

State of California  
**CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES**  
Fire and Rescue Division

**OPERATIONS BULLETIN**

**Subject**                    ***Closest Resources Concept – Requesting Mutual Aid from Adjoining Operational Areas and Regions***

**PURPOSE**

To provide guidance regarding closest resource concept to the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinators and/or the Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinators when requesting mutual aid resources from adjoining operational areas or regions initial attack or immediate need All-Hazard requests.

**HISTORY**

On October 11, 2007, the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Fire and Rescue Services Advisory Committee/FIRESCOPE Board of Directors voted, as a pilot project, to authorize to directly order/fill initial attack/immediate need apparatus requests for up to five strike team or task forces from one adjacent Cal OES Operational Area/Region based on the closest resource concept.

This pilot project has been used successfully during several emergencies and at this time will become a regular program. *The closest resource concept – requesting mutual aid from adjoining operational areas and regions* has expanded to include resources that respond to All-Hazard emergencies and are included as part of the California Fire Assistance Agreement (CFAA).

**GUIDANCE**

Effective immediately, Cal OES Fire and Rescue Operational Areas and/or Cal OES Fire and Rescue Regions are authorized to directly order and fill initial attack and/or immediate need fire and rescue resources from one adjacent Cal OES Operational Area (Op Area) and/or Region based on the closest resource concept. Operation Bulletin #1 shall only be used one time per incident. Additional resource requests should go through the normal resource ordering system of record. Should circumstances require additional immediate need resources, the Cal OES State Fire and Rescue Coordinator or his/her designee can approve additional requests using Operations Bulletin #1 procedures.

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The following list includes, but is not limited to, the types of resources and quantity that may be ordered utilizing Operations Bulletin #1:

<b>RESOURCE TYPE</b>	<b>QUANTITY</b>
Type 1/2 Fire Engine	Maximum of five engine strike teams
Type 3 Fire Engine	Maximum of five engine strike teams
Type 4 Fire Engine	Maximum of five engine strike teams
Type 5 Fire Engine	Maximum of five engine strike teams
Type 6 Fire Engine	Maximum of five engine strike teams
Type 7 Fire Engine	Maximum of five engine strike teams
Type 1/2 Truck Company	Maximum of two truck companies
Type 1/2 Tactical Water Tender	Maximum of two tactical water tenders
Type 1/2/3 Bulldozer	Maximum of two dozer strike teams
Type 1/2 Hand Crew	Maximum of five crew strike teams
Type 1/2/3 Helicopter	Maximum of two helicopters
Type 1/2 US&R Company	Maximum of five US&R companies
Type 3 US&R Strike Team (OES)	Maximum of five US&R strike teams
Regional Task Force	Maximum of one Regional Task Force
Type 1/2/3 Haz-Mat Company	Maximum of five Haz-Mat companies
Type 1/2/3 Swiftwater/Flood Team	Maximum of five SF/S&R teams

**Notes:**

- Fire apparatus may be ordered in a task force configuration if necessary.
- Overhead requests shall not be mobilized using this Operational Bulletin.
- Resource typing is defined in the FIRESCOPE Field Operations Guide (ICS 420-1) of record.

Should an agency and/or Op Area have the need for specialized resources not included on the list, the requestor shall contact the Cal OES Fire Duty Chief with the type of request and justification. The Fire Duty Chief will then contact the Cal OES Fire Deputy Chief for approval.

**PROCEDURE**

Operational Area (Op Area) Fire and Rescue Coordinator

The impacted Fire Agency and/or Op Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall determine the need for mutual aid resources required for the incident. The Op Area Coordinator shall then submit a resource request to one adjacent Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator, or Region Coordinator based on the resource and quantity for initial attack and/or immediate need to combat the incident. The Op Area Coordinator or Region Coordinator shall evaluate the request for assistance from the adjacent Op Area/Region and determine resource availability in the Op Area/Region. The Op Area Coordinator shall fill the resource request as appropriate and move additional resource requests to the Region as necessary. The Operational Area Coordinator shall immediately notify the Cal OES Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator of the resource(s) requested.

The Cal OES Regional Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall notify the Cal OES Fire Duty Chief of the resource order, request, and fill information. All resources requested during this initial attack and/or immediate need All-Hazard request(s) shall be entered into the resource status system of record.

#### Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator

If the Operational Area is unable to fill the resource order, the order shall be placed to the Region Dispatch Center for processing. The Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall evaluate the request for assistance from the Operational Area Fire and Rescue Coordinator and determine the resources availability in the region. The Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall fill the resource request as appropriate. If the Region is unable to fill the resource request, the resource order shall be placed to the State Fire & Rescue Coordinator or designee. The Region Fire and Rescue Coordinator shall immediately notify the Cal OES Fire and Rescue Fire Duty Chief of the resource order, request, and fill information. All resources requested during this initial attack and or immediate need All-Hazard request shall be entered into the resource status system of record.

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