type="checkbox"/> Town of Los Altos Hills	<input type="checkbox"/> Town of Los Gatos
<input type="checkbox"/> City of Milpitas	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Monte Sereno	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Morgan Hill
<input type="checkbox"/> City of Mountain View	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Palo Alto	<input type="checkbox"/> City of San Jose
<input type="checkbox"/> City of Santa Clara	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Saratoga	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Sunnyvale
Agenda		
<b>Opening Comments &amp; Roll Call</b>	OEM	
<b>National Weather Service Weather Update</b>	NWS	
<b>Sheltering and Housing Agencies</b>	OSH / ARC / SSA / Public Health	



<b>Emergency Response Agency Reports</b>		SO / EMS / CNT / Cal Fire / MEC / County Comm
<b>Supporting Agency Reports</b>		OPA / County Parks / Open Space / SCVWD / VTA / County Counsel / CEO / 2-1-1
<b>Municipal Jurisdictions Report</b>		As listed
<b>Closing Comments OEM</b>		OEM
<b>Action Items</b>		
<b>Issues</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Deadline</b>