

Local Government Cooperative Agreements Expectations



**Ruben Grijalva
Director**

Thanks to Chief John Hawkins

CAL FIRE



Director's Program Goals

CAL FIRE

is

Fire Protection

Resource Management

Office of the State Fire Marshal

CAL FIRE



Director's Program Goals

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is

Supported by other important programs:
legal, legislative, management services,
audit, public communications, etc...

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Director's Program Goals

CAL FIRE

is

California's Statewide Fire Department

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Director's Program Goals

CAL FIRE provides fire protection & emergency response services on a year round basis

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Director's Program Goals

CAL FIRE is committed to a strong local government program

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Director's Program Goals

When it is financial and operationally in
the interest of the state...and
When it is financially and operationally in
the interest of local government!

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Director's Program Goals

CAL FIRE will actively work with all of our local cooperators to provide efficient emergency and non-emergency services to the public

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Cooperative Agreements History

Local government entities (cities, counties & districts) contract with CAL FIRE to provide many forms of emergency services for their communities.

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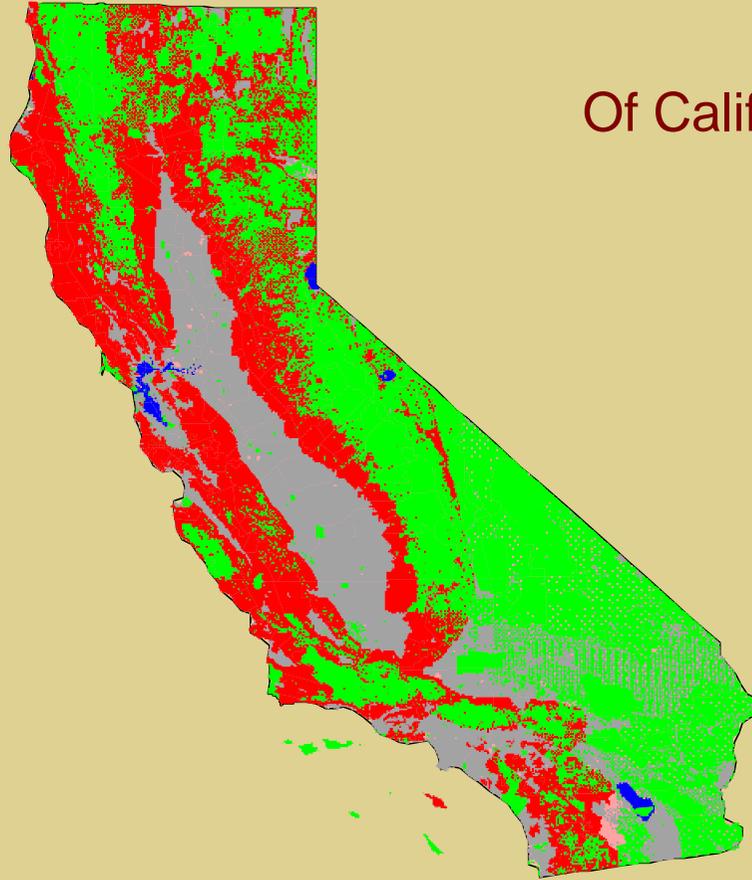
Cooperative Agreements History

Currently, CAL FIRE has 147 cooperative fire protection agreements in 25 cities, 31 fire districts & 34 other special districts

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Local, State & Federal Wildland Protection Resp



Of California's 100 million acres
approximately
1/3 is CAL FIRE protection
1/3 is federal protection
1/3 is local protection or
desert

CAL FIRE

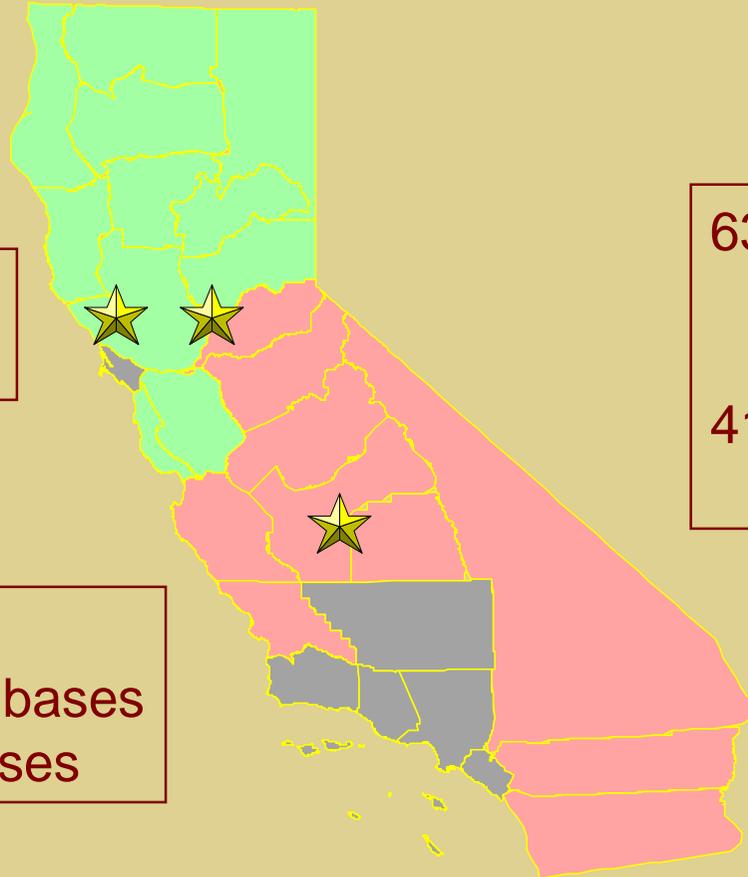


***CAL FIRE* Resources**

Northern Region

Sacramento
Headquarters

Air Attack
13 air attack bases
9 helitack bases



21 Units
6 Contract Counties

637 fire stations
227 state
410 local government
41 Conservation Camps
185 fire crews

