

# MONTEREY COUNTY FIRE OPERATIONAL MANUAL

## CHAPTER 11-Appendix L

### COMMUNICATION PROCEDURE FOR WILDLAND FIRES IN STATE RESPONSIBILITY AREAS (SRA)

#### Objectives

- To establish and promote interoperability among fire agencies in Monterey County & San Benito Counties.
- To identify and establish a single command and control point with common frequencies.
- To provide all responding agencies with consistent information.
- To provide for firefighter safety.

#### Definitions

- **Monterey County 911 (Firecom)** – The dispatch center operated by Monterey County responsible for dispatching a number of Monterey County Fire resources as assigned. The call sign is “FireComm”.
- **Santa Cruz County 911 (Netcom)**- The dispatch center operated by Santa Cruz County 911 responsible for dispatching San Benito County Fire resources as assigned. The call sign is “Netcom”.
- **San Benito-Monterey Emergency Command Center (BEU ECC)** - The dispatch center operated by CAL FIRE responsible for dispatching fire resources in BEU including local government resources under cooperative agreement. BEU ECC will be the dispatch center with command and control responsibility for State Responsibility Areas (SRA) incidents within San Benito and Monterey Counties. The call sign is “Monterey”.
- **BEU Local**- A frequency designated in San Benito and Monterey Counties to be used as a command channel for command and control and as the Unified Ordering Point for wildland fires in SRA.
- **SRA Wildland Fires** – Wildland fires within the SRA. Other fires included are vegetation fires, structure fires, vehicle fires, and debris fires in LRA where the fire is a threat to the SRA.
- **Unified Command**- Established between the Local Government agency and CALFIRE BEU for incidents that have a mutual threat to LRA and SRA lands.
- **Unified Ordering Point (UOP)**- BEU ECC for all SRA wildland fires, unless otherwise directed by the Unit Chief or their designee.

#### Procedure

1. Upon receipt of a wildland Fire in the SRA, FireComm or Netcom shall advise the BEU ECC and request the Incident Name, Command, Tactical, and Air-to-Ground Frequencies. If there is a delay in obtaining the normal local frequencies, the dispatching of resources shall not be delayed and the BEU ECC shall provide the requested information as soon as possible.
2. When responding to wildland fire incidents in SRA, responding resources will acknowledge response on their dispatch channel. They will be given the incident name, command, tactical, and air-to-ground frequencies as soon as possible. This information will be assigned by BEU ECC.

3. The first arriving resource will provide a Report on Conditions (ROC) to the dispatch center on the assigned dispatch frequency. The ROC should include: location (SRA/LRA), object, conditions, actions, assignment, resources, modify response as appropriate and establish Incident Command.
4. Upon confirmation of the incident location being in the SRA and after the initial ROC, the Initial Attack IC will advise the dispatch center that all responding resources should be switched over to BEU East. The Initial Attack IC will provide a ROC to "Monterey" on BEU East and the Incident Command will utilize BEU ECC as the Unified Ordering Point.
5. All incident command communications will be conducted on BEU East or the frequency assigned by the BEU ECC. i.e. response, arrival, report on conditions, actions, needs, and return.
6. Agencies not dispatched by the BEU ECC will be provided with pertinent information upon dispatch, as soon as possible, or when the resources switch to the BEU assigned frequency.

#### **Ordering Additional Resources**

1. When the IC/Unified Command orders additional resources, the order is to be placed through the unified ordering point.
2. IC/ Unified Command needs to be specific when requesting resources and identify the Agreement being used to order the additional resources.
  - a. i.e. "5 local government type 1 engines"
  - b. i.e. "1 strike team of CAL FIRE type 3 engines"
  - c. i.e. "2 engines, any kind, any type"
3. The Unified Ordering Point will make every effort to identify the closest available resources.