

Purpose:

This policy outlines the method to ensure the effective and safe deployment of resources from multiple zones and/or jurisdictions within the San Diego Operational Area.

Policy:

The processing of resource requests and subsequent mobilization of resources requires close coordination among all stakeholders. This includes Local, Zone, and Operational Area Communications Center (OACC), Operational Area and Zone Coordinators, Local Agency Duty Chiefs, Strike Team Leaders, and all affected responding personnel.

Procedure:

The Strike Team (Engine) / Task Force Leader is Responsible for:

- Overall safety and condition of the strike team, personnel and equipment.
- Movement of the strike team traveling to and returning from the emergency.

(Source: California Fire Service and Rescue Emergency Mutual Aid System: Strike Team (Engine) / Task Force Leader)

Mobilization and Demobilization Travel

To manage fatigue, every effort should be made to avoid travel between 2200 hours and 0500 hours for planned need mobilization or demobilization.

- This does not preclude deployment response necessary to accomplish immediate and critical suppression objectives or those responses necessary to address immediate and critical firefighter or public safety issues.
- Duty Chief consultation and approval will be necessary to travel during these hours for planned need.
- Report to the Operational Area Communications Center to adjust arrival time when it differs from ROSS request time. This will give the Southern California Area Coordination Center (SOPS) the incident updated arrival information for planning purposes.
- Demobilization: Work through your assigned Agency Representative (CalOES) incident staff to address any concerns or conflicts.

- Address any necessary logistical needs with regard to rest overnight, etc.
- Document all actions and events on the Unit Log (214) and/or Incident Message Form (213) as necessary.
- Strike Team/Task Force Leaders who are deployed out of county should communicate their status and conditions to the OACC every 24-hour period. Reporting back to the Zones or Agencies is based upon local policy.

Driver Guidelines and Best Practices

- No driver will drive more than 10 hours (behind the wheel) within any duty day.
- Drivers will not drive when their ability to do so safely is adversely affected by fatigue, illness, medication, or other cause. Drivers shall communicate with supervisors and place themselves out of service at any time they feel incapable of safely operating vehicles.
- Multiple drivers in a single vehicle may be used as long as no driver exceeds the individual driving (behind the wheel) time limitation of 10 hours.

Resource Request Activations

Upon receiving incident order and request numbers the following should occur:

- Strike Team Leader / Duty Chief will receive and review the incident ROSS order.
 - Review for all pertinent information incident location, reporting location, reporting time, agreement, planned versus immediate need, etc.
- For **planned need** incidents, a “best practice” consideration should be given to initiating a conference call involving the Strike Team Leader and affected Company Officers, Local and Zone Emergency Communications Center representatives, Agency Duty Chiefs and at their discretion, the Zone Coordinator. For planned need incidents occurring overnight: Strike Team Leaders / Duty Chiefs should communicate with assigned resources to determine local agency readiness and any potential travel restrictions with regard to driver safety, etc.
- If a conflict in reporting / travel time orders and safe travel guidelines exist, Strike Team Leaders should consider the following actions and work through appropriate communications center processes to:
 - Modify assigned resources -- Replace resources as necessary.
 - Notify the OACC. The OACC will coordinate with SOPS and/or with the incident’s expanded dispatch center to confirm, update and/ or modify reporting time.

- Turn down the request.

Resource request incident times start at the time of receipt and fill of the resource order.

- The agreement (CFAA) reimbursable hours are in effect. This includes any backfill as discussed within the agreement.
- For extended travel planned need incidents:
 - Duty Chiefs may opt to initiate staffing recall in order to backfill resources from local in-service status in order to maintain an adequate rest cycle for responding resources.

Refer to San Diego Operational Area Strike Team/Task Force Terminology and Operational Area Response Policy # 11A for additional information.