Southern Region

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Local Gov't Web Site

Intranet>Fire>Local Government
Resources Page

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PRC 4142- Schedule A

Public Resources Code Section 4142 is authorization for local government fire protection

‘Schedule A’

Adopted in 1945

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PRC 4142- Schedule A

Statute authorizes the department to enter into cooperative agreements (Schedule A) “...for the purpose of preventing and suppressing forest fires or other fires in any lands within any county, city, or district”

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PRC 4143-4144 Amador

“Amador”

PRC §4143 & 4144

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PRC 4143-4144 Amador

“Upon request, the Director may enter into cooperative fire protection agreements with qualifying counties & special districts to provide for the non-fire season use of CAL FIRE equipment, personnel & buildings for fire prevention & suppression.”

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H&SC 55603-55606 Authorities

Sections 55603-55604 - Local Agencies May Contract With Counties for Fire Protection. Provides that the board of supervisors of any county may contract with any local agency within the county for fire protection to be performed by the county fire warden, who may be the local ranger-in-charge of CAL FIRE.

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H&SC 55603-55606 Authorities

Section 55606 - ... "The Board of Supervisors may contract with the State through CAL FIRE...for the prevention or suppression of fires within the County."

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CAL FIRE Mission

...The department will provide comprehensive fire protection and other related emergency services, including protection of life and property, on state responsibility areas. The department will maintain cooperative fire protection contracts and agreements where there are economic and social benefits to the people of the state...

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Local Government Program

- Management Review of Contract Proposals
- 8500 Manual Revision
- Schedule A Rate Letter
- Local Government Committee
- Model Proposal
- Schedule A Program Brochure/Video

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Working With Local Gov't

Must develop:

- Trust
- Respect

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Working With Local Gov't

Accomplished through:

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Cooperation
- Customer Satisfaction

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Changing the 'Brush Bunny' Image

- Be "Their fire department"
- Be part of local government & participate as a Fire Chief
- Wear appropriate clothing & white uniform shirts
- Don't draw similarities solely to the brush role
- Make fire department decisions not solely wildfire decisions

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What Works Well

- Commitment to being integral part of local government –
- Be part of the Community
- “Added Value”

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What Works Well

- Honesty
- Up front, courageous conversations
- Commitment to excellence
- Participation with neighboring fire departments

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Transformational Leadership

- Lead by example
- Others will follow
- Builds trust & respect
- Be part of the solution
- Contrast to Transactional Leadership

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What Does Not Work Well

- State, big brother perception
- Lack of local control (reality is quite the contrary)
- Lack of perceived long term commitment
- Egocentric attitude - Too much 'I, Me & My' vs. 'We, Our & Us'
- Lack of honesty

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Is CAL FIRE A Contractor?

- Presenting the contractor image is not good for long term contract existence
- Our service can be municipal in delivery & does not need to be like wildland fire protection
- Local gov't contract entities are not step children – as important as 'Schedule B'

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***CAL FIRE* As County Fire**

- Integrated, Cooperative & Regional Fire Protection System
- Keys are system components as applicable:
 - State component
 - County Component
 - City component(s)
 - District component(s)

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Important Nuances

- Understand that 'Schedule A' is an attachment to the Local Gov't Cooperative Agreement & not the program itself
- Talk 'fire department'
- Walk 'fire department'

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Expectation #1 – CAL FIRE

Must understand:

- CAL FIRE Mission, Vision & Values
- CAL FIRE organizational structure
- CAL FIRE organization culture & how that culture supports local government cooperative agreements
- Maintains CAL FIRE loyalty but is recognized as local gov't fire chief

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Expectation #2 – Local Gov't Program

Must understand:

- How the program must effectively function as an cooperative, integrated, regional fire protection system
- Enabling statutory authorities
- The typical components of the program including fire protection, emergency medical services, technical rescue and hazardous materials response
- The value of attaining and retaining local government cooperative agreements

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Expectation #3 – Local Gov't Interactions

Must understand:

- How local government entities are organized
- How local elected and appointed officials interact
- How to best interact with the local government administrators & elected officials
- The importance of gaining & developing additional CAL FIRE local government cooperative agreements
- How to interact with the local government control agencies

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Expectation #4 - Leadership

Must understand:

- The concepts of effective leadership
- The importance of developing trust & respect & its impact on building credibility
- How leadership & management must go hand in hand to create an effective organization
- How the Unit Chief can access the CAL FIRE management resources to support all Unit activities

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Expectation #5 - Political

Must understand:

- State and local legislative processes
- Understand the importance of effectively interacting with state and local elected officials
- Correctly represent CAL FIRE with all legislative contacts

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Expectation #6 - Budgets

Must understand:

- State and local budget authorities & processes
- Budgets are effectively & timely developed
- Fiscal Responsibility - cost containment
- Keep state & local officials informed in a timely manner

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Expectation #7 - Relationships

Must understand:

- The importance of effective internal & external relationships within the Unit, with CAL FIRE & with local government entities
- The importance of attending meetings & activities that reinforce the CAL FIRE image & acceptance of CAL FIRE by federal, state and local government & civilian stakeholders

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Expectation #7 - Relationships

Must understand:

- The importance of belonging to & actively participating with fire service organizations including the California Fire Chiefs Association, local Fire Chiefs Associations, etc.
- The importance of effective public relations including news releases & news conferences
- The importance of CAL FIRE presenting positive programs about CAL FIRE & its local government cooperative programs

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Questions?

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